

LHD 2007-05
January 17, 2008

ADDENDUM TO THE
Alhambra Circle Historic District Report

District Boundaries:

The “Alhambra Circle Historic District” is comprised of residential properties and landscape features that abut Alhambra Circle. It is bounded on the east by Le Jeune Road, and Sevilla Avenue on the south.

The “Alhambra Circle Historic District” is defined by the wide median that runs through it. This landscape feature exists nowhere else in the City and helps to create the unique feel of this major boulevard. Alhambra Circle is the City’s longest roadway running from Douglas Road to Campo Sano near the University of Miami campus to the south. This roadway, 120 feet wide with a lushly planted generous swale, was purposefully planned and integral to George Merrick’s plan for the City of Coral Gables. The experience of this important thoroughfare is as dependent on the street’s wide median as it is on the architecture of the homes that surround it.

The district is made up of 1 and 2 story structures mostly built between the 1920s to 1950s. Of the 195 properties surveyed, 19 are already listed on the Coral Gables register of historic places. Also included within the district are the Alhambra Water Tower, Granada Plaza and Alcazar Plaza.

Period of Significance:

The period of significance for the “Alhambra Circle Historic District” spans from 1921 to 1952. As stated in the report, “The period of significance is based on the range of dates that include George Merrick’s early formulation of real estate design and planning ideas for Coral Gables, the Florida Land Boom, the Great Depression, and the post World-War II housing boom. These events mark significant historic periods. This period of significance reflects the chronological limits of these important cultural themes in the development of Coral Gables.” (p. D-1)

What is unusual about the district is that construction development on Alhambra Circle did not mirror the economic and social trends of the community as a whole. In the larger community, construction activity rose and fell and can be generally grouped into distinctive categories. For the purpose of this report, the period of significance can be broken down into the following eras:

The Florida Land Boom (1920 – 1926)
The Bust / Great Depression (1927 – 1941)
Post WW II (1942 – 1949)
Modern (1950 – 1958)
(Please note that the dates above are approximate.)

Alhambra Circle is unique and significant in that it did not follow the construction trends listed previously. The greatest concentration of residences in the district were built in the “Boom period. Over 74 homes in the district were built during this time. Perhaps because of its prominence, construction activity did not wane significantly on Alhambra Circle during the “Bust” period. During this period of time, 51 homes were built within the district. Only one home was constructed in the Post-WWII era and 29 were constructed in the 1950s. Because the street was not influenced by the larger economic trends, the district is comprised of a large quantity of early residences that display a wide range of architecture. It is because there was consistent construction activity on the street, that one can see the architectural trends of the City change throughout the years.

The GAI report indicates that the period of significance should end in 1958. However, after further review of the district, Staff feels that by including the late-1950s homes, the architectural typologies begin to stray from the early representative typologies on the street. The district has such strong connections to the early history of Coral Gables and to the early architectural typologies. Therefore, Staff suggests limiting the period of significance to 1952. The four houses built in the 1950s that remain as contributing to the district are of a scale or architectural type that seem appropriate to the district as a whole.

Architectural Styles / Typologies represented in the district:

The majority of homes built on Alhambra Circle were constructed in the 1920s; thus, the Mediterranean Revival architectural style is clearly predominant. However, other architectural styles are evident among contributing properties within the district. These include: Mission, Moderne, Colonial Revival, Ranch, and Mediterranean Transitional. These styles can be generally described as follows:

- **Mediterranean Revival** - This was the most popular style for residential architecture in Florida in the 1920s and incorporates stylistic elements from a variety of architectural styles including: Spanish, Moorish, Mission and Italianate, just to name a few. Quoting a description from a 2004 Janus Survey, “The Design for Mediterranean Revival buildings depended on fine construction and extensive wall mass with beautifully proportioned details. Features of the style include: stucco walls, frequently textured and/or tinted; broken planes created through the juxtaposition of one and two story elements; flat and pitched roofs; cast concrete ornament formed into decorative panels; and elaborate window and door surrounds.” Other

common features include: arcades and loggias, balconies and verandas, arched window and door openings, barrel tile roofing, casement or sash windows and the use of wrought iron.

Examples within the district include: 501 Alhambra Circle, 407 Alhambra Circle, 1016 Alhambra Circle and 1110 Alhambra Circle.

- **Ranch** – The ranch style homes were first theoretically based on homes on western ranches. These one-story homes are typically sited on larger lots to accommodate a sprawling ranch-style plan. The ranch style house is generally long and shallow with low gabled roofs and deep eaves. They often have a shallow front porch that frequently stretched the full length of the house. The front elevation usually features a projection or recession to break up the façade and add interest. A garage or carport at one end is a common feature. The desire to integrate the indoors and outdoors can be seen in large expanses of glass such as picture windows or window walls. Other characteristics include: flat-shingle roofing, decorative shutters and porch supports, textured stucco, concrete or brick sills and planters, brick or stone veneer and trim. Examples can be seen at 2615 Alhambra Circle and 445 Alhambra Circle.
- **Colonial Revival** – This style is loosely based on Federal and Georgian architectural styles. Typically rectangular in shape, these buildings would often be finished with wood or brick and have multi-paned sash windows flanked by shutters. Classic details such as pedimented entryways, columns, fanlights and transoms help to compose the elevations. Examples within the district include 1259 Alhambra Circle and 1125 Alhambra Circle.
- **Moderne** – A subset of the Art Deco style, the Art Moderne style is considered a product of the modern movement in architecture. The style, prevalent in the 1930s and 1940s, represented the early 20th century excitement over technology, speed and innovative construction techniques. Distinctive characteristics include: smooth wall surfaces, flat roofs, and a horizontal emphasis. Grooves, stucco bands and balustrades all contribute to the horizontality of the buildings. Porthole windows and other nautical motifs were sometimes used. Rounded corners and “eyebrows” above windows are common as well. This style is represented in 1008 Alhambra Circle, 1212 Alhambra Circle and 1245 Alhambra Circle.
- **Mission** – The mission style can be traced back to California Mission churches from the 1700s. Often confused with Mediterranean Revival, the more restrained Mission Style is distinguishable due to its lack of surface ornamentation. The most distinctive feature of the style include a parapet, sometime shaped, that conceal a flat or low-slope roof. Other distinctive

features include: smooth or textured stucco finish, one or two stories, casement or sash windows, porte cochere, coping along the parapet, cast concrete or plaster detailing and tile visor roofs.

An example of this style can be seen at 1203 Alhambra Circle.

- **Mediterranean Transitional** – This stylistic definition is used to describe those more recent properties that employ Mediterranean Revival elements from their 1920s heyday and which begin to take on the Ranch-style forms that were becoming popular in the late 1930s. Typically, homes are one-story and rectangular in shape. Other defining features include a front projecting bay on one end of the principal elevation, barrel tile roofs, ornamentation concentrated around windows and doors, built-in planters, and stucco beltcourses.

Examples within the district include: 2003 Alhambra Circle, 1414 Alhambra Circle and 800 Alhambra Circle.

Architects represented in the district include, in alphabetical order:

Lewis D. Brumm

(2606 Alhambra Circle, 2203 Alhambra Circle and 644 Alhambra Circle)

Lewis D. Brumm is considered to be one of the six architects (the others being H. George Fink, Walter DeGarmo, Richard Kiehnel, Harold Hastings Mundy and Martin L. Hampton) who comprised George Merrick's original design team in the creation of Coral Gables. His work is listed on the Coral Gables Register of Historic Places both as individual properties and as contributing properties within the County Club of Coral Gables Historic District. Little else is known about Mr. Brumm at this time.

C.B. Deer

(1107 Alhambra Circle)

An early architect in Coral Gables, C. B. Deer designed a number of structures during the City's early development. He is noted as the architect for both single family residences and for multi-family apartment buildings. He is responsible for the design of the structure at 439-449 Anastasia Avenue, a local historic landmark.

Walter de Garmo

(1203 Alhambra Circle)

Walter de Garmo (1876 – 1952) is credited with designing some of Coral Gables' most prominent buildings including the Colonnade Building and the Douglas Entrance (both listed in the Coral Gables Register of Historic Places). Originally

from Pennsylvania, de Garmo received degree in both Engineering and Architecture. After graduating from Cornell University, he worked for the firm of John Russell Pope in New York, where he specialized in Beaux Arts Designs. In 1903, de Garmo is believed to have been the first Miami architect to be registered with the Florida Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. He designed many of Miami's earliest municipal and commercial buildings, including Miami City Hall (1907), the McAllister Hotel (1916), and the Miami Fire Station No. 1 (1907) all now demolished.

