

Emails Received by the  
City Clerk's Office prior to the  
May 12, 2020  
City Commission Meeting.

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Darcy Ann Henry <dahenry@regarchitects.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 4:05 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** Rick Gonzalez; Melissa Wyllie; Karelia Carbonell  
**Subject:** Letter of Support for 1208 Asturia  
**Attachments:** Letter of Support 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables 05-12-20.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Urquia,

Attached please find a letter of support for historic designation of the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue in Coral Gables.

Thanks,



May 12, 2020

Historic Preservation Board  
City of Coral Gables  
405 Biltmore Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

RE: Historic landmark designation of 1208 Asturia Avenue in Coral Gables, Florida

Dear Preservation Board Members,

As a past president of the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation and a practicing Historic Preservation Architect for the last 32 years, I would like to offer my support to Maria V. Cerda in her attempts to gain local landmark status for the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue in Coral Gables.

Not only is the home architecturally significant as a traditional ranch house with Art Morderne and Art Deco influences, but since its 1937 inception is has been well maintained and has only minor modifications to its original condition. Further, the residence was designed by noted architect, Russell Pancoast who not only designed many homes but also the Bass Museum.

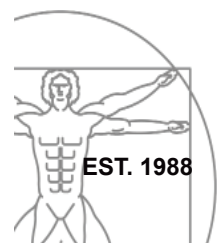
Often there is more fanfare to grant recognition to large projects with their accompanying civic groups and support. However, individuals should also be recognized for their efforts at preservation. Withholding local historic designation for this property will send the wrong signal to other individual homeowners who should be encouraged to preserve and protect their historic properties.

Please consider Ms. Cerda's appeal for local designation for this property.

Thank you,



Rick Gonzalez, AIA, President  
REG Architects, Inc.



Project Name  
REG PO #  
\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/2020  
Page 2 of 2



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Kahn, Lauren <LKahn@gunster.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:47 AM  
**To:** Urquia, Billy  
**Cc:** Garcia-Serra, Mario  
**Subject:** RE: 1208 Asturia / Letters Opposing Historic Designation  
**Attachments:** 1208 Asturia Letters.docx

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Billy,

Apologies for the late addition, but there are additional letters supporting the Board's decision opposing historic designation of 1208 Asturia. Please include these as part of the record as well.

Thank you,  
Lauren



Lauren L. Kahn | Attorney  
Brickell World Plaza  
600 Brickell Avenue, Suite #3500  
Miami, FL 33131  
P 305-376-6027 F 305-376-6010  
[lkahn@gunster.com](mailto:lkahn@gunster.com)  
[gunster.com](http://gunster.com)

[gunster.com](http://gunster.com) | [View my bio](#)

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**From:** Urquia, Billy <burquia@coralgables.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 4:36 PM  
**To:** Kahn, Lauren <LKahn@gunster.com>  
**Cc:** Garcia-Serra, Mario <MGarcia-Serra@gunster.com>  
**Subject:** RE: 1208 Asturia / Letters Opposing Historic Designation

I am including them now.

Thank you,

*Billy Y. Urquia*

City Clerk

City Clerk's Office  
405 Biltmore Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134  
(305) 569-1812  
[burquia@coralgables.com](mailto:burquia@coralgables.com)  
[www.coralgables.com](http://www.coralgables.com)



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**From:** Kahn, Lauren <[LKahn@gunster.com](mailto:LKahn@gunster.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 4:30 PM  
**To:** Urquia, Billy <[burquia@coralgables.com](mailto:burquia@coralgables.com)>  
**Cc:** Garcia-Serra, Mario <[MGarcia-Serra@gunster.com](mailto:MGarcia-Serra@gunster.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: 1208 Asturia / Letters Opposing Historic Designation

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Billy,

Thank you. I've attached a few more letters opposing the historic designation of 1208 Asturia. Please also include them as part of the record.

Lauren



Lauren L. Kahn | Attorney  
Brickell World Plaza  
600 Brickell Avenue, Suite #3500  
Miami, FL 33131  
P 305-376-6027 F 305-376-6010  
[lkahn@gunster.com](mailto:lkahn@gunster.com)  
[gunster.com](http://gunster.com)

[gunster.com](http://gunster.com) | [View my bio](#)

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**From:** Urquia, Billy <[burquia@coralgables.com](mailto:burquia@coralgables.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 4:23 PM  
**To:** Kahn, Lauren <[LKahn@gunster.com](mailto:LKahn@gunster.com)>  
**Cc:** Garcia-Serra, Mario <[MGarcia-Serra@gunster.com](mailto:MGarcia-Serra@gunster.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: 1208 Asturia / Letters Opposing Historic Designation

Good afternoon Lauren,

Thank you for submitting these letters, they will be entered into the public record and made part of the meeting.

Thank you,

*Billy Y. Urquia*  
City Clerk

City Clerk's Office  
405 Biltmore Way

Coral Gables, FL 33134  
(305) 569-1812  
[burquia@coralgables.com](mailto:burquia@coralgables.com)  
[www.coralgables.com](http://www.coralgables.com)



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**From:** Kahn, Lauren <[LKahn@gunster.com](mailto:LKahn@gunster.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 2:27 PM  
**To:** Urquia, Billy <[burquia@coralgables.com](mailto:burquia@coralgables.com)>  
**Cc:** Garcia-Serra, Mario <[MGarcia-Serra@gunster.com](mailto:MGarcia-Serra@gunster.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: 1208 Asturia / Letters Opposing Historic Designation

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Billy,

In connection with Item E-3, the appeal of the historic determination for the building on 1208 Asturia, please find attached letters supporting the Historic Preservation Board's determination that the building is not historic. Please confirm that these have been made part of the record.

Thank you,  
Lauren

Dear Sir or Madam-

To whom it may concern: I am currently a resident at 5915 Granada Blvd. I have been a resident of the City Beautiful (Coral Gables) for 50 years. I wanted to let you know I strongly disagree in the proposed designation of the residence at 1208 Asturias as a historical home. It is no such thing. The Preservation board voted against designation and I support their decision. Whose idea is this and why? Hope you let the appropriate party know this residents opinion. I would appreciate it.

Sincerely, Myriam Ramírez



**May 11, 2020: Statement by George Volsky**  
**1008 Alhambra Circle, Coral Gables, FL 33134:**

"I'll be very brief: brevity is the soul of wit. First: I have absolutely no personal interest in the house under your discussion. My only interest, as always, is how to benefit the City.

Several months ago, I saw the house in front and back, and observed others on its block. In one word, it's **ugly**. I wish to state categorically that the house demeans the street, its neighborhood and the City. Calling it an old ranch house - as two city employees did - is not only ridiculous, it also denotes architectural ignorance, and it is a travesty that even offends, say, Texas, which has beautiful, sui generis ranch houses. Florida, at last viewing, is not Texas.

I am sure that a new construction that is planned in place of the present one will considerably improve the look of the street, its neighborhood and of the City Beautiful - and this seems to me the key rationale of the issue at hand."

To whom it may concern. I, Samantha Piña, along with my husband Alexander Piña, reside with our family at 4110 Anderson Road here in Coral Gables. As a long time

residents of the City Beautiful, we have to strongly disagree with the designation of 1208 Asturias Avenue as a historic home. We are in full support of the preservation board's vote against the designation.

We hope that you all are well and look forward to a positive outcome.

Thank you,

Alexander and Samantha Piña

Samantha Hernandez-Piña  
305-992-4121  
[snh16@bellsouth.net](mailto:snh16@bellsouth.net)

Dear City Clerk:

I am a resident of Coral Gables for over 30 years both in Hammock Oaks and, for the last 14 years, in downtown Gables. As such I most strongly disagree with designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as an historic home.

Furthermore, the preservation board has spoken and I am in total agreement with their decision voting against designation.

I thank you for your consideration in this matter and hope that the board's decision prevails.

Celina Hernandez  
10 Aragon Ave.  
City Beautiful

Good Afternoon:

I have been following the recent news and fuss over of the historical designation of 1208 Austria (as other properties with same efforts). I have lived in the Gables for over 40 years. First and most importantly, this has already gone to the board and has been decided, the board should uphold their decision: let these owners knock down that house, there is truly nothing appealing or valuable or worth saving in that structure.. The home they will be building will add much more value and prestige to that block & neighborhood.

But now that I have the time (thanks to Corona!), I would like to express my thoughts about this whole "historical designation" issue, as I've been wanting to for a while now. I have owned & remodeled over 6 houses in Coral Gables. Back in the day, historical designations were truly "historical homes", beautiful old Spanish's, Colonials, homes in the French village, the Chinese village, Santa Maria, etc. We original "Coral Gables" all know the homes and neighborhoods which are relevant and were intended to be historically designated homes. I continue to remodel & design homes in the Gables and everyday it gets more difficult, time-consuming and discouraging. Homes that were never historical are all of a sudden being deemed historical and preventing thousands of homeowners, prospective buyers, architects and designers from doing anything in Coral Gables, thus forcing them to invest in other neighborhoods. The ability to demolish a home which is not truly historical, such as 1208 Asturia, and so many others that have been deemed historical and never were, should not be solely based on who the architect was or information which needs to be diligently researched in able to find some redeeming or historical shred of evidence so that it may possibly be qualified as such. Any design, new construction, demolition of a home in the Gables should first, take the homeowners desire into account, the design and style of the new construction which will be put in its place and **if it is truly** historical (such as the old Spanish, colonial etc., mentioned, not 1208 Asturia), then you must also take into account how easily an addition, renovation, update can be done on that "historical" structure and if the end product would just be a poorly laid out, non-functional home due to the restrictions placed on these properties. Miami has excellent architectures, developers and designers which have always contributed to the preservation of the City Beautiful in many ways, but preventing ranch homes to be replaced with more inspiring, beautiful and functional structures (which need to be approved by an already very strict BOA and City anyway) is not a way of preserving our City Beautiful, but rather a way of impeding its desirability, accessibility and preventing future generations from continuing to make Coral Gables their home. There will always be someone who doesn't like the decision made by boards, government and authority but this has already gone to the board, has been decided and I can tell you from just speaking to other residents, they do not oppose the non-historical designation of 1208 Austria. To continue on with this case is a waste of the City's time, resources and energy, this has already been decided and I agree with that decision, 1208 Asturia should not be deemed as a historical designation, the homeowner should be allowed to demolish and build a new home. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter, I hope this has served to assist you in upholding your already made decision about the non-historical designation of 1208 Asturia.

