

LEGISLATIVE #

100515F

Florida Department of State
Division of Historical Resources
Bureau of Historic Preservation

Adapted from NPS 10-900
to propose the nomination of
Properties in Florida for listing in
the National Register of Historic
Places

FLORIDA NOMINATION PROPOSAL

Grayed Areas for Use by Staff

1. Name of Property

historic name A. Quinn Jones Home

other names _____

FMSE Number AL1700

2. Location

street & number 1013 NW 7th Avenue

not for publication

city or town Gainesville


vicinity

state FLORIDA code FL county Alachua code AL zip code 32601

3. Owner Awareness Statement

As the owner, or official representative of the owner, of the property identified above, I am aware of this proposal for its nomination for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. I have been advised of the procedures for review of the proposal by the State Historic Preservation Office and the Florida National Register Review Board, and for the formal nomination of the property at the discretion of the State Historic Preservation Officer. I understand that I will be notified of the date and place of the public meeting at which the proposal will be considered by the Florida National Register Review Board, and that I will be given an opportunity to submit written comments and to appear in person in support of or opposition to the nomination of the property.

At this time I support _____ oppose _____ reserve opinion on this proposal.


Signature of property owner or representative

11-17-05
Date

4. Legal Description of Property (according to county property appraiser's office)

Please also provide:

Name of USGS Quadrangle: Gainesville East, 7.5 Minute Series

Township, Section and Range: T 10 S 5 R 20

Tax Parcel #: 13867-000-000

BROWN ADDN BK 10 PB A-64 S J THOMAS S/D PB A-70 LOT 3 & THE W 10 FEET OF LOT 12 OR 3606/0503 & OR 3650/0559

Attach continuation sheet if necessary

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing	Noncontributing	
2	0	buildings
		sites
		structures
		objects
2	0	total

Name of related multiple property listings

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

NA

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

NA

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH C. AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Bungalow

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Brick
walls Wood
roof Composition shingles
other

Narrative Description

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

8. Statement of significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction of represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Areas of Significance

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

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

(Enter categories from instructions)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Maritime History |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archaeology | <input type="checkbox"/> Military |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Planning | <input type="checkbox"/> Politics/Government |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Social History |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early Settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health/Medicine | Other: <u>ETHNIC</u> |
| | <u>HERITAGE</u> |

Period of Significance

1925-1957

Significant Dates

1925

Significant Person

A. Quinn Jones

Cultural Affiliation

NA

Architect/Builder

NA

A. Quinn Jones Home
Name of Property

Alachua, Florida
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property Less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1	1 7	3 7 0 7 8 7	3 2 8 1 6 6 7	3			
	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing	
2				4			

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Laurie, Murray D.

organization _____ date _____

street & number 2858 SW 14 Drive telephone 352-335-6784

city or town Gainesville state FL zip code 32608

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets (All information on continuation sheets must be typed.)

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) Do not write upon or attach labels to this map.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.
(Do not write upon or attach permanent labels to the photographs.)

Additional items

(check with the area Historic Sites Specialist at [850] 487-2333 for any additional items)

Property Owner

name City of Gainesville, Russ Blackburn, City Manager

street & number PO Box 490, Station 6 telephone 352-334-5010

city or town Gainesville state FL zip code 32605

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1

A. Quinn Jones House, Alachua County, Florida

Summary Description

The A. Quinn Jones home at 1013 NW 7th Avenue in Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida, is a one-story, wood-frame bungalow built circa 1920. The house rests on brick piers and has a front gable roof. Fenestration is irregular and most of the original windows have been replaced. It was the home of prominent African American educator A. Quinn Jones, and his family from 1925 until his death in 1997. The house is located in the Brown Subdivision of West Gainesville, across the street from the A. Quinn Jones Center, built in 1923 as Lincoln High School.

Setting

The home of Professor A. Quinn Jones is located in a mostly residential setting in the historically African American neighborhood of West Gainesville, three blocks north of University Avenue (Highway 26) and two blocks east of NW 13 Street (US441, also designated as Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard). (Photo 1) It is typical of other one-story bungalows on NW 7th Avenue, formerly known as Columbia Street. Mature oak trees shade the paved neighborhood streets, and there are concrete sidewalks and curbs. (Photos 2, 3) Directly across NW 7th Avenue from the home of Professor Jones is the two-story red brick school he directed for thirty-four years. This handsome building, which opened in 1923, is still operated as a public school, now named for its long-time principal.

Exterior

The Jones home is typical of modest bungalow-influenced homes built throughout the nation early in the twentieth century. It was built sometime before 1925, the date on which Jones purchased the property.¹ The one-story house, which faces north, rests on piers, some of which are brick and others concrete. The house features a staggered gable roof that is clad in composition shingles with open eaves and simple knee brackets at the peak of the front gables and at each gable end. Lattice vents are set at the peak of each gable. The gable roof over the front porch is set several feet lower than the main roof. (Photos 4-6) A flat roofed, open carport is attached to the west side of the house. (Photo 7) The house has three exterior brick chimneys, two on the east side and one on the west side, and is clad in drop siding, painted white. A screened porch extends across most of the front, north façade with three, short, battered posts set on five-foot-tall square brick piers supporting the porch roof. (Photo 1, 8) Four concrete steps with ornamental wrought iron railings lead to the screen door on the main, north façade. (Photo 9) A metal awning shades the front porch and windows on the east and west side of the house. (Photos 1, 5) The fenestration is irregular and most windows are not original but aluminum framed replacements with double-hung sashes. (Photo 10) On the rear (south) façade is a shed-roofed enclosed porch. (Photo 5) An addition on the southwest corner of the house has a separate, flat roof. (Photo 6)

¹ Contract for deed, November 5, 1925, between J. B and M. C. Howard and A. Quinn Jones. See A. Quinn Jones Collection, Smathers Library, University of Florida.

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Section number 7 Page 2

A. Quinn Jones House, Alachua County, Florida

Interior

The screened front porch (8 feet x 20 feet) leads directly into the living room of the house through a single, paneled wood door set with a small diamond-shaped window. (Photo 11) The living room, which extends across the front of the house, has a brick-faced fireplace on the east wall, blocked now by a heating unit vented through the chimney. (Photo 12, 13) The dining room is next to the living room, linked by an eight-foot-wide framed opening. (Photo 14) Immediately to the south of the dining room is the kitchen. (Photo 15) An enclosed back porch/laundry room adjacent to the kitchen opens on to the rear yard. A small storage area is located to the west of the back porch. On the west side of the living room, a single door leads to small hall and the bathroom. Located to the rear of the bathroom and connected by another door to the kitchen is Professor Jones's office. (Photo 16) A third door in the office leads to the two bedrooms located in the southwest corner of the house. (Photo 17)

Some of the original paneled doors are still in place in the house. (Photo 18) The floors in the living and dining rooms and the two bedrooms are carpeted, and the other rooms have vinyl flooring in a variety of patterns. The walls in the living room and dining room have wood paneling with white baseboards and a band of white plaster above the paneling. The walls in the office and two bedrooms are plastered. The ten-foot ceilings are covered with white ceiling tiles. Some of the original furnishings, including the piano in the living room where Mrs. Jones gave music lessons, are still in place.

Alterations

According to Dr. Oliver Jones, the son of A. Quinn Jones, who grew up in the house, the wall between the small living room and the front bedroom, which occupied the west half of the present living room, was removed in the late 1930s, after A. Quinn Jones married Frederica Williams. The front bedroom was sacrificed to provide space for Mrs. Jones, a musician, to give piano lessons. The two small bedrooms with closets with sliding doors in the southwest corner of the house were added in the late 1940s, as was the carport, which replaced a small garage. The kitchen was remodeled at about this same time.²

Site features

A small wood-frame shed in the rear of the house was built for storage around 1950. (Photo 18) The building has a side gable metal roof and horizontal siding. It rests on brick piers and has two wood doors on the front, north facade. A chain link fence marks the south boundary of the property, which is shaded by mature oak trees.