L. Murray Dixon

(756 Alhambra Circle, 749 Alhambra Circle, 638 Alhambra Circle and 525 Alhambra Circle)

Lawrence Murray Dixon (1901-1949) formally started his career in New York, where he worked with the renowned firm of Schultze and Weaver. Attending only two years of schooling in Atlanta, Georgia at Georgia Tech, this native of Live Oak, Florida began working in the Miami area shortly after leaving the school without a degree in 1920. Soon thereafter, he started working for the architectural team of Hampton and Reimert on the Country Club of Coral Gables building. But it was in 1923 that Dixon would move to New York, after meeting Leonard Schultze on a train ride from Miami to Atlanta. He worked as an apprentice and studying in the evenings with engineers and architects, until becoming a licensed architect in 1931 in the state of Florida, 1937 in the state of New York and licensed in the District of Columbia in 1939.

Between 1925 and 1927, Lawrence Murray Dixon visited the Roney Plaza and Ingraham building sites in Miami Beach to supervise its construction for Schultze and Weaver. He left the firm in 1929 and made Miami his home with his wife and son. Among his Miami collaborations were George Fink, Phineas Paist, and Harold Stewart, designing such buildings as the United State Post Office in downtown Miami. His was a very prominent figure in South Florida and designed a multitude of buildings in the metropolitan Miami area. Within the Coral Gables area he designed the several private homes and collaborated on many public buildings.

One of the most prolific architects on Miami Beach in the 1930s, his designs include stores, hotels, single-family homes, housing developments, and apartment buildings. His hotel credits on Miami Beach include: the Victor Hotel (1937), the Raleigh Hotel (1940), the Marlin Hotel (1939) and the Tides Hotel (1936). Dixon's work on Miami Beach contributes to the country's first twentieth-century historic district to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Although he is most known for his work on Miami Beach, establishing his name as a progressive architect, the work he designed in Coral Gables preceded much of

those built there. The home Dixon designed at 1140 Coral Way (ca. 1933) is designated as a local historic landmark.

H. George Fink

(2103 Alhambra Circle, 808 Alhambra Circle and 430 Alhambra Circle)

H. George Fink was cousin to City founder George Merrick, and was responsible for much of the early design and planning of Coral Gables. He moved to the area in 1915 from Pennsylvania, and in 1921 began his work with Merrick. A prolific architect, Fink designed numerous Mediterranean Revival residential and commercial structures in Coral Gables in the early 1920's and in 1924 was honored by King Alfonso XIII of Spain for his "interesting, outstanding, and extremely artistic interpretation and reproduction of the Spanish Arts in America." In 1928 Mr. Fink became Designing Architect for the J. C. Penny Co. of New York, remaining with them until 1932, when he accepted the position of Supervising Architect for the Works Progress Administration. He was assigned to the State of Maine and remained with the W. P. A. until 1937.

He returned to Coral Gables in 1937 and resumed his private architectural practice. During World War II, Mr. Fink was Architectural Designer for Robert & Company, of Atlanta, assisting with the Richmond Naval Base, the Glynn County Base in Brunswick Georgia, and the Chamblee Naval Base in Chamblee, Georgia. In 1934, he became Architect in Charge, Architectural Division, Bell Bomber Plant, Marietta Georgia, where the famous B-29s were built and assembled. He returned to Coral Gables and continued to design in the City until the middle of the 1960s. He died in 1975.

Martin L. Hampton

(1024 Alhambra Circle and 1020 Alhambra Circle)

Hampton and Reimert

(1403 Alhambra Circle, 1311 Alhambra Circle , 1258 Alhambra Circle, 717 Alhambra Circle and 522 Alhambra Circle)

Martin Luther Hampton is listed in several early Coral Gables promotional brochures as one of the leading architects of the development, and was one of six architects who comprised George Merrick's original design team (others include H. George Fink, Walter de Garmo, Richard Kiehnel, Harold Hastings Mundy, and L. D. Brumm). According to City directories, he worked with a number of associates in the 1920s and 1930s and designed residences, hotels and commercial buildings. Educated at Columbia University, he came to the Miami area in 1914. His work includes many distinctive homes in Coral Gables, many of which have been locally designated. He also designed the Venetia Apartments at 2800 Toledo Street, another local historic landmark, and the Country Club of Coral Gables building, a contributing structure within the "Country Club of Coral Gables Historic District."

His other work in the South Florida region includes: many of the buildings in Glenn Curtiss' development now known as Miami Springs, the Beverly Terrace Historic District on Biscayne Boulevard (Miami), eight contributing structures within the Collins Waterfront Historic District (Miami Beach), and Nationally Registered buildings: Old Miami Beach City Hall on Washington Avenue (Miami Beach); City National Bank Building-121 SE 1st Avenue, Congress Building-111 NE 2nd Avenue, and Meyer-Keiser Building-139 NE 1st Street (Miami), the Great Southern Hotel (Hollywood), the Mirasol (Davis Island, Tampa) and the Colony Beach Hotel & Cabana Club (Delray Beach). His professional associations include Addison Mizner, renowned architect of Palm Beach, who in 1919 hired Hampton to design interiors and supervise many of the projects for his office.

Martin Hauri

(1245 Alhambra Circle)

Martin Hauri is listed in the 1926 city directory with an office in Miami. He worked for George Merrick, and was one of the most prominent early architects of Coral Gables. According to building permit records, Hauri designed buildings in Coral Gables from 1925 until shortly after the 1926 hurricane. During that short period of time, he designed over twenty structures in Coral Gables, including residences, apartments, and commercial buildings. Two of his structures in Miami Shores are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Howard Besson Knight

(2110 Alhambra Circle and 400 Alhambra Circle)

Howard Besson Knight was born March 29, 1897 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. During his early years he traveled with his family throughout Europe, spending two winters in Rome, where he first became interested in architecture. From 1915 to 1919 he resided in Carmel, Pebble Beach and Monterey, California, attending the University of Santa Clara in 1918. In 1919 he returned to Philadelphia and entered the University of Pennsylvania to study Architecture. He graduated in 1923, having won the Harbeson medal for Historic Ornament. After further travel abroad, he returned to earn his Master's degree in Architecture at the University of Pennsylvania in June 1925. In 1928, Knight married Anne Kirtland of St. Augustine, Florida, and in 1929 came to Miami, where he worked for Robert A. Taylor, Kiehnel and Elliot, and Paist and Steward. Knight entered private practice in 1933.

In 1942, Knight went to Washington, D.C., and worked in the office of the procurement of Army Supplies, until September 1945. Returning to Miami he settled in Coconut Grove, he opened an office in Coral Gables, specializing in residential design in the Miami area and Nassau. Other career highlights include:

serving as an instructor in architectural drawing at the University of Miami, and serving as a member of the Coral Gables Board of Supervising Architects. He held memberships in: the American Institute of Architects (Corporate member) South Florida Chapter, the Florida Association of Architects, the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce, the Historical Association of Southern Florida, Riviera Country Club and the Exchange Club of Coral Gables.

Marion Manley
(900 Alhambra Circle)

After graduating from the University of Illinois in 1917, Marion Manley (1893-1984) relocated to Florida. She designed residences from Vero Beach to Key West, until she became associated with Paist and Steward Architects, an important local firm. While working with Paist and Steward she worked on the University of Miami campus buildings starting in 1944.

Marion Manley is credited as the first licensed female architect in South Florida and the first woman to become a member of the South Florida Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, where she served twice as president. She was also a member of the Miami Planning Board and Coral Gables Board of Supervising Architects.

William H. Merriam
(2523 Alhambra Circle, 1414 Alhambra Circle and 1008 Alhambra Circle)

Merriam designed the Coral Gables Women's Club at 1001 E. Ponce de Leon, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. His designs are also listed as contributing structures within the Alcazar Avenue Historic District.

Rufus Nims
(1101 Alhambra Circle)

Rufus Nims was born in Pensacola, Florida in 1913. He entered North Carolina State to study journalism, but ultimately changed his major to architecture. He graduated from N.C. State in 1934 and worked in twenty-five states and twelve foreign countries throughout his career. In 1943, Nims moved to Miami. He was one of a handful of architects, along with Igor Polevitzky and Alfred Browning Parker, who defined the modern tropical house following World War II, before the widespread use of central air-conditioning. Nims challenged the traditional Spanish and Mediterranean design principles found in South Florida at the time by experimenting with building materials, construction technologies, and house structures. He is best known for his work with the Howard Johnson hotels and restaurants and his residential work in South Florida and the Caribbean. Rufus Nims died at age 92 on September 17, 2005 at his home in Florida.