Respectfully,

Jeannette Edwards  
833 Coral Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

To whom it may concern:

We are residents of the gables and agree with the board's decision not to deem 1208 Asturia historic.

Thank you ,  
Christina Lopez  
450 Loretto Ave  
Coral Gables 33146

To whom it may concern:

I am a resident of Coral Gables and I agree with the board's decision not to deem 1208 Asturia historic. I also attended one of the last hearings where I spoke and expressed the same opinion: 1207 Asturias should not be deemed historic .

Thank you ,

Rick Estrada  
4515 San Amaro Drive  
Coral Gables, FL 33146

My name is Raul Masvidal. I have lived in the City since 1960 when my family moved here from Cuba and I entered UM as a freshman.

The subject of my appearance before you today for the second time is a sad story. Apparently somebody who claims to be a neighbor of the above captioned property is adamant in abusing the "system". My concern is that we, the citizens of Coral Gables, should not allow petty exploitation of our so much revered process that has existed for generations.

The new owners of the property have requested to demolish the existing ugly structure to replace it with a new house designed by a prominent local architect well known to all of us for generations. They are a young professional couple who have selected this house as the place to move in and raise their family. They represent exactly the kind of people that the Gables have always sought to attract as new neighbors. They are Miamians trying to stay in their own community. They are trying to improve the aesthetics of their new home and the immediate neighborhood in a way that will be adding value to the entire area.

I urge you to reject this appeal which is nothing but a waste of time for the City staff and the Commission and a true travesty of justice.

Your consideration will be appreciated. Thank you.

Raul Masvidal

66 Valencia Avenue

Coral Gables, FL 33134

(305)684-4010

To whom it may concern:

I am a resident of the Gables and agree with the board's decision not to deem 1208 Asuria historic.

My address is 4722 Granada Blvd Coral Gables, FL 33146

Thank you.

Cheers,

Tommy Valls Edwards

[\(305\) 343-3408](tel:(305)343-3408)

**Skype:** tommy.valls

**Telegram:** @tommyvalls



To whom it may concern ;  
I'm a homeowner in the Gables at  
1230 Cartagena Ave.

I'm against designating  
1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home.  
I agree with the boards decision in not deeming it historic.

Thank you,

Ana Hernández

1230 Cartagena Ave  
Coral Gables, Fl 33156

To whom it may concern:

I've owned property in the Gables for the past 12 years

I'm against designating

1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home.

This house has no history to be preserved, year of built and known architect should not be a criteria specially when it's probably his worse work. The preservation board was correct when they decided to voted against designation. I support their decision and so should the commission. No to preservation.!

Thank you,

Diana Armenteros

20 Calabria apt 602

Coral Gables FL 33134

To whom it may concern,

I'm a homeowner in the city of Coral Gables and I agree with the preservation boards decision in not designating 1208 Asturias historic.

The architecture in this house does not resemble any of Pancoast work, it's unappealing and out of place in that street.

Designation is forever, this house shouldn't be.

Thank you!

William Villa

1208 Mariana ave

To whom it may concern:

I'm a resident at 10 Aragon Ave, Coral Gables, FL 33134. I recently heard that the preservation board voted against designating 1208 Asturias Ave a historic site. I think that this was the right decision for the property and potential homeowners in the future who are hoping to purchase the property. It is a burden on a young homeowner to have to deal with the legal and financial implications of the property being designated historical.

While I can understand the desire to preserve historic homes throughout Coral Gables, in this case since the home is not in the style that made the architect famous preserving it does not seem necessary. Part of why I love living the Gables is all of the historic homes in the area. However, I do believe in this case preservation does not had value to the Coral Gables or the value of this home since it does not have the design or appearance that historic homes in the Gables are famous for.

I support the board on their decision in NOT designating 1208 Asturias historic.

Thank you,

Alexandra

--

Alex Hernandez

786.210.4801

**Bibiana C. Legido  
700 San Esteban Avenue  
Coral Gables, Florida**

To whom it may concern,

This letter to express my support for the proposed demolition of the home located at 1208 Asturia. I am confident that the applicant' s proposed plans for the property will be an asset the street and the community. I am a great admirer of historic homes and have been pained by homes that **truly** had historical value. However, I believe that this is not the case with 1208 Asturias.

**I urge you to uphold the Board's decision not to deem 1208 Asturias historic.** Thank you.

Kind regards,

Bibiana C. Legido  
700 San Esteban Avenue

To whom it may concern:

I am a resident of Coral Gables. I have lived in the Gables on and off for 52 years. I love your careful consideration in preserving our historic homes and buildings. But I am in full agreement with the board on the decision to not deem 1208 Asturia Avenue an historic house.

Thank you kindly,

Ana Cantero  
1408 Dorado Avenue  
Coral Gables, FL  
33146  
305 904 9312

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Melissa Wyllie <mwylle@floridatrust.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:46 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Historic landmark designation of 1208 Asturia Avenue in Coral Gables  
**Attachments:** LOS\_PancoastCoralGablesAPPEAL.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mr. Urquia -

Please find attached a letter regarding today's City Commission Meeting.

Thank you,  
Melissa

*Melissa Wyllie*  
CEO & President  
Florida Trust for Historic Preservation  
(850) 224-8128  
FloridaTrust.org



Florida Trust for Historic Preservation  
906 E Park Ave  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301  
(850) 224-8128

May 11, 2020

Historic Preservation Board  
Coral Gables City Hall  
405 Biltmore Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

RE: Historic landmark designation of 1208 Asturia Avenue in Coral Gables

On behalf of the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation please accept this letter in support of Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida.

The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020, decision of the Historic Preservation Board to not designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

Previously, the Florida Trust has expressed its support of the property's inclusion to the city's landmark program. We continue to advocate for the position expressed in that initial letter of support: the building, which was built in 1937, is part of the historic fabric that makes your city unique. Not only is the house at 1208 Asturia Avenue an excellent example of an early Traditional Custom Ranch House, it retains many of its original character defining features and has not been significantly altered. The home was one of the first residences of this style in Coral Gables incorporating the newly ranch style and also Art Deco and Art Moderne influences. Additionally, it enjoys a





Florida Trust for Historic Preservation  
906 E Park Ave  
Tallahassee, Florida 32301  
(850) 224-8128

high-degree of architectural significance as well as it was designed by Miami-based and nationally recognized architect Russell Pancoast.

The Florida Trust advocates for the preservation of important historic assets like the property at 1208 Asturia Avenue, which serve to protect Florida's extraordinary history and heritage. Our organization has been dedicated to defending and celebrating the diverse heritage of our state ever since our nonprofit was founded in 1978. We recognize that the most productive accomplishments are made at the local level, so we appreciate both the challenges and the opportunities your Board has to influence and serve your community.

The Florida Trust respectfully asks The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to grant the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

I appreciate your time and consideration. If you have any questions regarding our support, please contact me at (850) 224-8128.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Melissa Wyllie". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

*Melissa Wyllie*  
CEO & President  
Florida Trust for Historic Preservation

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Sandra Scidmore <sscidmore@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 2:47 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Application No. 19-008 - GRANT the Appeal Filed by Maria V. Cerda  
**Attachments:** Application No. 19-008 Grant the Appeal Filed by Maria V. Cerda.docx

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Urquia,

Attached please find my letter in SUPPORT of GRANTING the Appeal filed by Maria V. Cerda regarding Application No. 19-008, to save our heritage.

**Sandra L. Scidmore**

100 Lincoln Road, Apt. 423  
Miami Beach, Florida 33139  
786-566-0422 C  
sscidmore@hotmail.com

Sandra Scidmore  
100 Lincoln Road, Apt. 423,  
Miami Beach, FL 33139  
Email: [sscidmore@hotmail.com](mailto:sscidmore@hotmail.com)  
Tel: 786-566-0422, 305-538-4641

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May 12, 2020

Via Email: [cityclerk@coralgables.com](mailto:cityclerk@coralgables.com)  
Mr. Billy Y. Urquia, City Clerk  
Coral Gables City Hall  
405 Biltmore Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

RE: 1208 Asturia Way, Coral Gables, FL 33134  
Application No. 19-008: Grant the Appeal Filed by Maria V. Cerda

Dear Mr. Urquia:

I, Sandra L. Scidmore, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, Sandra L. Scidmore, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

Russell Pancoast, is known as the "Dean of Miami architects" for his lifetime achievements in design and innovation. He was one of the leading architects that helped to develop a local subtropical modern design philosophy.

In this home he brings modern influences to the ranch typology, breaking away from the Mediterranean Revival foundation of the City and launching a new chapter in Coral Gables architectural history. This home retains a high degree of historic integrity. Thus, the property at 1208 Asturia Avenue significantly contributes to the historic fabric of the City of Coral Gables.

Thank you for respecting our heritage.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Sandra L. Scidmore  
Sandra L. Scidmore

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Bibiana Legido <bibiana.legido@softbank.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 9:06 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Astura  
**Attachments:** 1208 Asturia.docx

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

### Attention: Office of the City Clerk

Please see the attached letter requesting to uphold the Board's decision not to deem 1208 Asturias historic. Thank you!

