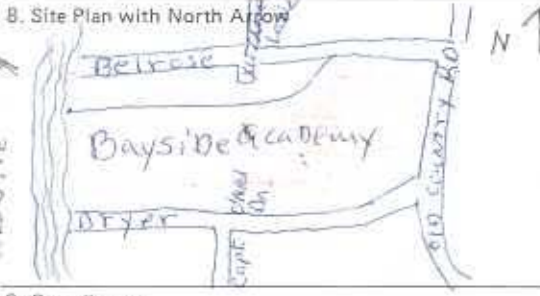


ALABAMA HISTORIC INVENTORY

Alabama Historical Commission
725 Monroe Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36130

<p>1. No. _____</p> <p>2. County Baldwin</p> <p>3. Location of Negatives AR file</p>	<p>4. Present Name(s) Bayside Academy</p> <p>5. Other Name(s) 1838-Howard's Hotel 1894-Daphne Spring Hotel or Dryers Hotel 1943-Morrill Home 1948 Sacred Heart Juniorate</p>	1. No.																			
<p>6. Specific Location Between Dryer and Old Country Rd. Daphne, Alabama</p>	<p>16. Thematic Category Technology, Commerce</p> <p>17. Date(s) or Period 1838-1838</p>	2. County <i>Baldwin</i>																			
<p>7. City or Town <small>If Rural, Township & Vicinity</small> Daphne, Al. on Mobile Bay</p>	<p>18. Style or Design Creole with Greek Revival detailing</p> <p>19. Architect or Engineer _____</p> <p>20. Contractor or Builder _____</p>	4. Present Name(s) <i>Bayside Academy</i>																			
<p>8. Site Plan with North Arrow</p> 	<p>21. Original Use, if apparent Resort Hotel</p> <p>22. Present Use Adm. building for independent school K-12</p> <p>23. Ownership Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>24. Owner's Name & Address, if known Bayside Academy, Inc. Drawer 130 Daphne, Al. 36526</p>	5. Other Name(s) <i>1838-Howard's Hotel 1894-Daphne Spring Hotel 1943-Morrill Home</i>																			
<p>9. Coordinates</p> <p>Lat. _____ Long. _____</p> <p>U.T.M. Reference</p> <table style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> <td style="border: 1px solid black; width: 20px; height: 20px;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Zone</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Easting</td> <td colspan="6"></td> <td style="text-align: center;">Northing</td> </tr> </table>											Zone	Easting							Northing	<p>25. Local Contact Adele H. Stafford</p> <p>26. Location of Additional Data Alabama Reg. files</p>	6. Card Typed
Zone	Easting							Northing													
<p>10. Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>11. On National Register? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>12. On Ala. Register? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>13. Part of Estab. Hist. Dist.? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>14. District Potent'l? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>15. Name of Established District _____</p>	<p>31. Roof Type & Material hipped with shingle</p> <p>32. No. of Bays Front 7 Side 5</p> <p>33. Wall Treatment WOOD Frame siding</p> <p>34. Plan Shape rectangular</p> <p>35. Changes Addition <input type="checkbox"/> Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>36. Condition fair Interior _____ Exterior good</p> <p>37. Preservation Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Underway? No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>38. Endangered? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> By What? No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>39. Visible from Public Road? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>40. Acreage, Lot Size 20 acres</p>	Photo																			
<p>41. Further Description of Important Features: Drastically altered from its original appearance, the building was originally 2 stories with a double verandah, hipped roof and cupola. When it was altered to a private residence by Mr. Morrill, it was changed to 1 1/2 stories with hipped roof and 5 dormers front and back. A verandah with 10 columns (Doric) extends across front with a central doorway flanked by sidelights and topped by a transom; the interior has been remodeled several times and has been rearranged to suit its needs as an administration building and library for school.</p> <p>42. History and Significance Originally built as a resort hotel by Capt. William Howard, it is believed to be the oldest of the three resort hotels built on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay in the early half of the 19th Century and is the only one still standing, the others being destroyed by fire. Having changed owners several times through the years it has been greatly altered from its original appearance and now accommodates a co-educational day school, grades K-12.</p> <p>43. Description of Environment and Outbuildings The property contains over twenty beautifully landscaped acres and has 695 front feet on Mobile Bay. There are fields for baseball, soccer, and hockey. There are outdoor basketball courts, handball courts, and a tennis court. There is a 650 foot pier into the bay with beach and picnic area. The only original outbuilding is the first</p>		5. Other Name(s) <i>1838-Howard's Hotel 1894-Daphne Spring Hotel 1943-Morrill Home</i>																			
<p>44. Sources of Information AR file</p>	<p>45. Prepared By _____</p> <p>46. Phone (Cent)</p> <p>47. Date _____</p> <p>48. Staff Member _____</p> <p>49. Revision Date(s) _____</p>	6. Card Typed																			

Sect. 43 level of what was once the kitchen and servants quarters and is now used as a reading lab. It is attached to the north east corner of the original building. Other out buildings include classrooms an art and music lab and a multi purpose gymnasium is proposed for 1976.

1. County Baldwin County, Alabama	
2. Present Name(s) 1970 - Bayside Academy	
3. Other Name(s) 1838 - Howard's Hotel 1894 - Daphne Spring Hotel and/or Dryers Hotel 1943 - Morrill Home 1948 - Sacred Heart Juniorate	
4. Specific Location	
5. City or Town Daphne, Alabama	
6. Site (x) & Structure () Building (x) Object ()	21. Other Surveys in which included
7. On National Register? Yes () No (x)	22. Number of Stories- Originally 2 - Now 1-1/2
Is it Eligible? Yes () No ()	23. Basement? Yes () No (x)
8. Part of Estab. Hist. Dist? Yes () No (x)	24. Foundation Material Brick Piers
District Yes () No ()	25. Wall Construction wood frame covered with horizontally lapped siding
9. Name of Established District	26. Roof Type & Material Hipped roof construction with shingle board and wide fascia with large ventilating cupola on top.
10. Thematic Category Educational and Historical	27. Number of Roofs Dormers Back- 5 Front- 5 Side-
11. Date(s) or Period Building completed 1838	28. Wall Treatment Plaster over lath
12. Style or Design Greek revival modified by Creole styling typical of Northern Gulf Coast	29. Plan Shape Rectangular-Two Story
13. Architect or Engineer	30. Changes (Explain in # 36) Addition () Altered (x) Moved ()
14. Contractor or Builder Capt. William L. Howard - 1789-1887	31. Condition of Interior-Fair Exterior-Good
15. Original Use, if Apparent Resort Hotel	32. Preservation Underway Yes (x) No ()
16. Present Use Administration Building for Independent School - Grades K - 12	33. Endangered? Yes () No (x) By What?
17. Ownership Public () Private (x)	34. Visible from Public Road? Yes () No ()
18. Owner's Name & Address, if known Bayside Academy, Inc., Drawer 130 - Daphne, AL 36526	35. Distance from Road- 258 feet Frontage on Road- 931 ft. on Dryer Ave.
19. Open to Public? Yes (x) No ()	
20. Local Contact Person or Organization Adele H. Stafford	
21. Further Description of Important Features See attached	
22. History and Significance See attached	

Item 4: Specific Location

State of Alabama, County of Baldwin, Town of Daphne, on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay in Section 41 (the Francis Alexander Grant), Township 5 South, Range 2 East. The site consists of 21.3 acres of land with approximately 695 feet fronting on the Bay, 1,381 feet on South boundary (Dryer Avenue), 1,123 feet on North boundary and 1,926 on east along Mobile Avenue (Old County Road) Coordinates are as follows:

	<u>Latitude</u>				<u>Longitude</u>		
NW	30°	35'	55"	87°	54'	47"	
NE	30°	35'	55"	87°	54'	30"	
SE	30°	35'	51'	87°	54'	33"	
SW	30°	35'	51'	87°	54'	48"	

Items 22 thru 29 and 36: Description of original structure and environs

The original architecture was Greek Revival modified by the Creole styling influence on the Northern Gulf Coast. It was a rectangular, two-story building with main floor and second floor galleries surrounding the living area (3-sides). The exterior appearance was a very stately balanced design with ten sets of square, plain, wooden columns showing a modified Doric capital and plinth.