Phineas Paist (760 Alhambra Circle)
Paist and Steward (1021 Alhambra Circle)

Phineas E. Paist (1875 – 1937) began his own architectural practice in Philadelphia in 1915. In 1916, he became an assistant to Paul Chalfin, a designer from New York chosen to be artistic supervisor for the James Deering Estate, Vizcaya. He soon became involved with Walter D. Garmo and Denman Fink leading to his association with George Merrick and employment as Coral Gables City Architect. He entered into a partnership with Harold D. Steward Sr. in 1924 while continuing his collaboration with George Merrick and Denman Fink. Paist and Steward designed many buildings in Coral Gables including City Hall, buildings at the University of Miami, and the Old Police and Fire Station Building. They also designed residences throughout Coral Gables. Together Paist and Steward laid the foundation for what the City of Coral Gables is today.

Steward continued the partnership after Paist's death in 1937. In 1940 he joined architects John and Coulton Skinner to form another partnership, Steward and Skinner Associates, and together they designed many notable buildings including the Miami Seaquarium and Mercy Hospital. Steward served as Supervising Architect of the South Florida Division of the Federal Housing Administration, Consulting Architect to the U.S. Housing Authority, and Chief Architect for the Miami Federal Housing Administration.

John L. and Coulton Skinner
(2027 Alhambra Circle, 1110 Alhambra Circle, 1016 Alhambra Circle and 832 Alhambra Circle)

John L. and Coulton Skinner and John Pierson
(2111 Alhambra Circle and 2107 Alhambra Circle)

John Llewellyn Skinner (1893-1967) and William Coulton Skinner (1891-1963) arrived in South Florida from Ohio in 1925. In 1925, they opened an office in Miami together. The impact of their work in the City of Coral Gables spanned over thirty years and can be seen in five locally designated historic districts as well as several individually designated buildings. The districts they were involved with are the Italian Village, the Florida Pioneer Village, the Country Club of Coral Gables Historic District, the French Normandy Village, and the John and Coulton Skinner Thematic District. In 1927, John Skinner was selected to lead the newly emerging University of Miami School of Architecture. Continuing to work until 1953, the brothers designed as a team over one hundred structures within the Coral Gables' boundaries.

John E. Pierson began his career with the firm of John Skinner and co-designed the Florida Pioneer Village on Santa Maria Street with the brothers John and Coulton Skinner. Designing throughout south Florida the brothers formed several

professional partnerships with other talented architects. Pierson left the firm in 1926 to practice independently. These pioneering architects helped to develop the City of Coral Gables during its early boom years.

William Shanklin

(2200 Alhambra Circle, 1125 Alhambra Circle, and 633 Alhambra Circle)

William Shanklin designed many residences in Coral Gables throughout the 1930s and 1940s, after Coral Gables' initial development period. He is known locally for his design of 8021 Old Cutler Road, a simple "farm house" type of residence built of limestone. He also designed other single family residences throughout the City including some that are designated as contributing properties in the Country Club of Coral Gables Historic District.

Robert Fitch Smith

(1117 Alhambra Circle)

Robert Fitch Smith (1894-1964) was born in Fremont, Ohio and came to Miami in 1931. He was a very prominent figure in South Florida and designed over 600 buildings in the Metropolitan Miami area. Within the Coral Gables area he designed the University Baptist Church (624 Anastasia Avenue which has since been remodeled), the Audio-Visual Education Building at the University of Miami, the Montgomery Library and Museum at Fairchild Tropical Gardens. Two of his most recognizable residences within the Coral Gables boundaries are the "Java Head" at 200 Edgewater Drive and the Hayes Thomas house, 5530 Sunset Drive, now home of the Tropical Audubon Society.

Mr. Smith was also a City Planner and a charter member of the Miami City Planning Board. Additionally he was the Chairman of the Regional Planning Board of Dade County; Director of the Coordinating and Planning Committee of Dade County, and Vice-Chairman of the Urban Planning Committee of the American Institute of Architects for the southern area.

Frank Wyatt Woods

(2024 Alhambra Circle, 1126 Alhambra Circle and 533 Alhambra Circle)

Frank Wyatt Woods and John Tracey

(1316 Alhambra Circle, 1225 Alhambra Circle, 414 Alhambra Circle and 410 Alhambra Circle)

Frank Wyatt Woods and John Tracey are listed as the architects for the property at 901 Castile Avenue. A search of public records and files indicate that the pair designed over 33 homes in Coral Gables between 1925 and 1927. The architects did work together and individually. In Miami Beach, the Dorchester Hotel, an Art Deco hotel was designed by Frank Wyatt Woods. The National Register of Historic

Places Designation Report for the Normandy Isles Historic District groups Frank Wyatt Woods with several other “young architects” who dominated new construction in the post-war period. Woods also has several contributing structures in the Wayland Historic District in Providence, Rhode Island listed on National Register of Historic Places.

Anthony Zink (2501 Alhambra Circle, 2209 Alhambra Circle, 1409 Alhambra Circle, 700 Alhambra Circle, and 617 Alhambra Circle)

An early architect in Coral Gables, little is known about Anthony Zink. He attended Columbia University, graduating about 1909. He is responsible for two contributing Mediterranean Revival structures within the “Country Club of Coral Gables” Historic District. He is most known for his design for the Hotel St. Michel, a local historic landmark.

Notable Residents on Alhambra Circle:

Research has revealed that several notable residents have resided within the district over the years. Some of the more prominent residents include:

Dr. Desiderio Arnaz, II (656 Alhambra Circle)

Dr. Arnaz was born in Cuba and later served as the youngest Mayor Santiago de Cuba. He was married to Delores de Acha, the daughter of one the founders of the Barcardi Rum company. When the reign of corrupt President Geraldo Machado came to an end in 1933, Dr. Arnaz was jailed for his connection to the Machado regime. In 1934, the family fled to Miami. Dr. Arnaz’s son, Desi, went on to achieve fame as a bandleader, popularizing conga music throughout the United States. Desi and wife Lucille Ball will always be remembered and associated with their legendary and ground-breaking television program “I Love Lucy” airing from 1951 to 1957. Dr. Arnaz is buried at Woodlawn Cemetery on SW 8th Street.

Roxcy O’Neal Bolton (1302 Alhambra Circle)

Roxcy Bolton, a noted civic activist and feminist, resided at 1302 Alhambra Circle. A plaque was erected in her honor at the site that describes her many accomplishments. It reads, in part: “Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, this house became a meeting place for those who wanted to help campaign for the equal rights for women. Resident and pioneer feminist Roxcy O’Neal Bolton opened her home as headquarters to organize numerous rallies and marches and founded the Miami Dade Chapter of the National Organization for Women. In an effort to bring public attention to the special needs of women, organizational meetings were held in this house to establish Women in Distress, the first women’s rescue shelter in Florida, and the Rape Treatment Center at the Dade County Citizen’s Crime Watch, one of the first of its kind in the county. The perseverance of all those who volunteered

their time here created a forceful voice for justice for those who would otherwise not be heard.”

Robert M. Davidson (1415 Alhambra Circle)

Mr. Davidson is listed in early telephone directories as Coral Gables City Manager in 1927.

Carl A. Entrekin (808 Alhambra Circle)

The 1928 telephone book lists Mr. Entrekin as President of Entrekin Transfer and Storage Company. His wife Margaret C. is listed as Secretary and Treasurer of the Company.

Denman Fink (2203 Alhambra Circle)

The 1927 telephone book indicates that Denman Fink lived at 2203 Alhambra Circle with his wife Zillah. Denman Fink, Artistic Director for the City of Coral Gables, was George Merrick’s uncle and an accomplished painter and illustrator.

Denman Fink studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts where he was trained in the traditional academic methods of painting and drawing. Fink had further studies in the traditional modes at the Boston Museum School of Art and The Pittsburgh School of Design. His training at the more radical Art Students League exposed him to the artists and art styles that would define the *avant garde* of *American Modernism*.

Denman Fink was the brother of George Merrick’s mother Althea. He played a significant role in the creation of the *Coral Gables Style*. His wide knowledge of art styles and his own emphasis on classical styles, particularly the Spanish and Italian interpretations of those styles, is felt through his design of the plazas and entrances of Coral Gables as well as in his art direction on the City Hall and Venetian Pool. Fink was Chairman of the Art Department at University of Miami from 1927 to 1952, influencing generations of young artists, and held the post of Art Director of the City of Coral Gables for many of those same years.