Bibiana C. Legido  
= SoftBank Group International  
[Bibiana.legido@softbank.com](mailto:Bibiana.legido@softbank.com) |  
M: 650.346.3789

**Bibiana C. Legido  
700 San Esteban Avenue  
Coral Gables, Florida**

To whom it may concern,

This letter to express my support for the proposed demolition of the home located at 1208 Asturia. I am confident that the applicant' s proposed plans for the property will be an asset the street and the community. I am a great admirer of historic homes and have been pained by homes that **truly** had historical value. However, I believe that this is not the case with 1208 Asturias.

**I urge you to uphold the Board's decision not to deem 1208 Asturias historic.** Thank you.

Kind regards,

Bibiana C. Legido  
700 San Esteban Avenue

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Daniel Ciraldo <daniel@mdpl.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 6:54 PM  
**To:** Valdes-Fauli, Raul; Lago, Vincente; Keon, Patricia; Jorge Fors; Mena, Michael; Urquia, Billy  
**Subject:** Fwd: 1208 Asturia letter from Miami Design Preservation League  
**Attachments:** 1208 Asturia Letter - Daniel Ciraldo - Miami Design Preservation League.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Coral Gables Commissioners:

Please see attached letter to the Historic Preservation Board. We hope you will consider this letter when deciding on the fate of 1208 Asturia.

Thank you,  
Daniel Ciraldo  
Executive Director  
Miami Design Preservation League



**MIAMI DESIGN PRESERVATION LEAGUE**

1001 Ocean Drive, Miami Beach, FL 33139  
P.O. Box 190180, Miami Beach, FL 33119-0180  
Phone 305-672-2014 [www.mdpl.org](http://www.mdpl.org)

Dear Members of the Historic Preservation Board,

Miami Design Preservation League (MDPL) was founded in 1976 to preserve, protect, and promote the architectural, cultural, social, and environmental integrity of Miami Beach and the surrounding areas. The Planning and Zoning Code of Coral Gables states that the purpose of historic designation is to promote the educational, cultural, and economic welfare of the public by preserving and protecting historic structures or sites which serve as visible reminders of the history and cultural heritage of the city, region, state, or nation. Historic places provide both social and economic value to communities.

Each January, MDPL and the City of Miami Beach welcome over 150,000 visitors at over 80 events to celebrate Art Deco Weekend. With his design of the Miami Beach Public Library (now the Bass Museum), Russell Pancoast is credited with designing greater Miami's first "true" Art Deco building. Pancoast's invaluable contributions to the advancement of architecture and design in South Florida are also evident in 1208 Asturia Avenue. With his design of this ranch in the 1930's, Pancoast once again designed an avant-garde, trend-setting structure. 1208 Asturia is one of the first ranch houses ever to be designed in the Coral Gables area and is a significant resource within Pancoast's body of work as another visible reminder of how he pushed the envelope to develop yet another style other than Art Deco.

As outlined in the detailed staff report, historic designation is not limited to one architectural style or age of a structure, and, even if a structure or site meets more than one criteria, only *one* of the criteria is necessary for designation. We encourage you to follow the recommendations of your historical resources staff and designate 1208 Asturia Avenue as a historic landmark.

Thank you,

Daniel Ciraldo  
Executive Director  
Miami Design Preservation League

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Marlin Ebbert <marlinebbert@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 6:23 PM  
**To:** Valdes-Fauli, Raul; Keon, Patricia; Lago, Vincente; Mena, Michael; Jorge Fors Jr.  
**Cc:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Avenue  
**Attachments:** Document (32).docx

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good evening:

I hope that you find the time to read my letter before tomorrow's meetings -

Thank you!

Marlin Ebbert  
6510 San Vicente Street  
(H) 305-665-5701  
(C) 305-778-4928



Dear Mr. Mayor and City Commissioners:

First of all, I would like to personally take this opportunity to thank you for your thoughtful attention to the citizens during this time of Coronavirus confinement. I thank you also for the continuation of all City services without interruption and for the apparent increase of police presence on our neighborhood streets.

I am writing today about the historic designation of the house at 1208 Asturia Avenue which is on tomorrow's agenda 5/12/2020.

Since moving to Coral Gables in 1988, I quickly became interested and involved in the rich historic preservation world of Miami:

1989 – present – **The Villagers, Inc.** - a volunteer organization that raises funds to provide financial support for historic sites in Miami/Dade County;

Mid 1990 – present – **The Barnacle Society** – the Barnacle being the oldest house in Miami/Dade County built in 1891 – president for two years; presently Board advisor;

**Dade Heritage Trust** – member many years – volunteer Sunday afternoon docent at the Biltmore Hotel

**The Merrick House Governing Board** – 2013 – 2016

Also during the 30+ years that I have lived in Coral Gables, I have been a regular viewer and sometimes attendee of the monthly Historic Preservation meetings. I have always been in awe of the thorough detailed reports and presentations of the City's Historic Preservation staff - the depth of their research has always been outstanding. We have been blessed to have such a dedicated staff.

I watched the staff presentation of the designation report for 1208 Asturia Avenue. A nationally renowned local architect, the historical significance of a trend-setting style -

**PLUS – the real estate ad for this home CLEARLY states that there might be a designation question about this house** – this should have been a red flag to these buyers – they chose not to check before purchasing this home - they DID NOT do their homework!

I ask you please to carefully consider the appeal of the historic designation of this home –

Thank you -

Marlin Ebbert  
6510 San Vicente Street  
Marlinebbert@yahoo.com

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Davis, Yolande  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 5:01 PM  
**To:** Urquia, Billy; Dacosta, Susan  
**Subject:** FW: house  
**Attachments:** house to be torn dpwm.docx

Billy, I don't know whether Mr. Volsky copied you on this. In any event, please see attached.

Best,

Yolande A. Davis  
Office of the City Clerk

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

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**From:** [George Volsky](#)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 4:51 PM  
**Subject:** house

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

**May 11, 2020: Statement by George Volsky**  
**1008 Alhambra Circle, Coral Gables, FL 33134:**

"I'll be very brief: brevity is the soul of wit. First: I have absolutely no personal interest in the house under your discussion. My only interest, as always, is how to benefit the City.

Several months ago, I saw the house in front and back, and observed others on its block. In one word, it's **ugly**. I wish to state categorically that the house demeans the street, its neighborhood and the City. Calling it an old ranch house - as two city employees did - is not only ridiculous, it also denotes architectural ignorance, and it is a travesty that even offends, say, Texas, which has beautiful, sui generis ranch houses. Florida, at last viewing, is not Texas.

I am sure that a new construction that is planned in place of the present one will considerably improve the look of the street, its neighborhood and of the City Beautiful - and this seems to me the key rationale of the issue at hand."

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Richard Thurer <rjthurer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 4:56 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** vicki\_cerda@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia  
**Attachments:** Doc3.docx

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Richard Thurer  
[rjthurer@gmail.com](mailto:rjthurer@gmail.com)

We, Priscilla and Richard Thurer, living at 1019 Castile Avenue, Coral Gables, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

We ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Kahn, Lauren <LKahn@gunster.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 4:30 PM  
**To:** Urquia, Billy  
**Cc:** Garcia-Serra, Mario  
**Subject:** RE: 1208 Asturia / Letters Opposing Historic Designation  
**Attachments:** 1208 Asturia letters 2.docx

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Billy,

Thank you. I've attached a few more letters opposing the historic designation of 1208 Asturia. Please also include them as part of the record.

Lauren



Lauren L. Kahn | Attorney  
Brickell World Plaza  
600 Brickell Avenue, Suite #3500  
Miami, FL 33131  
P 305-376-6027 F 305-376-6010  
[lkahn@gunster.com](mailto:lkahn@gunster.com)  
[gunster.com](http://gunster.com)

[gunster.com](http://gunster.com) | [View my bio](#)

---

**From:** Urquia, Billy <burquia@coralgables.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 4:23 PM  
**To:** Kahn, Lauren <LKahn@gunster.com>  
**Cc:** Garcia-Serra, Mario <MGarcia-Serra@gunster.com>  
**Subject:** RE: 1208 Asturia / Letters Opposing Historic Designation

Good afternoon Lauren,

Thank you for submitting these letters, they will be entered into the public record and made part of the meeting.

Thank you,

*Billy Y. Urquia*  
City Clerk

City Clerk's Office  
405 Biltmore Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134  
(305) 569-1812  
[burquia@coralgables.com](mailto:burquia@coralgables.com)  
[www.coralgables.com](http://www.coralgables.com)



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**From:** Kahn, Lauren <[LKahn@gunster.com](mailto:LKahn@gunster.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 2:27 PM  
**To:** Urquia, Billy <[burquia@coralgables.com](mailto:burquia@coralgables.com)>  
**Cc:** Garcia-Serra, Mario <[MGarcia-Serra@gunster.com](mailto:MGarcia-Serra@gunster.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: 1208 Asturia / Letters Opposing Historic Designation

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Billy,

In connection with Item E-3, the appeal of the historic determination for the building on 1208 Asturia, please find attached letters supporting the Historic Preservation Board's determination that the building is not historic. Please confirm that these have been made part of the record.

Thank you,  
Lauren

Dear City Clerk,

I am a resident at 1447 Siena Ave., Coral Gables and as a resident of the City Beautiful I disagree in designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as an historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and I wholeheartedly support their decision.

Thank you,

Alvaro Minoso



Dear City Clerk,

I currently reside at 620 Zamora Avenue Coral Gables, FL, 33134. As a current Coral Gables resident, I do not agree with designating 1208 Asturias Avenue as a historic home. Previously, the preservation board voted against the designation and I fervently support their decision.

