

FLORIDA MASTER SITE FILE
 HISTORIC ST. AUGUSTINE PRESERVATION BOARD
 HISTORIC PROPERTIES INVENTORY FORM

I. LOCATION & LEGAL DESCRIPTION

FDAHRM 802== Site No. 1009==
 Site Name: Worth House 830== Survey Date: 7912 820==
 Address: 118 Avenida Menendez, St. Augustine, FL 32084 905==
 Instructions for Locating: _____
 _____ 813== County: St. Johns 808==
 Location: City of St. Augustine 19 1 868==
 (subdivision) (block) (lot)
 _____ 868==
 Owner of Site: Name: Potter ;
 Address: 1 King Street
 St. Augustine, FL 32084 902==
 Occupant or Manager: St. Augustine Train Inc. 904==
 Type of Ownership: Private 848== Zoning: HP-2
 NR Classification Category: Building 916== Recording Date: _____ 832==
 UTM: _____ 890== Location: T07S R30E S17 812==
 (zone) (easting) (northing) (T) (R) (S)
 Map Reference: USGS St. Augustine 7.5 MIN 1956 (PR 1970) 809==
 Recorder: Name & Title: Nolan, David (Historic Sites Specialist) ;
 Address: H.S.A.P.B. 818==

II. SITE DESCRIPTION

Condition of Site:		Threats to Site:	
() <u>Excellent</u>	<u>863==</u>	() <u>Zoning</u>	<u>878==</u>
(x) <u>Good</u>	<u>863==</u>	(x) <u>Development</u>	<u>878==</u>
() <u>Fair</u>	<u>863==</u>	() <u>Deterioration</u>	<u>878==</u>
() <u>Deteriorated</u>	<u>863==</u>	() <u>Borrowing</u>	<u>878==</u>
		(x) <u>Transportation</u>	<u>878==</u>
Integrity of Site:		() <u>Fill</u>	<u>878==</u>
(x) <u>Altered</u>	<u>858==</u>	() <u>Dredge</u>	<u>878==</u>
() <u>Unaltered</u>	<u>858==</u>	() <u>Other</u>	<u>878==</u>
() <u>Original Site</u>	<u>858==</u>		
() <u>Restored - Date:</u>	<u>858==</u>		
(x) <u>Moved - Date: 1960's</u>	<u>858==</u>		

II. SITE DESCRIPTION, continued.

Original Use: Priv. Res. 838== Present Use: Commercial 850==
 Date: +1961 844== Period: 20th cent. 845== Culture: Spanish 840==
 Architect: _____ 872==
 Builder: _____ 874==
 Style: Spanish Colonial 964==
 Plan Type: Rectangular 966==
 Exterior Fabrics: Stone (coquina); wood, BEC _____ 854==
 Structural Systems: Masonry, stone, (coquina) 856==
 Features of Structure: (942)
 Window Type: DHS 6/6 942==
 Foundation: Stone Wall 942==
 Roof Type: Gable 942==
 Secondary Roof Structures: Porches, shed 942==
 Porches & Balconies: Open balcony on north side, open 2nd floor porch
landing on south side. 942==
 Chimney Location: offset ridge. 942==
 Materials: (882)
 Chimney: Stone (coquina) 882==
 Roof Surfacing: Wood shingles 882==
 Ornament Exterior: Spindle balustrade _____ 882==
 Quantitative Data: (950-954)
 Chimneys: 2 952== Dormers: _____ 954== Stories: 2½ 950==
 Other: Was moved from across the street and rebuilt stone by stone 956==
 Surroundings: Commercial 864==
 Relationship to Surroundings: Former colonial, residential building moved
across the street from its original site and used for commercial purposes.
On the bayfront 859==

III. PHOTOGRAPHY

Photographic Records Numbers: _____ 860==
 Contact Prints

IV. SIGNIFICANCE

Areas of Significance: Architecture, Military, Families, Commerce, Tourism,
Literature, Hotels, Religion 920==

Statement of Significance: (911==)

ARCHITECTURE

This two and one-half story Spanish Colonial style building at 118 Avenida Menendez known as the Worth House was reconstructed in 1961. The walls are constructed of coquina, the stone taken from the original house and moved across the street to rebuild the former residence on a new site. It is not stuccoed although covering masonry walls with plaster was a common practice for colonial buildings. A wooden balcony with spindle balustrade extends from the front (north) and an open two-story porch projects from the rear. The gable roof is shingled and wooden blinds accent the windows. The building is on the bayfront and near the Plaza.