The hand-worked railings and banisters repeat the restrained angular motif of the gallery system. The windows on the upper gallery were full length in the Creole fashion to give each room access to the porch. Corner pilasters enhance the design.

It had a hipped roof with shingle board and wide fascia and a large ventilating cupola on top.

The foundation is brick piers with the lower floor beginning at a point approximately five feet above the lawn, enclosed with diagonal lattice. Walls are wood frame covered with horizontally lapped siding.

To the rear of the structure, a two-story kitchen dependency was attached by a covered walk. Above the kitchen were servants quarters. Total area, about 7,500 square feet.

Double swing glass doors with side-lights and transom were centered on both galleries. (Up, being single instead of double). One entered a typical coastal center hall. To the left was the large formal parlor; to the right, a guest room. The hall extended half-way, with a staircase at the rear. Across the entire back of the hotel, approximately 65 feet, extended the dining room. There were eight or ten guest rooms upstairs.

There were, subsequently, four other structures on the property: the Long Branch with twenty rooms, the Texas and California with four rooms each and the Homestead, where the second owner, William Dryer, lived.

Interior walls are plaster over lath. Floors are the original wide board pine. There is unusual antique hardware on the doors.

Item 30: Changes: Exterior and Interior

In 1943, the hotel became a private residence. The upper floor was removed and a modified gable roof installed with five dormers front and back. The hall was extended to the back of the house, the staircase relocated. Bedrooms, smaller dining room, and den were formed downstairs. A patio was added in rear. The top floor of the kitchen wing had burned but the kitchen was still located off the covered walk at the back of the house.

When the building was purchased by the Sacred Heart Brothers for a Juniorate in 1948, further changes were made. Both side porches were enclosed and a chapel was designed. The half story was made into a dormitory. Bayside Academy has rearranged the floor plan to suit its needs as Administration Building and Library.

Item 37: History and Significance

It is significant that of the three resort hotels known to have existed on the eastern shore of Mobile Bay in the first half of the nineteenth century, i.e., Howard's, Hollywood, and Short's, Howard's was, as far as we can ascertain, the first built and is the only one still standing, the others having been destroyed by fire prior to 1900. These antebellum, Creole structures were a "mecca" for visitors from all over the region. They were a refuge for people from New Orleans and Mobile fleeing the yellow fever epidemic and later a favorite summer retreat for many mid-westerners, including Marshall Field of Chicago department store fame. Howard's (later Dryers) was also famous for its food, its julips, and its entertainment, and its sparkling spring water which attracted its builder to this location.

The site is a part of the Francis Alexander Grant. The original Spanish land grant has been lost, but William Crawford, who was Commissioner for private claims in the lands east of St. Stephens (prior to the time when Alabama became a state) confirmed that Alexander had owned the land for 25 years. In 1819, the administrator for Alexander's estate sold the property. Fourteen years and several owners later, in 1833, James Dinsmore sold 123 acres to Captain William L. Howard. Howard, a native of Connecticut, was Captain of an ocean going sailing vessel that regularly procured fresh water from a clear stream that flowed into the bay. He determined to buy property in the area and did so in 1833. He built his hotel and a long wharf extending into the bay, completing it in 1838. He continued to supply water to sailing vessels. A catch basin and sluice was constructed at the spring source and to the end of the wharf for this purpose.

During the occupation of the Bay by the Northern Fleet following the Battle of Mobile Bay, the eastern shore was shelled. A shell, shot into the cupola of the building, came through the roof at the back. Another hit an upstairs column and still another took the top of the stairway newel post. Part of the understructure of the building still carries scars of grapeshot.