Thank you,

Carolina Minoso Graterol

To whom it may concern;

I am a resident of the gables and agree with the board's decision not to deem 1208 Asturias Ave. historic.

Thank you and warm regards,

Pamela Silva

548 San Esteban Ave.

Coral Gables, FL 33146

Dear City Clerk,  
My husband & I reside at  
1401 Coral Way, Coral Gables.  
As a resident of our City  
Beautiful for the last 32 years  
We totally disagree in designating 1208 Asturia Ave  
as Historic.  
The Preservation Board has  
Voted against it and we both  
Wholeheartedly support &  
Approve of their decision!  
If you need to contact us  
My Cell number 305 6071972  
Thank you for making our  
City so special  
We remain  
Bertica & Luis Palacio

To whom it may concern:

I have lived in the Gables for over 43 years and own a historic designated home on Santa Maria Street. I also very much agree with the historic board's decision in not designating 1208 Asturias historic. In my opinion designating this home historic takes away from the houses that are truly a gem in our city and deserve to be preserve. This house adds no architectural or historical value to our city beautiful.

Thank you for your attention on this matter.

Regards,

Jose A. Garrido, Jr.

I'm a resident at 743 Jeronimo  
Coral Gables 33146

and as a resident I find the appeal of 1208 Asturias an unfair and costly process for the homeowners.

The preservation board voted against designation and I truly feel that designating this property historic would be a huge deterrent for future families wanting to settle in the City Beautiful. I'm all for preserving the history of our city but not every home built by a known architect deserves preserving

Preserving this home will take away the validity of historic designated homes that truly stand out and deserve the plaque.

Thank you,

Natty Elias  
[nelias@healthtexasa.com](mailto:nelias@healthtexasa.com)

Dear Commissioners,

I am a resident at 901 Santiago Street. As a resident of the City Beautiful I am against designating 1208 Asturias Ave as a historic home. The Preservation Board voted against designation and I support their decision. I also am the owner of a historic home in Coral Gables.

Sincerely,

J. Fadel

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Don Queralto <donqphoto@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 3:54 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Appeal, 1208 Asturia Avenue  
**Attachments:** Letter to City Clerk.docx

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I, Don Queralto, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, Don Queralto, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Kahn, Lauren <LKahn@gunster.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 2:27 PM  
**To:** Urquia, Billy  
**Cc:** Garcia-Serra, Mario  
**Subject:** FW: 1208 Asturia / Letters Opposing Historic Designation  
**Attachments:** 1208 Asturia Letters.docx

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Billy,

In connection with Item E-3, the appeal of the historic determination for the building on 1208 Asturia, please find attached letters supporting the Historic Preservation Board's determination that the building is not historic. Please confirm that these have been made part of the record.

Thank you,  
Lauren

Dear Sir or Madam-

I'm a resident at 3613 Alhambra Circle

Coral Gables

and as a resident of the City beautiful we are against designating

1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and we support their decision.

Thank you,

James and Vivian Williams

To whom it may concern,

We are residents of Coral Gables and it has come to my attention that the Preservation Board of the City of Coral Gables voted AGAINST designating 1208 Asturias Avenue as a historic home.

We support the Preservation Board and their decision NOT to designate this home as a historic home.

Thank you,

Aileen Ortega, Esq.

Dear Sir(s)/Madam(s),

My name is Ana Quincoces. I have been a resident of the City of Coral Gables for over 25 years.

During that time, I have owned two homes and am very familiar with the architectural style which has earned Coral Gables "The City Beautiful" moniker.

A ranch style home such as the one at 1208 Asturias Ave does not merit historic designation.

The purpose of this writing is to formally express my opposition to the designation of 1208 Asturias Ave as a historic home. The Coral Gables Preservation board voted against the designation and I fully support that decision.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Ana Quincoces

We are residents at 1232 Castile Avenue, Coral Gables and residents of the City Beautiful. Our property falls within 1000 feet of 1208 Asturias and we are against designating it a historic home. The Preservation Board voted against designation and we support their decision.

Sincerely,

Jim & Ela Waddell

1232 Castile Ave, Coral Gables, FL 33134

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident at

1211 Castile Ave, Coral Gables, FL 33134

As a resident of this City Beautiful since 1993 , my family and I are against designating 1208 Asturia Avenue a historical house.

The Historic Preservation Board voted against this designation and I strongly support the decision.

I graduated from the University of Miami School of Architecture in 1985 and have worked in the architectural field for many years.

Although I am in favor of maintaining our city's architectural values, the fact that this house is old does not mean that it holds architectural value as such, in my opinion. This being the reason why I support the Historical Preservation Board's decision.

My house is directly adjacent at the rear property line to the above mentioned property. I have seen the proposed design concept for this property and highly agree and welcome the improvement, value and beauty that it will bring to our community.

The positive impact will be great for the City Beautiful as well as for all of us.

Sincerely,

Maria Bardina Farah

I am a resident of Coral Gables. My address is 3780 Riviera drive.

I am writing to you because I am not in agreement with the idea of making 1208 Asturias a historic home.

The preservation board voted against the designation and I believe it was the right decision.

If you need to contact me, this is my phone number (305)799-8235.

With kind regards,

Silvia Fortun.

To whom it may concern:

I'm a resident at 7528 Los Pinos Blvd, Coral Gables, FL and as a resident of the City Beautiful, I am against designating 1208 Asturias Avenue as a historic home.

From the City's very own website, "Coral Gables, The City Beautiful, stands out as a rare pearl in South Florida. It is a cohesive community build on a grand scale that blends color, detail and the Mediterranean Revival architectural style to create harmony with the environment. Early city planners and visionaries were influenced by the aesthetics of the City Beautiful Movement that swept across America in the early 1900's. Inspired by the works of landscape architect Frederick Law Olmstead, who designed New York's Central Park, The City Beautiful Movement encouraged the use of wide tree-lined avenues, monumental buildings, winding roadways, green space, ornate plazas, and fountains."

The City's founder, George Merrick, together with a team of extraordinary designers, which included artist Denman Fink, architects H. George Fink and Phineas Paist, and landscape architect Frank Button, set out to create a unique suburb of the city of Miami. A project that would be an unrivaled beauty, constructed in the Mediterranean Revival style, featuring all the elements of the City Beautiful Movement right down to the finest details. Paist in particular, was a known colorist and created a vibrant color scheme for the city that ranged from the pastels to the more intense, all true to the original Mediterranean style. Under this master architect's hand, even the newest buildings were made to look old. Architectural designs featured the rounded arches and loggias of ancient Rome.

Visionaries like George Merrick of Coral Gables and Addison Mizner of Palm Beach carried this style through; planning and designing unparalleled communities to look as if they had been picked up and transported directly from the Mediterranean Coastline in all their antiquity. For Merrick - Majorca, Sevilla, Cartagena, and Malaga were not just cities in Spain, but symbols of his American ideal; his dream was to develop his vast land holdings while building on Florida's rich Spanish history.

Today, all these elements of style have been and continue to be incorporated throughout the City. The City continues to promote a Mediterranean architectural aesthetic by offering incentives for buildings designed in this style, paying tribute to George Merrick's initial design that were largely based on the Andalusian area of Spain.

Paradoxically, this very property sits on Asturias Avenue, a providence in Spain. While the home may have been built in 1937, this property is a classic ranch style home with its single story, long, low-pitch roofline and attached garage. As I am certain you are aware, first built in the 1920s, the ranch style was extremely popular with the war time middle class of the 1940s to the 1970s. The style is often associated with tract housing built at this time, particularly in the southwest United States, which experienced a population explosion during this period, with a corresponding demand for housing.



The simplicity of the ranch style of design is the very antithesis of the ornate and mediterranean vision of the City's founders. Coral Gables would be setting a terrible precedent designating an unimportant, unattractive & architecturally incompatible home "historic" based solely on year built. This property has no correlation or significance to the vision of George Merrick or the Florida Vernacular Architectural style.

As a result of many of the same arguments above, the preservation board voted against the historic designation and I support and applaud their decision. 1208 Asturias Avenue does not meet the criteria of a "historic home" for the City Beautiful. Our City deserves far better than this.

Thank you,

Lisette M. Calderon

Dear City Clerk,

In regards to designating 1208 Asturias as an historic designated property, I would like to state that I DISAGREE.

As a resident of Coral Gables and structural engineer, working with many architects for 37 years,

I only see a typical ranch house that does not speak to me of the flavor of Coral Gables.

The architect of this residence has far better projects than this unassuming home.

Respectfully yours,

Zvonimir Belfranin

Zvonimir T. Belfranin, P.E. 4836 SW 74th Court Miami, FL 33155P. (305) 669-0255F. (305) [669-1073](tel:3056691073)  
[1073belfranin@aol.com](mailto:1073belfranin@aol.com)

Whom It May Concern:

I have been a resident of Coral Gables for over 30 years. As a resident of the City Beautiful, I am against designating 1208 Asturias Avenue as a historic home.

I believe that when a house is designated as historic, it is because it has some intrinsic architectural features that cannot be replicated. While this house was designed by Russell Pancoast, I do not believe that it is one of his properties that should be deemed historic. It is neither a ranch house, nor an art deco house.

It is, rather, a "hodgepodge" of several different styles and is more of any eyesore than anything else on that beautiful street full of mediterranean architecture. When a house is deemed historical, it brings value to the city, both architecturally and historically, and is visually appealing. I support the decision of the preservation board which voted against designation of this property as historical. I think an appeal of the board's decision is an unfair process as well as a waste of time and taxpayer's money. Appealing this decision would be detrimental to the growth of our City Beautiful.