The area of the colonial city south of the plaza and north of Bridge Street includes buildings ranging from colonial to modern times. It contains a significant number of St. Augustine's surviving colonial buildings as well as many fine Victorian buildings from the Flagler era like the development along Palm Row. Some remodeling and construction have taken place in the St. Augustine Colonial Revival style. The narrow colonial street plan is retained, and some of the streets are still surfaced in brick. Aviles Street retains some colonial ambiance with many buildings constructed on the street line, with overhanging balconies, and coquina walls. The visual effect of other streets tends to be mixed Colonial and Victorian, except along the bayfront, which is dominated by modern motels. Along this stretch of the bayfront are the last surviving buildings projecting out over the water. It is an area of combined usages--residential, commercial, educational and religious--all of which produce traffic and parking problems. As a result, many significant buildings, particularly Flagler era hotels and mansions, have been demolished over the years for parking lots or other facilities. The area is bounded on the west by the old Alcazar Hotel (now City Hall) and on the east by the seawall and bayfront. It is part of the National Landmark District, and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

HISTORY

This section of the walled colonial city has been continuously occupied since the 16th century and represents the location of the 1565 settlement of St. Augustine. The small blocks and narrow streets of the early
 (over)

V. BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Kathleen Deagan, et. al, "A Sub-Surface Survey of the St. Augustine City Environs," (Tallahassee, 1976); Anon., "S. Augustini pars et terrae Florida," 1588.
2. Juan Jose Elixio de la Puente, "Plano . . . de la Plaza de San Agustín," January 22, 1764; Mariano de la Rocque, "Plano Particular de la Ciudad de San Agustín," April 25, 1788; East Florida Papers, Escrituras, 1784-1821; Albert Manucy, The Houses of St. Augustine, 1565-1721 (St. Augustine, 1962), pp. 22-25 and 41-47.

city are still evident.(1) All structures were destroyed during the 1702 attack by the South Carolinians, but by mid-century, the Rosario defense line had been erected along the present-day location of Cordova Street, and numerous buildings had been rebuilt throughout the area, although density was greater towards the bayfront. In the 18th and early 19th centuries, this section contained a number of governmental and ecclesiastical structures, including La Soledad parish church and school on St. George Street and the hospital and jail on Aviles (Hospital) Street. Moreover, the largest number of extant colonial buildings are found in this section of the city: Hourritiner, MacMillan, and Murat Houses on St. George Street; Segui, Fatio, O'Reilly, and Toledo Houses on Aviles Street; Solano House on Charlotte Street; and the Jacinto House on Marine Street. The southern border of this area, Bridge Street, led to one of three late colonial San Sebastian River ferry crossings.(2) Certain patterns of earlier development persisted into the American period as this section, particularly on Aviles Street, contained a disproportionately large number of public and educational facilities such as the Territorial City Council Meeting House, and in the late 19th century, the Peabody School, city jail, library, and police and fire departments. St. Joseph's Academy opened in the 1870's on St. George Street. Several prominent hotels also opened in this section, including the Ocean View on the bayfront and the St. George adjacent to Trinity Episcopal Church. Since the Civil War, St. George Street has remained a residential neighborhood and contained some stately homes of the city's more prominent residents and visitors. The streets to the east have contained some residences, but mainly commercial and institutional buildings. The area as a whole has one of the largest concentrations of 18th and 19th century structures within the walled city despite the demolition of several of the stately residences and hotels along St. George Street and Avenida Menendez (Bay Street).(3)

This historic reconstruction at 118 Avenida Menendez was rebuilt "stone by stone" from the coquina of the original colonial structure. The existing structure represents the house built by Miguel Ysardy between 1791 and 1799 and located on Marine Street on a site now occupied by a restaurant and parking lot. It served as one of the first hotels in the city operating under the names of Union Hotel, Levington's, and Bridier's. In 1821 the Reverend Andrew Fowler occupied a room in the hotel while establishing Trinity Parish Episcopal Church and administering to those stricken during the yellow fever epidemic.(4) ~~General W. J. Worth owned the home from a time prior to the Mexican War.~~ His son-in-law, Colonel John T. Sprague, was also a resident for a time. Author, Constance Fenimore Woolson, was an occupant.(5) An 1893 Tatler article mentions that Dr. George E. Walton, physician and author of medical works, repaired and remodeled the house while it was in his possession.(6) Sanborn maps show that the building was used for a variety of purposes including the Chamber of Commerce headquarters (1917) and a tourist Club and apartments (1924). A frame addition in existence from 1884 to 1910 was used for commercial purposes.(7) In 1961 the building was demolished and rebuilt on a lot closer to the bayfront. It now serves as a tourist center.(8)