



CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

URBAN PLANNING AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

STAFF REPORT

Community Planning and Preservation Commission

Request for Listing in the St. Petersburg Register of Historic Places

Report to the Community Planning and Preservation Commission from the Urban Planning and Historic Preservation Division, Planning and Development Services Department, for Public Hearing and Executive Action scheduled for **Tuesday, April 13, 2021, beginning at 2:00 p.m.**, in Council Chambers of City Hall, 175 Fifth St. N., St. Petersburg, Florida. Everyone is encouraged to view the meetings on TV or online at www.stpete.org/meetings.

UPDATE: COVID-19

Procedures will be implemented to comply with the CDC guidelines during the Public Hearing, including mandatory face coverings and social distancing, with limitations on the number of attendees within Council Chambers. The City's Planning and Development Services Department requests that you visit the City website at www.stpete.org/meetings and contact the case planner for up-to-date information pertaining to this case.

According to Planning and Development Services Department records, no members of the Community Planning and Preservation Commission reside or has a place of business within 2,000 feet of the subject property. All other possible conflicts should be declared upon the announcement of the item.



AGENDA ITEM:

CITY FILE NO.: 21-90300002

REQUEST:

Designation of the Dr. W. Homer and Mrs. Ethel M. Axford House as a landmark of the St. Petersburg Register of Historic Places

OWNERS:

John Evans and Michael Labbe

ADDRESS:

4705 5th Avenue North

PARCEL ID NO.:

16-31-16-63540-004-0080

LEGAL DESCRIPTION:

OAK RIDGE NO. 4 BLK D, LOTS 8,9 AND 10

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OVERVIEW

On February 10, 2021, a local historic landmark designation application was submitted for the Axford House at 4705 5th Avenue North (“the subject property”) by John Evans and Michael Labbe, the property’s owners. Following an analysis of the subject property, its contextual history, and extant conditions, staff concurs that the subject property is eligible for inclusion in the St. Petersburg Register of Historic Places as a local historic landmark.

STAFF FINDINGS

In St. Petersburg, such eligibility is determined based on evaluations of age, context, and integrity under a two-part test as found in Section 16.30.070.2.5(D) of the City Code. Under the first test, historic documentation demonstrates that the Axford House was constructed approximately 80 years ago, surpassing the minimum required age of 50. Further, staff finds that the subject property satisfies criteria D, E, and F. Under the second test, staff finds that six factors of integrity are met.

Historic Significance and Satisfaction of Eligibility Criteria

The first portion of the two-part test to determine eligibility for the St. Petersburg Register of Historic Places examines a resource’s historic significance with relation to nine criteria. One or more of these criteria must be met in order for a property to qualify for designation as an individual landmark or district to be placed in the St. Petersburg Register. The nine criteria are based on the National Park Service’s criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and are designed to assess resources’ importance in a given historic context with objectivity and comprehensiveness. In the case of the Dr. W. Homer and Mrs. Ethel M. Axford House, staff has determined that the property satisfies the St. Petersburg Register criteria as follows.

| <i>Is at least one of the following criteria for eligibility met?</i> | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|------------|------------|------------|---|---|---|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I |
| - | - | - | Yes | Yes | Yes | - | - | - |

D) It is identified as the work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose individual work has influenced the development of the City, state, or nation;

E) Its value as a building is recognized for the quality of its architecture, and it retains sufficient elements showing its architectural significance; and

F) It has distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials;

The Dr. W. Homer and Mrs. Ethel M. Axford House is significant in the area of architecture as a later example of the work of Cade Allen, a St. Petersburg builder who aimed to construct “The Highest High-Grade Development in St. Petersburg.” The form of the Axford House shows the evolution and flexibility in Allen’s designs and an approach to a more modern layout. In a column published in 1940 in the *St. Petersburg Times*, Allen wrote,

Few elements in life have so universal an appeal as the homes in which we live, or the house we hope to build. Size has little relative to our interest. Whether we need a five-room cottage or a 20-room mansion, the same care should be taken in choosing the materials. For either will be home and that home should have a charm all its own; a place of beauty and friendliness, where the family will love to be together and the children will be glad to bring their friends.¹

The Axford House was constructed in 1941, later in Cade Allen's career. It represents a transitional shift from the two-story houses, often inspired by traditional American values and early architecture, towards the more modern ranch-style house that was predominantly one-story, close to the ground, and featured an open floor plan. The Axford House does feature an early example of an open floor plan, as the house is centered around a large living room. The house does not feature a separate formal dining room, but a small dinette area that is open to the living room. Both bedrooms are accessed from the central living room. Still classic details and materials of Allen were incorporated – hollow block tile construction, tile roof, stone veneer, and use of high-quality materials.

It is difficult to classify the Axford House with a singular architectural style, as Allen drew from a number of styles. His approach to architectural eclecticism has become iconic to St. Petersburg in its own right. Homes constructed in his Allendale subdivision were required to have tile or masonry structures and stone or stucco exteriors. His style was practical yet grand, playful yet solid. The Axford House incorporates an early ranch-style form with modern details and finishes, but also utilizes materials commonly associated with Mediterranean Revival structures, such as the heavy barrel tile roof, the shouldered arches in the front porch, and the stucco exterior. Though he did not practice within the confines of a defined academic style, Cade Allen's homes have, indeed, achieved the timelessness that he advertised: it is likely that many residents of St. Petersburg would be able to identify the Axford House as an Allen design, even if not by name.

Historic Integrity

Under the second part of the two-part assessment of eligibility for designation as a historic landscape, staff finds that the Axford House retains integrity in six of seven given criteria, surpassing the requirement of one or more.

| <i>Is at least one of the following factors of integrity met?</i> | | | | | | |
|---|--------|---------|-----------|-------------|----------|--------------|
| Location | Design | Setting | Materials | Workmanship | Feeling* | Association* |
| Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | No |
| *Must be present in addition to at least one other factor. | | | | | | |

Location

The Axford House has not been moved.

¹ Allen, Cade B., "Plan Well Your New Home," *St. Petersburg Times*. June 16, 1940.

Design

With the exception of several relatively small additions the Axford House retains its historic footprint. It further retains the historic fenestration pattern, roofline, and stone exterior surface that so strongly define its unique aesthetic.

Setting

The Axford House is located in the Central Oak Park neighborhood, an area that was platted in 1924 but was developed primarily after the Great Depression and the Second World War.

Materials and Workmanship

The Axford House's exterior, including the stone veneer and historic wood windows, appear to be in remarkably good condition, due in no small part to the applicants, who purchased the subject property in 2002 and meticulously maintained the property.

Feeling and Association

As noted in the discussion of significance above, the Axford House has retained its distinct appearance and serves as a reminder of Cade Allen's unique contribution to St. Petersburg's architectural heritage.

NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND**Narrative Description**

The subject property is a one-story single-family house with an U-shaped footprint. The house is situated on three lots with large front, side, and rear setbacks. This appears to be part of the design, as a lush landscaping program of trees, flowering shrubs, and grass was designed to create scenic views. The grounds were also designed with a service yard.²



The front entrance of the Axford House.

The house's primary roof structure is hipped. Utilizing barrel tile roof, the main roof features boxed eaves, but the garage has exposed ornate rafter tails. The heavy tile roof adds texture to the mostly smooth stuccoed building.

The most distinguishable feature of the Axford House, like many of Cade Allen's designs, is the distinct appearance of its exterior treatment around the house's

² Blackstone, Lillian, "Little Visits to St. Petersburg Homes," *St. Petersburg Times*. April 5, 1942.

entrance. In the subject property's case, this exterior is clad with a gray stone veneer that is applied in a random ashlar pattern. This exterior surface is a veneer applied over hollow clay tile, a method of construction that is commonly found in Cade Allen's homes. Along the front façade, the stone is continuous and extends smoothly from the porch flooring to the roofline. The rest of the house is clad with stucco.

The windows are double-hung wood sash, with two-over-two configurations. The windows utilize horizontal windowpanes, a style of window more common to the 1940s era of construction. The front living room, which faces 5th Avenue, also incorporates a large picture window. In general, the frames surrounding the windows are minimal in design, another hallmark of the transition towards modern design.



Detail of masonry exterior and windows.

The front entrance contains a large open patio that leads to a single-action wooden door with a wrought iron gate, a common feature of Cade Allen structures. Tile covers the front patio's flooring and front steps. The eastern side of the front of the house featured a screen-in front porch with shouldered arch details, which would have been accessed from the front patio and the large central living room. At some point, the front porch was enclosed with windows that match the rest of the house.



Enclosed front porch with shouldered arch detail.

The house was built with a breezeway that connected the main living space of the house to a garage and a maid's room. Over time, the breezeway was fully enclosed and incorporated into living space.

Historical Context

The following historical context was prepared by staff Historic Preservationist Kimberly Hinder as supporting documentation for the designation of the Cade Allen Residence (HPC Case No. 14-90300001) as a local historic landmark in 2014.

St. Petersburg originated with the purchase of land by John C. Williams in 1876 and the arrival of the Orange Belt Railroad in 1888.

Orange Belt owner, Peter Demens, built the narrow gauge railroad to connect to land situated on the eastern edge of the Pinellas peninsula owned by John C. Williams. The first train arrived in June 1888 to a settlement with little more than a store and a few residences. Demens and Williams collaborated in their plans to build a new community around the terminus of the railroad, complete with a park, depot, and hotel. In exchange for naming the city after Demens' birthplace, St. Petersburg,



St. Petersburg water front, postcard, ca. 1900.

Russia, the hotel was named after Williams' hometown, Detroit, Michigan. Prepared by Engineer A.L. Hunt and Draftsman G.A. Miller in August 1888, the Map of the Town of St. Petersburg was officially filed in April 1889 and revised in October 1889.³

Utilizing Dr. Van Bibber's endorsement of the Pinellas peninsula as the perfect location for a "Health City" at the 1885 annual convention of the American Medical Association, efforts to promote settlement gained momentum. The Orange Belt Railway offered seaside excursions to St. Petersburg in 1889. These excursions were one of the first concentrated efforts by the community and the development company to attract tourists.⁴

Residents and developers seized the opportunity for publicity. Frank Davis, a prominent publisher from Philadelphia who arrived in Florida to alleviate his own health problems, utilized Van Bibber's endorsement to heavily promote the benefits of St. Petersburg. Davis, along with other new residents including *St. Petersburg Times* editor William Straub and *St. Petersburg Evening Independent* editor Lew Brown, tirelessly promoted the community during the late 1800s and early 1900s.⁵ By 1890, the population grew from less than 50 prior to the arrival of the railroad to 273 residents with two hotels, two ice plants, two churches, a school, a pier, and a sawmill to serve the community. Following the incorporation of the city in 1892, utility services, including telephone, electric service, and public water, were introduced in the community. A severe freeze which destroyed the citrus groves throughout north and central Florida during the winter of 1894-95 prompted many farmers to relocate to coastal areas, such as St. Petersburg, which did not experience a freeze as severe. Although the economy remained largely dependent on commercial fishing, tourism from winter visitors quickly grew in importance. During the early

³ Raymond Arsenault, *St. Petersburg and the Florida Dream 1888-1950* (Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida, 1996), 64, 81-81; Karl H. Griser, *The Story of St. Petersburg and the History of the Lower Pinellas Peninsula and the Sunshine City* (St. Petersburg, FL: P.K. Smith & Company, 1948), 68,74,271-272; Pinellas County Clerk of Circuit Court, *Revised Map of St. Petersburg*, Plat Book H1, 1890. 27, 49.