Sincerely,

Erin Valdes

1464 Ancona Avenue

Coral Gables, Florida 33146

Dear City Clerk,

I am a resident at 3405 Banos Court, Coral Gables

and as a resident of the City beautiful I disagree in designating

1208 Asturias Ave. as an historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and I wholeheartedly support their decision.

Thank you,

Lourdes Armenteros

Dear City Clerk,

I am a resident at 521 Santurce Avenue, Coral Gables and as a resident of the City beautiful I disagree in designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and I support their decision.

Best,

Gabriella Aballi Miranda

Dear City Clerk,

I am a resident at 90 Edgewater Drive, Coral Gables and as a resident of the City beautiful I disagree in designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as an historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and I wholeheartedly support their decision.

Thank you,

Frances Hassun

Dear City Clerk,

I am a resident at 4820 Ronda st, Coral Gables and as a resident of this beautiful City I disagree in designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as an historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and I wholeheartedly support their decision.

Thank you,

Ramon Prats

Dear City Clerk,

I am a resident at 18030 Miranda St. Coral Gables, FL 33156. I strongly disagree in designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and I am in complete agreement. 1208 Asturias Ave should not be designated as a historic home!

Thank You,  
Adalys Genemaras



Dear City Clerk,

Good afternoon. I am a resident at 412 Alminar Avenue in Coral Gables. As a Coral Gables resident, I disagree with designating the home at 1208 Asturia Avenue as an historic home. The Preservation Board voted against designation and I support their decision.

Thank you,

Alexander Trench

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident at

[1211 Castile Ave, Coral Gables, FL 33134](#)

As a resident of this City Beautiful since 1993 , my family and I are against designating [1208 Asturia Avenue](#) a historical house.

The Historic Preservation Board voted against this designation and I strongly support the decision. Although I am in favor of maintaining our city's architectural values, the fact that this house is old does not mean that it holds architectural value and as such, in my opinion, this home holds no historical value. This is the reason why I support the Historical Preservation Board's decision.

My house is directly adjacent at the rear property line to the above mentioned property. I have seen the proposed design concept for this property and highly agree and welcome the improvement, value and beauty that it will bring to our community.

The positive impact will be great for the City Beautiful as well as for all of us. The constant back and forth between the city and the homeowners sets a dangerous precedent and will cause hesitation to bring much needed investment and renovation to these dated and distressed homes.

As a city we should foster a welcoming community of residents open to change and progress, not one where an uninterested third party can derail a families plans and cause them serious financial distress.

Sincerely,

Sebastian Almaguer

Dear City Clerk,

I am a resident at 708 Anastasia ave, Coral Gables.

I am close friends with the owners and as a resident of the City beautiful I disagree in designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as an historic home. The new owners have the financial capacity and construction expertise to create a beautiful home for the street and our city. It will make us better and raise values to allow them to move forward.

Thank you,

Victor A. de Diego

To whom it may concern;

I am a resident of Coral Gables and I agree with the decision of the board to not to deem 1208 Asturias Ave. historic.

Thank you,

Gloria Ordaz

841 Andalusia Ave.

Coral Gables, FL 33134

I agree with the decision of the preservation board that the above referenced house should not be designated as a historical property . Thank you.

Julio Ramirez ( Coral Gables resident)

Good morning,

I am a resident at 1447 Siena Ave., Coral Gables. As a resident of Coral Gables, I disagree with designating the home at 1208 Asturias as a historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and I support their decision.

Thank you,

Johanna C. Miñoso, Esq.  
786-213-6600

I am a resident of Coral Gables and homeowner since 1986.  
I agree with the boards decision in not designating 1208 Asturias historic.

The historic preservation department has had 50 years to determine what should be designated historic.  
It seems unfair to attempt to designate as such now when a new homeowner pulls a permit for a ranch house to be demolished.  
The board's original ruling should stand.

Sincerely,

George Jarp

5800 San Vicente Street

Coral Gables, Florida 33146

## Urquia, Billy

---

**From:** Luigi Vitalini <lvitalini@vciami.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 10:19 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia support letter  
**Attachments:** 1208 Asturia.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Luigi Vitalini  
USGBC, LEED AP



300 Aragon Avenue, Suite 330  
Coral Gables, FL 33134  
tel: 305.567.0602  
fax: 305.446.3197  
lvitalini@vciami.com  
www.vcmiami.com





I, **Luigi Vitalini**, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, **Luigi Vitalini** ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020

Sincerely

Luigi Vitalini

**Luigi  
Vitalini**

Digitally signed by Luigi  
Vitalini  
DN: c=US, st=Florida, l=Coral  
Gables, ou=Vitalini Corazzini  
P.A, o=Vitalini Corazzini P.A,  
cn=Luigi Vitalini,  
email=Lvitalini@vcmiami.com  
Date: 2020.05.11 10:12:50  
-04'00'

## Urquia, Billy

---

**From:** vicki cerda <vicki\_cerda@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 4:42 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** FW: Pancoast House/To add to the appeal input  
**Attachments:** Pancoast House.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Billy. Please add this (see attached) to the letters you received for the appeal. As agreed, anything that came to me directly could be forwarded to you to include. Please confirm receipt.

Vicki

---

**From:** [john oconnor](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 1:36 PM  
**To:** [vicki cerda](#)  
**Subject:** Pancoast House

ATTACHED

John T. O'Connor  
Editorial-Director-At-Large  
**Tropic Magazine**  
954 614.6725

[TropicFL.com](http://TropicFL.com)

# A Tale of Two Roofs

A Russell Pancoast-designed home in Coral Gables finds its head on the chopping block. Is it worth preserving?

**Text** Randall Robinson

**RUSSELL PANCOAST, A HOMEGROWN** master architect and one of Miami's most formative architectural designers, worked on and produced scores of architecturally significant buildings from the 1920s through the 1950s. His work spanned epochs in design, leaving behind an inimitable legacy of exemplary Mediterranean Revival, Art Deco style, the transitional Med-Deco, Tropical Art Deco, Stream

The important transition this little house represents is the movement from Miami's pioneer houses... to modern, suburban, one-story houses

line Moderne and a brand of Postwar Modernism unique to Subtropical Florida, referred to as the Coconut Grove School.

The grandson of Miami Beach pioneer John Collins, Russell Pancoast came to Miami's Subtropical frontier from New Jersey as a young boy in the first years of the 20th century. He came with his family, led by Collins' son-in-law Thomas Pancoast. Thomas Pancoast was the first to envision Miami Beach as the Palm Beach for the new money, self-made mil-

lionaires of the late 19th century Gilded Age. But first there were mangrove forests to reclaim and mosquitos to tame. Though Southern Florida has had an exotic allure from the beginning, the pioneer days of the turn of the 20th century were rough going during the long hot season of the year.

Russell Pancoast earned his degree in architecture from Cornell in 1922 and worked in the Miami office of the illustrious Pittsburgh firm of Kiehnel & Elliott before starting his own practice in 1928. Pancoast possessed, however, something that could not be learned at a great university or by apprenticing at a luxury architecture firm. Unlike like the rest of the small club of respected Miami architects of the first half of the 20th century, he had a first-hand knowledge of the pioneering subtropical vernacular architecture of South Florida, that is to say, especially in Miami's case, what came *before* the Mediterranean Revival style.

The northern white pioneers of subtropical Florida logically built according to the climate and the materials readily available locally. Thus, the defining characteristic of building construction was the use of the abundant and tough Dade County Pine as the primary building material. Oolitic Limestone, commonly referred to as 'coral rock' was used as deco-

orative cladding material over the pine. A defining design characteristic of the early buildings were shallow pitched roofs because only water, not snow, needed to be shed from them. The roofs had wide eaves to provide protection from the searing summer sun and frequent summer rains. As air-conditioning would not come into widespread use until the 1950s, any passive cooling device such as using these was a blessing.

So critical were the wide eaves that they wrapped around all four sides of a building, running across even the gable ends. The highest expression of these wraparound sun protection devices came with the deep, shaded verandas at The Barnacle. Breaking with the age-old custom of building a residential building in a rectangular arrangement, The Barnacle has a square arrangement provided by a hipped roof. Porch roofs here surround the entire structure, providing protection from the sun and rain. The use of these devices was not lost on Pancoast, who, by virtue of being a pioneer, was the only one who experienced — and therefore had an intimate knowledge of — the construction of the very first buildings in Miami.

So now we come to the question at hand, is the Pancoast-designed house at 1208 Asturia Avenue in



Vintage photo of the Coral Gables house at 1208 Asturia Avenue, designed in 1937 by Russell Pancoast.

Coral Gables worth protecting? The fact that it's by Russell Pancoast and is nearly intact should be more than reason enough. Beyond that, there has been much discussion of the structure's unique quality as a transition *between* the revival styles popular from the mid 1910s through the mid 1920s, when Art Deco, the first modern style appeared. But in looking for an ironclad argument, as reason to protect the house, that doesn't fit the bill. Even though it is transitional and was embraced in its time, there are scores of Med-Modern transitional houses throughout the upscale Miami suburbs of the 1930s and '40s, up until the early 1950s.

Another major discussion is that the house can be seen as Miami's contribution to the classic American ranch house that became ubiquitous in the suburbs in the 1950s and '60s. This might be another good reason to protect it, but as the designation report explains, the house was not a prototypical ranch house but rather a strand that was woven into a unique form as it was intertwined with influences from other parts of the country. While this might be a good reason to protect the house, it's a little too academic and based on hypothesis.