H. H. Bailey (820 Alhambra Circle)

One of the earliest homeowners of 820 Alhambra Circle was Mr. Harold H. Bailey, a nationally known ornithologist. Harold H. Bailey (1878 – 1962) spent many of his winters in Florida collecting to what amounted to as one of the largest private collections of bird skins, eggs, and natural history information in the United States.

Harold H. Bailey spent most of his boyhood years in Newport, Virginia, where as the son of one of the founders of the American Ornithologists Union, he gained a love for natural history. Mr. Bailey wrote several articles regarding ornithological

topics and wrote two books entitled *The Birds of Virginia*, published in 1913, and *The Birds of Florida*, published in 1925.

In 1942, he purchased 1, 516 acres of land known as Rockbridge Alum Springs (located in the State of Virginia). This once famous spa had been allowed to become dilapidated. Together with his wife, Laura Beatty Law, they restored the salvageable buildings creating the "Rockbridge Alum Springs Biological Laboratory." Mr. Bailey restored fourteen (14) of the thirty-three (33) buildings that originally stood on the property and constructed a new two-story laboratory. After his death, the property was deeded to Virginia Tech in order to create an endowment for the University. Material from Miami, Florida and Goshen, Virginia were donated to become part of the Bailey Collection of Natural History.

U.S. District Judge William M. Hoeveler

William M. Hoeveler attended Bucknell University and obtained a law degree from Harvard University. He is also a former Marine officer. In 1977, he was appointed to the Federal bench in Miami by then-President Jimmy Carter. During his lengthy tenure on the bench, Judge Hoeveler has been involved in a number of high-profile cases such as the drug trial of Manuel Noriega, and the Elian Gonzalez case. In 2002 the University of Miami created the William M. Hoeveler Ethics and Public Service Award. The judge was the inaugural recipient of the award. In 2006, Judge Hoeveler received the Judicial Recognition Award from the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers. Only 13 judges have received this award in the Association's 48-year history.

Francis E. Kane (646 Alhambra Circle)

The 1929 telephone book indicates that Mr. Kane was a Coral Gables City Commissioner.

Senator Claude Pepper (501 Alhambra Circle)

Claude Denson Pepper was born on a farm near Dudleyville, Chambers County, Alabama on September 8, 1900. He taught school and worked in a steel mill in Ensley, Alabama before attending college at the University of Alabama. He graduated from the University of Alabama in 1921 and went on to receive a law degree from Harvard University in 1924. He was admitted to the bar in 1925 and commenced practice in Perry, Florida. He was a member of the State House of Representatives in 1929 and 1930. Pepper was elected on November 3, 1936, as a Democrat, to the United States Senate and served from November 4, 1936 to January 3, 1951. Pepper was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom on May 26, 1989 and died in Washington, D.C., on May 30, 1989. His body lay in state in the Rotunda of the U.S. Capitol, June 1-2, 1989 and he was buried in Oakland Cemetery, Tallahassee, Florida.

W. L. Philbrick (1258 Alhambra Circle)

Mr. Philbrick was a funeral home owner and Coral Gables City Commissioner. In 1966, Philbrick purchased the Coral Gables Merrick House, which by that time had become known as Merrick Manor, and created the Merrick Manor Foundation to maintain the building as a historic site. At Miami-Dade College, the School of Mortuary Science is named for him.

Clarence Reemlin (1341 Alhambra Circle)

The 1928 telephone book indicates that Mr. Reemlin was Vice President, Bank of Coral Gables.

Dennis V. Renuart & Lucian Renuart (446 Alhambra Circle)

In the 1928 telephone book, Dennis is listed as Secretary / Treasurer of Coral Gables Lumber and Supply Company and Lucian is listed as Branch Manager of CG L&S Company.

Other Historic Resources / Features included within the District:

The Alhambra Circle Historic District is interspersed with a number of other Historic Resources that give further importance to this significant street.

Bridle Path

The Alhambra Circle and Country Club Prado medians – or landscaped parkways – and right of ways qualify as examples of city planning ideals and landscape design. At the inception of the Coral Gables' town plan (1921) these parkways designed by Frank F. Button, landscape architect, served as part of Merrick's vision to fulfill his goal of providing the finest of recreational opportunities for the residents. The Miami Daily News ran a promotional ad on March 14, 1924, highlighting bridle paths. These paths started at Le Jeune Road and Alhambra Circle and included Country Club Prado.

The desirability of beautiful vistas along the paths is evidenced by the construction of the plaza/fountain features designed by artistic advisor Denman Fink. In particular are the plazas located at Alhambra Circle and Granada Boulevard, a plaza at the intersection of Le Jeune Road and Alhambra Circle (demolished) and the Country Club Prado entrance. Signage, designed by Denman Fink and Phineas Paist, was placed at street intersections for the protection of horsemen. Among the regular riders noted were Mrs. Annabelle Siebold, Mrs. George E. Merrick, Mr. Charles Merrick and Miss Marjory McFarlane.

In 1924, Merrick opened a stable and show ring on Salzedo Street between Giralda Avenue and Aragon Avenue. Due to the popularity of riding horseback along the scenic medians of Alhambra Circle, Country Club Prado and beyond, Merrick asked John A. Gazlay, owner of Manor Riding Academy, to move his horses to the

Gables' stable to feature horse shows and provide horses for riding. There was such a strong interest in equestrian events that the Coral Gables Country Club featured a horse back riding program.

The "daily ride on horseback" became so popular that the Coral Gables Corporation had to provide additional routes. A map of the "Proposed Coral Gables System of Bridle Paths" was published in The Herald (1927) and included the Alhambra Loop, the Biltmore Loop, the University Loop and the Coco Plum Loop.

Horseback riding and related events continued in popularity. In the mid-1940s, the Miami Riviera ran a double page spread of photographs to include a photo of people "Riding on the Bridle Paths". Also featured was the "New Riviera Country Club" built for those moving to the area after World War II. The Coral Gables Riding Academy moved south in 1952 to make room for the Bus Terminal that was to be built on the site. See pages 27-29 of this addendum for selected newspaper clippings of the bridle paths.

Alhambra Water Tower (2000 Alhambra Circle)

The Alhambra Water Tower was built in 1924 as one of two water towers to serve the newly forming City of Coral Gables. (The second water tower, on Indian Mound Trail, was destroyed in the 1926 hurricane.) It stands today as a lasting testament to City founder George Merrick's vision. The Miami Metropolis newspaper described it as "a splendid example of the architectural beauty that typifies Miami's Master Suburb." The water tower was playfully designed to resemble a Moorish light house; it even had a light on top to complete the illusion. Concealed behind a concrete and wood frame was the more utilitarian 25,000 gallons water tank. The tower was designed by H. George Fink, George Merrick's cousin and one of the most prolific architects during Coral Gables' early history.

Plazas / Fountain features

Included within the district are plazas at the intersection of Alhambra Circle and Granada Boulevard and the intersection of Alhambra Circle and Alcazar Avenue. The plazas and entrances were integral features of George Merrick's vision for Coral Gables. Artistic Director Denman Fink helped to define these spaces which added to the picturesque character of the City. The plazas, created at major street intersections, are intended to enliven the streetscape and add interest to the City's thoroughfares.

Note that the Country Club of Coral Gables sits at the corner of Granada Boulevard and Alhambra Circle, but is not included in the district. It is included in the "Country Club of Coral Gables Historic District."

Staff Conclusion:

As stated earlier, Staff finds that it is appropriate to terminate the period of significance at 1952. The later properties begin to deviate from the architectural styles and largely one-and-a-half to two-story massing found throughout the district. Because of this, the following properties should be listed as non-contributing structures within the district:

445 Alhambra Circle (1953)
510 Alhambra Circle (1957)
547 Alhambra Circle (1955)
611 Alhambra Circle (1956)
1030 Alhambra Circle (1955)
1100 Alhambra Circle (1956)
1244 Alhambra Circle (1957)
2010 Alhambra Circle (1955)
2029 Alhambra Circle (1955)
2120 Alhambra Circle (1954)
2300 Alhambra Circle (1953)
2304 Alhambra Circle (1957)
2700 Alhambra Circle (1957)

Staff has had further opportunity to review all of the properties within the district. Staff would also ask that 511 Alhambra Circle,, 620 Alhambra Circle, 1040 Alhambra Circle, 1341 Alhambra Circle, 1501 South Greenway Drive, 2110 Alhambra Circle, 2222 Alhambra Circle, and 2601 Alhambra Circle be made non-contributing due to substantial changes to its original character.