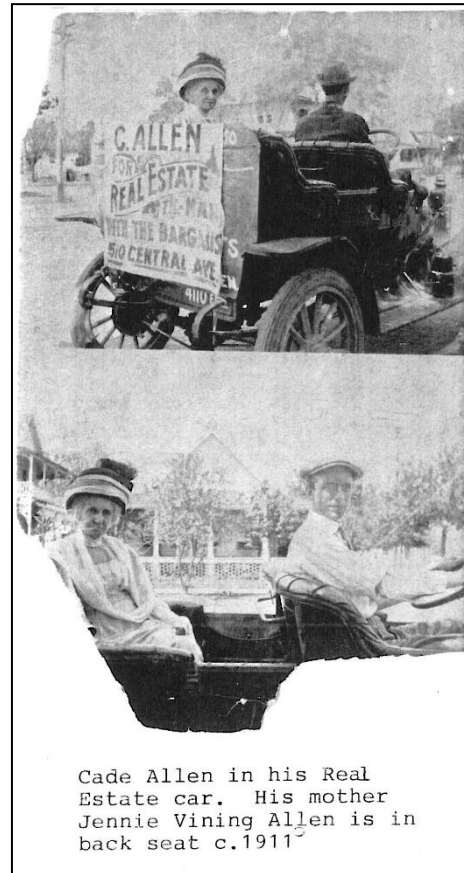
⁴ Arsenault, *Florida Dream*, 62; Grismer, *The Story of St. Petersburg*, 70, 97, 111.

⁵ Arsenault, *Florida Dream*, 82-85.

1900s, the creation of St. Petersburg's waterfront park system, the incorporation of a trolley system, and the construction of the Electric Pier drew additional tourists and new residents to the area.⁶

Largely through the efforts of city boosters to attract businesses and residents, developers such as C. Perry Snell, H. Walter Fuller, Noel Mitchell, Charles Hall, and Charles Roser, triggered the city's first real estate land boom from 1909 to the start of World War I.⁷ Promotional efforts by the Atlantic Coast Line railroad (created in 1902 from the former Orange Belt Railroad and Henry Plant's South Florida Railroad) brought organized tourist trains from New York in 1909 and from the Midwest in 1913. Many of these tourists continued to winter in the city with some even relocating to St. Petersburg.⁸

Cade Allen came to St. Petersburg during the city's first boom in 1911, later citing the promotional literature touting Dr. Van Bibber's paper and the health benefits of the Pinellas peninsula as the enticement for relocation. A native of Lownanville, New York, Allen's father passed away just after he completed the eighth grade, prompting him to go to work to help support the family. He became a brick mason, transitioning into building construction, and eventually real estate. He acquired land with high quality clay for brick manufacturing, selling the land to his brother-in-law, who developed the Binghamton Brick Yard in Binghamton, New York. With the proceeds, Allen and his mother, Jennie Vining Allen, came to St. Petersburg in 1911. Allen quickly established a real estate business utilizing penny postcards to advertise the business. Cade Allen, "The Man with the Bargains," opened an office at 510 Central Avenue, where the Plaza Theater would soon be built. He was one of many new agents in the growing city. In 1912, real estate agents met at the Ridgely Real Estate Company office to form the St. Petersburg Board of Realtors. By 1914, approximately 83 real estate companies operated in the city, capitalizing on the doubling of the local population during the winter season. These winter residents even formed tourist societies organized by state or region of origin which acted as booster clubs in their native states.⁹



Postcard, courtesy of Burton Allen.

⁶ Arsenault, *Florida Dream*, 52-64, 81-82, 87-89.

⁷ Arsenault, *Florida Dream*, 136.

⁸ Arsenault, *Florida Dream*, 37, 144-145.

⁹ Allen, *A Life Remembered*, 1-12; "Real Estate Men to Organize," *St. Petersburg Evening Independent*, June 8, 1912; Arsenault, *Florida Dream*, 143-146.

In 1912, Allen married his longtime Binghamton sweetheart, Eva Bennett, and brought her, along with his sister and brother-in-law, Floyd Riggs, to St. Petersburg. Allen continued his real estate business with his brother-in-law, opening an office at 73 7th Avenue North. In 1913, Allen built his first house in St. Petersburg for his family at present-day 145 7th Avenue Northeast, where he lived until 1916. In that year, he started purchasing land in Snell & Hamlett's Crescent Lake Subdivision. One of the lots included the house at 1492 4th Street North, which he remodeled and moved into with his family.¹⁰

The Crescent Lake Subdivision was one of the developments spearheaded by C. Perry Snell. Snell, who had arrived in St. Petersburg in 1904, proceeded to develop St. Petersburg's earliest subdivisions including Bay Shore, North Shore, Lake Side, and Crescent Lake in conjunction with various partners. J.C. Hamlett, with whom he formed Snell and Hamlett Real Estate Company, purchased Crescent Lake, the land immediately surrounding it, and the area to the east of the lake in 1910. The land was transferred into the holdings of the company and subdivided into the Crescent Lake Addition. The new subdivision, filed in 1911, extended from 12th Avenue to 22nd Avenue North and from 4th Street to 7th Street North and included the area which would become Crescent Lake Park.¹¹

In spite of a number of successful projects, the increasingly risky ventures and business interests in other cities led Hamlett to dissolve the partnership in 1916 and transfer his interests to Snell over the following three years. Cade Allen assembled a section of this land roughly located between 13th and 17th Avenues and 4th and 5th Streets North. While still operating his real estate office, the decline in the market due to the onset of World War I led Allen to open a truck farm and dairy on his newly acquired land east of Crescent Lake.¹²

The City's administration started to formally encourage tourism with promotional campaigns following the election of Al Lang as mayor in 1916. Lang was elected after he arranged to bring the Philadelphia Phillies to the city for spring training. Under his leadership, the City publicly encouraged tourism and made efforts to improve the physical appearance of the city mandating that all of the benches in the city be painted green.¹³ Although the land boom collapsed during World War I, the development created a pattern for the future growth of the city. During the 1910s, the city's population grew from 4,127 in 1910 to 14,237 in 1920.¹⁴

Although World War I limited tourism, St. Petersburg quickly rebounded following the war with the winter season of 1918-1919 more profitable than before the war. Thanks in part to the efforts

¹⁰ Allen, *A Life Remembered*, 12-30.

¹¹ Judy Lowe Wells, *C. Perry Snell: His Place in St. Petersburg, Florida History* (St. Petersburg, FL: privately printed by author, 2006), 40-41, 47, 58-60; Arsenault, *Florida Dream*, 137.

¹² Wells, *C. Perry Snell*, 40-41, 47, 58-60; Allen, *A Life Remembered*, 30.

¹³ Arsenault, *Florida Dream*, 143-146.

¹⁴ Arsenault, *Florida Dream*, 124, 190.

of John Lodwick, publicity agent for the Chamber of Commerce and the City of St. Petersburg, the hotels and boarding houses were filled to capacity during the season.¹⁵

The construction of a national, state, and local road system opened St. Petersburg to an increasing number of middle-class vacationers as well as a new type of vacationer known as “tin-can tourists.” This type of vacationer typically came by car and generally favored campgrounds to hotels. The city’s shortage of hotel rooms led to the 1920 creation of Tent City, a municipal campground for the “tin-can tourists.” This new type of tourist threatened the city’s established hotel industry and was not the class of visitor the leaders of the city were interested in attracting.¹⁶ With only five hotels providing fewer than 500 hotel rooms at the start of the boom, city leaders were encouraged by the construction of mid-sized hotels, such as the Alexander Hotel, the Mari-Jean, and the Hotel Cordova, and several large hotels, including the Princess Martha, Pennsylvania Hotel, and Vinoy Park Hotel, during the boom.¹⁷

The lack of hotel space and the booming economy during the late 1910s and early 1920s prompted the conversion of a number of private residences immediately north of downtown into boarding houses, apartment buildings, or small hotels. Many owners in this once residential neighborhood north of downtown recognized the inevitable growth of the central business district and built new houses farther north of downtown in the newly opened residential sections now known as the Old Northeast, Round Lake, Uptown, Euclid/St. Paul, and Crescent Lake neighborhoods.¹⁸

In 1919, Snell, who was a strong supporter of a public park system, convinced the City to purchase Crescent Lake and the surrounding 26 acres for a public park. Although the \$30,000 would be paid in installments through 1928, the City started improvements to the park immediately including clearing brush around the lake, improving drainage, creating a municipal nursery, and installing a baseball field in 1925. Initially known as the Crescent Lake Baseball Park, the field was renamed the Huggins-Stengel Field and served as the training facility for the New York Yankees from 1925 through 1961. The new homes in the subdivision and park amenities drew residents to the Crescent Lake area during the boom. The opening of the Gandy Bridge to Tampa in 1924 further encouraged widespread development and construction extending north of downtown to the bridge.¹⁹

With the creation of Crescent Lake Park and the onset of the Florida Land Boom, Cade Allen decided to sell his cattle and return to the construction and real estate development field. In 1920, Allen opened a real estate office with Harold Smith at 430 Central Avenue. In 1922, the men purchased The Foster Grove, 135 acres formerly owned by William L. and Amanda Foster

¹⁵ Arsenault, *Florida Dream*, 186-189.

¹⁶ Arsenault, *Florida Dream*, 186-189.

¹⁷ Arsenault, *Florida Dream*, 201.

¹⁸ Sanborn Map Company, Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1923; Arsenault, *Florida Dream*, 199-200.

¹⁹ Wells, *C. Perry Snell*, 40-41, 58-60; Sanborn, 1923; Arsenault, *Florida Dream*, 199-200.

located along Euclid Boulevard North (renamed 9th Street N. in 1928 and now Dr. M.L. King Jr. Street N). Euclid Boulevard, labeled as such on Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps as early as 1918, was the northern extension of 9th Street situated north of 9th Avenue. The original development of the town had focused on the intersection of Central Avenue and 9th Street, making the street a major north-south corridor when new development spread north of the city in the late 1910s and 1920s. By the early 1920s, the streetcar line extended along 9th Street/Euclid Boulevard North to 34th Avenue, the southernmost boundary of the Allendale development, before turning east toward the North Shore development. Cade Allen moved his family into the former Foster residence just west of Euclid Boulevard and remodeled it (which now has an address of 3650 Foster Hill Drive).²⁰



Allendale Terrace plat. PCCCC, Plat Book 4, Page 66.