² Dr. Oliver Jones, Personal communication, October 14, 2008.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places

Continuation Sheet

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A. Quinn Jones House, Alachua County, Florida

Summary Statement of Significance

The A. Quinn Jones house is significant under Criterion B at the local level for its association with an important African American educator, Allen Quinn Jones. The period of significance is 1925 to 1957. Professor Jones was principal of three black schools in Gainesville during his forty-two-year career as a teacher and administrator in Florida schools. He and his family lived in the nominated property from 1925 until his death in 1997. The home of Professor Jones is significant because it was from the office in his home that much of his educational work and his community activities were generated.

Historical Context: Black Education in Florida

This property is being nominated under the historical context submitted in the Multiple Property Nomination, "Florida's Historic Black Public Schools" (MP12406).¹ The A. Quinn Jones house is placed in the historic context of education for African Americans in Florida because it derives its principal significance from this association.

Historical Context: Black Education in Alachua County and Gainesville

In the first decade after the Civil War, black schools were established in Tallahassee, Jacksonville, Gainesville, Ocala and other cities where local black communities purchased land and set up a Board of Trustees to oversee the schools and secure funding. One of the most successful was the Union Academy, established in 1866 in Gainesville by the Freedmen's Bureau, which became one of the most highly regarded public schools for African American students in the state, also serving as a teacher training institute for Alachua County rural schools.² The first classes for black students were taught by white women sent to the South after the war by the American Missionary Association. Extra funding to pay teachers was provided by the Peabody Fund. Reports sent by the teachers to their organizations indicate pupil progress, the books they used, and their efforts to train their replacements from the students enrolled in the upper level classes. The Union Academy, located on Pleasant Street (at the corner of what is now NW 1st Street and 7th Avenue) was an attractive, one-story wood frame building with an impressive belfry meant to accommodate 120 students. Soon overcrowded, the Union Academy was enlarged around 1895 with the addition of a second story to accommodate a growing population. Primary grades were being taught in two adjacent houses at the turn of the century.³ The Union Academy, which held classes for grades one through ten, was the only public school for black students in Gainesville.

In addition to the Union Academy, there were a number of small, one- and two-room country schools in rural Alachua County, such as the one at Liberty Hill, about fifteen miles northwest of Gainesville, established in 1896, with classes first held in the Liberty Hill Methodist Church. Listed on the National Register in 2003, this

¹ "Florida's Historic Black Public Schools" Multiple Property Documentation, MP 12406., Listed on the NRHP in 2003.

² J. Irving Scott. *The Education of Black People in Florida*. (Philadelphia: Dorrance and Co, 1974): p. 45; See also A. Quinn Jones Collection, Smathers Library, University of Florida.

³ Murray D. Laurie. "The Union Academy: A Freedmen's Bureau School in Gainesville, Florida." *Florida Historical Quarterly*. . Volume 3, Number 2, October 1986, p.165-173

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A. Quinn Jones House, Alachua County, Florida

one-room frame school still stands on the grounds of the Liberty Hill United Methodist Church at 7600 NW 23 Avenue, Gainesville. A number of Liberty Hill teachers were graduates of Lincoln High School. The one-teacher school, which only went to grade six, closed in 1949 at a time when rural schools were being consolidated. Thereafter, students were bussed to a black elementary school in Newberry or found a way to get to Gainesville to attend Lincoln High School.

A 1919 report by the Alachua County School Board noted that the Union Academy had outgrown the present school plant and that there was an "imperative demand" for a new school.⁴ The recently enacted compulsory attendance law added to the pressure on all public schools, particularly the only school for black students in Gainesville. A local bond election in 1919 that passed by a wide margin provided a sum of \$150,000 to build two new schools, one for white students and one for black students. The ten-acre property selected for the black school was eight blocks west of the Union Academy and was to have twenty classrooms and an auditorium with a seating capacity of 800. Like the Union Academy, the new school was designed for elementary, junior high and senior high classes and was still the only public school in Gainesville for black students. The new school, named Lincoln High School, opened in 1923. A. Quinn Jones, who had been the principal of the Union Academy since 1921, became the principal of LHS.

In an interview in 1976, Professor Jones noted that LHS was as attractive in appearance as Gainesville High School, built for white students at the same time. It was a handsome two-story red brick building set on a large property, but there were no sidewalks or landscaping provided for LHS. Students and teachers did the landscaping and the principal arranged to secure bricks left over from another construction site,, which were laid by city prisoners. Until a cafeteria was built in 1955, parents prepared food and brought it to the school for those who lived too far away to walk home for lunch.⁵

In 1925-1926, LHS attained State accreditation as a standard high school with twelve grades. Between 1928 and 1931, in response to Alachua County's urgent need for professionally trained teachers, LHS offered a High School Teacher Training Course. Until Duval and Williams Elementary Schools were built in Gainesville in the 1940s, LHS was still the only public school for black students in Gainesville. By that time, junior high schools and senior high schools, as well as new elementary schools, were built for black students in some of the smaller cities in the county, such as those in Alachua, High Springs, Hawthorne, Archer, Micanopy and Newberry.⁶ Many of the teachers in these schools were graduates of Lincoln High School and had received training for their certification through programs held at LHS.

In 1956, a new Lincoln High School was constructed on the Waldo Road, southeast of the center of Gainesville, on a fifty-three-acre property. Professor Jones was the first principal of this school and was very involved in its

⁴ Alachua County Board of Public Instruction.. *Public School Facilities of Gainesville, FL.* (Gainesville: Alachua County School Board, 1919), pp. 7-11. The proposed plan of the "Colored School" closely resembles the plan of the high school built for white students in the 1920s.. p. 7-12.

⁵ Joyce Miller, Interview with A. Quinn Jones, 1976. See AQJC.

⁶ Myron L. Ashmore. "A Survey of the Alachua County Negro School System." MA thesis, University of Florida, 1946.

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A. Quinn Jones House, Alachua County, Florida

planning. He retired a year later, ending his long career as an educator. The former Lincoln High School became a black elementary school. Since 1977, this school plant, located across from the A. Quinn Jones house, has been the A. Quinn Jones Center for students with special needs.

Allen Quinn Jones: Educator and Administrator

The home of A. Quinn Jones is associated with the productive life of Professor Jones. He purchased the house in 1925⁷ and lived there until his death in 1997 at age 104. From his front porch he could see Lincoln High School across the street, and his life and that of his family were bound tightly to this institution, which he led from its opening in 1923 until it ceased to be a high school in 1956. The school contained all twelve grades and was the only public school for black students in the City of Gainesville. Students who had completed all six grades in the rural schools in the county would have to come into Gainesville and enroll at LHS if they wanted a high school education.

Allen Quinn Jones, always referred to as A. Quinn Jones (or Quinn), was born on March 3, 1893, in Quincy, Florida, the sixth of the seven children of Joseph Thomas and Rosa McDonald Jones. His father was a gardener and his mother a laundress. Like many other children in Quincy, A. Quinn worked in the local tobacco industry when school was closed each spring.⁸ He began his working life as a water-boy at age eight. The family resources were limited, but education was important, and all the Jones children attended school in Quincy, during a time when educational resources in a rigidly segregated town were limited. His oldest sister, Sarah, was one of A. Quinn's teachers in Public School #1, which only went to the eighth grade. His principal recommended him to President Nathan B. Young, president of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College, for the high school department. A. Quinn Jones moved to Tallahassee in 1908 and enrolled, working his way through the FAMC high school and college programs. President Young became a mentor and friend and found a job for A. Quinn as a waiter at FAMC, and each summer the young man returned to Quincy to work for local tobacco companies to earn the following year's tuition.⁹

Jones earned a Bachelor of Science degree at FAMC in 1915, ranking highest in his class in scholarship. He has stated that he would have preferred to continue his education in the field of medicine, but due to the lack of funds, he secured a teaching position in a one-room school near Quincy. He taught at rural schools in Gadsden, Liberty, and Jackson counties for two years: terms at black schools at that time were as short as three to four months and teachers moved from school to school as positions opened. Jones moved to Pensacola in the fall of

⁷ Contract for deed, November 5, 1925, between J. B and M. C. Howard and A. Quinn Jones. See A. Quinn Jones Collection, Smathers Library, University of Florida.

