



West



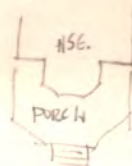
South



→ remodeled probably
1900 - 1920. Originally had
brackets, cresting etc. Orig.
porch was semi-octagonal.

See ca. 1885 photo
opposite overleaf

See "Sanborn" maps



South East

Used 1978-'87 by
Hv. Women's Club Fed.
Sold mid 1987 to
Dana Ponder for
his res. (he owned
't only a few months)

"Stamboat Gothic House"

ca. 1885 Van Valkenburgh Hse
originally on Franklin St.,
moved to Lowe Ave in 1974
photo 1981 NW. H. Jones

CIRCA
1885 VAN
VALKENBURGH

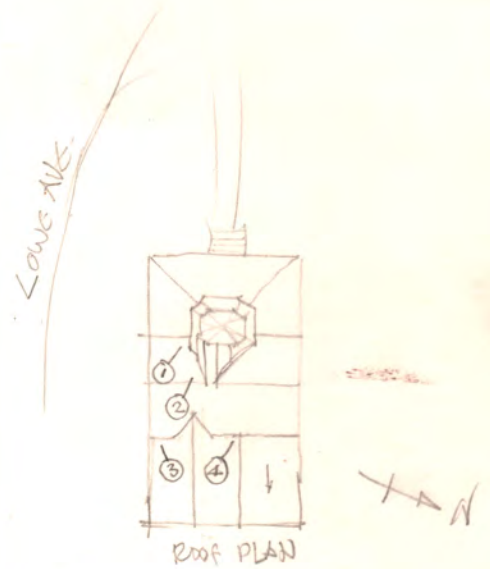


Roof details
1981 photos, HJ

①



②



④





1971 PHOTO ON ORIG. SITE ON W. SIDE FRANKLIN ST. 401
 BETWEEN WILLIAMS & GATES AVES. COMPARE W/
 FOLLOWING PHOTOS. HSE MOVED CA. 1974 TO LOWE AVE.



ON NEW SITE ON LOWE AVE. 401
 PHOTO CA. 1975 BEFORE CONST. OF
 PALUDAN HSE IN FOREGROUND (BY J & H)

VAN VALKENBURGH HSE
 "STEADFAST GOTHIC"



photo - July 4, 1885 - Van Valkenburgh house on
Moved to Lowe Ave. ca. 1914
Remodeled 1921-1928 (See Sanborn Maps)

w. side Franklin St. between Gates & Williams Sts.
Note - dirt st., brackets, multiple paint colors, cresting,
semi-octagonal porch - all removed 1921-1928 (See Sanborn Maps)

Nov 20 '74

MR Jones

VAN VALKENBURGH HOUSE (CIRCA 1830'S) ("Steamboat Gothic" House)

The continued preservation & restoration of the Van Valkenburgh house is important for the following reasons:

1. The house is located in the Truickentham Historic District, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.
2. The house is an extremely rare example of the late 1800's style of design known as "Steamboat Gothic" - it has an uncanny resemblance to a Mississippi Steamwheelboat, including ^{the foredeck of} the pilot-house perched high "amidships". This writer knows of no other similar example in the state.
3. The theme of the Truickentham Historic District is "A Museum of 160 Years of American Architecture". In the district can be seen houses from all these periods spanning 16 decades. This living museum would be ~~the~~ poorer if it lacked this particularly rare & picturesque example.
4. The Truickentham H. - D. is near the Van Buren Civic Center, which will draw many thousands of conventioners & visitors to Hartsville annually. Many visitors will see the Truickentham Dist. & based on past experience, would like to enter an historic house. ~~It~~ Heretofore none has been open to the public on a continuing basis. The Van Valkenburgh house can ^{help} fulfill this need.

