

**Florida National Register Review Board
R. A. Gray Building, Room 307
Tallahassee, Florida
November 5, 2020
Meeting Minutes**

Commission Members Present In-Person: None due to COVID-19

Commission Members Present via Webinar: Dr. Clifford Smith, Chair; Ms. Marion Almy; Mr. Rick Gonzalez

Florida Department of State Officials and Staff Present in Person: None due to COVID-19

Florida Department of State Officials and Staff Present via Webinar: Dr. Timothy Parsons, SHPO; Dr. Angela E. Tomlinson, Assistant Director and Deputy SHPO; Alissa Lotane, Bureau Chief and Deputy SHPO; Ruben Acosta, Survey and Registration Supervisor; Andrew Waber, Historic Preservationist; Annie Albert, Historic Preservationist; Michael Hart, Historical Marker Program Coordinator; Susanne Hunt, Outreach Programs Supervisor; Vincent Birdsong, Florida Master Site File Supervisor

Guests Present In-Person: None due to COVID-19

Guests Present via Webinar: Belinda Williams-Collins, Historic Preservation Planner, City of DeLand; Brad Parrish, Historic Preservation Planner, City of Titusville; Cecil Harris, Herman Lodge; Dela Daughtry, President, Sumter County Preservation Society; Paul Weaver, Historic Property Associates, Inc.; Stanley Keys, Herman Lodge; Tim Ford, Planning Office, Brevard County, Victoria Kattel, Islamorada; Sydney Johnston, Stetson University; Mark Shuttleworth

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mr. Acosta read the housekeeping notes addressing the webinar The meeting was called to order by Dr. Smith at 1:34 pm.

Dr. Smith, Ms. Almy, and Mr. Gonzalez are present.

II. Introduction of Commission, Staff, and Guests

Commission, staff, and guests introduced themselves.

III. Adoption of Agenda

Dr. Smith made a motion to adopt the agenda for the meeting. Mr. Gonzalez agreed and Ms. Almy seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

IV. Remarks by Chairperson on Purpose of Meeting

Dr. Smith described the purpose and process of the National Register Review Board.

V. Approval of Minutes from August 6, 2020 Meeting

Dr. Smith made a motion to approve the minutes for the August 6, 2020 meeting. Ms. Almy seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Gonzalez asked about the number of members on the board. Dr. Parsons says the Governor has not responded with additions to the board.

VI. Director's Comments

Dr. Timothy Parsons, State Historic Preservation Officer, welcomed the commissioners and guests and thanked everyone for attending. He stressed the importance of the National Register Program and expressed support for the properties under consideration. He thanked the board and the staff for their hard work.

VII. Review of Nomination Proposals

- A. Imperial Towers, Titusville, Brevard Co.** was presented by Ruben Acosta. Imperial Towers is a large mixed-use multistory building located on the Indian River lagoon in Titusville, across from NASA's Kennedy Space Center. Constructed over two years from 1963-1964, the building was designed by noted Miami Beach architect Gilbert Fein. The building is locally significant for its architectural design and for its association with the development of multi-family residential buildings in Titusville during the 1960s.

The building consists of two six story residential towers connected at the ground floor by a mixed use space that historically contained shops and a restaurant. The towers flank a large courtyard with a pool. The complex is oriented towards the east and the towers frame a view from the courtyard of NASA's Vertical Assembly Building from across the Indian River Lagoon. The building incorporates midcentury design features that are characteristic of Miami Modern architecture found in South Florida. This includes the use of concrete breeze block, cantilevered concrete balconies and cornices that contrast with smooth white stuccoed walls, and a strong horizontality to the building's overall design.

The Imperial Towers Complex was constructed at the height of Titusville's residential building boom, which coincided with the construction and expansion of Kennedy Space Center and Cape Canaveral Air Station as part of American efforts to win the Space Race against the Soviet Union. The population of the city increased five-fold during the period. The Imperial Towers were FHA funded and developed through a public-private process.