⁸ Miles K. Womack, Jr. *Gadsden: A Florida County in Words and Pictures*. (Quincy: Author, 1976). pp. 116-119.

⁹ A. Quinn Jones, *Recollections*. (Gainesville: Author, 2003). Pp. 1-7. Personal letters from Nathan B. Young in the A. Quinn Jones collection at the University of Florida (AQJC) indicate the support and encouragement that Jones received from President Young through the years.

1917 to become the principal of Public School #44, an elementary school. In 1918, he transferred to **United States Department of the Interior**
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service

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A. Quinn Jones House, Alachua County, Florida

Washington High School in Pensacola, and in addition to teaching English, math and science, he served as assistant principal.¹⁰

As he began his career as an educator, he also became a member of the NAACP and of the Southern Protective Association, taking an active role in these early civil rights organizations, an interest he continued to pursue throughout his life.¹¹ In January 1917, he married a Pensacola teacher, Agnes Marion Smith, also a graduate of FAMC. Over the next seven years the couple had four children, A. Quinn Jones, Jr., Oliver, Vera, and Lydia.

While he was pursuing his career in education, Jones continued his own education, earning a Master of Arts degree in 1920 from Oskaloosa College, in Iowa, through extension study. In 1921, he accepted a position as principal of the Union Academy in Gainesville, Florida. An appeal to FAMC President Nathan B. Young from the trustees of the school seeking a "real Red-Blooded man" resulted in an immediate recommendation for Jones, who moved to Gainesville with his wife and children in August of 1921. Agnes Jones was also offered a teaching position at the Union Academy.

Educational prospects for African Americans in Alachua County were improving, and the new principal and the Trustees actively promoted efforts to extend the school term to eight months and to improve teachers' salaries. A bond issue passed, vigorously supported by the black community, to fund the construction of two new high schools, one for white students and one for blacks, both to be two-story brick buildings.¹² The cost of Lincoln High School, including the auditorium that was added later, was \$85,000 and it was built to accommodate 500 pupils.¹³ The new school was located at the corner of Northwest Tenth Street and Seventh Avenue. It replaced the inadequate and overcrowded Union Academy, eight blocks east, and Jones assumed the position of principal for Lincoln High School when it opened in 1923 with grades one through eleven.¹⁴

Funds allocated to the new black school by the Alachua County School Board did not include sidewalks, a cafeteria, or a library. Jones mobilized the black community to provide these necessities and began to expand his teaching staff and the scope of the program, adding a twelfth grade in 1924. In May of 1925 eight students graduated for the first time with four-year diplomas. In addition to his teaching and administrative duties, Jones prepared the school for its next step, full accreditation from the State of Florida. He believed his graduates should continue their education, and in 1926, Lincoln High School became fully accredited, giving its graduates

¹⁰ Jones, pp. 16-23, 27, 29.

¹¹ Ibid, p. 28. Later, in Gainesville, Jones was on the local Interracial Committee

¹² Alachua County Board of Public Instruction.. *Public School Facilities of Gainesville*, .. p. 7-12.

¹³ Edward Loring Miller. "Negro Life in Gainesville: A Sociological Study." MA Thesis, University of Florida, 1938. pp 100-103. By 1938, Miller reported that enrollment had more than doubled. (see p. 7).

¹⁴ Laurie, p. 174.

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A. Quinn Jones House, Alachua County, Florida

the credentials they needed for full acceptance at colleges and universities, the second black high school in the state to qualify for this distinction. The class of 1925-26 was the first LHS class to complete a fully accredited high school program, and Lincoln never lost that accreditation status.¹⁵ Jones notes one of his outstanding achievements was to rally the black community in 1929-30 to raise funds to pay teacher salaries and keep the school open for a full eight-month term after the Alachua County School Board cut the term back to six months during the Depression.¹⁶

In 1928, his first wife, Agnes Jones, passed away. In 1937, Jones married Frederica Williams, also an experienced teacher and musician, who was on the faculty of LHS.

For Professor Jones, mentoring his students and graduates and providing educational opportunities for them continued well beyond the hours spent in teaching and administration at LHS. In addition to tutoring promising students privately in an evening class, Jones taught extension classes in Gainesville and Ocala for FAMC, Bethune Cookman College, and Edward Waters College and also taught summer classes at FAMC in Tallahassee. He encouraged his faculty to join the Florida State Teachers Association and to improve their education and upgrade their certification.¹⁷ Some of his graduates returned to LHS after earning their college degrees and became long-time members of the faculty.¹⁸ Between 1928 and 1931, The Florida Department of Education authorized LHS to offer a High School Teacher Training course to help prepare young black teachers, many of whom were not financially able to attend college.

A. Quinn Jones also began to work on his master's degree at Hampton Institute in Virginia in 1930, attending summer classes, and received his MA in 1935. At that time, he remarked in an ** interview, there were only one or two other black principals in Florida who held master's degrees.¹⁹ The following summer he enrolled at New York University to work toward his Ph.D. degree. In the mid-1940s, half way through his doctoral studies, which were conducted mostly during the summer, his attendance at NYU was curtailed when Florida began to require principals to be on duty for twelve months of the year.

As the result of the passage of an Alachua County school bond issue in 1952, funds were allocated to construct a new high school for black students. Jones and his faculty were involved in plans for the modern facility to be built in the southeast section of Gainesville. New Lincoln High School opened on a fifty-three-acre site on Waldo Road (Highway 24) in 1956 and A. Quinn Jones served as its first principal. However, he decided to retire in 1957, after a forty-two-year career in education. The red-brick school across from his home that had

¹⁵ Jones, p. 47.

¹⁶ Ibid., pp. 47-48 56.

¹⁷ In 1936, all 22 members of the faculty of LHS paid their \$1.00 dues, according to a list preserved in the A. Quinn Jones Collection.

¹⁸ Jones, pp. 43, 53. 78-79 For example, Joseph Dennis, a member of the first graduating class, returned to Lincoln after graduating from Clark College as a teacher of history and mathematics and also coached the football team.

¹⁹ Brenda Webber. "A Quinn Jones: His Legacy is More Than a Schoolhouse." *Gainesville Sun* article, Box 51, A. Quinn Jones Collection.

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A. Quinn Jones House, Alachua County, Florida

opened in 1923 became an elementary school, which was renamed for him. The historic building still serves as an Alachua County school.

Despite his heavy load of educational responsibilities, throughout his life, A. Quinn Jones also took an active role as a community leader. He served on the Trustee Board and as the Superintendent of Sunday Schools for the Greater Bethel A. M. E. Church for more than thirty years.

The home of Professor Jones is significant because it was from the office in his home that much of his educational work and his community activities were generated. It was his practice to prepare his lectures to his extension students in his office and meet with small groups of students at his home, to plan improvements to the curriculum of Lincoln High School and keep his meticulous records in his home office. When Professor Jones passed away, his family donated the house and its contents to the community. Had Professor Jones not saved this material in his home office, all of the material would have been lost.

It is hoped that at some time in the future, the old Lincoln High School building across the street from the A. Quinn Jones house, which is still owned by the Alachua County School Board, will also be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

Historic Properties Associated with A. Quinn Jones and the Education of African Americans in Florida

The most prominent property, other than his home, that figured prominently in the educational career of A. Quinn Jones is the building across the street, opened in 1923 as Lincoln High School, and now known as the A. Quinn Jones Center. Lincoln High School, despite its name, provided for grades one through twelve and was the only public school available to African American students in Gainesville. Students from rural schools that ended at grade six also attended LHS, sometimes boarding with families in Gainesville during the week to complete their education. Lincoln High School (now known as A. Quinn Jones School) at 1108 NW 7th Avenue is included in the Florida Site File (8AL1036).

