

Kautz, Kara

From: Roberta Neway <robertajn@att.net>
Sent: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 2:48 PM
To: Kautz, Kara
Cc: City Clerk; Urquia, Billy
Subject: Granting Historical Designation Status to 1005 South Alhambra Circle - Please Support

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Members of the Historic Preservation Board,

As a life-long resident of South Alhambra Circle and a believer in preserving our history, I ask that you grant 1005 South Alhambra Circle historic designation status.

As a child I admired this house simply for its beauty; as an adult, I know that the house's beauty and stateliness is a product of its Neoclassical style. In addition, it is an excellent example of the grand residences that George Merrick envisioned along our main residential streets.

Here in the Riviera section we do not have many tangible reminders of our history; we must preserve what we have.

I trust that you will acknowledge this house's historical significance and designate it as historic.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Roberta Neway
1236 South Alhambra Circle
Coral Gables, FL 33146
305/450.5324 (cell)
305/661.5661 (home)

cc: City Clerk

Kautz, Kara

From: Lynn <pardoarch@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 10:31 PM
To: Kautz, Kara; City Clerk; Urquia, Billy
Subject: 1005 South Alhambra Circle

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Dear Members of the Historic Preservation Board,

As a 35 year resident of Coral Gables, with an interest in preserving and respecting the beautiful and unique architecture in our city, I wish to express my support in granting historical designation to the single family residence at 1005 South Alhambra Circle.

This home, dubbed "Villa Ionia" for its Ionic-inspired entrance, was designed by architect Tyrus Tripp and constructed by builder Robert Scarboro in the Neoclassical style in the 1950s. This stately residence is one of the Riviera Section's only visible reminders of the type of grand and elaborate residences that founder George Merrick envisioned would line prominent corridors (such as Alhambra Circle) and the waterways (such as the Mahi) throughout the City.

Please preserve our historical heritage.

Thank you.

Lynn Guarch-Pardo
421 Cadima Avenue
Coral Gables, FL 33134
Sent from my iPhone

Kautz, Kara

From: Vicki Cerda <vicki.cerda@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 11:20 AM
To: Kautz, Kara; City Clerk
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: Support for historical designation of 1005 S Alhambra Circle

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Dear Members of the Historic Preservation Board,

I wish to express my support to the information gathered by the Historical Preservation Association of Coral Gables to grant historical designation to the single family residence at 1005 South Alhambra Circle. This home, dubbed “Villa Ionia” for its Ionic-inspired entrance, was designed by architect Tyrus Tripp and constructed by builder Robert Scarboro in the Neoclassical style in the 1950s. This stately residence is one of the Riviera Section’s *only* visible reminders of the type of grand and elaborate residences that founder George Merrick envisioned would line prominent corridors (such as Alhambra Circle) and the waterways (such as the Mahi) throughout the City. And indeed 1005 S Alhambra Circle is both on the water and grand in design.

The numerous mature oak trees on the property are also an important consideration to take into account.

Please preserve our historical heritage and tree canopy.

Vicki Cerda
1216 Asturia

Kautz, Kara

From: Alice Goldhagen <alicegphotos@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 2:30 AM
To: Kautz, Kara; City Clerk; Urquia, Billy
Subject: Villa Ionia

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Dear Members of the Historic Preservation Board, I wish to express my support in granting historical designation to the single family residence at 1005 South Alhambra Circle. This home dubbed "Villa Ionia" for its Ionic -inspired entrance, was designed by builder Robert Scarboro in the Neoclassical style in the 1950s. This stately residence is one of the Riviera Sections only visible reminders of the type of grand and elaborate residences that founder George Merrick envisioned would line prominent corridors (such as Alhambra Circle) and the waterways (such as the Mahi) throughout the city. Please preserve our historical heritage.

Thank you.

Alice Goldhagen
6395 Maynada Street
Sent from my iPhone

Kautz, Kara

From: zully pardo <pardovi@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, August 11, 2025 11:46 AM
To: Pernas, Anna; HIST
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: CASE FILE LHD 2025-005: 1005 South Alhambra Circle

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Dear Historic Preservation Board,

We support granting historic designation to the single family residence at 1005 South Alhambra Circle, called 'Villa Ionia' for its Ionic-inspired entrance. The courtly home is one of a few reminders of the majestic residences envisioned by George Merrick lining important corridors such as Alhambra Circle.

Thank you for preserving our heritage.

Sincerely,

Jaime & Zully Pardo

305-803-1506

Sent from my iPhone

Kautz, Kara

From: Karelia Carbonell <karelia.m.carbonell@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 11, 2025 8:00 AM
To: Kautz, Kara; Guin, Elizabeth; Throckmorton, Stephanie
Subject: Letter for 1005 South Alhambra Circle

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FYI

Please forward to HPB for the August 14 meeting

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Joanne Meagher <joanne.meagher@comcast.net>
Date: Sunday, August 10, 2025
Subject: Letter for 1005 South Alhambra Circle

To the Members of the Historic Preservation Board:

I support local historic designation for 1005 South Alhambra Circle. As I reviewed the designation report, I was pleased to see the reference to our city's first Neoclassical style residence, the home of Althea and Solomon Merrick! And, as I scanned the photos of examples drawn from near and far, I was reminded of the many Georgian and Neoclassical structures in Dublin, Ireland, (I happen to be reading a book about it at the moment) that were thankfully saved by a small but dedicated group of advocates at a time when the city was stagnated and impoverished.

How fortunate that Coral Gables (neither stagnated nor impoverished) has a robust preservation tradition. As the home in question easily meets the criteria listed in the city's zoning code, I trust that this will be an easy decision for the board.

Best,

Joanne Meagher

1225 Valencia Avenue (one of Merrick's "Old Spanish" examples)

Docent and Immediate Past Chair, Coral Gables Merrick House

Member, The Villagers

Member, Dade Heritage Trust

Member, National Trust for Historic Preservation

Member, Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables