

Julee Cottage
214 West Zaragoza Street
Pensacola
Escambia County
Florida

HABS No. FLA-198

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. FLA-198

JULEE COTTAGE

Location: 214 West Zaragoza Street, Pensacola, Escambia County, Florida. The house is located on the north side of the street, midway between South Barcelona and South Reus Streets.

Present Owner: Pensacola Historic Preservation Society

Present Occupant: Vacant

Statement of Significance: This structure, originally two rooms without apron porches, is an excellent example of early platform frame construction. Although in ruinous condition, considerable amounts of early structural and finish materials remain.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: The Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation of Pensacola indicates in the abstract which was prepared for the east half of Lot 65, Block 12, Old City Tract of Pensacola that Francis Hindenberg sold a "low wooden house" and Lot 65 which had been acquired in a grant from Governor Folch in 1804 to Julee, a free black woman, for \$300.00 on April 5, 1808. In June of 1809 Julee sold half of lot 65 to Angelica, a free black woman, for \$41.50. The remaining half was sold to Francisco Casini, a free Mulatto man for \$212.00. By April of 1811, Angelica Chirald deeded the property to her son Francis Chirald. Angelica Lepern sold the property in November of 1819 for \$400.00 to Rosalie Bonifay, a free black woman, who sold the property to Joseph Bonifay July 1, 1824, for \$500.00. Bonifay and his wife, Dolores, sold the property August 29, 1936, for \$550.00 to Joseph Gonzales Valencino, who lost it at a public sale in 1842 to Juan Marte. Marte sold the property to Juan Moll in 1843 for \$400.00. The 1844 will of Juan Moll named Gertrudes Sarmacol, a free mulatress, as the devisee of the property, which she had inherited in 1846 and sold to Bartolme Boras in 1856 for \$775.00. The property was sold by Boras in 1884 to Maria Suarez. By 1971 John Raymos owned the property which was inherited by his niece, Julia M. Boras, who deeded it to the Pensacola Historic Preservation Society.

2. Date of erection: It appears from the earliest deed that the house was constructed before Julee purchased the property and the house in 1808.
3. Architect: Unknown
4. Original plans and construction information: None known
5. Alterations and additions: The house has been altered very little except for the addition of a bathroom wing and the installation of electricity.
6. Important old views: None known

B. Historic Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:

There is no known information concerning Julee, a free black woman. She was not listed in the 1820 Spanish census, etc.

C. Sources of Information:

1. Primary and unpublished sources: Spanish Archives, Court House Records, Escambia County Court House, Pensacola, Florida.
2. Secondary and published sources: None known

Prepared by Linda V. Ellsworth
Historian
Historic Pensacola
Preservation Board, 1973

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

- A. General Description: This one-and-a-half story building is rectangular with four rooms in plan. There is a modern bathroom appendage. The condition of the fabric is poor, though much original material remains including structural members, and hardware.
- B. Description of Exterior:
 1. Overall dimensions: The house measures 27'-5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 33'-1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " with the short dimension paralleling the street.
 2. Foundations: The structure is supported on original and supplemental brick piers constructed from 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 8" and 2" x 4" x 8-3/4", average, red brick laid with $\frac{1}{2}$ "

mortar joints which are scored. In addition there are miscellaneous piers of stacked wood blocks which support the house beams. The south brick piers at the side walk are infilled with a brick wall of twentieth century construction.

3. Wall construction, finish and color: The wood frame is sheathed with weatherboarding, some showing traces of red paint, with various exposures. The siding, badly weathered and patched with a variety of material, is nailed with square-head cut nails. There is a small amount of brick nogging at the southwest corner and sufficient traces of nogging in other areas to indicate that originally all the walls of the first story had brick nogging from sills to plates.
4. Structural system: The diagonally braced, wood frame, platform system has 4" square, average, studs and bracing and hewn 8" x 10", average, sills. The weathering of the structure prevents identification of saw marks on exposed members. There are some modern structural members. Gable rafters and framing indicate a change in pitch of the roof slope over the two north rooms.
5. Porches: At the east entrance there is a wood stoop and steps. The rear, north entrances have a wood porch and ramp, all of which is in a deteriorated condition.
6. Chimney: The beige brick, central chimney at the ridge has a three course corbelled cap and corbelled drip courses. The chimney contains two flues.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The plain board door trim is deteriorated. The modern front door, which has two glazed lights over a panel, replaced a board and batten door and an outswinging screen door. The rear doorways have board and batten doors hung with wrought iron strap hinges.
 - b. Windows and shutters: The six-over-six light single hung sash have a variety of muntin, stile and rail thicknesses. The plain board trim, flush with the weatherboarding, retains a drip board at the head of the south window trim, which has plain unmoulded sills. The glazed and unglazed sash are partly or wholly covered by sheet metal, fiber board, etc. The two south windows are closed with louvered blinds