In addition, Staff asked the consultants to include 1101 Alhambra Circle as a contributing structure. Although built in 1962, Staff feels very strongly that the property's architect makes it exceptionally important. While not within the period of significance, the residence is one of the only examples of Rufus Nims' work in the City of Coral Gables.

The remainder of the contributing properties have retained their architectural character and integrity, regardless of their architectural style. Therefore, if a property retains the characteristics of its architectural style, be it Mediterranean Revival or Ranch, staff requests that the property remain "contributing." If a property has lost its architectural integrity or has not yet reached the 50-year benchmark for inclusion into the district, that property remains "non-contributing."

CONTRIBUTING PROPERTIES (128)

YEAR BUILT	ADDRESS
1924	Alhambra Plaza (landscaped median)
1938	400 Alhambra Circle

LHD 2007-05
January 17, 2008
Alhambra Circle Historic District
Addendum page 17

YEAR BUILT	ADDRESS
1926	407 Alhambra Circle
1926	410 Alhambra Circle
1925	414 Alhambra Circle
1928	415 Alhambra Circle
1928	419 Alhambra Circle
1940	426 Alhambra Circle
1925	427 Alhambra Circle
1925	430 Alhambra Circle
1925	434 Alhambra Circle
1925	446 Alhambra Circle
1927	500 Alhambra Circle
1927	501 Alhambra Circle
1922	519 Alhambra Circle
1928	520 Alhambra Circle
1923	522 Alhambra Circle
1936	525 Alhambra Circle
1937	533 Alhambra Circle
1927	536 Alhambra Circle
1929	600 Alhambra Circle
1927	601 Alhambra Circle
1930	617 Alhambra Circle
1925	621 Alhambra Circle
1925	625 Alhambra Circle
1938	633 Alhambra Circle
1925	634 Alhambra Circle
1936	638 Alhambra Circle
1938	639 Alhambra Circle
1925	644 Alhambra Circle
1925	645 Alhambra Circle
1952	656 Alhambra Circle
1925	Alcazar Plaza @ Alhambra Circle
1929	700 Alhambra Circle
1928	716 Alhambra Circle
1926	717 Alhambra Circle
1926	721 Alhambra Circle
1925	724 Alhambra Circle
1923	728 Alhambra Circle
1925	733 Alhambra Circle
1924	743 Alhambra Circle
1925	748 Alhambra Circle
1939	749 Alhambra Circle
1933	756 Alhambra Circle
1929	760 Alhambra Circle
1928	768 Alhambra Circle
1924	800 Alhambra Circle

LHD 2007-05
January 17, 2008
Alhambra Circle Historic District
Addendum page 18

YEAR BUILT	ADDRESS
1929	803 Alhambra Circle
1926	804 Alhambra Circle
1926	808 Alhambra Circle
1925	812 Alhambra Circle
1920s	816 Alhambra Circle
1925	817 Alhambra Circle
1925	820 Alhambra Circle
1928	832 Alhambra Circle
1925	836 Alhambra Circle
1937	900 Alhambra Circle
1929	907 Alhambra Circle
1924	Granada Plaza
1923	1818 Granada Blvd.
1937	1008 Alhambra Circle
1928	1016 Alhambra Circle
1926	1020 Alhambra Circle
1929	1021 Alhambra Circle
1923	1024 Alhambra Circle
1929	1025 Alhambra Circle
1924	1031 Alhambra Circle
1938	1043 Alhambra Circle
1962	1101 Alhambra Circle
1927	1106 Alhambra Circle
1925	1107 Alhambra Circle
1927	1110 Alhambra Circle
1925	1111 Alhambra Circle
1934	1117 Alhambra Circle
1940	1125 Alhambra Circle
1925	1126 Alhambra Circle
1925	1136 Alhambra Circle
1922	1137 Alhambra Circle
1929	1148 Alhambra Circle
1926	1200 Alhambra Circle
1924	1203 Alhambra Circle
1940	1212 Alhambra Circle
1925	1215 Alhambra Circle
1925	1225 Alhambra Circle
1927	1228 Alhambra Circle
1925	1229 Alhambra Circle
1924	1235 Alhambra Circle
1948	1245 Alhambra Circle
1923	1253 Alhambra Circle
1923	1258 Alhambra Circle
1951	1259 Alhambra Circle
1931	1302 Alhambra Circle

YEAR BUILT	ADDRESS
1925	1305 Alhambra Circle
1925	1311 Alhambra Circle
1928	1316 Alhambra Circle
1937	1317 Alhambra Circle
1923	1403 Alhambra Circle
1930	1409 Alhambra Circle
1938	1414 Alhambra Circle
1925	1415 Alhambra Circle
1924	2000 Alhambra Circle
1936	2003 Alhambra Circle
1925	2024 Alhambra Circle
1927	2027 Alhambra Circle
1925	2028 Alhambra Circle
1937	2039 Alhambra Circle
1923	1504 South Greenway Drive
1926	2103 Alhambra Circle
1926	2107 Alhambra Circle
1925	2111 Alhambra Circle
1940	2200 Alhambra Circle
1923	2203 Alhambra Circle
1929	2209 Alhambra Circle
1940	2401 Alhambra Circle
1951	2423 Alhambra Circle
1925	2501 Alhambra Circle
1926	2504 Alhambra Circle
1936	2516 Alhambra Circle
1936	2523 Alhambra Circle
1925	2606 Alhambra Circle
1923	2610 Alhambra Circle
1951	2615 Alhambra Circle
1926	2618 Alhambra Circle
1930	2623 Alhambra Circle
1924	2703 Alhambra Circle
1926	2714 Alhambra Circle
1921	2715 Alhambra Circle
1938	2718 Alhambra Circle

NON-CONTRIBUTING PROPERTIES (67)

YEAR BUILT	ADDRESS
1975	411 Alhambra Circle
1972	423 Alhambra Circle
1971	431 Alhambra Circle
1988	438 Alhambra Circle
1961	439 Alhambra Circle

LHD 2007-05
January 17, 2008
Alhambra Circle Historic District
Addendum page 20

YEAR BUILT	ADDRESS
1964	442 Alhambra Circle
1953	445 Alhambra Circle
1977	504 Alhambra Circle
1957	510 Alhambra Circle
1955, altered	511 Alhambra Circle
1983	541 Alhambra Circle
1958	546 Alhambra Circle
1955	547 Alhambra Circle
1956	611 Alhambra Circle
1955, altered	620 Alhambra Circle
1962	732 Alhambra Circle
1962	736 Alhambra Circle
1925, altered	737 Alhambra Circle
1960	740 Alhambra Circle
1979	811 Alhambra Circle
1988	904 Alhambra Circle
1981	917 Alhambra Circle
1960	925 Alhambra Circle
1955	1030 Alhambra Circle
1955, altered	1040 Alhambra Circle
1956	1100 Alhambra Circle
1973	1118 Alhambra Circle
1990	1130 Alhambra Circle
1967	1143 Alhambra Circle
1972	1207 Alhambra Circle
1971	1221 Alhambra Circle
2000	1232 Alhambra Circle
2000	1234 Alhambra Circle
1957	1244 Alhambra Circle
1957	1248 Alhambra Circle
1977	1251 Alhambra Circle
1973	1252 Alhambra Circle
1972	1320 Alhambra Circle
1987	1325 Alhambra Circle
1925, altered	1329 Alhambra Circle
2000	1334 Alhambra Circle
1925	1341 Alhambra Circle
1998	1350 Alhambra Circle
1988	1402 Alhambra Circle
1984	1410 Alhambra Circle
1956	1420 Alhambra Circle
2006	1423 Alhambra Circle
1955	2010 Alhambra Circle
1952	2017 Alhambra Circle
1969	2020 Alhambra Circle

YEAR BUILT	ADDRESS
1955	2029 Alhambra Circle
1955, altered	1501 South Greenway Drive
1955, altered	2110 Alhambra Circle
1954	2120 Alhambra Circle
1955, altered	2210 Alhambra Circle
1955, altered	2222 Alhambra Circle
1953	2300 Alhambra Circle
1959	2301 Alhambra Circle
1957	2304 Alhambra Circle
1967	2325 Alhambra Circle
1957	2500 Alhambra Circle
1968	2505 Alhambra Circle
2007	2512 Alhambra Circle
2003	2515 Alhambra Circle
1953, altered	2601 Alhambra Circle
1983	2620 Alhambra Circle
1957	2700 Alhambra Circle

Please note, staff does advocate for design review of the non-contributing properties within the district.