The property retains a high level of architectural integrity and preserves significant elements of its design, materials, and workmanship. The property remains in its original location and the setting has not significantly changed. The view across the Indian River lagoon has been preserved.

Imperial Towers is currently undergoing a historic rehabilitation facilitated by the federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program. The National Park Service (NPS) approved a Part 1 application requesting a preliminary determination of eligibility for individual listing for the

property on July 24, 2020. The Titusville historic preservation commission has reviewed this nomination and supports its listing in the National Register.

Dr. Smith solicited comments. Ms. Almy requested a copy of the staff comments.

Mr. Gonzalez asked a question regarding the building's significance under Criterion A. Mr. Acosta responded that the building is eligible under Criterion A: Community Planning and Development. Mr. Gonzalez expressed his opposition to the property's eligibility under Criterion C: Architecture due to a lack of material and design integrity. Mr. Gonzalez also stated that the building lacked significance under Criterion C: Architecture as he did not find anything significant in the buildings' design or construction.

Mr. Paul Weaver responded to Mr. Gonzalez's comments. Mr. Weaver stated that the building did retain integrity for listing and it had architectural significance within the local context of Titusville. Mr. Gonzalez reiterated his opposition to listing.

Dr. Smith solicited additional comments. Ms. Almy stated she had not reviewed the staff comments. Mr. Brad Parrish, historic preservation planner for Titusville, stated his support for the nomination. Dr. Smith commented on the importance of context, but also acknowledged Mr. Gonzalez's comments.

Ms. Almy requested Mr. Acosta's opinion on Mr. Gonzalez's Comments. Mr. Acosta stated that Mr. Gonzalez's comments have merit if the property was evaluated in a regional or state-level context, but that within a local context the building does meet the National Register Criteria. Mr. Acosta also restated that the property is the subject of an ongoing Federal Historic Preservation Tax Credit project and that NPS had approved a Part 1 application, indicating that the building is eligible for listing. Mr. Acosta proposed tabling the nomination until the building is further along in its rehabilitation. Mr. Gonzalez expressed his disagreement with the proposed action.

Dr. Smith asked Mr. Acosta a question regarding meeting procedure when faced with a divided motion. Ms. Alissa Lotane asked if there were comments on the Part 1 approval from NPS. Mr. Weaver commented on the review and approval process for the nomination at the local level and the NPS.

Ms. Almy and Dr. Smith discussed potential motions on the nomination and asked Mr. Acosta questions regarding the voting requirements in the board's bylaws. Mr. Acosta responded that any action requires a majority vote of the board members present. Ms. Almy discussed with Ms. Lotane, Dr. Tim Parsons, and Mr. Andrew Waber previous times when the State Historic Preservation Officer forwarded a nomination over the board's objection. Mr. Gonzalez reiterated his position that the building lacks significance and integrity for listing and expressed his surprise that this property was approved by NPS. Mr. Gonzalez expressed his desire to have his comments forwarded to NPS, and Mr. Acosta agreed to his request.

Dr. Smith expressed his support for the nomination. He called for a motion.

A motion was made by Ms. Almy to forward the nomination of Imperial Towers to the NPS for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A: Community Planning and development at the local level. Dr. Smith seconded.

Dr. Smith, Ms. Almy, and Mr. Gonzalez discussed the motion. Ms. Almy clarified that the motion was only under Criterion A to reflect Mr. Gonzalez's concerns regarding significance and integrity under Criterion C. Mr. Gonzalez expressed his opposition to the motion. Dr. Smith called for a vote.

The motion was approved 2-1, with Dr. Smith and Ms. Almy voting in favor of the motion and Mr. Gonzalez voting against.