At the northwest corner of the gallery of Howard's Hotel stands a large oak. Before the community had a courthouse, in about 1868, court sessions and jury trials were held beneath its limbs. Legend contends that the jury sat in the tree to be "above" the heads of the crowd. Hence, the name "Jury Oak" has survived the years.

In 1874 Captain Howard made application for and was awarded the position of first Postmaster of the town of Daphne. His wife is credited with choosing the name for the village.

Captain Howard died in 1887 at the age of 98. The hotel was sold in 1894 by his widow, to William Dryer of Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Dryer refurbished the hotel and relocated the pier which had a track and a mule-driven cart to take luggage, cargo and passengers back and forth.

A governess was employed to teach the Dryer children and the other children of the community attended classes with them at the Hotel.

On the bluff overlooking the Bay at the south front of the property was an octagon shaped pavilion, 80 feet wide, where parties and dances were held.

Mr. Dryer died in 1922 and for 20 years the hotel wasn't in use. In 1943, John I. Morrill bought the property. It was at this time that the building was structurally modified to one and one-half stories and became a private residence. The Morrill's sold their property to the Brothers of the Sacred Heart in 1948 for a Juniorate. Brother Alfred Rodriguez, director of the Provincial residence, made a tremendous effort to furnish and restore the building to its former elegance in line with its historical significance. The chandeliers, furniture, carpets, mantels and cornices that he installed were outstanding.

Upon sale of the property to Bayside Academy in 1970, these historically significant items were either sold at auction or removed to St. Stanislaus Academy in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi.

It is believed that this 137 year old structure is the only remaining resort hotel on the entire northern gulf coast and is therefore extremely historically significant.

Item 38: Description of Environment and Outbuilding

The site consists of 21.3 acres of land with 695 feet fronting on Mobile Bay. The main building sits about 500 feet back from the water on a bluff approximately 15 feet above the sandy beach. It is surrounded by lawns, camellias, azaleas, magnolias, holly, oak, hickory, cedar, and many other plants indigenous to the area.

Present outbuildings consist of twelve classrooms, a Science Laboratory, an art room, restrooms, a utility room. These form an L-shape to the rear of the main building with each room opening onto an exterior, covered walk. Still farther back is a small one-room frame building used as a typing lab. Notice site plan enclosed.

Item 39: Sources of Information

Scott, Florence and Richard, Daphne, Jordan Publishing Co., Inc., Mobile, Alabama, 1965.

Nuzum, Kay, History of Baldwin County, Baldwin Times, 1970, Bay Minette, Alabama.

Conversations with:

Mr. William Dryer, son of Owner of Dryer Hotel.

Mr. Harry d'Olive, judge of Probate, Baldwin County.

Mr. Claude Arnold, Fairhope Title Company.

^ Mary Frances Eberlein, Secretary to Brother Alfred Rodriguez.
Newspaper articles by Frances Olivier and Ford Cook, Mobile
Press Register Correspondents.

Deed to property:

Information from Mike Ponder, Surveyor and Engineer.

DAPHNE QUADRANGLE

ALABAMA

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

SW/4 FAIRHOPE 15' QUADRANGLE

3445 (ST. AP.)

412 55'

414

R. 2 E. 415380 000 FEET

87°52'30"

30°37'30"

BRIDGEHEAD 3 MI.
2.3 MI. TO U.S. 90

Jackson Oak

Daphne Jr High Sch

Daphne

Baldwin Co. Training Sch

Holy Cross Sch

Friends Ch

Montrose

Property of Bayside Academy



Bar

5

2

2

Ragged Point

3

Carroll's Spring

Spring

Red

Red

Red

Red

Red

Red

Red

Red

Red

Red

Red

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

ROAD

220 000 FEET

BELFOREST 1.4 MI.
LOXLEY (U.S. 90) 7.8 MI.