I find that what makes the house truly unique is not that it represents a transition style to style. Rather, the important transition it represents is the movement from *pioneer* houses with low-pitched, hipped roofs and wide eaves to *modern*, suburban, one-story houses with low-pitched, hipped roofs and wide eaves. The most overt signal of this particular transition is described in the property's historic designation report:

*The eastern 'private' end of the home has two bays. The front façade of the eastern-most bay is along the same plane as the front entry public bay discussed above. This small bay has a hipped roof with a central window flanked by shutters. The second bay projects approximately five feet and has a very shallow front-facing gable roof. The gable end is visually minimized by a 'hip' skirt roof that becomes the wide projecting eaves of this bay.*

That's the way the designation report describes one of the house's decorative details, unquestionably inspired by the eaves applied to the gables often seen in the coral rock houses of the 1910s and early 1920s. With his unique knowledge of Miami's earliest buildings, Pancoast found inspiration for deco-

ration in a rote architectural move borne of necessity but one that was not yet refined. Refinement of this contradiction reached its pinnacle in the sculptural roof of the Coral Gables house, where gables and contradicting eaves were intentionally assembled into an elegant coherent whole.

It shouldn't surprise anyone that something so seemingly superfluous would grant uniqueness and irrefutable significance. Nor should it be a revelation that something utilitarian and clumsy would become valuable and appreciated with the passage of time. The world is full of those sorts of transitions. Remember, the Tropical Art Deco that emerged 40 years after the city's inception — and was considered cheap and tacky in the 1970s — became a cherished savior of Miami's tarnished image in the rocky early 1980s. It could have just as easily been erased, and that, we can all agree, would have been a tragedy.

About the author: Randall Robinson is the co-author of *MiMo: Miami Modern Revealed* and *Miami Architecture: An AIA Guide Featuring Downtown, The beaches and Coconut Grove*.

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Karelia Carbonell <karelia.m.carbonell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 10:25 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Letter of support from HPACG--APPEAL HEARING MAY 12  
**Attachments:** HPACG Letter of Support TO OVERTURN--1208 ASTURIA.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Billy,

Please find attached letter of support from HPACG for the historic designation appeal scheduled for May 12th.

Thank you.  
karelia



May 7, 2020

Coral Gables City Commission Appeal Hearing May 12, 2020

Att: Billy Urquia, City Clerk

**Re: Russell Pancoast 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables**

The Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables, **with close to 100 dues-paying members**, SUPPORTS Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, seeking to OVERTURN the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

The Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables asks The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to OVERTURN the decision of March 4, 2020 at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020

WHO IS RUSSELL PANCOAST?

Maverick architect Russell Pancoast designed this home in 1936 when little construction was occurring in South Florida due to the Depression, and it became a trend setter. Pancoast was one of South Florida's most prominent architects and has become known as the "Dean of Miami architects" for his lifetime achievements in design and innovation. He was one of the leading architects that helped to develop a local subtropical modern design philosophy unique to South Florida. In this home he brings these modern influences to the ranch typology, breaking away

**Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables**  
**Post Office Box 347944, Coral Gables, Florida 33234**  
**[info@historiccorgables.org](mailto:info@historiccorgables.org)**  
**[www.historiccorgables.org](http://www.historiccorgables.org)**



from the Mediterranean Revival foundation of the City and launching a new chapter in Coral Gables architectural history.

The Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables promotes the understanding and importance of historic resources and their preservation in Coral Gables. Demolition of significant historic structures should always be a last resort, and an option only exercised after serious and thoughtful deliberation. We hope the City Commission will strongly consider the preservation of **1208 Asturia Avenue** and OVERTURN the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate this property as a local historic landmark.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Karella Martinez Carbonell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Karella Martinez Carbonell  
President Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Claudia Lagrange <claudialagrange@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 4:21 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** Ariel; Arianna Kaufman; Historic Preservation of CG Karelia Carbonell; Brett Gillis  
**Subject:** Support of Vicki Cerda's appeal - 1208 Asturia Avenue  
**Attachments:** Appeal 1208 Asturia Arianna Kaufman.pdf; Appeal Letter 1208 Asturia Ariel Kaufman.pdf; Pancoast 1208 Asturia Appeal Claudia Lagrange.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Sirs,

Please find attached 3 support letters for the historic designation appeal.  
We appreciate your attention on this matter.

Sincerely,

Claudia Lagrange-Kaufman  
786 253 1932



May 06, 2020

**City Commissioners**  
**City of Coral Gables**

Dear Sirs,

I, ARIANNA E. KAUFMAN, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, ARIANNA E. KAUFMAN, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020

**Arianna E. Kaufman**  
3757 Carmen Court  
Miami 33133

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'AK' with a flourish at the end.

May 06, 2020

**City Commissioners**  
**City of Coral Gables**

Dear Sirs,

I, ARIEL M. KAUFMAN, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, ARIEL M. KAUFMAN, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ariel M. Kaufman', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

**Ariel M. Kaufman**  
3757 Carmen Court  
Miami 33133

May 06, 2020

**City Commissioners**  
**City of Coral Gables**

Dear Sirs,

I, CLAUDIA LAGRANGE-KAUFMAN, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, CLAUDIA LAGRANGE-KAUFMAN, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020



**Claudia Lagrange-Kaufman**  
3757 Carmeh Court  
Miami 33133  
786 253 1932

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Christine Rupp <chris@dadeheritagetrust.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 2:58 PM  
**To:** Urquia, Billy; City Clerk  
**Subject:** RE: Request to speak at May 12 Commission meeting re 1208 Asturia  
**Attachments:** 1208 Asturia Appeal Letter.pdf

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hey Billy! Also, please see attached. A letter to be read into the record at the May 12 Commission meeting, if possible. Thank you so much!

### Christine Rupp

Executive Director  
Dade Heritage Trust  
190 SE 12 Terrace  
Miami, FL 33131  
[chris@dadeheritagetrust.org](mailto:chris@dadeheritagetrust.org)  
305-358-9572 - Office  
305-910-3996 – Cell



DadeHeritageTrust.org

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**From:** Urquia, Billy  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 1:40 PM  
**To:** Christine Rupp <chris@dadeheritagetrust.org>; City Clerk <CityClerk@coralgables.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Request to speak at May 12 Commission meeting re 1208 Asturia

Good afternoon Mr. Rupp,

I will definitely make note of your request to speak. Additionally, once you log into the Zoom Meeting next Tuesday, if you could please send a comment to the Meeting Host letting him/her know.

Thank you,

*Billy Y. Urquia*

City Clerk

City Clerk's Office  
405 Biltmore Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

(305) 569-1812  
[burquia@coralgables.com](mailto:burquia@coralgables.com)  
[www.coralgables.com](http://www.coralgables.com)



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**From:** Christine Rupp <[chris@dadeheritagetrust.org](mailto:chris@dadeheritagetrust.org)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 12:54 PM  
**To:** City Clerk <[CityClerk@coralgables.com](mailto:CityClerk@coralgables.com)>  
**Subject:** Request to speak at May 12 Commission meeting re 1208 Asturia

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mr. City Clerk: Hope all is well with you!  
Please put my name on the list of speakers for the May 12 Commission meeting item on the 1208 Asturia appeal.

Thank you! And, can you please confirm this request?

**Christine Rupp**  
Executive Director  
Dade Heritage Trust  
190 SE 12 Terrace  
Miami, FL 33131  
[chris@dadeheritagetrust.org](mailto:chris@dadeheritagetrust.org)  
305-358-9572 - Office  
305-910-3996 – Cell



DadeHeritageTrust.org



May 7, 2020

Billy Y. Urquia  
City Clerk  
City of Coral Gables  
450 Biltmore Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

VIA EMAIL: [cityclerk@coralgables.com](mailto:cityclerk@coralgables.com)

Re: Appeal regarding the property at 1208 Asturia

Dear Mr. Urquia:

Dade Heritage Trust requests this letter be read at the May 12, 2020 City Commission meeting for item regarding Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark. Dade Heritage Trust requests the City of Coral Gables Commission vote to in favor of the appellant the reasons as follows:

Upon review of the thorough and well-researched staff report, Dade Heritage Trust concurs that the building retains its historic integrity and context; standing as a testament to architect Russell Pancoast's progressive architectural vision. The building is deserving of designation, protection and preservation under the language of the City's Historic Preservation ordinance as it meets the required criteria as defined in the ordinance.

The Historic Preservation Board ruled contrary to the law and disregarded the report of the Historic Preservation Officer with no defense of their position. Their decision, which ignored the Preservation Ordinance with regard to designation criteria, must be overturned.

We, therefore, ask that you grant the appeal.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vinson Richter".

Vinson Richter  
President

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** maureen curtin <munecac@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 5:43 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** APPLICATION NO. 19-008: Appeal of March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134 as a local historic landmark

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Honorable Mayor Raúl Valdés-Fauli and Honorable Commissioners of the City of Coral Gables,

My husband and I have been home owners in Coral Gables for almost 30 years. Our home is on Castile Ave, one the most desirable and historic streets of the City Beautiful, because of the well preserved charm of the homes. This is the very reason we chose to buy, renovate and live in this area.

Over the past year, we have seen monstrous contemporary homes being constructed on Castile and Asturia. We honestly feel if these permits are going to be granted for these contemporary style homes, we will loose the very reason we came to this beautiful area. These large contemporary homes belong elsewhere, not in an area that has been designated historical.

This brings me to the house in question- 1208 Asturia. If the permit is given to demolish this home, we are in fear that another home like the ones mentioned will be built - plus, many times when the lots are cleared, you not only loose the home, but the mature landscaping and trees as well. Therefore, I am requesting for the Historic Preservation Board to designate 1208 Asturia historical. This home needs to be renovated in a manner which will be in keeping with the charming and aesthetic beauty of our historical area.

Respectfully submitted,  
William and Maureen Curtin















## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Joyce Nelson <grovites@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 1:59 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** info@historiccoralgables.org  
**Subject:** MAY 12 City Commission VIRTUAL MEETING -- APPEAL HEARING-- 10 AM.