Staff Recommendation:

Alhambra Circle is unique in the City of Coral Gables. It is one of most distinctive roadways in the City, designed with a wide, landscaped median. The homes within the District represent some of the finest early architecture within the City. The creation of the Alhambra Circle local historic district ensures that the character and charm of this beautiful and significant street will be preserved and protected for future generations.

The criteria for significance given in the report are listed on page D 35-36 of the GAI report, but staff does not believe that the criteria were applied correctly. Staff would like to elaborate on the criteria necessary for historic designation in the Coral Gables Register and offer further proof that the district meets more of the criteria than just those offered in the body of the report.

CRITERIA FOR SIGNIFICANCE

a. Historical, cultural significance:

- 1. Is associated in a significant way with the life or activities of a major historic person important in the past*

The example given in the report is applied incorrectly. Alhambra Circle, because of its prominence as a major boulevard within the city, has been home to a number of notable figures over the years. A small sampling of the individuals are described earlier in this addendum.

The district is also closely associated with City of Coral Gables founder George Merrick as the property at 519 Alhambra Circle was one of the first residences constructed in the City. The residence, permitted for George Merrick was built for Ms. Sallie Allenforth, was advertised with a rendering in the April 2, 1922 edition of the Herald. The advertisement states “*This year we will complete work on all of the fine Coral Rock Spanish Bungalows now under construction and add 50 new houses to the building program. Just a few of the houses now under construction are shown on this page.*” (See page 26 of this addendum. Note that the captions for the Helffin residence and Allenforth residence are switched in the newspaper advertisement.) The residence at 519 Alhambra Circle is one of a handful of the earliest homes that were constructed in the City. Alhambra Circle was just one of a few streets with one of these earliest homes.

4. Exemplifies the historical, cultural, political, economic, or social trends of the community

Alhambra Circle has always held a prominent position in the City of Coral Gables. One of the most beautiful and significant thoroughfares within the City, the residences on the Alhambra Circle reflect the esteem in which the street is held. That construction activity did not come to a halt in the “Bust” period is a telling indication that Alhambra Circle has always been a desirable place for residents to live.

5. Is associated in a significant way with a past or continuing institution, which has contributed, substantially to the life of the City.

Recreational pursuits were emphasized and integrated into George Merrick’s plan for the City. As stated in Coral Gables Miami Riviera, An Architectural Guide “Vast amounts of land were dedicated in the original plan for recreational activities and in the majority of cases they were carried out. There were small parks, bridle paths, tennis courts, athletic fields, and the famous Venetian pool, carved out of a rock quarry used to furnish stone for the early constructions.” The bridle paths, including Alhambra Circle, were a significant contribution to the early life of the City.

b. Architectural significance:

- 1. Portrays the environment in an era of history characterized by one (1) or more distinctive architectural styles*
- 2. Embodies those distinguishing characteristics of an architectural style, or period, or method of construction*
- 3. Is an outstanding work of a prominent designer or builder*

4. *Contains elements of design, detail, materials or craftsmanship of outstanding quality or which represent a significant innovation or adaptation to the South Florida environment.*

The Alhambra Circle Historic District is characterized by one or more distinctive architectural styles that include: Mediterranean Revival, Moderne, Mediterranean Transitional, and others described earlier in this addendum. The district includes homes of outstanding quality by many prominent designers, many of whom are described in this addendum. The contributing resources within the district exhibit elements of design, detail, materials or craftsmanship of outstanding quality. The district, although comprised of a number of architectural styles, harmonize into one of the most beautiful and unique streets in Coral Gables.

c. *Aesthetic significance:*

1. *By being a part or related to a subdivision, park, environmental feature, or other distinctive area, should be developed or preserved according to a plan based on a historical, cultural, or architectural motif*
2. *Because of its prominence of spatial location, contrasts of siting, age, or scale, is an easily identifiable visual feature of a neighborhood, village, or the city and contributes to the distinctive quality or identity of such neighborhood, village, or the city. In case of a park or landscape feature, is integral to the plan of such neighborhood or the city.*

The aesthetic significance of the Alhambra Circle Historic District, along with the architecture, is one of the most the important criterion to consider. The district has a unique identity within in the City because of its wide, landscaped median. This landscape feature, touted repeatedly in early advertising and marketing for the City, helps to define the district. In turn, the landscaped medians give value and identity to the homes that surround it.

As stated in the 2004 Historical Resources Survey of Coral Gables, “The qualities that contribute to Coral Gables’ special place in Florida’s history go well beyond the buildings that were constructed. Founder George E. Merrick envisioned his new suburb as a vast garden, where the climate, the landscape and its artistic embellishments would all contribute to the experience. The roadways themselves were intentionally broad, some with planted medians, and all with generous swales.”

Based on its architectural, historical and cultural significance, the Historical Resources Department Staff finds that the Alhambra Circle Historic District is eligible for listing in the Coral Gables Register of Historic Places.

Therefore Staff recommends the following:

LHD 2007-05
January 17, 2008
Alhambra Circle Historic District
Addendum page 24

A motion to **APPROVE** the designation of Alhambra Circle Local Historic District based on its architectural, historical, and cultural significance with the changes noted in this addendum to the report.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara N. Kautz
Historic Preservation Officer

LHD 2007-05
January 17, 2008
Alhambra Circle Historic District
Addendum page 25

Additional Bibliographic Resources

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Extensive Bibliographic references for individuals cited in addendum are on file at the Historical Resources Department and will be made a part of the Designation File.

The First Coral Gables Season Ends With Total Sales of Over \$1,000,000



RESIDENCE OF W. C. BLISS OF MIAMI AT CORAL GABLES TO BE COMPLETED AND OCCUPIED THIS MONTH



RESIDENCE OF MR. GILBERT BISHOP AT CORAL GABLES



RESIDENCE OF MRS. JESSIE L. BRIGGS AT CORAL GABLES



RESIDENCE OF MR. JOHN BOND AT CORAL GABLES

THE first season which Coral Gables has enjoyed since the opening of Miami's Master Suburb ended yesterday morning with the last of the big auction events.

The success of this great season may be measured by some in terms of actual sales, which to date have reached \$1,034,265—a new record for four months of real estate selling.

But large sales are after all only one form of success. We take far greater pride in the tremendous work actually accomplished in development work since last May, and in the magnificent service which this work renders to Miami and its people.

The first year ended yesterday—the second begins tomorrow.

Last year we built 31 miles of paved highways; this year we will extend highways in new section of Coral Gables which will add at least twenty miles to this total of paved avenues and boulevards.

Last year we built 21 miles of concrete sidewalks; this year we will extend this work by the addition of 30 miles of walks at Coral Gables.

Last year we laid six miles of water main in principal street and boulevards; this year we will further this important work by the addition of at least nine miles of water main, bringing the peerless Coral Gables water to every home in the developed sections.

This year we will build great entrance-ways at Tamiami Trail and Granada Boulevard, and at Coral Way and Le Jeune Road; and also complete work already begun on ten of the beautiful plazas at important intersecting points.

This year we will complete the Coral Gables Golf Course and open up forty acres of new land to make it one of the finest courses in the South.

This year we will complete work on all of the fine Coral Rock Spanish Bungalows now under construction, and add 50 new houses to the building program. Just a few of the houses now under construction are shown on this page.

The first stage of Coral Gables' wonderful development work has been completed—the second is just beginning. There will be no letup or abatement of effort this summer. Instead, the work will be rushed from now on to prepare for a bigger and greater season next year.

Also, our publicity and sales work will not cease; it will be merely shifted as far as the Coral Gables' organization is concerned to the North. This summer Coral Gables offices will be opened up in New York, Chicago and many other leading cities, where the incomparable attractions of Miami and of Miami's Master Suburb will be told to thousands of people who may never have seen either, but who are anxious to know and open to conviction.

Miamians will always have the opportunity to go to Coral Gables at any time they desire. Lots will be offered for private sale there all summer. Our free cars will take you to Coral Gables tomorrow—or any day you will go—in the morning or afternoon.



PRESENT RESIDENCE OF GEO. E. MERRICK AT CORAL GABLES. MR. MERRICK WILL BUILD A NEW AND LARGER HOME THIS SUMMER ON CORAL WAY



RESIDENCE OF MRS. J. KENDRICK GILMORE AT CORAL GABLES



RESIDENCE OF MRS. SALLIE ALLENFORT AT CORAL GABLES



RESIDENCE OF MR. JOHN HEFFLIN AT CORAL GABLES

DAMMERS & GILLETTE and HARRY A. BURNES
Selling Agents for GEO. E. MERRICK Properties

158 E. Flagler Street

PHONE 9612

MERRICK BUILDING

LHD 2007-05
January 17, 2008
Alhambra Circle Historic District
Addendum page 27

The Herald, April 2, 1922

Private at the hotel room, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

Meet first and third Wednesday, R. H. Collins, adjutant. Phone 9105. Open house all the time. Visiting Legionnaires cordially invited.