hung on cast iron pintle hinges. Board and batten shutters, one per opening, are at the attic gable windows. At the west elevation cast iron pintles remain at the jambs of the windows. Fragments of wrought iron pintles in some window jambs indicate that there was probably a board and batten shutter at each window opening.

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8. Roof:

- a. Shape and covering: The gabled, saltbox roof, its ridge paralleling the street, is covered with a corrugated and standing seam sheet metal roof over board sheathing. There were originally wood shingles.
- b. Cornice and eaves: The overhang of the roofing material forms the eaves.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plan: The original two south rooms are entered from the east doorway and are separated by the chimney breast and vertical board partition. The two rooms open into two north rooms which open onto the north porch. A stairway is located in the northwest room. The bathroom appendage at the northwest corner opens onto the north porch.
2. Stairway: There is a crude stairway to the attic with thirteen $7\frac{1}{2}$ " risers and 9" treads, average. The treads, which do not show any wear, appear to be replacements. A 2" x 4" newel receives a 1" x 4" hand rail. The stringer and the soffit of the stair are exposed.
3. Flooring: The random width, $7\frac{1}{2}$ " to 10", 1" thick floor boards are nailed with cut nails and are covered with a variety of modern materials.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: The walls are plastered over split and sawn lath. The 1" thick, vertical board partition, which is varnished, is constructed from random width, 5" to 10", tongue and groove boards with $\frac{3}{8}$ " beads. There are miscellaneous fiber and gypsum board and corrugated tin patchwork coverings. The ceilings show exposed $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x $4\frac{1}{2}$ " and $3\frac{1}{2}$ " x $6\frac{1}{4}$ " attic floor joists which are adzed or hand planed and have $\frac{3}{8}$ " beaded edges. The exposed undersides of the random width, $7\frac{1}{2}$ " to $10\frac{1}{2}$ ", 1" thick tongue and groove, hand planed attic floor boards have $\frac{3}{8}$ " beaded edges. Modern wood slats sheath the ceiling in the southeast room.

5. Doorways and doors: The doorways have flat board trim with beaded inner edges. Beaded board and batten doors and a nine light glazed door with two panels are hung in the interior openings. HABS
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6. Decorative features: Chair rail with beaded edges is used throughout the house as is baseboard of various heights. The fireplaces have simple pilaster, frieze board and mantelshelf surrounds.
7. Notable hardware: Tapered strap hinges with disc tips are used on the rear doors and gable shutters. There are miscellaneous cast iron bolts, thumbatches, and carpenter's locks with porcelin knobs. One lock set is marked "Patented June 8, 1880."
8. Mechanical equipment:
- a. Lighting: None
 - b. Heating: There are two identical fireplaces closed with fiberboard and wood slats in each south room. The fireplaces have concrete hearths.
- D. Site and Surroundings: This structure faces south on Zaragoza Street and is situated adjacent to the sidewalk. There are sections of a wood picket fence and a gate at the east side. The remaining pickets are hand cut from 3/4" x 4" tongue and groove boards. Several large pecan and small orange trees are located behind the house.

Prepared by F. Blair Reeves, AIA
HABS--Pensacola
July 1, 1968

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project, sponsored by the Pensacola Historical Restoration and Preservation Commission, now known as the Historic Pensacola Preservation Board of Trustees, in cooperation with the Historic American Buildings Survey, was recorded during the summer of 1968 in Pensacola under the direction of James C. Massey, Chief of HABS; Professor F. Blair Reeves, AIA (University of Florida), Project Supervisor; and Student Assistant Architects John O. Crosby (University of Florida), David L. Van de Ven, Jr. (Texas Technological College), and Edward Bondi, Jr. (University of Florida). The historical information was prepared by Professor Samuel Proctor (University of Florida), by Assistant Historian Linda V. Ellsworth (Historic Pensacola Preservation Board), and by Rodd L. Wheaton (Architect, HABS) who edited all the data in 1972.