Allen and Smith retained engineer George F. Young to survey the land and, in 1923, filed the plat for Allendale Terrace. Extending from present-day 34th to 38th Avenues North and 7th Street to Haines Road, the subdivision incorporated a five-acre public park and soon featured brick streets, granite curbs, and hexagon block sidewalks. Soon after, Allen bought Smith's interest in the subdivision, and moved his real estate office to 3649 Haines Road. In 1924, a new plat, Blocks 7-13 of Allendale Terrace Subdivision, was filed for the area north of the original plat extending from 7th Street to Euclid Blvd. and from 38th to 42nd Avenues North. Two years later, in 1926, the final plat, designated as the Northwest Quarter of Allendale Terrace, was filed covering the area from Euclid Boulevard to Haines Road and from 38th to 42nd Avenues North. Like the first plat, the two later plats were drawn by the office of George F. Young, Civil and Landscape Engineers.

²⁰ Allen, *A Life Remembered*, 30, 38-39; Sanborn Map Company, Sanborn Fire Insurance Map, 1918.

Deed restrictions limited development to one residence, to cost no less than \$10,000, and be constructed in the “Spanish, Grecian, Moorish, Mission, Italian, Colonial or English types of architecture.” Houses had to be built of masonry with at least one room on the second floor or a high ceiling to give the appearance of a second story. As owner of the subdivision, he made all new construction subject to his review and approval of building plans. Apartment buildings and stores were prohibited.²¹

The first new home built in the neighborhood was located at 3410 Euclid Boulevard North. Constructed of coquina rock quarried on Florida’s east coast, the house was an unusual Mediterranean Revival style built of stone, tile, and stucco, a mixture which would characterize most of Allen’s future construction. Across Euclid Boulevard, Allen completed a new house for his family which was located at 3405 Euclid Boulevard North, but the family lived in it for only about a year.²²



3600 Euclid Boulevard North (now 3601 Foster Hill Drive North), 1926. Courtesy of Burton Allen.

In 1924, Allen initiated construction on another new house for his family located at 3600 Euclid Boulevard North, which is the subject property (now with the address of 3601 Foster Hill Drive). It was the third of six Allendale homes that the Allen family eventually occupied. When constructed, it had six or seven rooms on the first floor and four bedrooms and three baths on the second floor with an attached garage. Living quarters above the garage housed Mr. and Mrs. Warren Hodges and their son, who worked for the Allens. Warren Hodges wrote his name with the date of February 14, 1925 in the concrete driveway, possibly the date that the house was substantially completed. During this period, Cade and Eva Allen, along with five other residents, met in the Allen home and established the Allendale Methodist Episcopal Church. The eighth, and final, child of Cade and Eva Allen was born in the house in November 1926. According to the Allen family, the projecting granite stones at the corners of the house made for an afternoon of fun “mountain climbing” to the second floor porch and roof. This ever present danger to her children prompted Eva Allen to want to relocate. So Cade Allen built another new house at 944

²¹ Allen, *A Life Remembered*, 38; PCCC, *Revised Map*, Plat Book 4 - Page 66, Plat Book 7 – Page 18.

²² Allen, *A Life Remembered*, 38-41.

39th Avenue North for his family in 1928, where they lived until 1947. During the 1920s, Allen had built 22 homes as well as the Allendale Methodist Episcopal Church.²³

A relatively healthy tourist trade initially kept the local economy afloat following the downturn of the real estate market in 1926 and the devastating hurricanes which damaged south Florida in 1926 and 1928. However, the crash of the stock market in 1929 kept the traveling public at home during the ensuing national depression. A dismal tourist season during the winter of 1929-1930 led to business failures, mortgage foreclosures, and unemployment in the city. Every bank in the city failed and closed by April 1931.²⁴

TOMORROW at 2 P.M.

The Showplace of St. Petersburg—at Auction

—No. 3600 Euclid Boulevard—Completely Furnished—

The Home

A magnificent architectural creation of imported Carolina Gray Granite of the most substantial construction—It has an adequate and marvelously convenient floorplan—There are four bedrooms, three baths, splendid living room, dining room, music room, sun porch, kitchen, owner's den or office, playroom or sewing room, servants' apartment with bath, double drive-through garage—It must be seen to be appreciated.

The Famous Graystone Mansion in Allendale



The Location

High on the Heights of Allendale in an environment both exclusively fashionable and healthful—the Graystone Mansion enjoys a situation on one of the City's Finest Boulevards unmatched for desirability anywhere. A wide sweep of Euclid Boulevard (Ninth Street North) provides its frontage while generous depth on Foster Hill Drive (36th Avenue North) is also included. Every city improvement is installed and paid for.

The Furniture

Harmonious in every detail and of the finest quality—the furnishings blend with the beautiful architecture of this rare home—and complete a perfect ensemble. Products of the best known furniture manufacturers combine with rare Oriental floor coverings and handsome draperies to produce the effect you would expect in a handsomely appointed residence such as this.

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LEADING AUCTIONEERS

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Absolute Sale
By Order of
The Owners

Advertisement. *St. Petersburg Times*, February 11, 1929.

In January 1928, real estate salesmen and auctioneers McLean-Rector & Scott advertised 3600 Euclid Boulevard North as the “Palatial Graystone Mansion” offering the “Ultimate in Residential Perfection.”²⁵ The agents reported that several thousand visited during a week-long open house in which the home was presented as a “model of modern building construction and furnishing.”²⁶ With the decline in the real estate market, the house was still on the market the following year but was briefly occupied by auctioneer Victor McLean of McLean-Rector & Scott. The house

²³ Allen, *A Life Remembered*, 41-46.

²⁴ Arsenault, *Florida Dream*, 253-255.

²⁵ “Our Public Reception,” *St. Petersburg Evening Independent*, January 17, 1928.

²⁶ “Thousands visit model residence,” *St. Petersburg Times*, January 19, 1928.

finally sold at auction in February 1929. Attorney and future judge Mervin Hilton lived in the home in 1930 and 1931.²⁷

By 1932, William Halls, Jr. and his wife, Hattie, owned the residence. The New York banker had bought a winter residence at 1028 14th Avenue North in 1927. In 1933 and 1934, their local attorney, Walter Wilson, rented 3600 9th Street North. After William Halls died in 1933, it appears that his widow Hattie Halls owned the house and may have periodically lived in the house or rented it to widow Edith Byron from 1937 through 1945. The house was advertised for sale in 1945.²⁸

Federal relief projects helped revive the local economy by the mid-1930s. Local projects included the construction of Bay Pines Veterans' Hospital, an addition to Albert Whitted Airport, Bartlett Park, an addition to Mound Park City Hospital, a beach water system, a new city hall, the construction of the U.S. Coast Guard Air Station near Bayboro Harbor, the North Shore sewer system, a National Guard armory, and a new campus for the St. Petersburg Junior College. By providing these kinds of projects throughout the nation, the New Deal agencies brought partial economic recovery to residents of St. Petersburg as well as other cities. With an improved financial outlook, tourists returned to St. Petersburg during the late-1930s.²⁹

During the 1930s, Cade Allen continued to live in and develop the Allendale neighborhood. Unlike many developers who went bust in the decline of the real estate market and Great Depression, Cade Allen managed his development well, installing streets and improvements without encumbering the land. As a result, he retained ownership of the parcels, sold a few, and continued to build during the 1930s even though money was tight.³⁰ Between 1930 and 1932, Allen completed seven and sold eight homes in Allendale Terrace. At the height of the Depression, however, he only completed and sold two homes from 1932 to 1936. As construction resumed between 1937 and 1940, he built 16 homes.³¹

Due to a doctrinal disagreement, Allen left Allendale Methodist Episcopal Church and joined Central Presbyterian Church, where he built the new Sunday school class rooms in 1938. As his sons finished school, they also joined the business, and the company became Cade B. Allen & Sons, Designers and Builders. With the onset of World War II, all five of Cade Allen's sons joined the military. Due to gasoline rationing and limited building materials, little new construction occurred during the war, but Cade Allen managed to keep his real estate office open.³²

Although tourism had rebounded to some extent by 1940, the activation of the military, rationing, and travel restrictions of World War II severely curtailed St. Petersburg's tourism based

²⁷ "Mervin B. Hilton," *St. Petersburg Times*, April 3, 1940.

²⁸ "Home in City Sold for Cash," *St. Petersburg Times*, May 15, 1927.

²⁹ Arsenault, *Florida Dreams*, 257-260.

³⁰ Fuller, 203; Miller, "Houses, Family Built on Solid Foundation," *St. Petersburg Times*, March 4, 1991.

³¹ Allen, *Homes*, 16.

³² Allen, *A Life Remembered*, 48-52.

economy. Most of the city's hotels and boarding houses remained empty during the winter of 1941-42. Realizing that the empty rooms could be an asset as military housing, city leaders successfully lobbied the War Department for a military base. The opening of a technical services training center for the Army Air Corps brought over ten thousand soldiers to the city during the summer of 1942. The military leased almost every major hotel and many of the smaller hotels in the city. Only the Suwannee Hotel and some of the smaller hotels and boarding houses were open to civilian use. By the time the training center closed in July 1943, over 100,000 soldiers had visited St. Petersburg. Although the training center closed, the United States Maritime Service Bayboro Harbor Base, which trained merchant seamen, continued to grow, and eventually leased four of the downtown hotels abandoned by the Army Air Corps. Other bases and support facilities throughout the area brought thousands of soldiers to central Florida and the St. Petersburg area.³³

The city rapidly demilitarized following the war, and many veterans returned to St. Petersburg. Among those returning, the Allen sons rejoined Cade B. Allen & Sons, which now offered "A Complete Home Building Service."³⁴ The Great Depression and governmental restrictions during the war led to a housing shortage following World War II. Many hotels and boarding houses were again filled with tourists and new residents awaiting the construction of new homes. In 1957, Cade Allen retired and passed the family business over to his sons. He died in 1959.

Throughout the 1950s and 1960s in St. Petersburg, new houses filled the subdivisions platted during the 1920s, but left vacant by the real estate decline and the Great Depression. As development spread westward, the introduction of shopping centers, including Central Plaza and Tyrone Gardens Shopping Center, and motels along the west coast drew new residents and tourists away from downtown St. Petersburg.³⁵ During the 1960s, downtown and the neighborhoods surrounding the city core entered a period of decline and abandonment. Many of the buildings associated with the early history of the community slowly deteriorated until reinvestment and preservation revived the area during the 1990s.

Subject Property Background

The subject property is located in the neighborhood now known as Central Oak Park. The area was first platted in 1924 as No. 4 of the Oak Ridge development, an area developed by Percy A. Page.³⁶ Page was the son of prominent Virginia real estate mogul Herman Lawrence Page.³⁷ The Page family began wintering in St. Petersburg in the early 1920s. Unfortunately, like many other neighborhoods first platted during the 1920s land boom, Oak Ridge was sparsely developed until

³³ Arsenault, *Florida Dreams*, 298-301.