The significance of the both the A. Quinn Jones house and the school has been noted in several historical resource studies of West Gainesville. The 1980 survey referred to the school as an important landmark and a "cultural symbol for black advancement." This study also documented the Jones bungalow-style home and others in the immediate neighborhood as part of national trend in residential housing.²⁰ The 2006-2007 survey recommended the A. Q. Jones home (AL1799) and the A. Q. Jones Center (AL1036) for listing on the National Register and also recommended that each building be recognized by a Florida Historical Marker.²¹ The Alachua County School Board owns the school and it is hoped that at some point it will also be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

²⁰ ERLA. "A Comprehensive Survey of Citywide and Neighborhood Cultural, Natural, and Historic Resources, Phase 1" for the City of Gainesville, 1980. pp. 121-122.

²¹ Jennifer Nash. "Northwest Fifth Avenue Historic Structure Survey And Assessment, Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida," report for the City of Gainesville, 2007, pp. 4-14.

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A. Quinn Jones House, Alachua County, Florida

Historic homes associated with other African American leaders whose careers also contributed to the educational opportunities of blacks in Florida are those of Mary Mcleod Bethune in Daytona and John Gilmore Riley in Tallahassee. Mary Mcleod Bethune (1875-1955) founded the Daytona Normal and Industrial Institute for Negro Girls and in 1923 joined her school with Cookman Institute to form Bethune-Cookman College. Known as one of the most influential black women in the country, her two-story home built in 1914 in Daytona is a National Historic Site and the headquarters of the Mary Mcleod Bethune Foundation on the campus of the college.²² John Gilmore Riley (1857-1954) was a successful black businessman and long-time principal of Lincoln High School in Tallahassee. His home at 419 East Jefferson Street is on the National Register of Historic Places and is open to the public as the John G. Riley Center/Museum of African American History and Culture.²³

Historic Context: The A. Quinn Jones House

The vernacular bungalow that became the home of the Jones family in 1925 was one of many such small, gable-roofed frame houses built in Gainesville in the 1920s.²⁴ The house was purchased from J. B and M. C. Howard for \$1,300, four years after A. Quinn Jones moved to Gainesville to take the position of principal of the Union Academy.²⁵ He rented a home for his growing family for the first few years, but by 1925, secure in his position as the head of the new Lincoln High School, Jones moved his family, his wife and his four children, into the white house with yellow trim directly across from the school. (see Figures 1-6) He also purchased the adjacent lot to the west, which had a small cottage on it. Jones rented this house to a variety of tenants, adding to his income. This house still stands, but is not included in the nomination.

The Jones home has the characteristics of the typical vernacular bungalow, with its low, staggered gable roofs, compact floor plan, and distinctive front porch. Porches were important features in the South and virtually every house had at least one, both for ventilation and sociability. In the West Gainesville area occupied mostly by African Americans, now often referred to as the Fifth Avenue neighborhood, the thick battered posts set on square brick piers of the bungalow porches set them apart from the porches of the older frame vernacular homes with their slender posts and railings. The 2006 survey of this neighborhood included an analysis of the 262 standing resources and recorded 156 frame vernacular houses and 46 bungalows.²⁶ The screened front porch on the Jones house provided several important functions. The family could observe the activities of the school

²² Kevin M. McCarthy. *Black Florida* (New York: Hippocrene, 1995). pp. 75-76.

²³ Ibid., p. 298.

²⁴ "Pleasant Street Historic District," listed on the National Register in 1989 (AL02557), describes the buildings, including homes such as the A. Quinn Jones house, in an African American neighborhood adjacent to the West Gainesville/Fifth Avenue area that developed over the same period of time.

²⁵ Contract for deed, November 5, 1925, between J. B and M. C. Howard and A. Quinn Jones. See A. Quinn Jones Collection,, Smathers Library, University of Florida.

²⁶ Nash, pp. 4-14, 4-16, 4-22, 4-23.

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A. Quinn Jones House, Alachua County, Florida

across the street and the neighborhood and visit with friends on the porch, but it also provided protection for the private, interior spaces. Those who knew Professor Jones, relate that it was a privilege to be invited inside the house, not to be taken for granted by visitors.²⁷

The interior of the Jones bungalow has been modified to fit the needs of the family and of the professional activities of A. Quinn Jones and his wife. A common small bungalow floor plan lines up two bedrooms with a bathroom between them, connected with a small hall, on one side of the house and lines up the living room, dining room and kitchen on the other side. (See Figure 7) The front door of the Jones home opens directly into the living room. The living room, dining room, and kitchen are aligned along the east side of the building, but the floor plan of the west side of the building has been altered. The living room now extends across the front of the house. This large room was used for meetings as well as a gathering place for the family. Frederica Jones, who married A. Quinn Jones in 1937, nine years after his first wife Agnes died, gave piano lessons in the west portion of the room as well; her piano is still in place. This area was originally a bedroom: the bathroom adjoins it and is reached via a small hall. When the original wall between front bedroom and living room removed in the late 1930s, the expanded living room provided space for her music lessons. In addition to turning the front bedroom into a piano studio for Mrs. Jones, the rear bedroom opening off the kitchen became Professor Jones's study and office. Built-in storage and bookshelves and a desk replaced bedroom furniture. Two bedrooms were added to the rear, west side of the house, connected to the study with a narrow hallway in the late 1940s;

Educational Legacy of A. Quinn Jones

The students he taught and inspired, particularly those who went on to successful careers, were the most important legacy of Professor A. Quinn Jones. He set high standards and expectations and is still revered in the educational community in Gainesville. Interviews with Jones and with some of his former students are included in the Oral History Collection at the University of Florida.²⁸ His son, Dr. Oliver Jones, donated his house to the City of Gainesville for use as a cultural center, and his papers have been deposited in the collection of the Smathers Library at the University of Florida. An exhibit of these documents and personal memorabilia was on display at the Smathers Library in January of 2007.²⁹ The A. Quinn Jones Collection will be available to scholars who wish to study the educational progress of African Americans in Florida.

²⁷ Joel Buchanan, Personal communication, August 28, 2008.

²⁸ See Samuel Proctor Oral History Program at the University of Florida. <http://www.history.ufl.edu/oral/people.html>

²⁹ Cleveland Tinker. "Exhibit takes a peek into life of pioneer educator." *Gainesville Sun*. January 11, 2007.

Frederica “Freddie” Jones

Joel Buchanan, historian and archivist at the Smathers Library, University of Florida, took piano lessons from Mrs. Frederica Jones at her home. He recalled those lessons during a speech given September 19, 2009, at the dedication of the historic marker at the A. Quinn Jones Home in Gainesville, Florida.

Mr. Buchanan recalled that, although there were 4 or 5 other piano teachers in Gainesville’s African American community, it was a privilege to be accepted as a student by Mrs. Jones. She was very selective in whom she taught and many of her students went on to careers as professional musicians. Lessons, which lasted one hour and were held in late afternoon, after school, or on Saturday, cost \$1.00, more than other teachers in the area charged. She taught both classical pieces and spirituals. Parents who could afford it were eager for their children to receive extra musical training and most of the music teachers in the schools also taught private students.¹

Frederica Marie Copper Jones, born December 7, 1903, in Fernandina Beach, graduated from Florida A & M University with a Bachelor of Science degree in education, and later received a Master of Science degree. Freddie, as she was called, married A. Quinn Jones, a widower with four children, in 1937. She taught elementary classes and English for 40 years, 38 of them at Lincoln High School, where she became the chairman of the English Department.

Freddie Jones was highly respected as a musician, having studied piano since childhood. She continued her studies under Claude Murphree, a professor of music at the University of Florida, who came to her home to give her lessons.² (Murphree served as the University of Florida Organist from 1925 until his death in 1958.) She in turn taught piano to private students in her home, as noted. Her husband so valued her contribution to the cultural life of the community, and to the family income, that he had a wall to the front bedroom taken down to enlarge the living room and give her space for her piano studio. Freddie Jones also served as the organist for the choir at the Greater Bethel AME Church.