3385

3384

35'

3383

3382

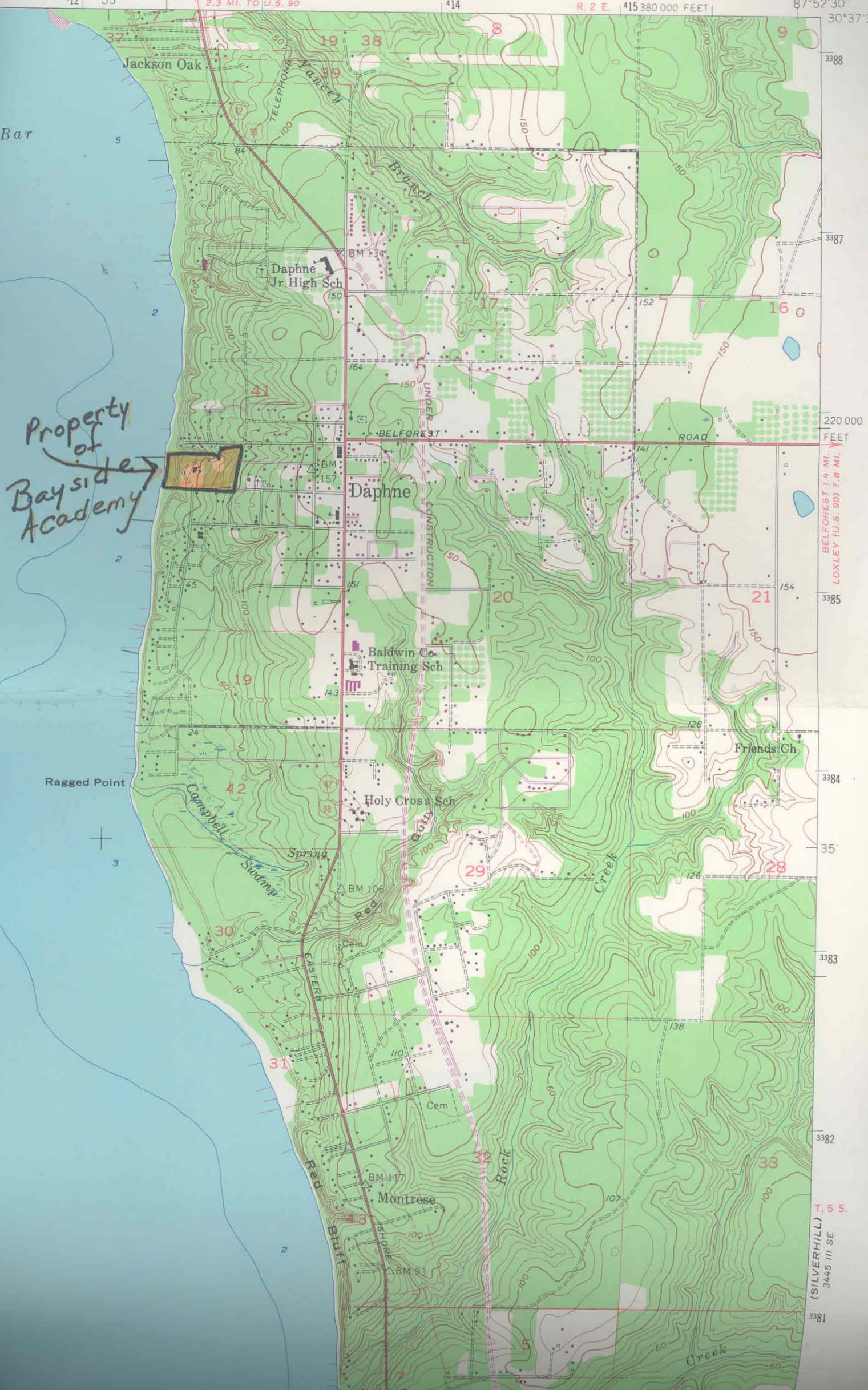
3382

T. 5 S.

(SILVERHILL)
3445 III SE

3381

3381





Date of Photograph - approximately 1900-1905 - Front elev.



BAYSIDE ACADEMY

View from SW corner of property.

Photo - 1970