³⁴ Allen, *A Life Remembered*, 53.

³⁵ Arsenault, *Florida Dreams*, 307-313.

³⁶ "Percy A. Page Dies in Virginia," *St. Petersburg Times*. August 6, 1946.

³⁷ National Register Nomination of Dulwich Manor, 2013.

after the Great Depression, when St. Petersburg experienced its second building boom during the mid-20th century.

The property appears to have remained vacant until 1941, when Dr. William Homer Axford and Ethel Murphy Axford hired Cade Allen and Sons to construct a new house at 4705 5th Ave N. This is one of only a dozen or so homes built by Cade Allen outside of Allendale.³⁸

Born in 1874, W. Homer Axford was a medical doctor and a pioneer in X-ray technology. He also served as mayor of Bayonne, New Jersey from 1919 to 1923 and then Director of Public Affairs until his retirement in 1930 due to health issues.³⁹

The Axforas spent six winter seasons in St. Petersburg before moving down full time because of Dr. Axford's ill health.⁴⁰ Unfortunately, Dr. Axford only lived in the house for six months until his death on September 17, 1942. He was only 68 years old. Ethel Axford remained in their home until her death at age 82 on June 6, 1960.

Subsequent owner J. Earle Brown constructed a flat-roofed carport onto the side of the existing garage in the rear yard in 1961, which was enclosed by the following owner Willard Russell in 1965. This alteration is considered to be non-contributing to the property's historic significance, but are nonetheless relatively set back from the subject property's façade and do not detract from the historic design.

Primary Character-Defining Features

- One story, U-shaped main massing with an enclosed breezeway attachment to garage,
- House situated among spacious greenspace with large setbacks to create scenic views,
- Modified ranch style home with barrel tile roof,
- Low-pitched hipped roof,
- Open front patio with large picture window,
- Boxed eaves on main house and exposed decorative rafter tails on garage,
- Entryway with tiled steps and flooring, single-action wood door with decorative wrought iron gate,
- Stuccoed masonry walls with entryway with gray stone veneer exterior applied in a random ashlar pattern,
- Crab orchard sandstone chimney and fireplace with surrounding niches for candlesticks,
- Double-hung wood windows with horizontal two-over-two lights,
- Shouldered arched fenestrations in enclosed front porch,
- Tiled windowsills with curved walls,
- Wood flooring and cove ceilings, and
- Bathrooms with original pink and blue tile, fixtures, and consoles.

³⁸ Allen, Burton L. *Homes by Cade Bush Allen*. 2013

³⁹ "Dr. William H. Axford, Former Resident, Dies," *The Courier-News*. September 19, 1942.

⁴⁰ Blackstone, Lillian, "Little Visits to St. Petersburg Homes," *St. Petersburg Times*. April 5, 1942.

Alterations

The subject property retains remarkable historic integrity, however, all buildings evolve somewhat over time. The front porch on the eastern portion of the house was enclosed at an unknown date. Even though it was enclosed, the windows added match the existing two-over-two windows, so the visual impact is minimal. The subject property is able to convey its historic significance despite these minor changes.

PROPERTY OWNER CONSENT AND IMPACT OF DESIGNATION

The proposed local landmark designation was submitted and is supported by the subject property's owners, John Evans and Michael Labbe.

The benefits of designation include increased heritage tourism through the maintenance of the historic character and significance of the city, some relief from the requirements of the Florida Building Code and FEMA regulations, and tax incentives, such as the local ad valorem tax exemption and federal tax credit for qualified rehabilitation projects. The owners intend to take advantage of the ad valorem tax exemption for an upcoming rehabilitation project.

CONSISTENCY WITH ST. PETERSBURG'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, EXISTING LAND USE PLAN, AND FUTURE LAND USE PLAN

The proposed local historic landmark designation is consistent with the City's Comprehensive Plan, relating to the protection, use and adaptive reuse of historic buildings. The local landmark designation will not affect the Future Land Use Map (FLUM) or zoning designations, nor will it significantly constrain any existing or future plans for the development of the City. The proposed landmark designation is consistent with the following objectives:

- Objective LU10:** The historic resources locally designated by the St. Petersburg City Council and Community Planning and Preservation Commission (CPPC) shall be incorporated onto the Land Use Map or map series at the time of original adoption, or through the amendment process, and protected from development and redevelopment activities consistent with the provisions of the Historic Preservation Element and the Historic Preservation Ordinance.
- Policy LU10.1:** Decisions regarding the designation of historic resources shall be based on the criteria and policies outlined in the Historic Preservation Ordinance and the Historic Preservation Element of the Comprehensive Plan.
- Policy HP2.3:** The City shall provide technical assistance to applications for designation of historic structures and districts.
- Policy HP2.6:** Decisions regarding the designation of historic resources shall be based on National Register eligibility criteria and policies outlined in the Historic Preservation Ordinance and the Comprehensive Plan. The City will use the following selection criteria [for city initiated landmark designations] as a guideline for staff recommendations to the CPC and City Council:
 - National Register or DOE status

- Prominence/importance related to the City
- Prominence/importance related to the neighborhood
- Degree of threat to the landmark
- Condition of the landmark
- Degree of owner support

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends *approval* of the request to designate the Axford House, located at 4705 5th Avenue North, as a local historic landmark, thereby referring the application to City Council for first and second reading and public hearing.

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St. Petersburg Evening Independent. "Real Estate Men Are to Organize." June 8, 1912.

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St. Petersburg Evening Independent. "William Halls Jr. Dies in East from Pneumonia Attack." January 27, 1933.

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St. Petersburg Times. "Thousands Visit Model Residence." January 19, 1928.

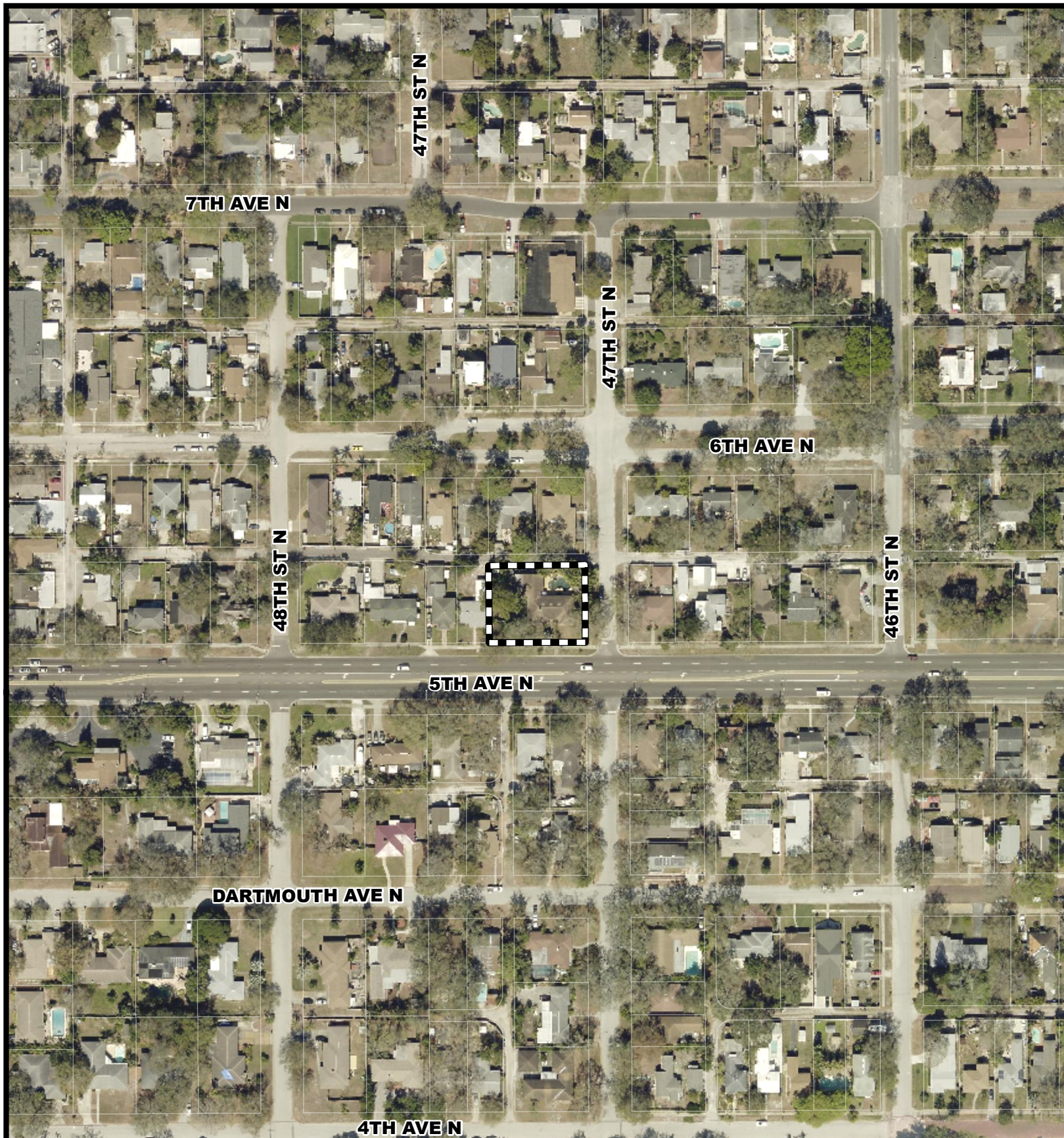
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Appendix A