Freddie Jones was following a long tradition of African American women who taught music in their community. It was a respectable profession that earned them better wages and a measure of independence. Shortly after the Civil War, women students at Fisk University in Nashville studied music along with their other subjects and valued this “exceptional musical advantage.” Young Ella Sheppard wrote that in 1868 she was thrilled to have found three music pupils who paid her four dollars a month, which helped pay her tuition.³ The introduction of music into schools for African Americans in

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⁴ Murray D. Laurie. "The Union Academy: A Freedmen's Bureau School in Gainesville, Florida." *Florida Historical Quarterly*, Vol. LXV, No. 2, October 1986: 168.

⁵ Sterling: 117

⁶ The Visionaires scrapbooks and programs are part of the collection of the Smathers Library, University of Florida.

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A. Quinn Jones House, Alachua County, Florida

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National Park Service

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A. Quinn Jones House, Alachua County, Florida

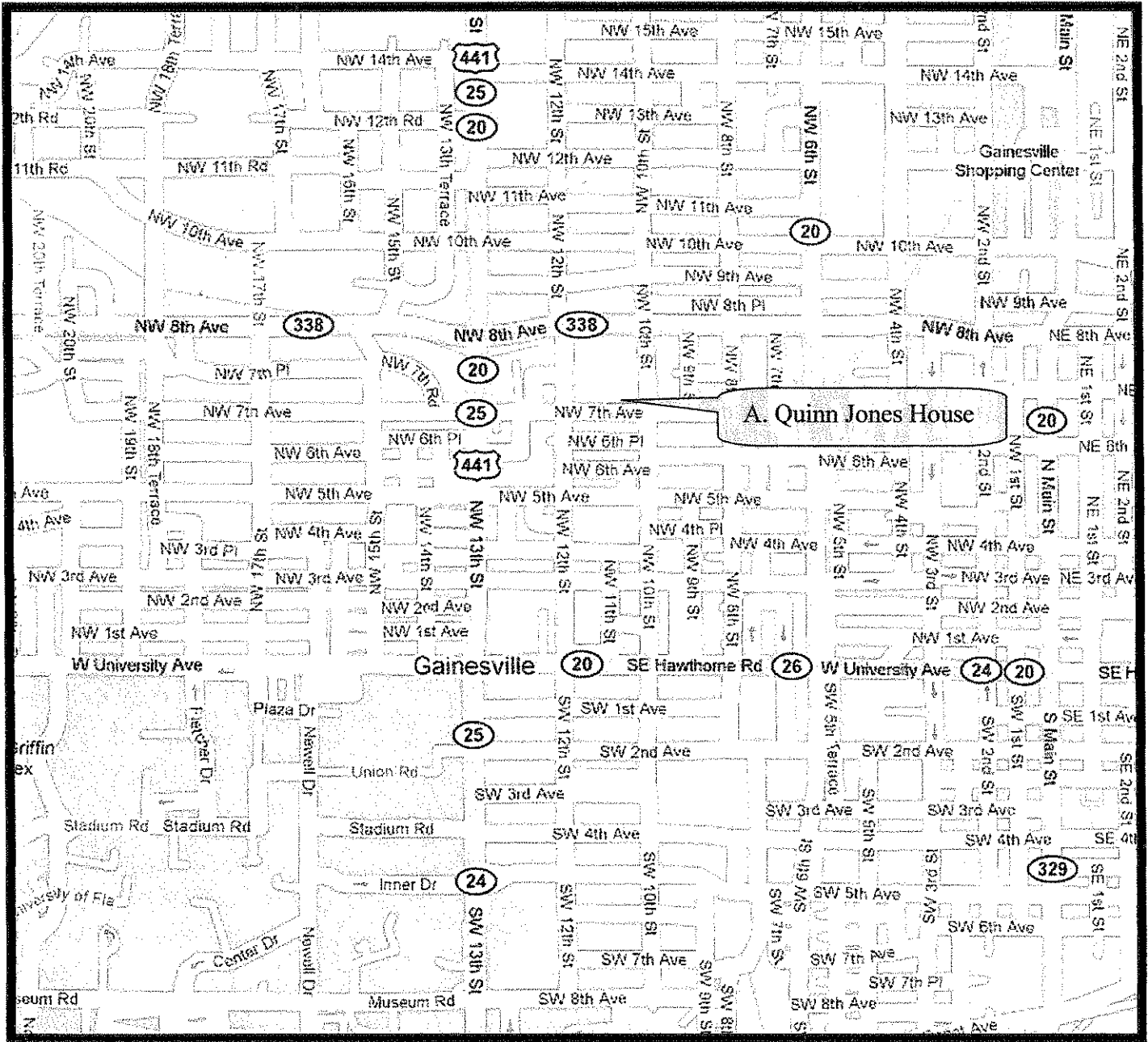
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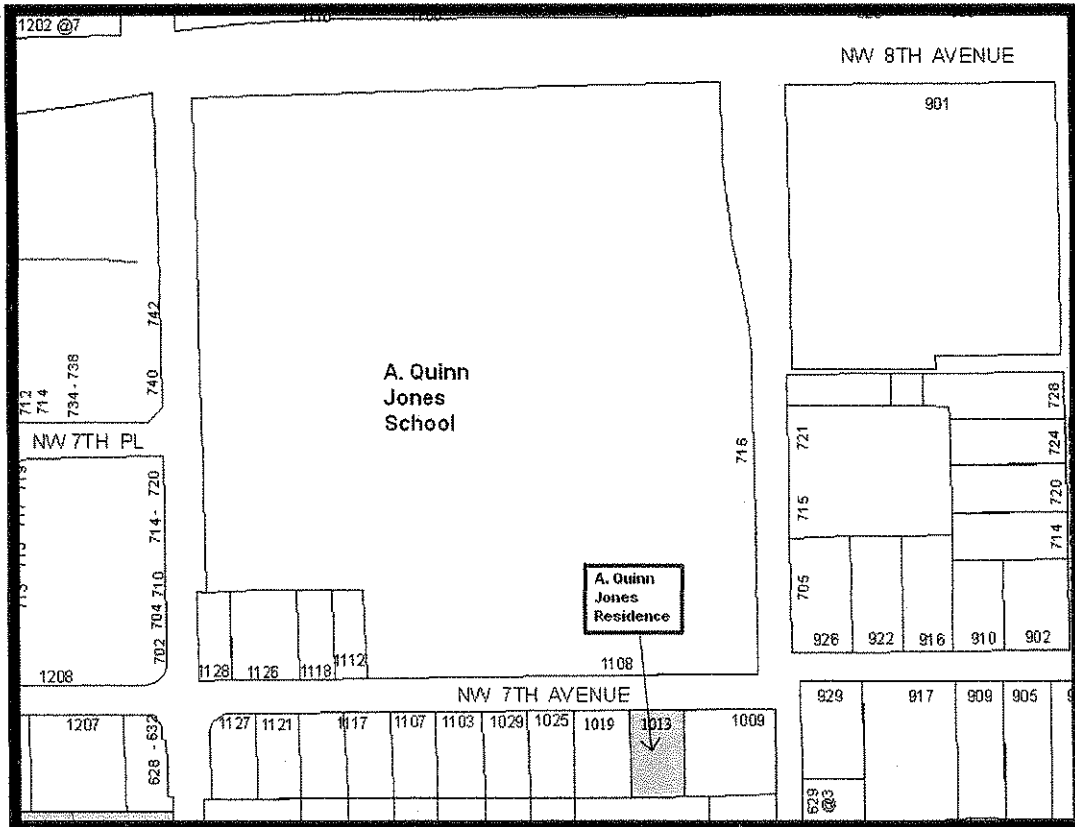
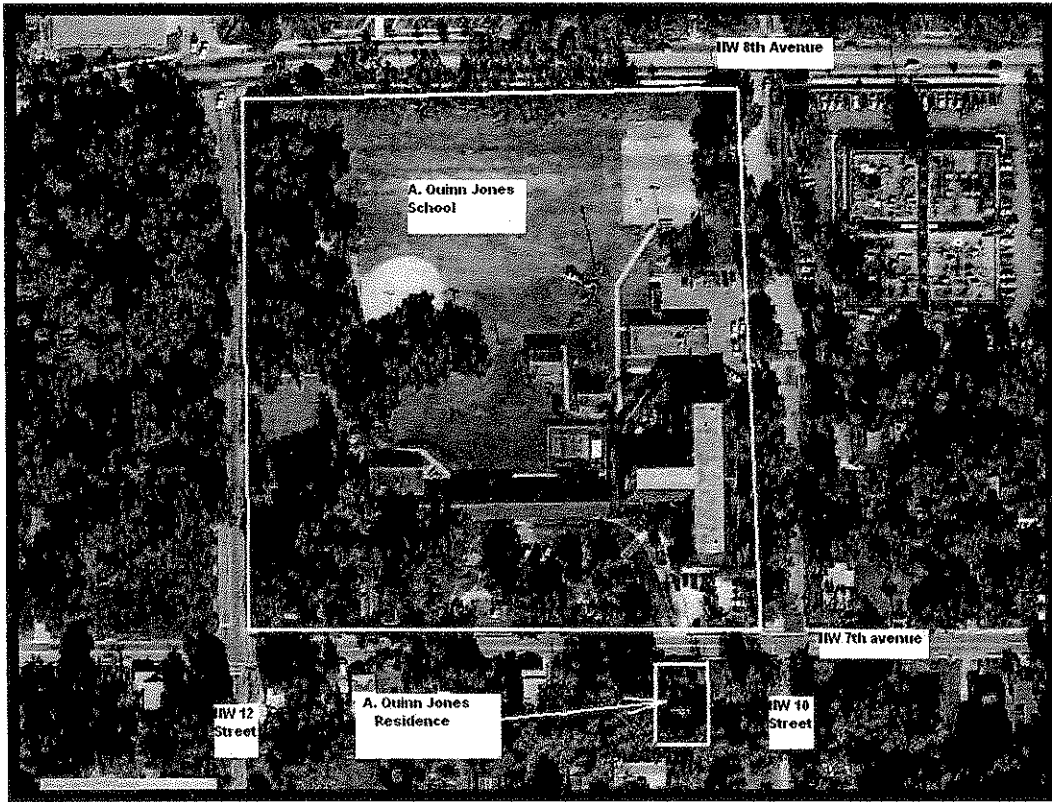
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Tinker, Cleveland. "Exhibit takes a peek into life of pioneer educator." *Gainesville Sun*. January 11, 2007.