5. The Van Valkenburgh house will be an example of successful adaptive use. It was to be demolished as having outlived its usefulness; instead, its cultural value of potential usefulness was seen by the individuals & organizations who have worked to save it. The restoration plans indicate that, with few alterations, it will serve well as the headquarters for the Madison County Federation of Women's Clubs. Other local restorations indicate that its restored cost will probably be substantially lower than if an ordinary new building of the same floor area was constructed. The cultural value in saving this part of our heritage will be great.

Some
title?

was
MUCH
less \$

The Van Valkenburgh house can continue to be a useful & charming member of our community. The most difficult job — that of preventing its destruction — has already been performed, against seemingly insurmountable obstacles (literally & figuratively). It would be foolish not to complete the easy task — its restoration.

copy: Linda Dond
Margaret Cole

Women's Clubs Federation
moved & saved the house
on Low Dr

(Originally on W. side Franklin St
between Williams & Gates)



401
Franklin St
Dulcan, James & Davis
Arch. (H) in c. 1906

S. +
to Williams St

GW Jones & Sons Parking Lot
→ W. to Gates Ave

→ → FRANKLIN ST.

1885 Van Valkenburgh Hse
on original site in 1971

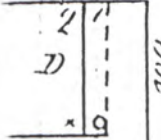
Copy 1988 APS

10

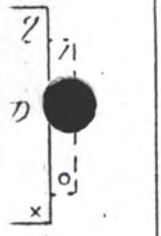
GATES

FEB. 1898
HUNTSVILLE
ALA.

SANBORN
MAP



700



114

Hot Ho.