Maps of Subject Property



Community Planning and Preservation Commission

4705 5th Ave N

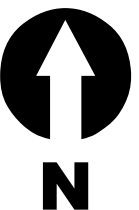
AREA TO BE APPROVED,

SHOWN IN

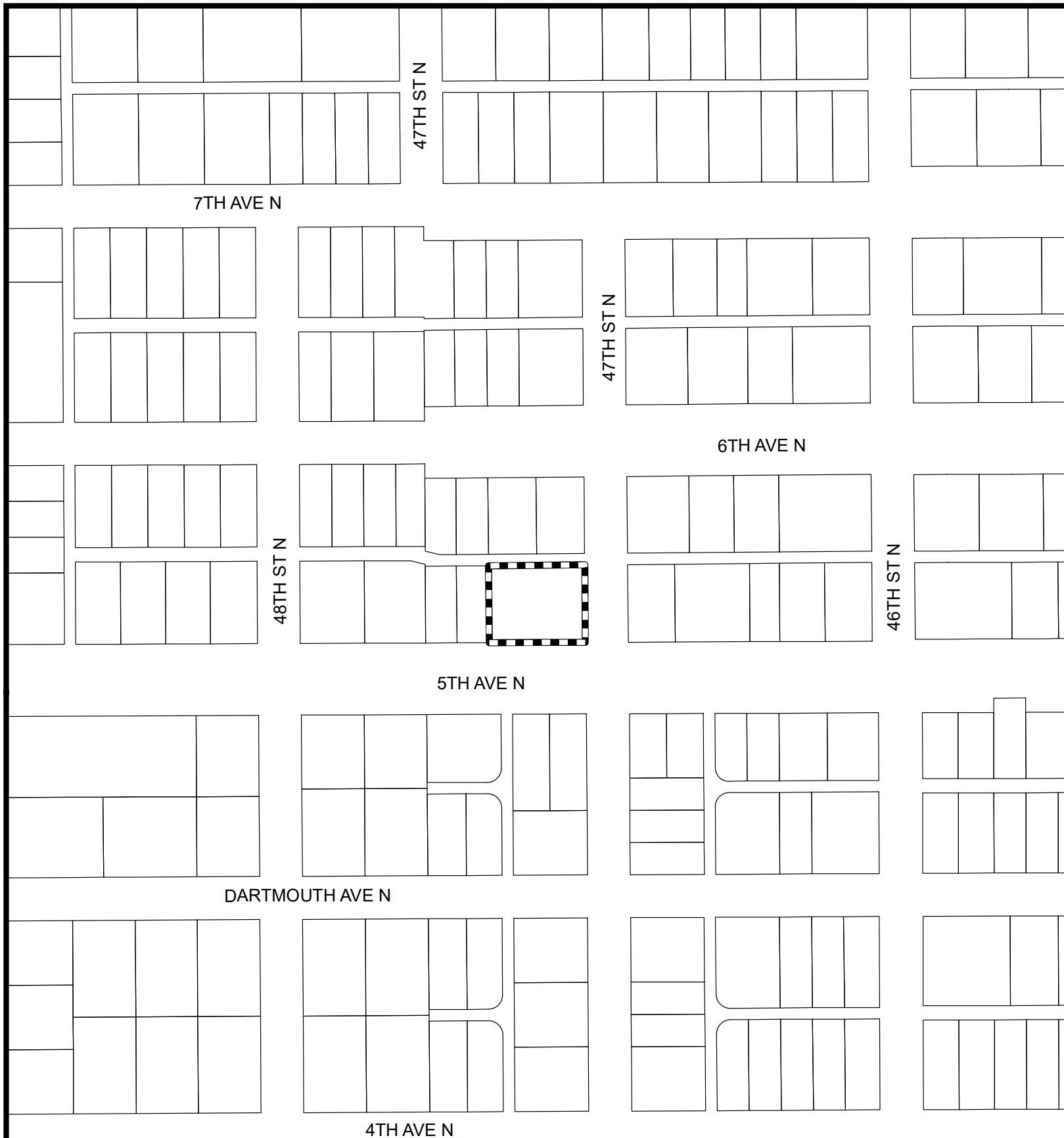


CASE NUMBER

21-90300002



SCALE:
1" = 200'



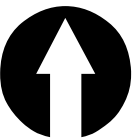
Community Planning and Preservation Commission

4705 5th Ave N

**AREA TO BE APPROVED,
SHOWN IN**



**CASE NUMBER
21-90300002**



N

**SCALE:
1" = 200'**

Appendix B

Application and Owner Research



21-90300002

Received 2-10-21.

City of St. Petersburg
Division of Urban Design
and Historic Preservation

L.C.D.

Local Landmark Designation Application

Type of property nominated (for staff use only)

- ☐ building ☐ structure ☐ site ☐ object
☐ historic district ☐ multiple resource

1. NAME AND LOCATION OF PROPERTY

historic name _____
other names/site number _____
address 4705 5th Ave N, ST Petersburg FL, 33713
historic address _____

2. PROPERTY OWNER(S) NAME AND ADDRESS

name John Evans / Michael Labbe
street and number 4705 5th Ave N, ST Petersburg FL, 33713
city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____
phone number (h) 727-385-6684 (w) 800- e-mail _____

3. NOMINATION PREPARED BY

name/title John Evans, Esq.
organization _____
street and number 4705 5th Ave N
city or town ST Petersburg state FL zip code 33713
phone number (h) 727-385-6684 (w) _____ e-mail jevans@fcci-group.com
date prepared 2/10/21 signature [Signature]

4. BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION AND JUSTIFICATION

Describe boundary line encompassing all man-made and natural resources to be included in designation (general legal description or survey). Attach map delimiting proposed boundary. (Use continuation sheet if necessary)

All-3 lots,

5. GEOGRAPHIC DATA

acreage of property less than 1 acre
property identification number _____

Name of Property

6. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic Functions

Private Residence

Current Functions

Private Residence

7. DESCRIPTION

Architectural Classification

(See Appendix A for list)

Materials

granite
stucco

Narrative Description

On one or more continuation sheets describe the historic and existing condition of the property use conveying the following information: original location and setting; natural features; pre-historic man-made features; subdivision design; description of surrounding buildings; major alterations and present appearance; interior appearance;

8. NUMBER OF RESOURCES WITHIN PROPERTY

| <u>Contributing</u> | <u>Noncontributing</u> | <u>Resource Type</u> | Contributing resources previously listed on the National Register or Local Register |
|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---|
| _____ | _____ | Buildings | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | Sites | |
| _____ | _____ | Structures | |
| _____ | _____ | Objects | Number of multiple property listings |
| _____ | _____ | Total | _____ |

Name of Property

9. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Criteria for Significance

(mark one or more boxes for the appropriate criteria)

- ☐ Its value is a significant reminder of the cultural or archaeological heritage of the City, state, or nation.
- ☐ Its location is the site of a significant local, state, or national event.
- ☒ It is identified with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the City, state, or nation.
- ☒ It is identified as the work of a master builder, designer, or architect whose work has influenced the development of the City, state, or nation.
- ☒ Its value as a building is recognized for the quality of its architecture, and it retains sufficient elements showing its architectural significance.
- ☐ It has distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style valuable for the study of a period, method of construction, or use of indigenous materials.
- ☐ Its character is a geographically definable area possessing a significant concentration, or continuity of sites, buildings, objects or structures united in past events or aesthetically by plan or physical development.
- ☐ Its character is an established and geographically definable neighborhood, united in culture, architectural style or physical plan and development.
- ☐ It has contributed, or is likely to contribute, information important to the prehistory or history of the City, state, or nation.

Areas of Significance

(see Attachment B for detailed list of categories)

Period of Significance

1924 - 1964

Significant Dates (date constructed & altered)

1941 - 1942

Significant Person(s)

Allen, Cad B

Cultural Affiliation/Historic Period

Builder

Architect

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property as it relates to the above criteria and information on one or more continuation sheets. Include biographical data on significant person(s), builder and architect, if known.)

10. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

St. Petersburg Local Landmark Designation Application

Name of property _____

Continuation Section

Page _____

| | | |
|--|-----------------------------|---|
| CONTRACTOR Cade B. Allen & Son | OPENINGS 2w-1m-Bower Pole | FIXTURES 3c-3L-s-3b-1 L Tray |
| ARCHITECT A.L. Pfau Jr. | ok-11/5/41-Cert.#2065 | 16-31-16 M-6 |
| WIND BLDG. Fr. 1 story. ROOM | #2325A-12/10/41-Cade Allen- | #20470-2/13/42-Mr. Homer Axfor |
| SIZE 64'6"x67'4" 1 car gar & maid's rm - Cam field-17c-21sr-27p- | C.J. Godsey-EWH | |
| CU. FT. att by RATE PER CU. FT. brzwy | 9b-3w-2m-1r-1WH. | O.K. DATE 2/6/42 |
| COST \$11000 | O.K. Date-2/5/42-C.2560 | |
| OCCUPANCY Single family res. | FIXTURE PER. NO. DATE | |
| FOUNDATION ROOF | OWNER | |
| FLOORS PARTITIONS | CONTRACTOR | |
| #72179A-R2 - 9/14/61 - \$200 | CERTIFICATE No. DATE | |
| Owner J. Earle Brown - Erect car- | ISSUED TO- | |
| port addition on side of existing | #2536A-1/13/42-C.B. Allen | |
| garage (12' x 21'6") (Type V) | Johnston-HP motor oil | |
| Owner Contractor. | brnr- | |
| | OVER | |
| #2274B-R2 - 9/17/65 - \$250 | GAS PERMIT NO. DATE | SEWER PER. NO. 1036F DATE 6/27/58 |
| Owner Willard Russell - Enclose | OWNER | OWNER Axford |
| carport on rear of existing | CONTRACTOR | CONTRACTOR Pasadena Plbg |
| residence and extend wall 14" | FIXTURES- | O.K. DATE \$5.00 tap |
| (Type V) By Owner | | |
| #62056 - RS75 - 3/9/79 - \$1,000 | | |
| Owner Willard D. Russell - 56' of | | |
| 6' high block wall | | |
| to property line (Type V) by owner | | |
| (OVER OVER) | CERTIFICATE No. DATE | SEPTIC TANK PER. No. 5838 DATE 12/30/41 |
| | ISSUED TO- | OWNER Homer Axford |
| | | CONTRACTOR F.S.T.C. |
| | | O.K. DATE 2/5/42 |
| | | #5839-12/30/41-Homer Axford |
| | | F.S.T.C.- |

Reed Roofing 727-327-2488

BUILDING

#62347-RS75 - 3/20/79 - \$1000
Owner Willard D Russell - 77' of
6" high concrete block wall
(Type V) By owner

#90802 - 3/11/83 - 2700.00
Owner: Willard Russell - remove
existing roof. Apply 30# felt.
Apply 90lb. roof. Apply 5 tiles.
(Type V) Rudolph Reed, Contr.