- B. Jacksonville Jewish Center, Jacksonville, Duval Co.** was presented by Mr. Acosta. The Jacksonville Jewish Center is a complex of interconnected buildings located in the Springfield Historic District at the intersection of Silver and Third Streets, north of Klutho Park. The buildings consist of a community center, built in 1950, and a classroom building, built in 1957. These were once connected to a 1927 synagogue which was destroyed in 2011 following a fire. The synagogue was a contributing building to the Springfield Historic District, but the associated Jewish Center buildings were not identified or evaluated in the nomination. As the buildings post-date the historic district's period of significance and are significant under different criteria than the district, they are being nominated individually for listing in the National Register.

The Jacksonville Jewish Center consists of a Moderne 1950 Community Center containing the center's offices, classrooms, and gymnasium. The 1957 Classroom building provided additional educational spaces. The complex served the city's Jewish community, providing religious education and social activities, from 1950-1970. It is associated with the expansion of the Jewish Center movement, which sought to create a multipurpose center for Jewish life, including education, social activities and recreation. It reflected the growth of Jacksonville's Jewish Community, and was the focal point of the community until the congregation outgrew the location and relocated to the southern side of the city in 1976. The new location was also more convenient to the new suburban residences of many of the congregation's members. Following the relocation of the Jewish Center, the buildings served as the city's Job Corps Center from 1979-2005.

The Jewish Center retains integrity for listing in the National Register. The loss of the Synagogue building in 2011 destroyed a contributing resource to the Springfield Historic District. However, the adjacent community center and classroom buildings survived with minimal damage. They are able to convey their use as the Jewish Center through the preservation of their historic design, materials, and workmanship. The significance of the buildings does not depend upon the synagogue, as they postdate the synagogue and facilitated all of the other activities of the center outside of worship.

The property is currently undergoing a historic rehabilitation facilitated by the federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentive program. The National Park Service approved a Part 1 application requesting a preliminary determination of eligibility for individual listing for the property on August 28, 2020.

Dr. Smith opened the floor to comments from board members. Mr. Gonzalez asked about the period of significance, the habilitation project, and why the property was not nominated under Criterion C. Mr. Acosta responded to the questions. Mr. Gonzalez expressed his support for the nomination. Ms. Almy also expressed her support.

Mr. Weaver spoke on the proposed rehabilitation project and elaborated upon the building's history.

Dr. Smith called for a motion. **A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez to forward the nomination of the Jacksonville Jewish Center to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A: Education and Social History at the local level. Ms. Almy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

- C. **Matecumbe Methodist Cemetery, Islamorada, Monroe Co.** was presented by Mr. Acosta. Matecumbe Methodist Cemetery is a small burial ground located on the beach, on the grounds of Cheeca Lodge, Islamorada. It is owned by the Matecumbe Methodist Church, and the original building for the congregation was first located next to the cemetery. The Period of Significance extends from 1914 to 1963, which corresponds to the earliest and last burial in the cemetery. During the Labor Day Hurricane in 1935, many of the Church Records were lost and there are likely additionally people buried in the cemetery whose original markers were lost. These burials may predate 1914.

Although this cemetery is owned by the Matecumbe Methodist Church, the cemetery is significant under Criterion A for Early Settlement and Exploration. The town's founders, the Russells, Pinders and Parkers created the burial ground and have family plots in the cemetery. This site is the best surviving place in connection with several of the town's early founders as the early homesteads have been lost. William Henry Parker Sr. and Amy Parker are the only original settlers buried in the Matecumbe Methodist Church cemetery. It is unclear why the other original Pinder and Russell family members were not buried in this cemetery. The Russells homesteaded the northeast portion of the island, while the Pinders settled in the middle, and the Parkers settled along the southwest end of the island. William Parker's son, Edney married Edna Pinder, and they are both buried in the cemetery. Edney Parker assisted in constructing Flagler's railroad in the Florida Keys. Preston Brooks Pinder was Richard Pinder's grandson, and the last person buried in the Matecumbe Methodist Church Cemetery. Preston Pinder built the original Matecumbe Methodist Church and was in charge of the church's Sunday school. John A. Russell was Richard H. Russell's grandson and was the only documented Russell family member buried in the Matecumbe Methodist Church cemetery. Many members of the Russell family perished during the 1935 hurricane and their ashes were put in the Hurricane Monument. John A. Russell served as the area's first postmaster and held that position for seventeen years.