420

MS



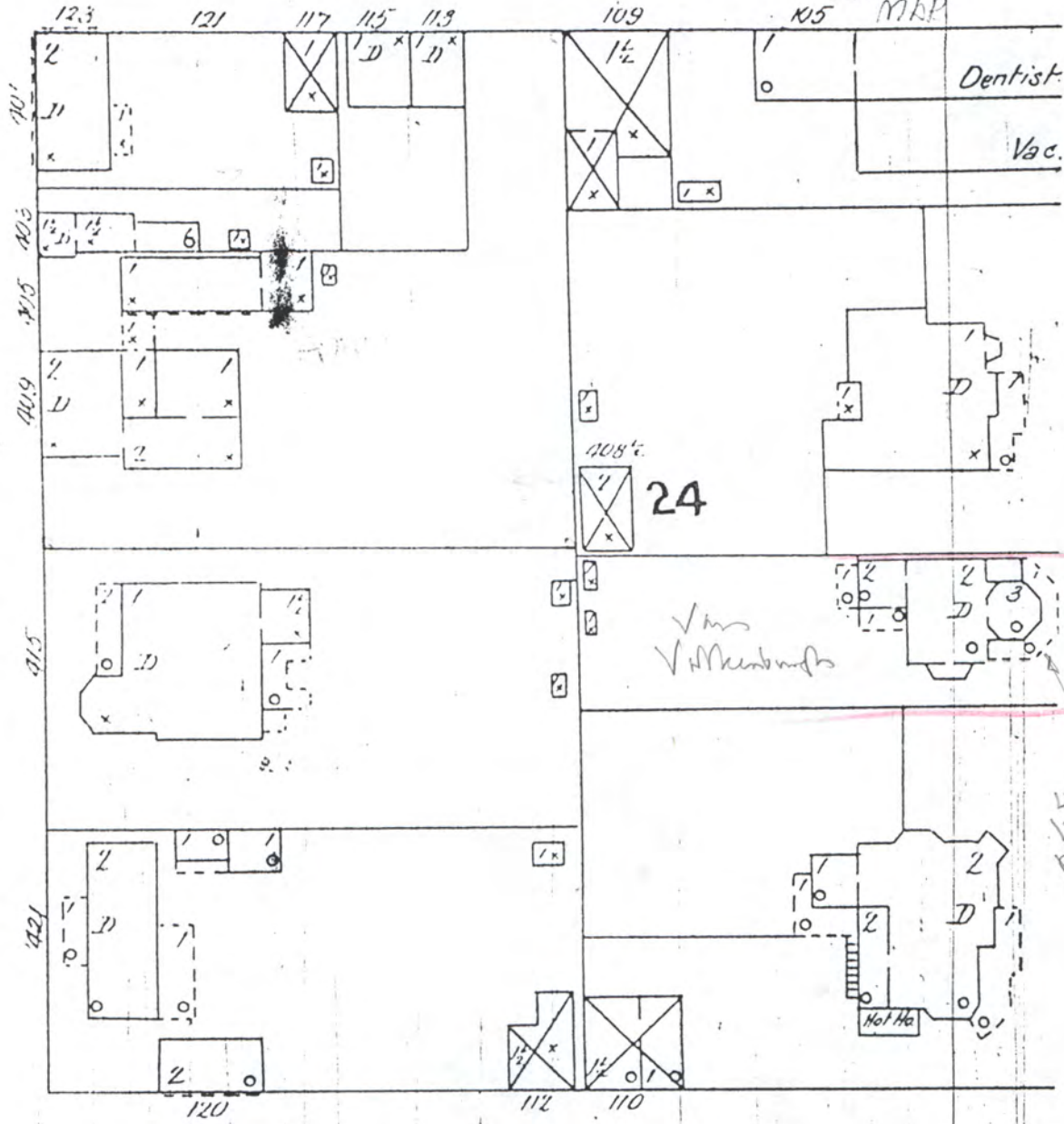
502

MADISON

77

4" W.P.

WILLIAMS



Dentist

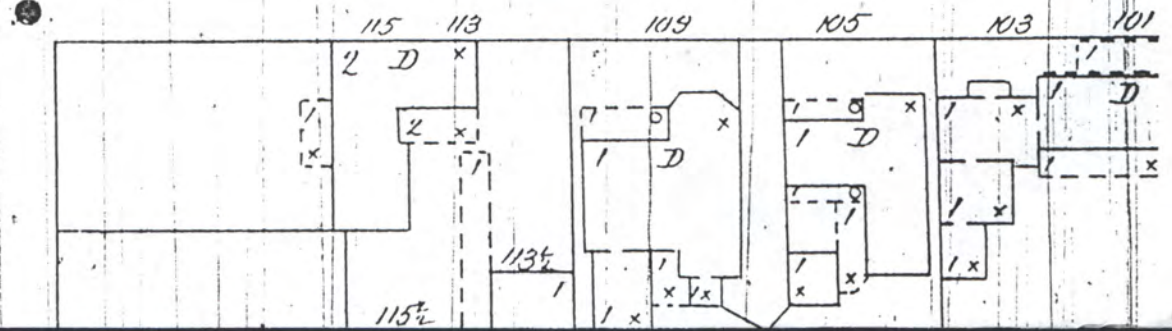
Vac.