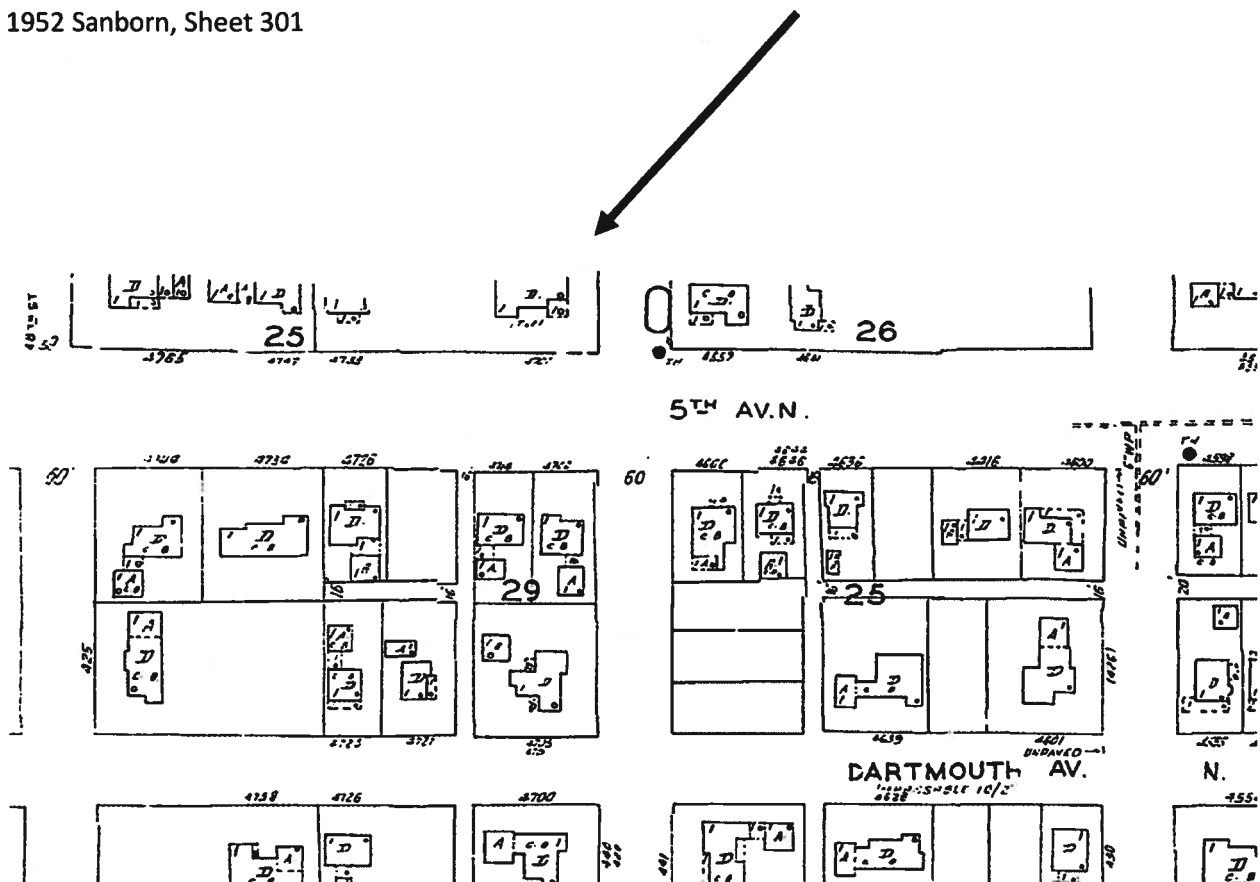
ELECTRICAL PERMITS

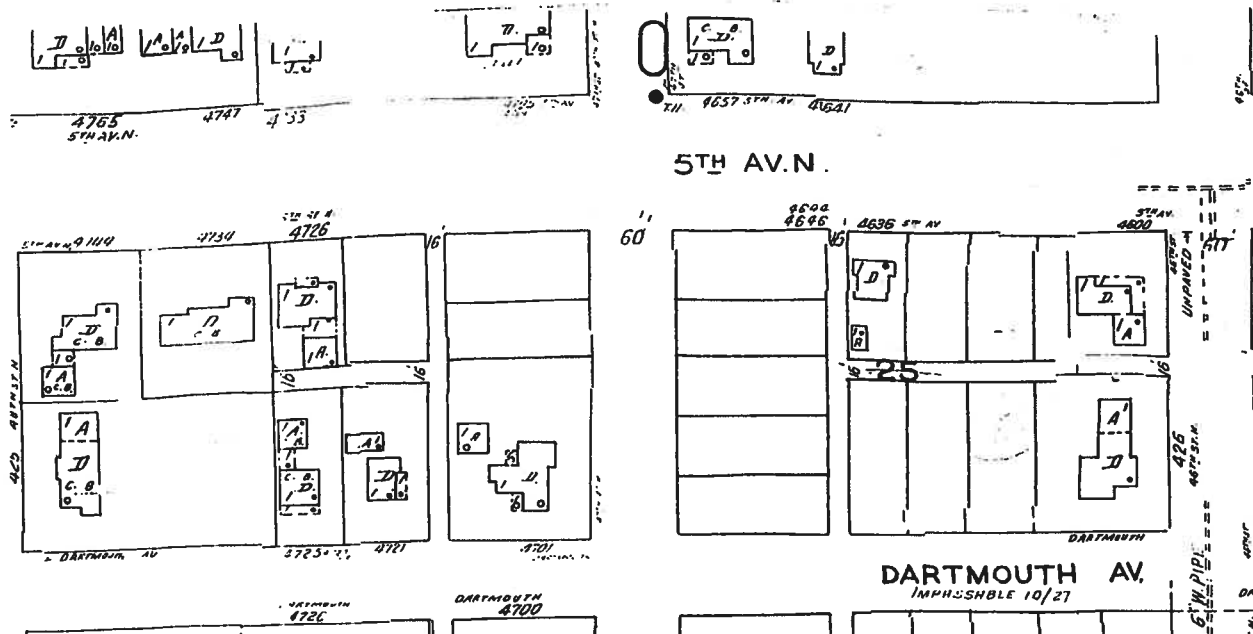
#4173E - 10/20/61 - Brown
Hudson Elec. - 1-meter

INSTALLATION

#2974A-6/3/58-Mrs. W. Homer Oxford
City Fuel Oil Company - 100,000 BTU
Mueller - Exist. Tank - Exist. Chimney
Exist. Duct System
#M3405C - 4/17/80 - Willard Russell
Acme A.C. - 3½ ton split unit cen ac &
heat ducted

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---|
| CONTRACTOR Cade B. Allen & Son | OPENINGS 2w-1m-Bower Pole | FIXTURES- 3c-3L-s-3b-1 L Tray |
| ARCHITECT A.L. Pfau Jr. | ok-11/5/41-Cert.#2065 | 16-31-16 M-6 |
| KIND BLDG. Fr. 1 stry. ROOMS 5 | #2325A-12/10/41-Cade Allen- | #20470-2/13/42-Mr. Homer Axfor |
| SIZE 64'6"x67'4" 1 car gar & maid's rm - Camfield-17c-21st-27p- | 9b-3w-2m-1r-1WH. | C.J. Godsey-EWH |
| CU. FT. att by RATE PER CU. FT. brzwy | O.K. Date-2/5/42-C.2560 | O. K. DATE 2/6/42 |
| COST \$11000 | | |
| OCCUPANCY Single family res. | FIXTURE PER. No. DATE | |
| FOUNDATION ROOF | OWNER | |
| FLOORS PARTITIONS | CONTRACTOR | |
| #72179A-R2 - 9/14/61 - \$200 | CERTIFICATE No. DATE | |
| Owner J. Earle Brown - Erect car- | ISSUED TO- | |
| port addition on side of existing | #2536A-1/13/42-C.B. Allen | |
| garage (12' x 21'6") (Type V) | Johnston-HP motor oil | |
| Owner Contractor. | brnr- | |
| | OVER | |
| #2274B-R2 - 9/17/65 - \$250 | GAS PERMIT No. DATE | SEWER PER. No. 1036F DATE 6/27/58 |
| Owner Willard Russell - Enclose | OWNER | OWNER Axford |
| carport on rear of existing | CONTRACTOR | CONTRACTOR Pasadena Plbg |
| residence and extend wall 14" | FIXTURES- | O. K. DATE \$5.00 tap |
| (Type V) By Owner | | |
| #62066 - RS75 - 3/9/79 - \$1,000 | | |
| Owner Willard D. Russell - 56' of | | |
| 6' high block wall | | |
| to property line (Type V) by owner | | |
| (OVER OVER) | CERTIFICATE No. DATE | SEPTIC TANK PER. No. 5838 DATE 12/30/41 |
| | ISSUED TO- | OWNER Homer Axford |
| | | CONTRACTOR F.S.T.C. |
| | | O. K. DATE 2/5/42 |
| | | #5839-12/30/41-Homer Axford |
| | | F.S.T.C.- |





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been paying daily visits to the wound-
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PROMISES RELIEF FOR CANCER VICTIMS

Spring Lake, N. J., June 24.—Mem-
bers of the Medical Society of New
Jersey discussed with interest today
an announcement by Dr. W. Homer
Axford that a new treatment for in-
operable cancer has been tested, ap-
parently with success, in the Poly-
clinic hospital in New York, with
which he is connected.

The treatment was discovered two
years ago by Dr. Alexander Horovitz,
of Cornell university. The treatment
was described as the injection of an
extract of vegetable origin. Dr. Ax-
ford said many months would be re-
quired to complete the investigation
of the new treatment.

PHARMACISTS WILL

Sunday, April 5, 1942. St Petersburg Times, page 43

"Little Visits to St Petersburg Homes"

By: Lillian Blackstone

Choosing St Petersburg for their year round home, Dr. & Mrs. W. Homer Axford, formerly of Bayonne and Jersey City, N.J., have built one of the city's attractive homes. They moved into it a month ago.

It is built on a corner lot at 4705 5th Ave north, and where now stands a well built home, of smooth tan stucco with crab orchard stone trim there formerly grew 17 pine trees. These were removed and in their place are groupings of palm trees.

The house is one of Cade B. Allen homes, of modified ranch type design with heavy tile roof, open front piazza, with a large window that commands a beautiful view.

Dr. Axford, who retired from medical practice in New Jersey because of ill health, finds that nothing could be more pleasant than to view the outdoors through this picture window which plays an important part of this living room scene.

The living room, almost as wide as the house, is furnished richly with mahogany pieces and oriental rugs the Axfords brought with them from the north. Arrangement of furniture almost makes two rooms out of the living room, with one part grouped around the crab orchard fireplace and the other at the east end.

A broad table and couches facing each other are grouped around the fireplace, while at the other end are couches and deep chairs upholstered in colors that blend with the neutral colorings of the walls and ceilings.

A grand piano is placed in one corner and on the tables and fireplace mantel are beautiful pieces of Rookwood pottery. Niches on either side of the fireplace seem to have been made for the candlesticks that fit into them. Venetian blinds are at the windows at this as in other rooms.

Adjoining the living room to the east is the screened in, tile floored sun porch, and in the rear, through broad windows and doors is seen a terrace overlooking the patio and bird bath.

Throughout the house, windows are equipped with tiled sills and made with horizontal panes. The Axfords made use of oriental rugs in most of their rooms, and their furniture consists chiefly of massive pieces of mahogany that have been in the family for years.

In one of the bedrooms is a large four poster bed with pineapple carvings. This room is in rose, with peach walls, ivory woodwork with a dash of dark red for color contrast. The adjoining bath is in two shades of rose. Another bedroom is decorated in turquoise shades. Twin beds, easy chairs and Oriental rugs complete the picture.

Panels for all the doors are of gumwood, as are the window casings and other wood decorations. The kitchen is in a dainty green and white color scheme, with a crank-like device to open the window, exhaust fan over the stove and ample closet space over and under the drain board. The floor is linoleum laid.

Other house details include a dinette with reed-upholstered gumwood chairs and gumwood table: cedar closets in the bedrooms: considerable closet space in the halls and fluorescent lighting fixtures in many of the rooms.