Although, the Matecumbe Methodist Church Cemetery is historically associated with the church of the same name, it is significant for its association with the community of Upper Matecumbe Key. Unfortunately, extensive development has left very few historic buildings on the island of Upper Matecumbe Key. For this reason, the Matecumbe Methodist Church Cemetery is the best extant resource which commemorates early settlers, inhabitants and their descendants on Upper Matecumbe Key.

The Matecumbe Methodist Church Cemetery retains its original location and design. While there are several granite headstones and concrete cradle graves, it is unclear how the unmarked graves were originally marked. The biggest impacts to the cemetery's integrity have been its setting and feeling. Originally, the cemetery was planned next to a small frame church and school house. The destruction of the original church buildings and the later construction of successive inns, have impacted the setting of this property. The development of the current Cheeca Lodge has encroached the property closely surrounding the cemetery on three sides.

The cemetery meets Criteria Consideration D: Cemeteries as it derives its significance from its age as one of the oldest extant resources on Matecumbe Key, from its association with the settlement and development of the island, and from the burials of individuals significant in the history of Matecumbe Key.

Staff finds that the Matecumbe Methodist Church Cemetery is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion A: Early Settlement/Exploration, for the period of significance 1914-1963.

Dr. Smith asked for clarification on the applicable Criteria. Mr. Acosta clarified the difference between Criterion D and Criteria Consideration D. Ms. Almy and Mr. Gonzalez did not have specific comments on the nomination.

Dr. Smith solicited comments from the public. Ms. Victoria Kattel expressed her support for the nomination and thanked staff for their work on the document. Ms. Kattel elaborated upon the history of the cemetery and its importance to the community.

Dr. Smith called for a motion. **A motion was made by Ms. Almy to forward the nomination of the Matecumbe Methodist Church Cemetery to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A: Exploration and Settlement at the local level and Criteria Consideration D. Mr. Gonzalez seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

- D. 827 Mandalay Avenue, Clearwater, Pinellas County** was presented by Mr. Acosta. This two story house was built in the Spanish Revival Style in 1925. The property is one of the few remaining intact residences constructed during Florida's construction boom on Clearwater Beach Island. 827 Mandalay Avenue is locally significant under Criterion C for Architecture. This

house was part of a grand development scheme designed by L.B. Skinner. The property should be recognized for its architectural details and integrity.

During the 1920s, architects began to draw inspiration from buildings in the western United States and Mexico. The Mission and Spanish Revival styles became popular in the Southern United States at this time. 827 Mandalay Avenue has characteristics of both the Mission and Spanish Revival Styles. The Spanish Revival was influenced by elements in both the earlier Mission and Pueblo Styles. 827 Mandalay Avenue's roof has a Tapered Mission Tile pattern with barrel tiles. This property has always had a stucco finish which is also a quality of the Mission and Spanish styles. The house's arcaded walls around the screened porch are representative of both the Mission and Spanish Styles. Two Mission Style features on this house are the parapet wall and mission roof over the garage. The parapet wall on the south façade of 827 Mandalay Avenue is representative of early Mission buildings. This parapet wall contributes to the building's asymmetrical façade and enhances the other Spanish influenced features. The mission shaped roof on the house's garage has a rounded roofline which is uncommon in other styles. Some distinct features, representative of the Spanish Revival Style include a decorative wooden door, focal windows grouped in threes, decorative tile vents, and multi-level roofs. Together each of these elements create a distinct Spanish Revival house, reminiscent of an earlier period.

827 Mandalay Avenue embodies all of its original exterior details. The house has withstood time and remains in excellent condition, as it is located among many newer buildings. Although the area around this house is more developed than when it was built, this house is significant for its historic association and amount of original features. Each of the rooms in the house except for the kitchen have original wood and tile floors. One original steel, casement windows remains in the house. The garage was built in the same style as the house and is believed to be original.