**Importance:** High

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

**I SUPPORT the APPEAL TO OVERTURN THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD VOTE.**

**I SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020

F khhu# 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷 🍷 #

Mr | fn# | # horq

63808380447 :

**"Be good, be giving, be a good citizen,  
and be a good friend...therein all honor lies."**

**John Fonville**

**We never touch someone so lightly that we don't leave a trace.#**

#

**"There are three apples that changed the world: Eve's, Isaac Newton's, and Steve Jobs'."**

#

The world's oceans will contain more plastic than fish in 2050.  
8 MILLION TONS OF PLASTIC ARE DEPOSITED IN THE OCEAN A YEAR.

**One drop of water per second from a leaky faucet wastes 2,700 gallons of water per year.'**

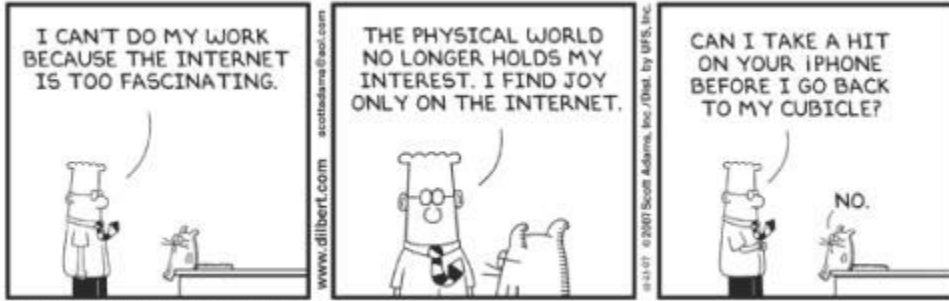
**Who owns the water? Only 1% of water on earth is drinkable. The first medicine on this planet was water.#**

#

**REFUSE! REUSE.REDUCE.RECYCLE. #**

Measure your life by the quality of life you can improve in other people.

#



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Jose A. Garrido Jr. <[garridojr@garridogroup.com](mailto:garridojr@garridogroup.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 1:54 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern:

I have lived in the Gables for over 43 years and own a historic designated home on Santa Maria Street. I also very much agree with the historic board's decision in not designating 1208 Asturias historic. In my opinion designating this home historic takes away from the houses that are truly a gem in our city and deserve to be preserve. This house adds no architectural or historical value to our city beautiful.

Thank you for your attention on this matter.

Regards,

Jose A. Garrido, Jr.

Tel: +1 (305) 591-1111 Ext: 1322  
Fax: +1 (305) 593-7070  
Email: [garridojr@garridogroup.com](mailto:garridojr@garridogroup.com)



GARRIDO GROUP  
OF COMPANIES

 Please consider the environment before printing this email.

The information transmitted is intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon, this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any and all computers.

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** livia cleary <liviacleary@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 10, 2020 7:21 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** Vicky Cerda  
**Subject:** MAY 12 City Commission MEETING -- APPEAL HEARING

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I, Livia Cleary, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, Livia Cleary, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020

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*Founded in 1991, Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables (HPACG) is a 501c3 nonprofit whose mission is to promote the understanding and importance of historic resources and their preservation. Want to get to know us better? Please visit our website at [www.historiccoralgables.org](http://www.historiccoralgables.org)*

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Christine Rupp <chris@dadeheritagetrust.org>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 12:54 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Request to speak at May 12 Commission meeting re 1208 Asturia

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mr. City Clerk: Hope all is well with you!

Please put my name on the list of speakers for the May 12 Commission meeting item on the 1208 Asturia appeal.

Thank you! And, can you please confirm this request?

### **Christine Rupp**

Executive Director

Dade Heritage Trust

190 SE 12 Terrace

Miami, FL 33131

[chris@dadeheritagetrust.org](mailto:chris@dadeheritagetrust.org)

305-358-9572 - Office

305-910-3996 – Cell



DadeHeritageTrust.org



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Mary Anne Danguillecourt <madanguillecourt@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 2:06 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 ASTURIA Avenue coral Gables Florida

CAUTION External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi,

I spoke at City Hall in 2019 meeting on behalf of saving this ranch Pancoast home.

My position is the same, after watching today's Zoom meeting on this home.

To let anyone tear it down and put a new structure on the rather small lot compared to other lots in Coral Gables would not be good. The neighborhood would lose its integrity and the character of the neighborhood. It's better to have an owner work with the structure and it's possible. There is another home across the street where the original facade was kept with additional space added to it which I think is the best thing.

A developer will do whatever..... please designate this home as historical.

Kara and Donna Spain which are hired by The us and government have said to do this.

Why are you discussing the option when the board hired to research this says this is the best thing, designating a historic building. Maintenance of the area is important to Coral Gables it is and always has been about appearances. Mega mansions are not for Asturia.

Mary Anne Danguillecourt

Sent from my iPad

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Ray Corral <ray@mosaicist.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 12:26 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Aaturia.

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern:

I live in a designated historic home at 1822 Contry Club Prado and I agree with the board. They voted not to designate 1208 Asturias historic and I agree with their decision.  
Not every house deserves a historic designation. This will stunt the growth of our city and tax revenue.

Kind Regards,

Ray J Corral

Mosaicist, Inc  
1822 Country Club Prado  
Coral Gables, Florida 33134  
ring: 305-447-1977  
skype: rayjcorral

[www.mosaicist.com](http://www.mosaicist.com)  
[insta/mosaicist](https://www.instagram.com/mosaicist)  
[fb/mosaicist](https://www.facebook.com/mosaicist)  
[houzz/mosaicist](https://www.houzz.com/mosaicist)

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Sandy and David Lysinger <lysinger@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 9:55 AM  
**To:** Urquia, Billy  
**Subject:** Appeal of March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134 as a local historic landmark

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Mayor, Vice Mayor and Commissioners,

My husband and I support the appeal of the Historic Preservation Board's decision ~~Not~~ to designate 1208 Asturia Avenue as HISTORIC. To clarify: We want 1208 Asturia Avenue designated historic.

At the Historic Preservation Board's meeting on this item, Staff gave 3 criteria for designating this property historic. Only 1 criteria is necessary for designation. The Board ignored the criteria and voted against historic designation. In our opinion, this establishes a dangerous precedent. If our City has approved criteria for historic designation, why was it ignored by the Board?

The Buyer's attorney stated the Buyer was not aware that it could be designated historic, even though this information was clearly stated on the listing.

Please overturn the Board's decision and make 1208 Asturia Avenue historic.

Sincerely,

Sandy and David Lysinger  
1225 Castile Avenue  
305 443-6218

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Maggy Romero <maggyromero@keyes.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 9:13 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Ave.

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

My husband and I reside at 1213 Osipko Coral Gables, FL 33134 and as a residents of the City Beautiful we are against the designation of 1208 Asturia Ave. as a historic home. The Preservation Board has voted against and we support their decision.

Sincerely,

Louis & Magaly Romero

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Laura Reiss <lreiss@harvardpersonnel.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:40 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I have been living in Coral Gables for over 30 years because of its history, charm and style and I hopefully will remain in the City Beautiful. To that end, Historic architecture and careful planning are fundamental tenets of our community. Please do not allow favoritism or make an exception for one family with connections. This house is a rare Art Deco Styled Ranch from the 1930s and should be preserved as an integral testament to the city's progress and change.

Sincerely,

Laura Reiss

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Ivonne Foster <geniecocoplum@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:26 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Ave. Coral Gables, FL 33134

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am a resident at 1416 Castile Ave. Coral Gables, FL 33134  
and as a resident of Coral Gables, we are against designating  
1208 Asturias Ave. Coral Gables, as a historic home. The preservation board voted  
against designation and we support their decision.  
Thank you,  
Sarah Legoburu-Selem  
1416 Castile Ave,  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Ivonne Foster <geniecocoplum@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:25 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Ave. Coral Gables, FL 33134

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am a resident at 2031 Country Club Prado, Coral Gables, FL 33134 and as a resident of the City Beautiful, we are against in designating 1208 Asturias Ave. Coral Gables, as a historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and we support their decision.

Thank you,

Magali Selem  
2031 Country Club Prado  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** patsypp@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:22 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Astoria Ave.

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and Commissions

As a resident of Coral Gables for 45 years and a member of the Board of Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables, I am aware that there is criteria for assigning an historic home. The building at 1208 Astoria Ave, meets that criteria! I ask that you support these findings and place this as an historic property.

This Russell Pancoast property is representative of historic architecture even if it breaks from the Mediterranean style. I ask for its preservation.

Sincerely,  
Patricia Button

1245 Obispo Ave.  
Coral Gables, FL  
33134



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Annette Hogan <annettepatriciahogan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:22 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Ave - Attn Billy Y. URQUIA

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Attention: BILLY Y. URQUIA  
CITY CLERK

I, Annette Hogan a 20+ year resident 1421 Columbus Blvd, Coral Gables, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, Annette Hogan, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020

--

Annette Patricia Hogan  
(M) +1 305 ~~46~~-6787  
(E) [annettepatriciahogan@gmail.com](mailto:annettepatriciahogan@gmail.com)

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** info <info@intifoundation.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 8:15 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** Genie Legorburu  
**Subject:** Voting agains designation of 1208 Asturias

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I'm a resident at 280 lasbrisas ct ,  
—Coral Gables, fl 33143

and as a resident of the Citybeautiful we are against in designating  
1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home. The preservationboardvoted against designation and we support their decision.

Rosario Rico Toro  
Thank you,

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## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Ileana Pruitt <mibileana1@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 7:51 AM  
**To:** City Clerk

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I'm a resident at ————

Coral Gables

and as a resident of the City beautiful we are against in designating

1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and we support their decision.