A breezeway, overlooking a bit of picturesque garden leads to the maid's room and garage. There is also a service yard, and all around the house, when once the landscaping program gets underway, there will be thick growths of flowering shrubs, attractive trees and heavy carpeting of grass.

OBITUARIES

W. HOMER AXFORD

W. Homer Axford, retired medical doctor who came here four years ago from Chester, N. J., died yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock at a local hospital. Mr. Axford, 68, resided here at 4705 Fifth avenue north and had been a winter resident here six seasons before making this city his home.

He was a pioneer in the X-ray field in New Jersey and had been connected with the Medical center in Newark, the Polyclinic in New York city and Bayonne hospital in Bayonne, N. J.

Mr. Axford was a member of the Elks, the American Medical association and the state and county medical associations in New Jersey.

His wife, Mrs. Ethyl Murphy Axford is his only survivor. Funeral arrangements will be announced later by Rhodes.

Thursday, September 17, 1942

Clipped By:



jevans1438

Wed, Oct 9, 2019

JARIES

MRS. ETHEL B. AXFORD, 84, 4705 5th Ave. N., St. Petersburg, died Monday (June 6, 1960) in a St. Petersburg hospital.

Mrs. Axford was born in New York State and moved here 20 years ago from Bayonne, N.J. She was the widow of Dr. William H. Axford, the former mayor of Bayonne.

She has no known survivors. John S. Rhodes Inc. is in charge of arrangements.

Tuesday, June 7, 1960

Clipped By:



jevans1438

Wed, Oct 9, 2019

PUMMELS CITY OFFICIALS

Bayonne, July 7.—After a meeting of the Board of City Commissioners here yesterday two of its members were pummelled by a discharged city employee and attended each other's injuries.

Dr. W. Homer Axford, Director of Public Works, was stopped in the anteroom by John Lavelle, one time ordinance inspector. Lavelle said the city owed him money and that Dr. Axford was delaying payment. Dr. Axford denied this and said he would do what he could to have the payment made. Lavelle then struck the director in the face.

Dr. Bert Daly, Director of Public Safety, tried to separate the two and was struck by Lavelle, who ran away. Dr. Daly's upper lip was cut. He was attended by Dr. Axford, who in turn was treated by Dr. Daly. The police are seeking Lavelle.

Wednesday, July 7, 1926

Clipped By:



jevans1438

Wed, Oct 9, 2019



While returning from Pleasant Hill, late last Thursday night, Dr. Andrew W. Axford, of Chester, ran into a snow bank, overturning the sleigh. Dr. Axford was thrown out with such force as to dislocate his right shoulder. On Friday he left for the home of his son, Dr. William Homer Axford, in Bayonne, where he now is receiving treatment.

Tuesday, December 20, 1912

Clipped By:



jevans1438

Wed, Oct 9, 2019

Dr. William H. Axford, Former Resident, Dies

Chester—Word has been received here of the death in St. Petersburg, Fla., Wednesday of Dr. William Homer Axford for many years a summer resident of Chester. He was born in Naughtright 68 years ago, the son of Dr. Andrew W. and Catherine Naughtright Axford. Dr. Axford attended Trenton Model School and was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School. He was an X-ray specialist and served as chief roentgenologist at Jersey City Medical Center for 20 years and part of that time served in the same capacity at Christ Hospital, Jersey City. He was elected mayor of Bayonne from 1919 to 1923. He was reelected in 1923 and appointed commissioner of public works and was reelected for a third term in 1927. He resigned in 1930 because of illness.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Ethel B. Axford, and a cousin, Mrs. John Contrell of Newark.

Funeral service will be held Sunday at 8 p. m. in the Sayre Funeral Home, Newark, and burial will be in Naughtright Cemetery on Monday.

Saturday, September 14, 1942

Clipped By:



jevans1438
Wed, Oct 9, 2019

RETIRE D VETERINARIAN DIES AT AGE OF 87

Funeral services for Dr. Andrew W. Axford, 87, were held this Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the Chester Congregational Church, with Rev G. B. Bruzold, officiating. Burial was in Naughright, where Masonic rites were conducted at the grave.

Dr. Axford died Monday at the Chester House, after a month's illness. He retired five years ago after a long career as a veterinarian.

Dr. Axford was born in Warren County and was one of the State's oldest veterinarians. His wife died thirty years ago. Surviving are a son, Dr. William Homer Axford of Chester, and a step-daughter, Mrs. Orlanda C. Stephens of East Orange. Dr. Axford was a member of Prospect Lodge, F. & A. M., Chester.

Thursday, December 28, 1933

Clipped By:



jevans1438

Wed, Oct 9, 2019

727-
821-5759
(Brandy)

1881-1942

DR. W. H. AXFORD, BAYONNE EX-MAYOR

X-Ray Specialist Named Three
Times to City Commission
—Dies in Florida Home

PHYSICIAN FOR 42 YEARS

Former Chief Roentgenologist
at Jersey Medical Center—
Athlete at Pennsylvania

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BAYONNE, N. J., Sept. 17—Dr. W. Homer Axford, former Mayor of Bayonne and three times a member of the Bayonne City Commission, who was a pioneer in the field of X-ray, died yesterday at his home in St. Petersburg, Fla. His age was 68 years.

Dr. Axford, who had practiced here for thirty years, was born in Naughtright, N. J., the son of Dr. Andrew Axford and of Mrs. Catherine Naughtright Axford, whose ancestors were among the founders of the township. He attended the Trenton Model School, and studied medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, where he played on the varsity baseball and football teams and was a member of the Glee Club. His athletic career was terminated at the end of his freshman year because of an accident.

After his graduation from Pennsylvania, Dr. Axford interned at the Bayonne Hospital and in 1900 started general practice. Later he became interested in X-ray work, then in its infancy, and soon became an outstanding specialist. Dr. Axford established the X-ray department at Bayonne Hospital and became chief Roentgenologist at the Jersey City Medical Center, a post he held until his retirement because of ill health.

He was induced to enter politics by his friend, Dr. Bert J. Daly, leader of the regular Democratic organization in Bayonne. Dr. Axford was elected to the City Commission in 1919, when he was also named Mayor and director of the Department of Public Affairs. He was re-elected in 1923 and again in 1927, but ill health forced him to retire in October, 1930.

During his administration, the city's modern building code was adopted, two new water mains from Arlington, N. J., were constructed, assuring an uninterrupted supply of water for the city's large industries, and the city's first traffic signal system was installed.

Before his retirement Dr. Axford maintained an office at 711 Avenue C, Bayonne.

Dr. Axford leaves a widow, the former Ethel Murphy, and a niece, Mrs. Jennie Axford Contrell of Newark, N. J.

UPHOLDS HOROVITZ CANCER TREATMENT

**Dr. W. Homer Axford Reports
Successes in Experiments
at Polyclinic Hospital.**

ONE DEATH IN 200 CASES

**Had Only "Incurable" Patients for
Tests, but Announces Quick
Results After Injections.**

Special to The New York Times.

SPRING LAKE, N. J., June 23.—Dr. W. Homer Axford of the Polyclinic Hospital of New York City made a profound impression on members of the Medical Society of New Jersey here today, when he announced that the treatment for inoperable cancer, discovered two years ago by Dr. Alexander Horovitz of Cornell University, had been tested apparently with success in the institution with which he was connected. In fact, Dr. Axford asserted that the experiments indicated that a curative agent had been found for cancerous growths and abnormal cell developments.

The new agent, as was first announced in THE NEW YORK TIMES of Feb. 19 and later described in THE TIMES of May 16, is an extract of vegetable origin, according to Dr. Axford, and may be administered by hypodermic injection the same as serum. Dr. Axford said the administration of the agent seemed to be as effective if injected in a healthy part of the body as in the tumor mass itself.

Dr. Axford said the new treatment had been applied only to so-called incurable cases sent to the Polyclinic Hospital for x-ray treatment as a last hope. He and Dr. J. Wallace Beveridge have conducted the tests at the Polyclinic Hospital, where they obtained permission to make the experiments.

More than 200 cases supposed to be incurable have been treated, and only one has died. As yet, he said, the experimental work had not received a thorough test of its effectiveness in cases of abdominal cancer, this branch having been taken up for investigation only a few weeks ago. Experiments with the new agent were made first in cases of chest cancer. However, abdominal cancer patients have shown improvement following the treatment. He said many months must elapse before the investigation of the new treatment could be completed.

The quick effect of the agent is one of its merits, according to Dr. Axford, who said that within a few days after the injections there was invariably noticed a clearing up of the skin. This was followed by a diminution of pain, and soon the tumor growth began to fall away in size and weight.

Dr. Axford asserted that the positive curative value of the new agent was as yet undetermined. He and Dr. Beveridge both urge the use of surgery in the first treatment of cancer, because their ex-

periments have not permitted them to take up treatment of the disease in its early stages.

Immediately after his discovery of the extract, Dr. Horovitz consulted with Dr. Elias P. Beebe, Professor of Experimental Therapeutics at Cornell University and member of the Medical Board of the General Memorial Hospital, where Dr. Beebe experimented with the treatment, apparently obtaining beneficial results. Dr. Axford said the first experiments preceding those at the Polyclinic Hospital were with poultices made from the extract. The agent thus applied seemed greatly to relieve pain, but it did not show indications of further value to any great extent until a few months ago, when it was administered by hypodermic injection.

A plea for more adequate hospitals for the insane of New Jersey was made by Dr. Stewart Peyton of Princeton, one of the best-known psychiatrists of the country. He said:

"Unless we act at once we will have to admit that the problem of our insane is getting the best of us. Our public institutions are outrageously overcrowded. If our failure to provide adequate institutions and care for our insane of the State continues we must sacrifice our civilization."

Dr. Peyton urged the necessity for adequate care for the insane after Dr. Britton D. Evans, Superintendent of the Morris Plains Asylum, read a paper describing the actual overcrowding of the State's institutions for the insane. At the afternoon session of the society resolutions were introduced calling on the Legislature to take immediate steps to provide the necessary hospitals.

In the afternoon the society elected these officers: Dr. William J. Chandler, East Orange, President; Dr. Philip Marvel, Atlantic City, First Vice President; Dr. William G. Schauflyer, Second Vice President; Dr. Thomas A. Gray, East Orange, Recording Secretary; Dr. Harry A. Stout, Wenonah, Corresponding Secretary, and Dr. Archibald Mercer, Newark, Treasurer.