Womack, Miles K., Jr. *Gadsden: A Florida County in Words and Pictures*. Quincy: Author, 1976.



A. Quinn Jones House, Gainesville, Florida
Location Map



A. Quinn Jones House, Gainesville, Florida
Site Location Maps

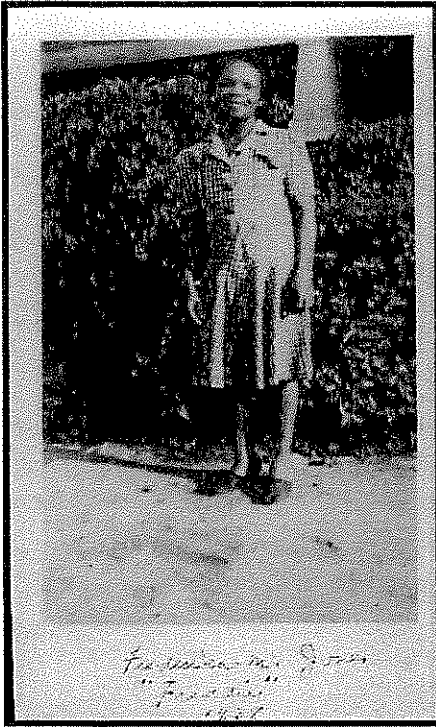


FIG. 1: In front of house



FIG. 2: In front of house



FIG. 3: Lincoln HS in background

(1938 Photos of A. Quinn Jones and his wife, Frederica Jones, who also taught at LHS)

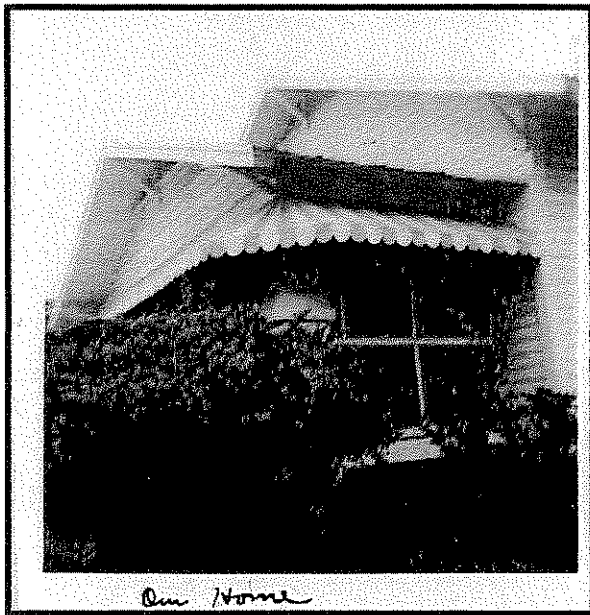


FIG. 4: Front porch, 1957

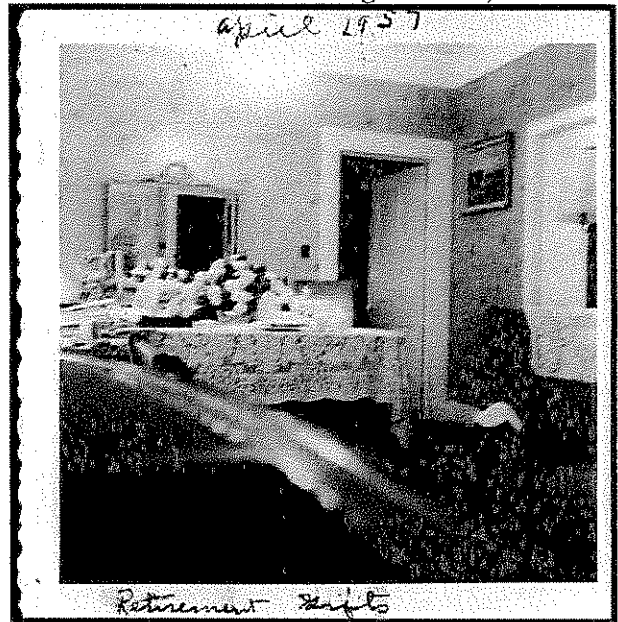


FIG. 5: Dining Room, 1957

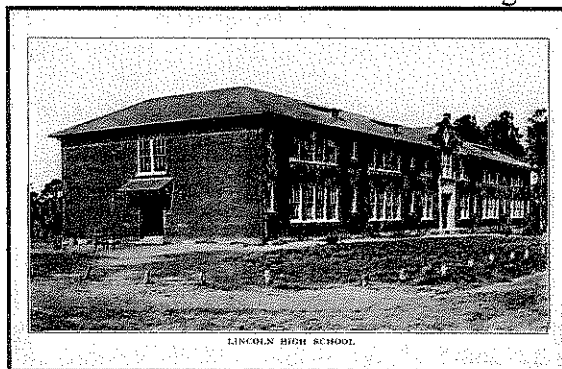


FIG. 6: 1923 postcard of Lincoln High School

United States Department of the Interior
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A. Quinn Jones House, Alachua, Florida

LIST of PHOTOGRAPHS

NOTE: Information in numbers 1-5 is the same for each photograph

1. A. Quinn Jones House, 1013 NW 7th Avenue, Gainesville
2. Alachua County, Florida
3. Murray D. Laurie
4. September, 2008
5. Murray D. Laurie
6. Front façade of A. Quinn Jones House, photographer facing south
7. Photo 1 of 18