Staff finds that the house at 827 Mandalay Ave is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion C: Architecture, for the period 1925.

Dr. Smith solicited comment from the board. Mr. Gonzalez asked about additions to the building, but stated the building had very good architectural details. Ms. Almy did not have any comment.

Dr. Smith solicited comment from the public. No members of the public shared comment on this nomination.

Dr. Smith requested a motion. **A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez to forward the nomination of 827 Mandalay Avenue to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C: Architecture at the local level. Ms. Almy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

- E. **Wild Cow Prairie Cemetery, Bushnell Vicinity, Sumter Co.** was presented by Mr. Acosta. Wild Cow Prairie Cemetery is a small county-owned burial ground located in unincorporated Sumter County encompassing less than one acre in size. It is locally significant under Criterion A in the

area of Settlement/Exploration and Criterion B in the areas of Commerce and Community Planning and Development. The period of significance extends from circa 1849 to 1924. The cemetery is the last remnant of the community of Pemberton Ferry, which was one of Sumter County's earliest settlements and an important early transportation crossroad in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Located along the Withlacoochee River, Pemberton Ferry was the farthest navigable point upriver. During the Antebellum period prior to the arrival of the railroad, the ferry was the principal crossing point across the Withlacoochee between what is now Sumter and Hernando counties. In 1884, Pemberton became the connecting point between the Florida Southern Railway and South Florida Railroad and a depot was constructed in the community by Henry Plant. An important spur line, known as the Pemberton Ferry Branch, was constructed from Pemberton Ferry to Brooksville, which played a significant role in the development of Brooksville.

The cemetery is significant for its association with James T. Pemberton, the namesake and founder of Pemberton Ferry and one of its most important businessmen. Pemberton is buried in the cemetery, which is the best surviving resource associated with him. First moving into the area in the late 1860s, he took over the operation of what was then known as Phelps Ferry in the 1870s, expanding the business to include a boarding house. He became the first postmaster of Pemberton Ferry in 1878 and later led the efforts to petition the US government to revert lands given to an earlier failed railroad, the Tropical Florida Railroad, to the citizens of the county. After a formal plat for the town was completed in 1886, he opened the Pemberton Hotel in 1887.

Staff would like to call your attention to some integrity issues with the cemetery. The most significant impact to its integrity has been the setting, as it is currently located at the intersection of Interstate 75 and County Road 673. Wild Cow Prairie is not active, the last known burial occurring in 1924. Afterwards, it fell into disrepair and was lost to the wilderness until 1959, during the initial phases of the construction of I-75. Although the county road and interstate impacts its integrity, the builders clearly took precautions to minimize the potential damage to the site, moving the interchange to the north of CR673. Although Pemberton Ferry is no longer extant, the cemetery was never visually connected to the community, being located roughly a mile away. The general rural setting is still retained, as is its location near a small pond, located to the south. The cemetery retains its general open character with a simple fence line. We therefore believe the cemetery retains its integrity for listing.

The cemetery meets Criteria Consideration D: Cemeteries as it derives its primary significance from its association with the early settlement of Pemberton Ferry and as the site of James Pemberton's burial. Pemberton was a significant individual in local history as the founder of the community of Pemberton Ferry and as a prominent local businessman and developer.

Staff finds that Wild Cow Cemetery is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion A: Exploration/Settlement and Criterion B for its association with James T. Pemberton in the areas of Commerce and Community Planning and Development, for the period c. 1849-1924.

Mr. Waber highlighted the use of ground penetrating radar at the cemetery to identify and document the site.

Dr. Smith solicited comments from the board. Ms. Almy and Mr. Gonzalez had no comments.

Dr. Smith solicited comments from the public. Ms. Dela Daughtry expressed support for the nomination and expanded on current work underway at the cemetery.