BRIDLE PATHS ATTRACT MANY

Coral Gables abounds in recreational facilities, made possible by twelve months of pleasant weather every year. Horsemanship and the daily ride on horse back which not so long ago was the privilege of the few has become the habit of many. To meet a growing demand for safe scenic rides six miles of bridle paths have been completed during the last week by the Coral Gables Corporation. Additional routes are being extended daily on the outskirts of the Biltmore golf course, over the Venetian bridges to connect with the paths at Cocoplum Plaza. Meeting not only the requirements of the rider for a soft, solid surface, but also the desirability of beautiful vistas, the paths lead through many of the most beautiful spots of Coral Gables. The paths are ten feet wide and follow the boulevards for the most part. Trees and shrubs on the boulevards have been trimmed to form an archway for riders and at street intersections the riders will be protected by signs warning motorists of the bridle paths. The bridle paths start from Le Jeune Road and Alhambra Circle, where in the next few days an archway of wood will mark the start. The path follows Alhambra Circle to South Greenway Drive and turns right to Country Club Prado, thence right on the Prado to Tamiami Trail and into the open country. Another path leads back on Country Club Prado to Coral Way to Avenue Anastasia and down that Avenue to Granada Boulevard. The trail then leads around the landscaped edges of the Granada golf course to Segovia, leading around through a shaded ride through the old section of Coral Gables and its citrus groves to Avenue Aragon, and back to the start. Fifty signs have been designed by Denman Fink and Phineas Paist to be placed at street intersections to protect the horsemen. In every possible instance street intersections were avoided.

as the Orientals explain, these friendly monsters may drink up the rain-water which might otherwise drown those within the house.

The houses, built on Riviera Drive near University Concourse, form one of the most exotic of the architectural groups scattered here and there throughout the Riviera. They combine the flavor of Oriental hospitality and strangeness with true tropical comfort. The openness of the first floor, ideal for entertainment purposes. The private entrance courts and the individual walled gardens; the architectural skill which gave all main rooms southern or eastern exposure; all add to the comfort and modern convenience of this faithful adaptation of Chinese beauty to American standards.

The Chinese group, built by the American Building Corporation according to Coral Gables standards of architecture and beautification, were designed by the famous Henry Killiam Murphy of New York City. Mr. Murphy is America's greatest authority on Chinese architecture. A Yale graduate, he was sent to the Orient in 1914 to erect the college buildings of Yale-in-China, and also for St. Paul's, in Tokio. He drew the plans for Ginling College, and his outstanding achievement was the University of Peking, whose forty buildings are a realization of China's artistic and architectural potentialities.

BANKERS WILL AID MANUFACTURING

The development of agriculture and industry go hand in hand and depend upon the banking structure of the community and the entire country for the extent of their growth, according to the statement of Morgan S. McCormick, secretary of the City Trust Company, in an address before the Greater Miami Manufacturers Association Tuesday evening. Mr. McCormick traced the organization of the Federal Reserve system and the Federal Land Banks with their relation to industry and agriculture. He stated that the City National Bank in Miami was awake to the necessity for commercial banking service here, and that his institution was in a position to assist very materially in the future

need: "Our happiness at stake! Come, turn the tables; Forget the wintry memories of old, The moon is silver over Coral Gables; A fairy dream of gems, with joys untold."

Dr. Owen on Program
Dr. William Russell Owen, pastor of the Coral Gables Baptist church will be one of the foremost speakers at the Southern Baptist Winter Assembly to be held at Umatilla, Fla., February 5-26.

Mrs. Ruth Bryan Owen of Avenue Altara is expected home within the next few days, after spending several weeks in California with her mother, Mrs. Mary Baird Bryan, who has been ill.

The United States government recognizes 45 ports, rivers, canals, bays and other waterways in Florida as real or potential transportation factors. Increase in Florida's water borne commerce is seen in the comparison of the 1916 total of \$242,294,205 with \$1,068,728,815 in 1926, which is an increase of 340.1 per cent in ten years.

An average of 16.6 ships per day passed through the Panama Canal during the last fiscal year, and the net revenue increased \$790,594. The canal is one of the American governmental activities concerning which no plea is ever heard for private rather than public operation.—Christian Science Monitor.

First there is a pie weighing a ton and now a cake weighing 1100 pounds. This cake, made in celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Old National Bank of Spokane, contains 2300 eggs, 250 pounds of butter, 525 pounds of sugar and 260 pounds of flour, and, according to reports from Spokane, is built in the architectural structure of the bank itself.

An American shipping company, in announcing plans for what it calls an aerial pony express, probably did not have in view Pegasus, the flying horse of mythology. Today's flying pony is the more practical airplane, making relayed flight.

The process of manufacturing ice was discovered by a Florida physician. Dr. John B. Gorrie.

from Hollywood 28 to 10 and won from Bank of Bay Biscayne 10 to 0. The team plays the strong Southern Bell Telephone team next Wednesday evening. The game should prove the best of the season. Lewis led the scoring with 3 baskets while Self, who was decidedly off her game, shot only 2.

P. T. A. Meets Monday
"Art" is the subject chosen for the program of the Parent-Teacher Association, Ponce de Leon High school, at its meeting Monday at 8 p. m. in the school auditorium, with Mrs. E. E. Harvey presiding. Living pictures will be presented by Henry Salem Hubbell and Miss Dewing Woodward, art instructor at the University of Miami, will speak on "The Importance of Teaching Art."

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UNIVERSITY BAPTIST C
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Miami Riviera, February 3, 1928

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 1927.

25 MILES OF BRIDLE PATHS WILL BE BUILT

Coral Gables Will Provide Carefully Planned System For Lovers of Equestrianism.

ONE of the largest, most carefully planned and beautiful systems of bridle paths in the country, winding for 25 miles through the finest and most gorgeously landscaped parts of the Miami district, is to be constructed in Coral Gables under the supervision of a special board composed of Telfair Kitchin, vice president of the Coral Gables Corporation; Phineas E. Felt, supervising architect of Coral Gables; Deane Fink, art director of the Coral Gables Riding club.

Announcement of these bridle paths were made yesterday by F. W. Webster, vice president and executive manager of the Coral Gables Corporation.

Where on the paths will be enabled to enjoy nights and scenes more varied and exotic than could be found anywhere else in the country. The system will pass by brick, red-tiled boulevards, around the borders of stretching green, golf courses, through luxuriant tropical hammocks, and along the landscaped edges of brilliant waterways, past the grounds and stables of the University of Miami in Coral Gables.

Plans for the project are practically completed and work of construction and clearing the routes will be started as soon as formal approval of the system can be obtained by action of the city commission.

The paths will be composed of various loops, ranging in length from three to twelve miles, and offering a ride of half an hour or a whole afternoon. The paths will be at Rockmart road, generally laid down, and constructed to a width of from eight to 12 feet, which allows two riders to pass each other easily, according to Major Kitchin. But the paths will be four, twelve, and will be maintained in proper condition for riding throughout the year.

A principal feature of the system will be a clubhouse, refreshment stand and rest rooms, which are proposed to be built at Coopersham Place, the terminus of the longest loop of the system. Plans to plant lines of shade trees to enclose the longer length of the paths are also under consideration. The planting of these trees, which would be carried out by the city, would not only add materially to the natural beauty of Coral Gables, but would more completely shut off equestrians from automobile traffic and heavy commercial privacy.

The use of the bridle paths will be open to all riders who care to use them, provided they comply with the rules of equestrianism established by the commission on bridle paths, said Major Kitchin. The routes of the paths will be laid down the central portions of a number of Coral Gables fine boulevards, along the sides of other streets and avenues, and frequently will leave the regular avenues of traffic altogether and wind around golf courses and along the edges of picturesque waterways and canals.

The original point of the long loop to the system will be at Alhambra circle and Laurus road, thence to the Granada golf course by the circle, around the golf course and down a driveway to Avenue Avenue.

The second loop will begin at the rear tower on Alhambra circle and follow Alhambra circle in the bridge crossing the Coral Gables waterway, thence around the University golf course to Bird road, where bridle will be placed for the enjoyment of experienced riders and those enjoying bridle paths with hindrance.