N. Y. A. C., 4; FORDHAM, 1.

Weakened by the loss of Catcher Butler, who has been signed by the Jersey City baseball team of the Eastern League, and by the absence of Third Baseman W. O'Brien, Fordham College's bus ball team was defeated by New York Athletic Club yesterday in a close game at Fordham. The score:

| FORDHAM. | | | | | | NEW YORK A. C. | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|----|----|---|------------------|---|---|----|----|---|
| R I B P O A E | | | | | | R I B P O A E | | | | | |
| Swetnam, 2b. | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | Lambert, 2b. | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Keane, c. | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0 | Phillips, 2b. | 1 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 0 |
| Robt'son, 1b. | 0 | 1 | 13 | 0 | 0 | Powell, ss. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Mitchell, lf.. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Rich'son, 1b. | 1 | 5 | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| Kennedy, 3b. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | Henriquez, lf. | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Doscher, rf.. | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Mollay, c. | 0 | 0 | 7 | 2 | 0 |
| Hart'an, ss.. | 1 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | Cowan, cf. | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Ewald, cf. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | Barnes, rf. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Crossen, p. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Kebler, p. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 |
| Total | 1 | 4 | 27 | 10 | 1 | Total | 4 | 7 | 27 | 13 | 0 |
| Fordham | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| New York A. C. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 |

Earned runs—New York A. C., 4; Fordham, 1. First base on balls—Off Crossen, 3; off Kebler, 2. Left on bases—Fordham, 5; New York A. C., 5. Struck out—By Crossen, 6; by Kebler, 7. Home run—Richardson. Three-base hits—Richardson, 1; Henriquez, 1. Stolen base—Hartman. Sacrifice hits—Crossen, 1; Cowan, 1. Double play—Hartman to Robertson. Passed ball—Keane. Umpire—J. Dempsey. Time of game—Two hours.

Bayonne Doctors, 22; Lawyers, 9.

Bayonne doctors defeated the lawyers of the town in an interesting baseball contest on the Knickerbocker A. C. field yesterday afternoon. The lawyers only scored nine times against twenty-two.

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| DOCTORS. | | | | | | LAWYERS. | | | | | | | |
|----------------|---|----|---|---|---|----------|-----------------|---|----|----|---|---|---|
| | R | B | P | O | A | E | | R | B | P | O | A | E |
| Hendricks, c.2 | 2 | 16 | 1 | 2 | | | Garvin, 3b..3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | | |
| Axford, p..5 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 0 | | | Benny, p...1 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 1 | | |
| Connolly, 1b.4 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 0 | | | Botzong, c..0 | 0 | 10 | 3 | 0 | | |
| Borgm'r, 2b.4 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | | | Langf'd, 1b.1 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 2 | | |
| Ste's, 3b&lf.3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | | | McCon'li, ss.2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | |
| Woodruff, ss.4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | | | Lazarus, cf.1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Corwin, rf..0 | 1 | 0 | | | | | Noonan, 2b..0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Smith, rf...0 | 0 | 0 | | | | | V. Bus'k, lf.1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Donohoe, cf.0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | | | | Stillwell, rf.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Sel'h, lf&cf.0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Davey, lf...1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | | | Total | 9 | 12 | 23 | 8 | 5 | |

Luce batted once, but did not catch, for Hendricks.

*Stevens hit by a batted ball.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Lawyers | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | — | 9 |
| Doctors | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 7 | — | — | 23 |

Earned runs—Doctors, 12. Home run—Woodruff. Three-base hits—McConnell, Lazarus, Stevens. Two-base hits—Garvin, (2); Benny, Axford, Borgmeyer, Woodruff. Sacrifice hits—McConnell, Seismith. First base on balls—Off Benny, 5; off Axford, 4. Hit by pitched ball—By Benny, 6; by Axford, 3. First base on errors—Lawyers, 2; Doctors, 3. Stolen bases—Doctors, 11; Lawyers, 3. Left on bases—Doctors, 9; Lawyers, 12. Wild pitches—Benny, 8; Axford, 1. Passed balls—Hendricks, 1; Botzong, 1. Time of game—Two hours and thirty-seven minutes. Umpires—A. A. Smith and Henry Meigs.

LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS
IN COURT OF COUNTY JUDGE,
PINELLAS COUNTY, STATE OF
FLORIDA.
IN RE ESTATE OF
W. HOMER AXFORD.**

DECEASED.

**TO ALL CREDITORS, LEGATEES,
DISTRIBUTEES AND ALL PERSONS
HAVING CLAIMS OR DEMANDS
AGAINST SAID ESTATE:**

You, and each of you, are hereby notified and required to present any claim or demand which you, or either of you, may have against the estate of W. Homer Axford, deceased, late of Pinellas County, Florida, with filing fee of 25c. to the County Judge of Pinellas County at his office in the Court House at Clearwater, Florida, within eight calendar months from the date of the first publication of this notice. Said claim or demand must be duly sworn to.

Dated, This the 15th day of October
A. D. 1942.

Ethel B. Axford
as executrix of the Estate
of W. Homer Axford,

Deceased.

Address 4705 5th Ave. North
St. Petersburg, Fla.

Chas. S. Brock,
Attorney for Executrix,
Times Building,
St. Petersburg, Fla.

**PETITION FOR DISCHARGE OF
ADMINISTRATOR AND FOR ORDER**

Ethel Beers Murphy (RN - Roosevelt Hospital 1906 to
Dr William Homer Axford. she recently
graduated and offered position of O.R. nurse
at Maternity Hospital, N.Y but declined as
she is preparing for wedding to Dr W. Homer Axford
of Bayonne.

Ethel Beers Murphy 1878 - 1960

William Homer Axford 1874 - 1942

Burial German Valley Rural Cemetery
Long Valley, Morris County, NJ



FIND A GRAVE



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[Help with Find A Grave](#)

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- [Long Valley](#)
- [Morris County](#)
- [New Jersey](#)
- [Find A Grave](#)

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Dr William Homer Axford

Memorial

Photos

Flowers

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Birth: 1874
Death: 1942

Family links:

Parents:

Andrew W Axford (1846 - 1933)

Catherine Naughtright Axford (1837 - 1904)

Spouse:

Ethel Beers Murphy Axford (1878 - 1960)

Burial:

[German Valley Rural Cemetery](#)

Long Valley

Morris County

New Jersey, USA

Created by: [Michael Holmes](#)

Record added: Jun 08, 2010

Find A Grave Memorial# 53425777

Added by: [Michael Holmes](#)Added by: [Michael Holmes](#)

Cemetery Photo

Added by: [Richard H.](#)Add a photo
for this personRequest
A Photo

Photos may be scaled.
Click on image for full size.





- [Christie Trapp](#)

Added: Sep. 11, 2012

Leave flowers
and a note

Advertisement

Vital Records Found For William Axford in New Jersey

| | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
|  | 1 Death Certificates found for William Axford |  | 83 Marriage Certificates found for William Axford |
|  | 34 Birth Certificates found for William Axford |  | 28 Divorce Certificates found for William Axford |

146 Vital Records for William Axford

Sponsored by Archives

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|----------------|---|---|----|----|---|----------------|-----------------|---|---|----|----|---|---|
| | R | B | P | O | A | E | | R | B | P | O | A | E |
| Swetnam, 2b. | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | Lambert, 3b. | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Keane, c. | 0 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Phillips, 2b. | 1 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Robertson, 1b. | 0 | 1 | 13 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Powell, ss. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Mitchell, lf. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Richardson, 1b. | 1 | 3 | 14 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Kennedy, 3b. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | Henriquez, lf. | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Doscher, rf. | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Mollay, c. | 0 | 0 | 7 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Hartman, ss. | 1 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | Cowan, cf. | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ewald, cf. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | Barnes, rf. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Crossen, p. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Kebler, p. | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 1 | 4 | 27 | 10 | 1 | 1 | Total | 4 | 7 | 27 | 13 | 0 | 0 |
| Fordham | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| New York A. C. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

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| | R | B | P | O | A | E | | R | B | P | O | A | E |
| Hendr'ks, c.2 | 2 | 2 | 16 | 1 | 2 | 0 | Garvin, 3b..2 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Axford, p..5 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Benny, p....1 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Connelly, 1b..4 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Botzong, c..0 | 0 | 10 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
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| Ste's, 3b&lf.3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | McCon'l, ss.2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Woodr'f, ss.3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | Lazarus, cf.1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Corwin, rf..0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Noonan, 2b..0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Smith, rf....0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | V. Bus'k, lf.1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Donohoe, cf.0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Stillwell, rf.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sel'h, lf&cf.0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | | |
| Davey, lf..1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Total | 9 | 12 | 23 | 8 | 5 | 0 |

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*Stevens hit by a batted ball.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|---|
| Lawyers | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 0 |
| Doctors | 3 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 7 | .. | 22 | 0 |

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John Evans (Legal)

From: John Evans (Legal)
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2014 11:53 AM
To: John Evans (Legal)

AXFORD, ANDREW W.

Among the representative citizens of Naughtright, New Jersey, we direct attention to **Andrew W. Axford**, who has long been identified with the interests of this place first as a blacksmith and later as a veterinary surgeon and who now holds the office of freeholder of Washington township.

Mr. Axford is of English descent. His ancestors were among the primitive settlers of Oxford, Warren county, New Jersey. **Robert Axford**, his father, was for many years a merchant of Hackettstown, Warren County, New Jersey, and late in life retired to a farm in that county, where he spent his closing years and there died. He was born in 1800, the son of **John M. Axford** and his death occurred in 1873, and his wife, whose maiden name was **Jane Wilson**, and who was a daughter of **Andrew Wilson**, of New Stone, Hunterdon county, was born in 1809 and died in 1879. They were the parents of six children, three of whom survive, namely: **Jacob, Robert** and **Andrew W.**

Andrew W. Axford was born in Hackettstown, New Jersey, October 28, 1845, and grew to manhood near that village, having limited educational advantages. He learned the trade of blacksmith in his native town and continued to reside there until 1868, when he came to Morris county. This place has been his home for thirty years. He followed the trade of blacksmith until fifteen years ago, when he turned his attention to veterinary practice, and has since devoted his time to it, enjoying a successful and increasing practice. He is a member of the Veterinary Medical Association, of New Jersey, being one of the trustees of the same.

Some five years ago, **Mr. Axford** became interested and active in political matters, and was about that time honored with a place on the board of election. In the spring of 1896 he was elected freeholder of his township, the duties of which office he has performed with fidelity and efficiency. He is a Democrat, and is a partisan believer in the efficacy of the doctrines of modern Democracy. Other positions of preference occupied by **Mr. Axford** are those of chairman of the Washington township bridge committee and member of the lunacy committee of the board of freeholders in 1897 and in 1898 of the macadam-road committee.

Mr. Axford was married in Morris county, New Jersey, August 27, 1870, to **Catherine Slater**, daughter of **John Slater**, of Naughtright, and their only child is **William Homer**, a junior in the University of Pennsylvania, preparing for the medical profession.

Fraternally, **Mr. Axford** is a Mason and a Knight of Pythias. In the local lodge of the latter he is a master of finance. (Biographical & Genealogical History, Morris County, New Jersey, Volume II, Pages 431-432. published 1899 Submitted by Peggy Luce)

Appendix C

Additional Photographs of Subject Property























ASYLUM FOR

1705

GRACE
AND
SOLUTIONS



