Dr. Smith requested a motion. **A motion was made by Ms. Almy to forward the nomination of Wild Cow Prairie Cemetery to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A: Exploration/Settlement, Criterion B: Commerce and Community Planning and Development, and Criteria Consideration D at local level. Mr. Gonzalez seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

The board temporarily recessed for a break, from 3:40-3:45 p.m.

- F. Wright Building, DeLand, Volusia Co.** was presented by Mr. Acosta. The James W. Wright building is a significant 2-story masonry commercial building located in the southwestern quadrant of DeLand in the former African American commercial center of the city. It was constructed by James W. Wright, a significant African American landowner and businessman who made his fortune in the citrus business and constructed the building as an investment in 1920. Wright owned and operated the building with several business partners until 1956, the year of his death. The property is significant at the local level for Ethnic Heritage: Black, Commerce, and Architecture, and significant at the state level for its association with James W. Wright and his commercial activities.

James W. Wright was a significant African American businessman in DeLand during the Jim Crow Period. He was able to translate his success as a farmer into success as a businessman and developer. His building anchored the local African American business district, which was known as "Wright's Corner". Wright leased commercial space to a variety of businesses, owned by both Blacks and whites, and to professionals including Dr. Samuel W. Poole, a Black dentist.

The building is a significant example of masonry commercial architecture built for African Americans in DeLand. Constructed of locally sourced materials, the building was designed by Francis M. Miller, a white architect and built by white tradesmen. The building preserves many of its historic architectural details, including its three historic wood storefronts, wood windows, and corner entry. The steel beam above the storefronts retains ghost signage with the name of the building.

The building retains integrity for listing, with most of the integrity found on the exterior of the building, which retains significant design features and materials. However, due to an extensive vacancy period and lack of maintenance, much of the interior was in poor condition and historic

materials were lost due to water damage. The ground floor interior retains its historic division into three commercial spaces, although several walls had to be reconstructed using new materials. The westernmost storefront retains its iron columns. Some historic finishes remain on this level. The upper floor has lost its historic interior layout and materials. New wood beams and posts now support the roof on this floor and help stabilize the building. During the current preservation process, damaged materials were removed and have been saved for potential reuse in the building's rehabilitation. While the building was in poor condition and has lost portions of the interior, the building retains integrity for listing due to the preservation of the exterior of the building.

The property is a local landmark and has received an African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation to facilitate its rehabilitation. The DeLand historic preservation commission has reviewed this nomination and supports the listing of the building in the National Register.

Staff finds that the Wright, James W. Building is eligible for listing at the local and state level under Criterion A and B: Ethnic Heritage-Black and Commerce, and Criterion C: Architecture, for the period 1920-1956.

Dr. Smith solicited comments from the board. Mr. Gonzalez expressed support for the nomination and commented on the building's architectural design. Ms. Almy also expressed support for the nomination and commented on the building's significance.

Dr. Smith solicited public comment. Mr. Sidney Johnston expressed gratitude for the board's review of the nomination. Mr. Mark Shuttleworth express his support for the nomination and expanded upon proposed plans for the building. Ms. Belinda Williams-Collins expressed her and the City of DeLand's support for the nomination.

Dr. Smith called for a motion. **A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez to forward the nomination of the James W. Wright Buildings to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and Criterion B: Commerce and Ethnic Heritage: Black, and under Criterion C: Architecture at the state level. Ms. Almy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

- G. Herman Lodge, Freeport, Walton Co.** was presented by Mr. Acosta. Herman Lodge No. 108 is a two-story wood building located in Freeport, Walton County. The building is locally significant under Criterion A for Social History and Entertainment and Recreation and Criterion C for Architecture. The period of significance extends from circa 1903 to 1970. The building has long been associated with the Herman Lodge No. 108 F&AM, the largest fraternal organization in Freeport, which met on the second floor. The first floor, which was originally used as a commercial space, by the 1910s was used almost exclusively as a community gathering space, hosting a number of prominent civic support groups in the community, including the American Legion, the Woodmen of the World, the Order of the Eastern Star, and the boy scouts among other groups. The Freeport American Legion Post Number 249 was founded here in 1953 and

the building served as its first permanent home before the construction of their own building, which has since been destroyed. The building is the best remaining building historically associated with the American Legion in Freeport. The members of the lodge have long been closely connected to Masonic charities, including the Masonic Home for the elderly and the Shriners' Hospitals for Children. They have also long sponsored local groups and initiatives.

