

1. STATE <u>Florida</u> COUNTY <u>Monroe</u> TOWN <u>Key West</u> VICINITY STREET NO. <u>322 Duval Street</u>		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY	
ORIGINAL OWNER <u>Richard Cussans</u> ORIGINAL USE <u>Home</u> PRESENT OWNER <u>Earl Johnson</u> PRESENT USE <u>Home</u> WALL CONSTRUCTION <u>Wood</u> NO. OF STORIES <u>One and a half</u>		2. NAME <u>Oldest House</u> DATE OR PERIOD <u>1820's - 1830's</u> STYLE <u>Local</u> ARCHITECT <u>Not known</u> BUILDER <u>Richard Cussans</u>	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE	
A small weathered house with a porch across the front facing directly onto the main street of the city. Its most outstanding architectural features are the three shuttered dormers which graduate in size. Said to have been built in 1825 by Richard Cussans and moved by him to its present location in the 1830's. It later became the home of Captain Francis Watlington and has remained in his family for over a hundred years. The wood used in its construction is believed to be Cuban cedar. In the rear of the main house is the old outside cook house and bake oven, and is one of the few cookhouses still standing. For a short time the house was open as a museum. Many of the Watlington family heirlooms remain in the house. The ceilings of the rooms are low, a feature found only in very old houses in this area. The original owner, sometimes called Captain Cussans, was known to be a carpenter and joiner, owner of a grocery store and a bonded auctioneer of salvage goods from wrecks. Captain Watlington was a sea captain and at one time a lighthouse keeper and wrecking master. Born in New York in 1804, his age did not prevent him from escaping the island during the Civil War and serving the Confederate cause. He died in 1887 and is buried in the Key West Cemetery.		OPEN TO PUBLIC <u>No</u>	
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered <u>Yes</u> Interior <u>Bad</u> Exterior <u>Bad</u>			
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
 8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC. <u>Cappick, Marie The Key West</u> <u>Story, Coral Tribune 11-15-1957</u> <u>A Guide to Key West, American</u> <u>Guide Series Hastings House</u> <u>1949, p.83</u>		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER <u>Betty M. Bruce, Chairman</u> <u>Historic Research Committee</u> <u>Old Island Restoration Foundation,</u> <u>Key West, Florida Inc.</u> DATE OF RECORD <u>June 18, 1965</u>	