6. View of NW 7th Street, A. Quinn Jones House to the left, photographer facing east
7. Photo 2 of 18

6. East façade, showing front porch, photographer facing west
7. Photo 3 of 18

6. East façade, showing rear porch, photographer facing northwest
7. Photo 4 of 18

6. South, rear façade, photographer facing northeast
7. Photo 5 of 18

6. West façade, showing carport, photographer facing southeast
7. Photo 6 of 18

6. Front porch, photographer facing west
7. Photo 7 of 18

6. Front steps to screened front porch, photographer facing south
7. Photo 8 of 18

6. Windows on front porch, photographer facing south
7. Photo 9 of 18

6. Front entrance, photographer facing north
7. Photo 10 of 18

6. Living room, photographer facing east
7. Photo 11 of 18

6. West end of living room, showing Mrs. Jones's piano, photographer facing west
7. Photo 12 of 18

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A. Quinn Jones House, Alachua, Florida

LIST of PHOTOGRAPHS, continued

- 6. Dining room, photographer facing south
- 7. Photo 13 of 18

- 6. Kitchen, photographer facing southeast
- 7. Photo 14 of 18

- 6. Professor Jones's office, photographer facing southwest
- 7. Photo 15 of 18

- 6. Bedroom, photographer facing west
- 7. Photo 16 of 18

- 6. Interior door from dining room to hall, photographer facing west
- 7. Photo 17 of 18

- 6. Storage shed in rear yard, photographer facing south
- 7. Photo 18 of 18

A. Quinn Jones House, Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida



Photograph 1: Front façade, facing north: *SOUTH*



Photograph 2: NW 7th Street, A. Quinn Jones house on the left, facing east

A. Quinn Jones House, Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida



Photograph 3: East façade, facing west



Photograph 4: East façade, showing rear porch, facing northwest.

A. Quinn Jones House, Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida



Photograph 5: South, rear façade, facing northeast



Photograph 6: West façade, showing carport, facing southeast.

A. Quinn Jones House, Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida

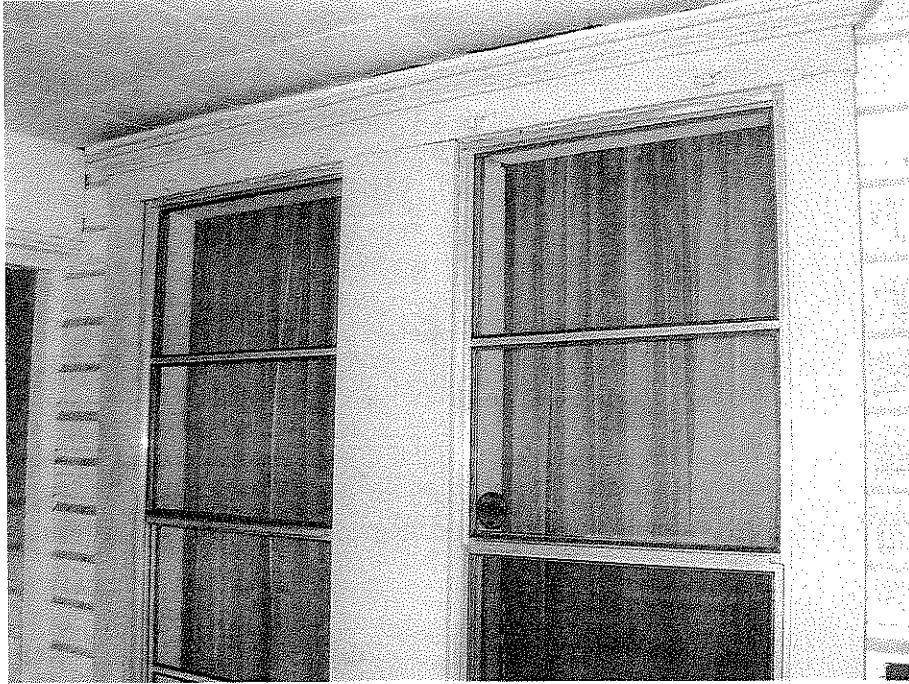


Photograph 7: Front porch, facing west.

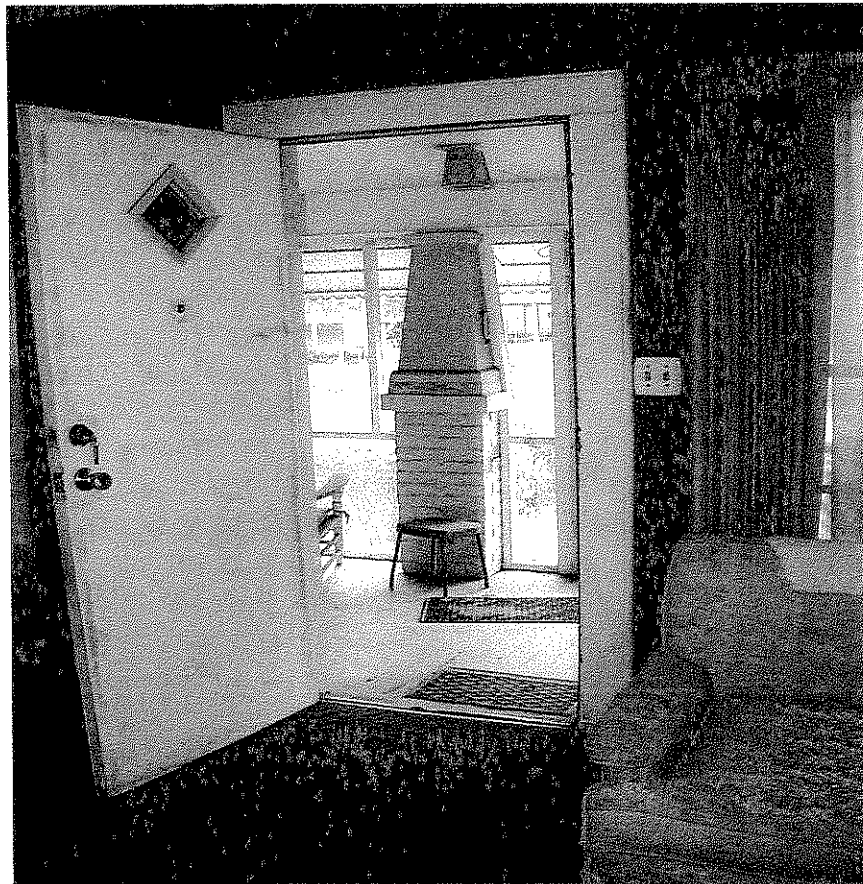


Photograph 8: Front steps, facing south.