From Bird road, route No. 2 will proceed through the beautiful beauty of the natural tropical hammock, left untouched on the golf course, across the Venetian canal, again skirting the golf course to the southeast corner and, through the garden paths to the front of the University on Avenue Avenue. Riders may go by way of De Soto and Granada boulevards to the Granada golf course and thence to the point of origin.

Route three will swing around Alhambra circle and Ferdinand drive (the latter is now planned and is a part of the circle) to Bird road, thence to the campus of the University of Miami, south to the median strip along the canal banks, and via Coopersham place, also by way of the Miami waterway. After a rest at Coopersham place, riders will be able to proceed home along paths to be con-

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THE HERALD, MIAMI, FLORIDA

PROPOSED CORAL GABLES SYSTEM OF BRIDLE PATHS

Map of the system of bridle paths that will be established at Coral Gables. The longest of the bridle paths is to be constructed under special planning board. There will be four loops in the plan—the Alhambra loop, the University loop, the University loop and the Coopersham loop. Each will be a unit, but a part of the whole. The bridle paths will be 25 miles in length.

BLAME FOR WRECK IS STILL UNSETTLED

Public Service Commission Says Exact Cause of Rockmart Collision Hazy.

(BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.)

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 1.—The question as to who made the "human error" that resulted in the head-on collision of two Southern Railway passenger trains at Rockmart, Ga., December 28, with the loss of 18 lives, "may never be known to the satisfaction of everybody concerned," the Georgia public service commission said today in a report of its latest action.

The report, made public by James A. Perry, chairman of the commission, said that obviously, as stated by Southern Railway officials, the crash of the north-bound Ponce de Leon and the south-bound Royal Palm was due to the negligence at the throttle of the Ponce de Leon, which was in the lead at the time of the crash and was injured fatally, had stated he immediately afterwards that he had been told by the engineer of the latter train that he was to take the main line passing the Royal Palm. The engineer had relieved a short time before, however, said he had repeated the orders "to head in at Rockmart" and that the orders had been repeated after him.

E. J. Keith, with Fireman Moon, was in charge of the engine pulling the Ponce de Leon out of Atlanta, as R. M. Pierce, road foreman of engineers, was riding in the day coach. The report said that when the train arrived at Rockmart, Pierce saw Keith's flag and told him he was going to run for him to Rockmart.

According to the report, Pierce asked what order he had and Keith replied, "Head in at Rockmart on street No. 101" (the Royal Palm), as Pierce said, "Head in at Rockmart and meet No. 101, Good." Keith then went into the train.

The report explained that Keith did not give Pierce the order he had other than verbally, but that he acts in accordance with the usual practice. Keith stated that before he left Atlanta he had handed the order to the fireman, who read them, and the report said that according to statements of interested persons, rules requiring that various members of it were have knowledge of the order were observed.

The Royal Palm was waiting on its mainline for the Ponce de Leon to make on the siding when the latter running at a rate of probably 25 miles an hour, crashed into it. The Ponce de Leon, Keith and his fireman Moon, were among those who lost their lives.

Paul Copeland, baggage master of the Royal Palm, who assisted in removing Pierce from the engine, quoted in the report as saying the Pierce said, "Oh, boys, how did happen," and Copeland replied, "You failed to take the siding." The dying engineer then said, according to Copeland, "Keith and Moon as everybody concerned, says that I held the main track." Pierce was quoted by Copeland as saying that just before the crash he told him "We held the main track," and he was reported to have replied in a affirmative.

Keith, the report says, said he heard the night of the wreck, Pierce's statement, but that he did not get to him to ascertain the reason for it or to seek a suggestion because of his condition. "I did not want to go to him because I did not want to tell him he had lied."

It developed at the investigation that no examination had been had train crews for the Atlanta-Chartanooga division, if anywhere at since August, 1921, the report said and recommended that all of it with the rules should be required stand an examination at least on every 15 months.

The commission also recommended that "the engineer of any train once he takes charge of the engine should never be allowed to leave it engine, save and except from physical necessities, and then if from physical necessities, he is forced to leave it engine, he should be required to give the running order to the engineer relieving him."

The practice of engineers leaving their engines is not unusual, the investigation having shown that the road foreman of engineers on the Miami-Altamonte division observed the rule, "as I parted to all road foremen of engineers," that they must not leave an engine to leave his engine, except in case of necessity. Pierce's act

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RIDING ACADEMY GROWS POPULAR

The Coral Gables Riding academy is growing daily in popularity and the patronage is increasing rapidly, according to Hugo Wahlberg, manager.

Mr. Wahlberg and his assistant, Capt. John Mortensen, are conducting large riding classes daily and are enthusiastic over the success of the business.

A large number of women and girls is taking advantage of the reduced prices in the business women's class and the bridle paths are the scenes daily of jolly parties on horseback.

Mrs. George E. Merrick, wife of the owner and developer of Coral Gables, is now a regular pupil at the academy. Mrs. Merrick and her two guests, Misses Margaret and Julia Gold of Greensboro, N. C., were among the riding pupils at Coral Gables Sunday and Monday.

Mrs. Laura Rockefeller of the Coral Gables organization, who is an expert horsewoman, was out riding Sunday. She had as her guests Misses Helen and Mabel Haynes of Newark, N. J. and Mrs. Harold Holden of Boston. Little Miss Mary Guthrie Coke of Coconut Grove began receiving instructions in riding Monday.

CORAL GABLES INN OWNER GOES HOME

Mrs. Ella B. McCall of Valdosta, Ga., who purchased the Coral Gables Inn and five lots surrounding it last week, returned to her home Sunday, following receipt of a message stating that her hotel in Valdosta, "The Valdez," had been destroyed by fire. Details as to the cause of the conflagration and the amount of loss entailed were lacking.

Besides the hotel in Valdosta, Mrs. McCall also owns a hostelry in Madison, Fla., and one in Live Oak, Fla., all of which are commercial hotels.

Mrs. McCall announced before she left that she would retain Mrs. Charles D. Thom as manager and hostess of the inn and that virtually the same policy would prevail there. She also said she contemplated some improvements to the inn in the future. It is not known whether the loss of her hotel in Valdosta will change Mrs. McCall's plans.

PERSONS Interested In tion of a naval res- Miami are invited to at- ing for that purpose at tonight on Col. Robert M. houseboat, Everglade, bay. Those who wish to meeting are asked to be of the Bleezyne Yacht club tonight where have been made to have take the party to the h the meeting. The plan for the org the naval reserve unit the endorsement of the ber of Commerce, the sumers and all of the the city, who are lend- port to the proposition. Colonel Thompson, w ary president of the na the United States, will g the meeting tonight. speakers will also mal dresses. Miami will have the with the organization bers of having the se state, the only other in located in Jacksonville, Mills, who has been a l city for the formation

CORAL GABLES NOTES

The Woman's association of the Coral Gables Congregational church will hold an all day meeting Wednesday from 10 to 4 o'clock. Luncheon will be served at noon. All women of Coral Gables are cordially invited to attend the meeting.

L. B. Holt, president of the First National bank of Sandersville, Ga., was the guest Monday of W. L. Williams, manager of the present sales force of Coral Gables. While Mr. Holt has been to Miami before, he had not seen Coral Gables until this trip. He expressed himself as greatly impressed with "Miami's Master Suburb," and praised the beauty and possibilities of the place.

W. L. Williams, ground sales manager, and Mrs. Williams were the guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Loebeck for dinner at Coral Gables. Following the dinner, golf was indulged in on the Coral Gables course.

WAHLBERG PRESENTS EXHIBITION OF RIDING

Hugo Wahlberg, manager and instructor of the Coral Gables Riding academy, gave exhibitions of riding and jumping Sunday morning on the flying field before a large group of interested spectators. He jumped one horse over a bar five feet and four inches high. Fancy riding and jumping were demonstrated by Mr. Wahlberg.

Mr. Wahlberg will meet Tuesday morning at the city hall with Dr. A. W. Ziebold and others to discuss arrangements for the horse show part of the Dade county fair, to be held here March 12-15. Eight of the best horses from the Coral Gables academy will be entered in the show. Mr. Wahlberg announces, Mrs. Laiblin of Chicago will ride "My Pal" in the women's class and Mrs. M. Gallop will ride "Nestledown." Mr. Wahlberg will ride and jump at the fair, as will Capt. John Mortensen, also riding instructor at the Coral Gables academy.

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RADIO REQUIRES KNOWLEDGE OF A VARIETY OF TONGUES

CROYDON, Feb. 25.--Unless an international convention is drawn up making a standard language for wireless speech with aircraft, the wireless operator at this station in