24

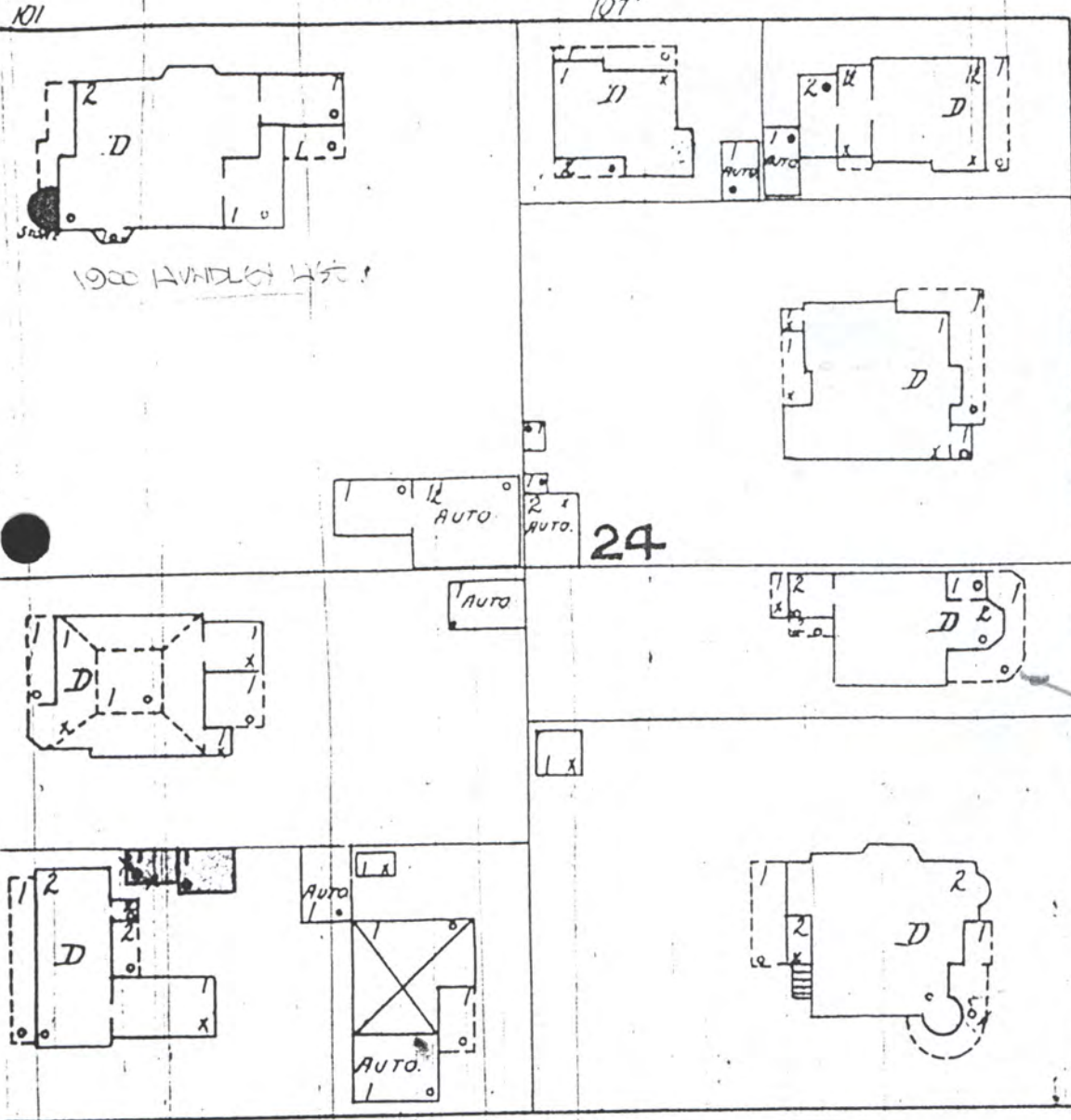
Vm
Villenburgh

LIFE
1885
PHOTO

FRANKLIN



E. GATES 66 ft. wide



400 (300)

402 (302)

408 (412)

408 (308)

500 (400)

