

BETHEL GULF SERVICE STATION
(Gulf Oil Company Service Station)
(Old Gulf Service Station)
(Smith Service Station)
203 S.E. First Avenue
Gainesville
Alachua County
Florida

HABS No. FL-275

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ADDENDUM TO
GULF OIL COMPANY SERVICE STATION
Gainesville
Alachua County
Florida

PHOTOGRAHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Southeast Region
Department of the Interior
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

APPENDIX TO

STATE Florida	COUNTY Alachua	TOWN OR VICINITY Gainesville
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Bethel Gulf Service Station		HABS NO. FL-275
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Old Gulf Service Station, Smith Service Station		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 203 S.E. 1st Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32602		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1927 According to newspaper accounts and "Polks Gainesville Directory"	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Unknown	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) The architecture is representative of a 1920 era service station, rare in Florida. It's construction in the city's commercial core heralded the end of the horse and buggy days and the advent of gasoline powered transportation. The station has not been substantially altered from its original state making it more unique.		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Brick masonry building. The foundation is concrete laid in masonry units at grade level. The structural system is loan bearing brick in the form of panel walls forming the office and six brick columns.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) Rectangularly shaped, it measures approximately 37'-0" x 20'-8". The enclosed portion of the structure (the office) measures 12'8" x 20'-8".		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE A lowered metal cornice surrounds the entire building. Some of the original multi-light windows still remain. The original light fixtures have been removed.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) None. Interior wood shelves and cabinets are rotted.		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES The building's original color scheme was quite dramatic with its red brick and black mortar contrasting with vertical bands of horizontal cream colored brick on the columns. In addition, the projecting metal cornice was done in a cream color. These striking colors were obliterated with a uniform coat of white paint in the late 1930's to modernized its appearance.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE The structure has been vacant for ten years. Its condition is quite deteriorated.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE The building is historically compatible with the "Star Garage" to the west. It has been determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Historic American Buildings Survey/1973/Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. Alachua County Architectural Inventory/1974/Architectural and Fine Arts Library, University of Florida. A Field Guide to American Architecture by Carole Rifkind.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Sara Gomez, Executive Director, Downtown Redevelopment Agency City of Gainesville, Florida	DATE May 30, 1986	