The building is a locally significant example of Florida Cracker southern vernacular architecture adapted to a false front commercial building and is an excellent example of an early 20th century rural Masonic lodge building. The Florida Cracker architecture is perhaps best expressed through the full-width porch with an independent roof; its simple wood frame construction; a balanced, rectangular form; brick pier foundations; and steep-pitched, overhanging gable roof. A once ubiquitous feature of commercial buildings in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, false fronts were designed to provide more surface area for advertising and make the façade appear larger and more urban. The false front on the Lodge, which features a false parapet incorporated into the gable end, is clearly designed to do this. When originally constructed, the building served a dual purpose as a commercial building and meeting hall for the local freemasons. The building's connections to freemasonry are mostly reflected in its siting and in the layout of its second floor interior. The building is situated east-west, in keeping with Masonic traditions of buildings being aligned to cardinal directions. The second floor Masonic hall retains its character defining layout, including the placement of the altar and the seating of the officers of the lodge, which are in keeping with Masonic traditions and rituals.

The building has undergone a number of changes, most of which were connected to modernization. The exterior of the building has a remarkably high degree of integrity, with relatively few changes. On the interior, although a kitchen space and partition walls for public restrooms were added to the first floor, it retains its character defining open space. The most notable change to the interior has been to the second floor Masonic hall, where wood veneer paneling was added in 1972. Although the veneer paneling and carpeting has obscured the original wood walls and flooring, the original materials are still present, including the historic glass within the windows. The building therefore retains its integrity to qualify for listing in the NR.

Staff finds that Herman Lodge No. 108 Free and Accepted Masons is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion A: Social History and Entertainment/Recreation and Criterion C: Architecture for the period 1903-1970.

Dr. Smith solicited comments from the board. Ms. Almy expressed support for the nomination and stated she had previously seen this building. Mr. Gonzalez had no additional comment and expressed willingness to make a motion.

Dr. Smith solicited comments from the public. Mr. Stan Keys expressed support for the nomination and expanded upon the building's history and materials. Mr. Cecil Harris also expressed support and outlined potential plans for the building. Mr. Harris also conveyed an

account of the construction and relocation of the property at the start of the period of significance.

Dr. Smith called for a motion. **A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez to forward the nomination of Herman Lodge to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A: Social History and under Criterion C: Architecture at the local level. Ms. Almy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

VIII. **DeListing Request**

- A. **Marion Whaley Citrus Packing House, Rockledge, Brevard Co.** was presented by Mr. Acosta. The Marion S. Whaley Citrus Packing House was listed in the National Register in 1993 for its significance as a surviving Citrus Packing house and its association with the growth of the citrus industry in Brevard County. The citrus business ceased operation in 1991 and the building deteriorated as it sat vacant for nearly 30 years. The property was demolished on July 16, 2020 and is therefore no longer eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Dr. Smith solicited comments or a motion from the board. There were no comments. **A motion was made by Ms. Almy to forward the delisting request for the Marion Wahley Citrus Packing House to the National Park Service. Mr. Gonzalez seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

IX. **Other Business**

Mr. Acosta stated that the next National Register Review Board Meeting will be held February 4, 2021. He also stated that the nominations reviewed at the August meeting were currently under review by the National Park Service with a tentative listing date in late November. Mr. Acosta provided updates on staff changes in the section and updates on proposed updates to federal National Register regulations.

X. **Public Comment**

There were no comments from public.

XI. **Motion to Adjourn**

Rick made motion to adjourn at 4:41 pm.

Chair, National Register Review Board

Date

State Historic Preservation Officer

Date