89

Franklin St

original
survey
taken 1885
photo

MAR
HUNT
A

1921



E. WILLIAM

82

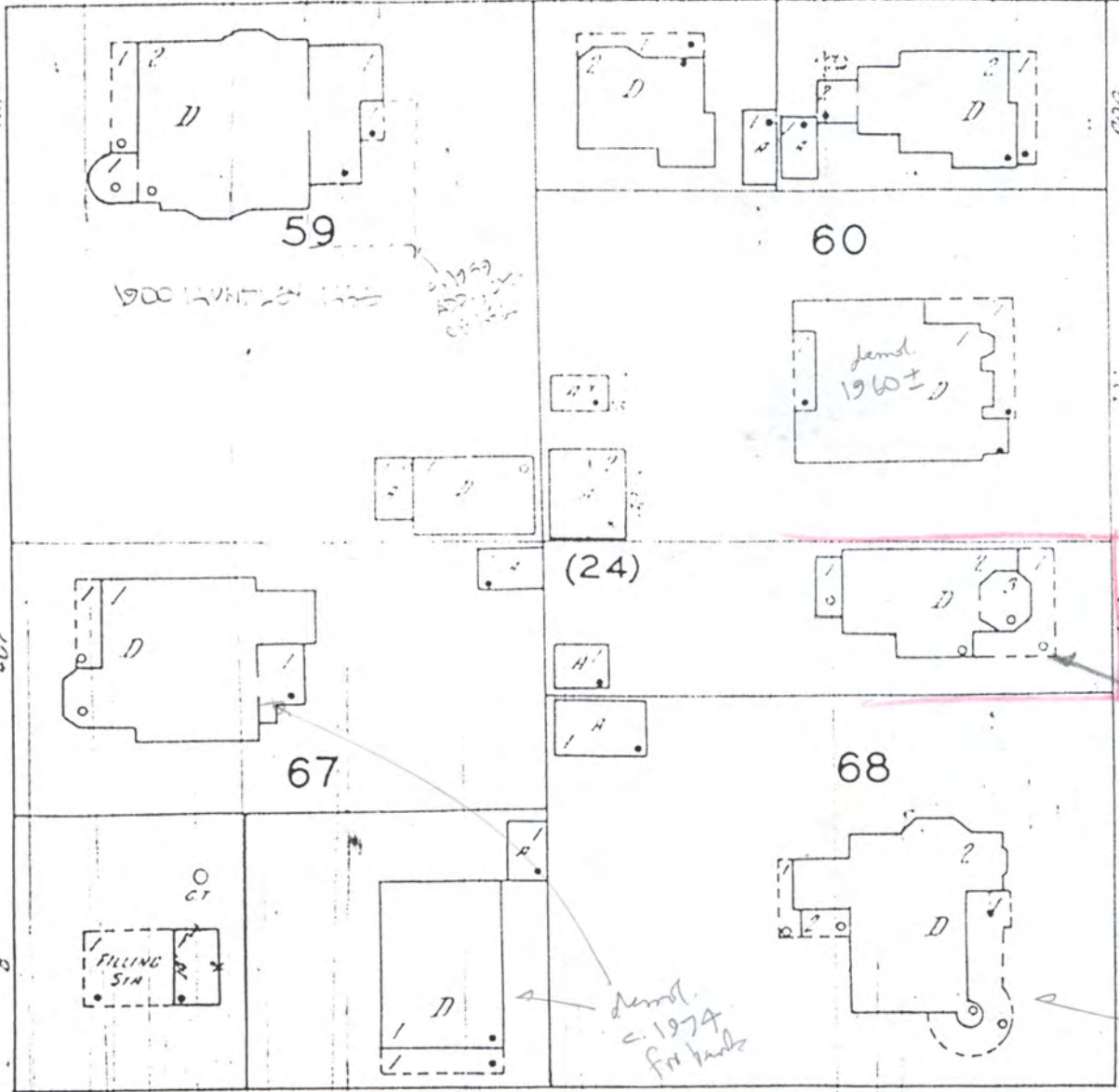
D.H.

15 NORTON ST

Shows 2 story rear wing on Forward Home plan
 c. 1930, therefore c. 1930 must be the date
 of this 2nd yr. rear addition - 1930, 1934

2

E. 117 GATES



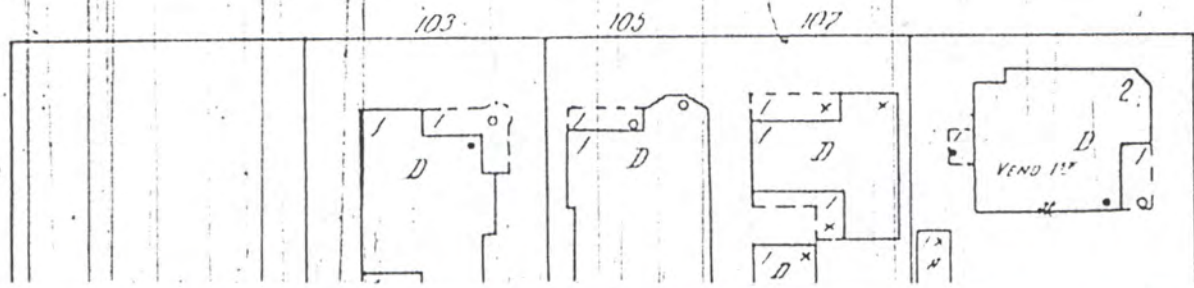
SE
HUN
 1928

revised porch
 (est 1921)
 sq. corners
 as in 1944
 (see 1971 photo)