A. Quinn Jones House, Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida



Photograph 9: Windows on front porch, facing south

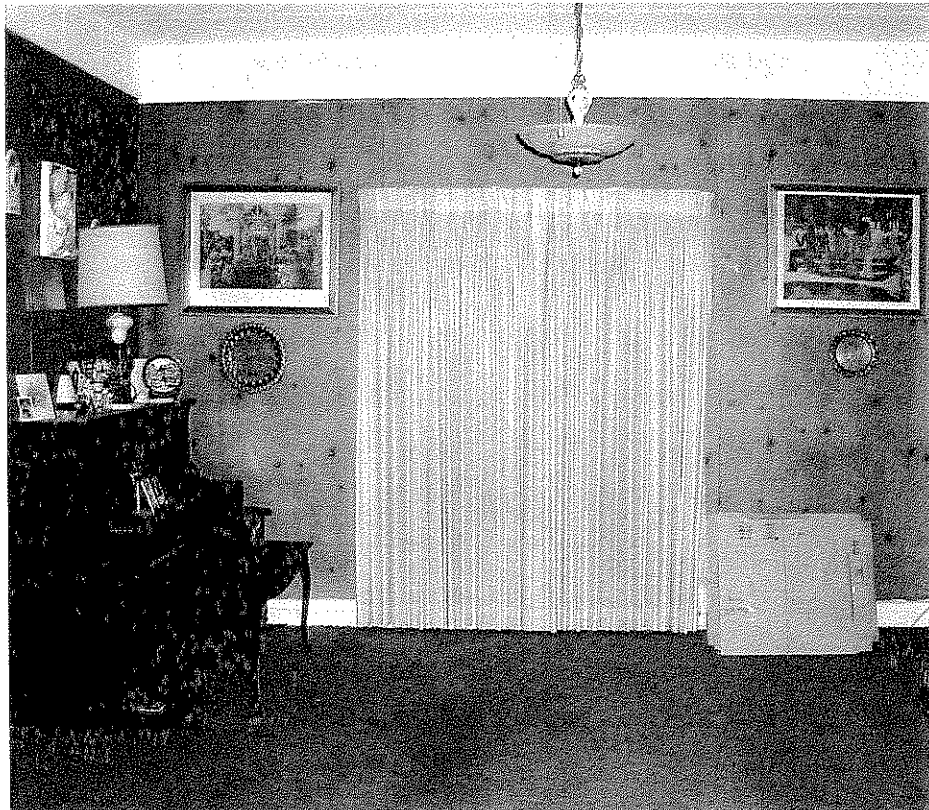


Photograph 10: Front entrance, facing north

A. Quinn Jones House, Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida



Photograph 11: Living room, facing east

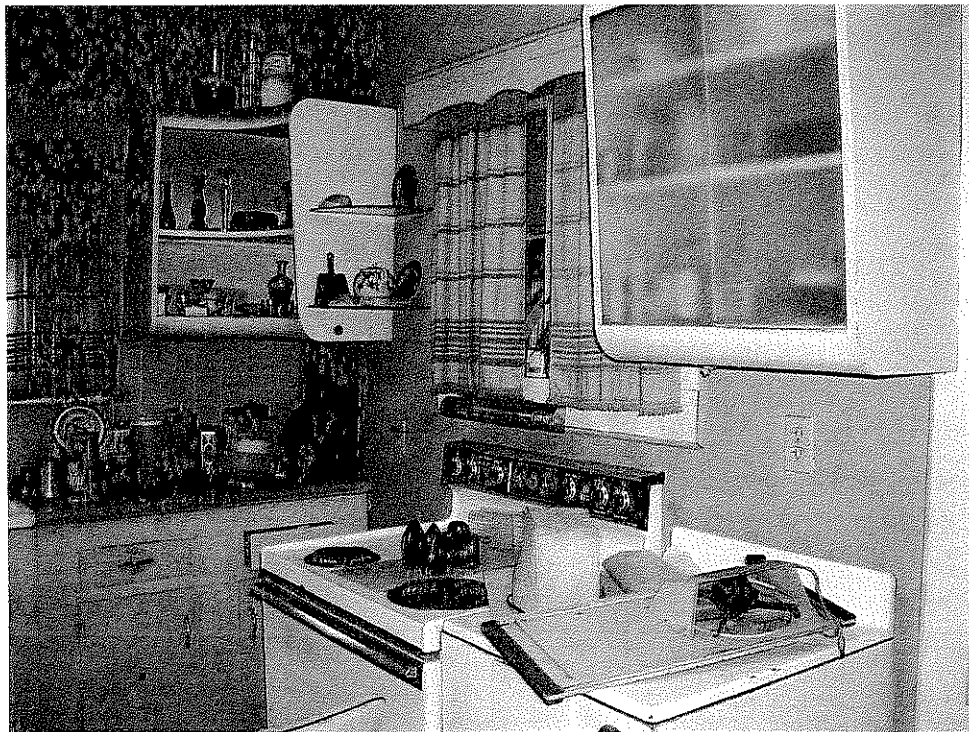


Photograph 12: West end of living room, facing west

A. Quinn Jones House, Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida



Photograph 13: Dining room, facing south

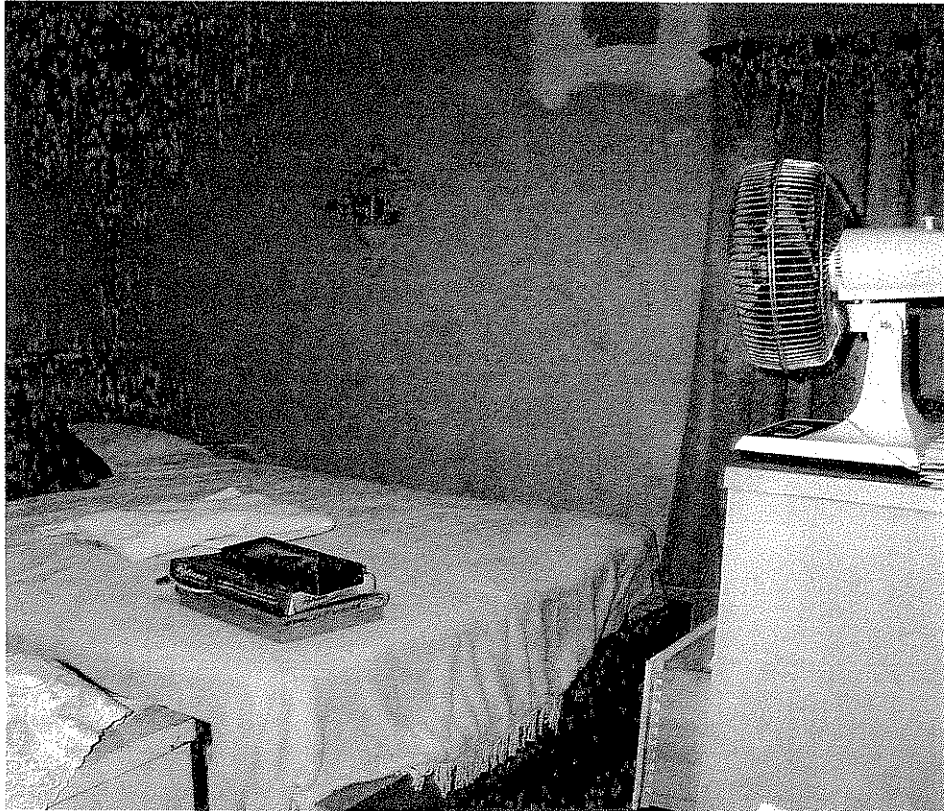


Photograph 14: Kitchen, facing southeast

A. Quinn Jones House, Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida



Photograph 15: Professor Jones's office, facing southwest.

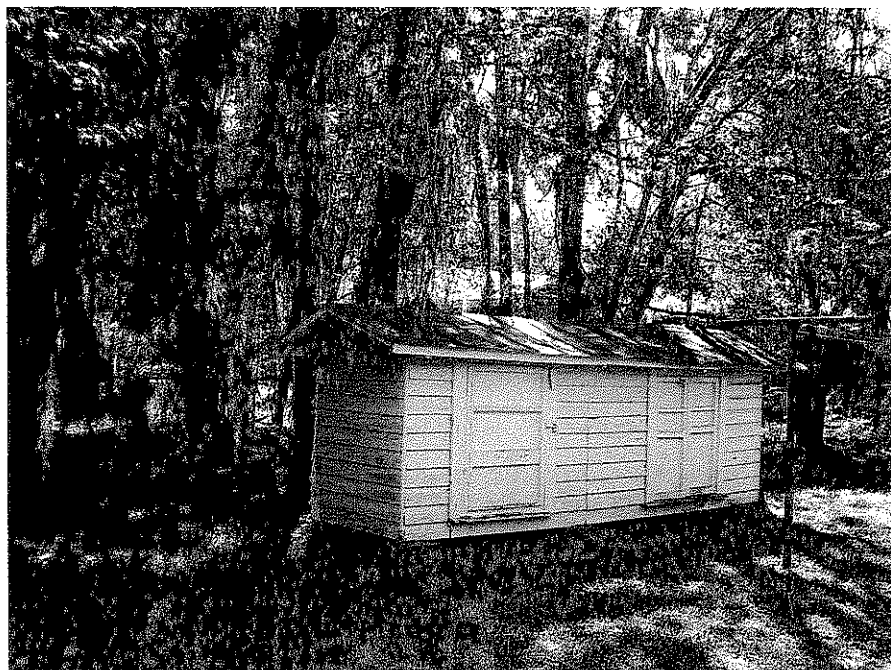


Photograph 16: Bedroom, facing west

A. Quinn Jones House, Gainesville, Alachua County, Florida



Photograph 17: Door from dining room to hall, facing west



Photograph 18: Storage shed in rear yard, facing south

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