demol.
 c. 1966 for
 97 Key

(WILLIAM)

E. WILLIAMS





APRIL 1990 H Jones
Just renov. & ptd. by James Cavdle, owner.
To be a family hse again! (Not candles)

"Summit Seaside" house
moved by the Green Steamboat Club
moved by the Women's Club Feb.

1974-75

DON'T TOUCH
THOSE TREES



WHEREAS LINDA DOUD AND MARGARET COLE
HAVE, IN MOVING THE STEAMBOAT GOTHIC
HOUSE, BEEN CONFRONTED WITH UNIMAGINABLE
OBSTACLES, BOTH REAL AND ILLUSORY,
AND HAVE COORDINATED WITH VIRTUALLY
EVERY PUBLIC & PRIVATE AGENCY IN
EXISTENCE TO MOVE A LITTLE WOODEN
HOUSE ONLY TWO BLOCKS, AND

WHEREAS SAID REAL & IMAGINED OBSTACLES
WERE NOT ONLY OVERCOME, BUT WERE
HANDILY OBLITERATED.

THEREFORE BE IT **R**ESOLVED
THAT LINDA & MARGARET BE AWARDED
THE SEAL OF THE GREEN STEAMBOAT
WITH TWIN DRIVESHAFT CLUSTERS
(BROKEN) IN RECOGNITION OF THIS
HERCULEAN FEAT.

S.A.C.O.H.P.





STEAMBOAT GOTHIC HOUSE
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA
1885

The Ponders
205 Lowe Avenue, S.E.
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

August 1, 1988

Huntsville Historic Commission
Huntsville, Alabama

Dear HHC Members:

We would like to commend the Huntsville Historic Commission for its efforts in preserving the integrity and attractiveness of Huntsville's historic districts. My wife Mary, daughter Danielle, and I are very impressed with the results of your past efforts, especially in the Twickenham District.

Since we purchased the "Steamboat Gothic House" last October, we have been approached by dozens of people who were concerned about the future of this beloved structure. Everyone seemed pleased to learn that we intended to restore the house and use it as our private residence.

For a number of months now, we have been collecting information that might be useful in restoring the "Steamboat House" in keeping with the style and tradition of this unique structure.

We would like to thank the Madison County Federation of Women's Clubs for their successful efforts in saving the "Steamboat House". A special thanks to Mr. Harvey Jones for his past efforts to preserve the house and for his recent suggestions concerning the renovation. A photograph of the house taken in July of 1885 was given to us by Mr. Jones. This photograph has been very helpful to us in determining the original color scheme of the house and will be a treasured memento that we intend to prominently display in decorating the house.

Our main goal is to bring the "Steamboat House" up to modern functional standards without destroying its architectural character in the process. We welcome any suggestions from the committee that will help us meet this goal.

In the next few pages, we have outlined our proposed renovation plan. We have enclosed photographs and drawings to help illustrate our proposed changes.

Sincerely,

Dan Ponder
Mary Ponder

Dan and Mary Ponder

Never executed.

Ponders left town.

W-1

"Stamboot Gothic"
c. 1885 Van Valkenburgh
hse. June 86 photos

LOWE
AVE



W-2

Left hse 1989
decapitated
Mar. 1990 to

LOWE
AVE



Site Vis. cottages on 517
Madison St. proposed
to be moved to S. side
of Stamboot Goth hse.
1986

June 86 photos

Daniel
1986
(H. H. S.) S. MADISON ST