Thank you,

—————

Ileana Pruitt

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

---

**From:** IGNACIO E CENDAN <ignacioecendan@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 7:37 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Ave, Coral Gables, FL 33134

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

This is to correct my previous email where I stated that the Commission meeting is today, Tuesday, May 11, 2020 in the first line of my mail and should have read Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

Thank you,  
Catherine A Cendan

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** IGNACIO E CENDAN <ignacioecendan@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 7:32 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Ave

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To: City Commissioners  
From: Ignacio and Catherine Cendan  
1246 Asturia Ave, Coral Gables FL, 33134

We are sending this email to show our support of Vicki Cerda's appeal today before the Board-Tuesday, May 11, 2020. As neighbors who live within 1000 feet of this property we strongly feel that this home has special qualifications to be designated historical and this opinion is shared by the city staff when they strongly recommended that the home did have three qualifying criteria to be historical and thus not be bulldozed.

So we, Ignacio and Catherine Cendan, SUPPORT Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at their regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Ave, Coral Gables, FL 33134.

Application No 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Ave, Coral Gables, FL 33134, as a local historic landmark.

We, Ignacio and Catherine Cendan, ask the City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to GRANT the appeal at it's regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

Thank you,  
Ignacio E. Cendan  
Catherine A Cendan

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Gene Roca <rocsecuritynet@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 7:21 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** SAVE 1208 ASTURIA FROM DEMOLITION

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I, Generoso ROCA, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at [1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134](#).

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at [1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134](#), as a local historic landmark.

I, Generoso ROCA, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

Thank you,

Gene Roca

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Joseph Selem <jselem@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 12:24 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Against historic designation of 1208 Asturias Ave

CAUTION External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I'm a resident at 609 Cadagua ave  
Coral Gables  
and as a resident of the City beautiful we are against in designating  
1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and we support their decision.  
Thank you,  
Joseph Selem

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Ivonne Foster <geniecocoplum@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 12, 2020 12:05 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 ASTURIAS ave Coral Gables

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am a resident at 6117 Riviera Dr. Coral Gables, and as a resident of the City beautiful we are against in designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and we support their decision.

Thank you,

Bertha Galceran,  
6117 Riviera Dr,  
Coral Gables



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Ana Cantero <anic41@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 10:41 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Avenue

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern:

I am a resident of Coral Gables. I have lived in the Gables on and off for 52 years. I love your careful consideration in preserving our historic homes and buildings. But I am in full agreement with the board on the decision to not deem 1208 Asturia Avenue an historic house.

Thank you kindly,

Ana Cantero  
1408 Dorado Avenue  
Coral Gables, FL  
33146  
3059049312

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Pat <lopezpatl@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 10:17 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Ave

CAUTION External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

We have resided at 720 Jeronimo Drive, Coral Gables for the past 34 years. We enjoy living in a city that values history with multiple historic villages and homes that have been designated historically by the Preservation Board. We agree with the decision that the historic board made regarding 1208 Asturias Ave, we support that this property does not merit being a designated historic home.

Regards,

Camilo & Patricia Lopez

Sent from my iPad

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** yoga ana <anabagni9@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 9:50 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** vicki cerda  
**Subject:** Grant appeal to Maria Cerda

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To: BILLY Y. URQUIA, CITY CLERK  
[cityclerk@coralgables.com](mailto:cityclerk@coralgables.com)

I, Ana Bartlett, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, Ana Bartlett, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

Sincerely,  
Ana Bartlett

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Raul Masvidal <raulmasvidal@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 9:10 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Fwd: 1008 Alhambra Circle, Coral Gables, FL 33134

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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

**From:** Raul Masvidal <[raulmasvidal@gmail.com](mailto:raulmasvidal@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Mon, May 11, 2020 at 8:36 PM  
**Subject:** 1008 Alhambra Circle, Coral Gables, FL 33134  
**To:** <[desi@vallsgroupinc.com](mailto:desi@vallsgroupinc.com)>

My name is Raul Masvidal. I have lived in the City since 1960 when my family moved here from Cuba and I entered UM as a freshman.

The subject of my appearance before you today for the second time is a sad story. Apparently somebody who claims to be a neighbor of the above captioned property is adamant in abusing the "system". My concern is that we, the citizens of Coral Gables, should not allow petty exploitation of our so much revered process that has existed for generations.

The new owners of the property have requested to demolish the existing ugly structure to replace it with a new house designed by a prominent local architect well known to all of us for generations. They are a young professional couple who have selected this house as the place to move in and raise their family. They represent exactly the kind of people that the Gables have always sought to attract as new neighbors. They are Miamians trying to stay in their own community. They are trying to improve the aesthetics of their new home and the immediate neighborhood in a way that will be adding value to the entire area.

I urge you to reject this appeal which is nothing but a waste of time for the City staff and the Commission and a true travesty of justice.

Your consideration will be appreciated. Thank you.

Raul Masvidal  
66 Valencia Avenue  
Coral Gables, FL 33134  
(305)684-4010

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Carolyn Reyes <carolynltd@att.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 8:44 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Commission Meeting Agenda 5/12/20

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I would like to be on the agenda to speak on the subject historic designation appeal of property at 1208 Astoria Avenue. I will be joining the meeting by Zoom.

Thank you for including me when public comments by interested parties are welcomed.

I understand the time limit and am a resident of Coral Gables.

My phone is 786-239-7035  
Address is 814 Mariana A e.

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone  
Carolyn Reyes

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Christina <bel44@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 8:43 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Ave

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern:

We are residents of the gables and agree with the board's decision not to deem 1208 Asturia historic.

Thank you ,  
Christina Lopez  
450 Loretto Ave  
Coral Gables 33146

Thank you  
Christina  
Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Ana Hernandez <specialed27@me.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 8:34 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Historic home

CAUTION External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi

cityclerk@coralgables.com

To whom it may concern ;  
I'm a homeowner in the Gables at  
1230 Cartagena Ave.

I'm against designating  
1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home.  
I agree with the boards decision in not deeming it historic.

Thank you,

Ana Hernández

1230 Cartagena Ave  
Coral Gables, FL 33156

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** rickestrada915 <rickestrada915@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 8:31 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Historic Designation

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern:

I am a resident of Coral Gables and I agree with the board's decision not to deem 1208 Asturia historic. I also attended one of the last hearings where I spoke and expressed the same opinion: 1207 Asturias should not be deemed historic .

Thank you ,

Rick Estrada  
4515 San Amaro Drive  
Coral Gables, FL 33146

Sent from my iPhone



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Diana ARMENTEROS <Dianarmenteros@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 8:18 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Avenue Coral Gables Fl

CAUTION External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

May 11, 2020

cityclerk@coralgables.com

To whom it may concern:

I've owned property in the Gables for the past 12 years I'm against designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home.

This house has no history to be preserved, year of built and known architect should not be a criteria specially when it's probably his worse work. The preservation board was correct when they decided to vote against designation. I support their decision and so should the commission. No to preservation.!

Thank you,  
Diana Armenteros

20 Calabria apt 602  
Coral Gables Fl 33134

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Mirta Mendez <mirtacm@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 7:49 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** desi@vallsgroupinc.com

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable City Clerk,

As a property owner of Coral Gables, 3000 & 3020 Le Jeune Road, I respectfully disagree in any Historic Home designation to 1208 Asturias Avenue. The City's Preservation Board astutely voted against designation and I strongly support their decision. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concern.

Sincerely,  
Mirta Mendez

## Urquia, Billy

---

**From:** H <habdc@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 7:30 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Avenue

CAUTION External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I want to join the many other citizens of Coral Gables who believe that the historic legacy of our beautiful City embraces an appreciation of architectural quality and creativity of many periods. While justly proud of and committed to the preservation of our Mediterranean Revival heritage, we believe that George Merrick's vision of good design is reflected in the subsequent styles that sought to carry forward the concept of living in harmony both with the natural setting and climate of South Florida, as well as the existing buildings of earlier eras. The pioneering Pancoast ranch house concept, embellished with classic Art Deco influences, embodied in 1208 Asturia Avenue, certainly fulfills this criteria-both in its original design and as a paradigm for a style that shaped Coral Gables neighborhoods for a generation.

Many of us hope that this distinguished landmark will be preserved and restored as a vital highlight of our rich and diverse history.

Respectfully,

Rabbi Howard A. Berman  
501 Alcazar Avenue  
Coral Gables

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

---

**From:** Andres Ruix <ruix67@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 6:58 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I, Sebastian Ruiz, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, Sebastian Ruiz,, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** ivan ruiz <aulet13@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 6:57 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Property on 1208 Asturias Ave

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I, Ivan Ruiz, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, Ivan Ruiz, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Y. <yeraldineor@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 6:46 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Letter in support to GRANT appeal for APPLICATION NO. 19-008

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I Yeraldine Ordonez, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, Yeraldine Ordonez, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

Regards,  
Yeraldine Ordonez  
4298 sw 5 terr  
Miami FL

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Lourdes Quiroga <lourdes@datatron.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 6:28 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** APPLICATION NO. 19-008

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I, Lourdes Quiroga, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, Lourdes Quiroga, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Eddier Martinez <eddiermartinez@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 6:23 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Support for Vicky Cerda appeal

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I, Eddier Martinez, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at [1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134](#).

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at [1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134](#), as a local historic landmark.

I, Eddier Martinez ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting [on Tuesday, May 12, 2020](#)



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Thomas Graham <tommi@miami@datatron.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 6:22 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** APPLICATION NO. 19-008

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I, Thomas Graham, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, Thomas Graham, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Saeid Mojtahedi <saeidgar@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 6:20 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Support for Vicky Cerda's appeal

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I, Dr.Saeid Mojtahedi, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at [1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134](#).

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at [1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134](#), as a local historic landmark.

I, Dr. Saeid Mojtahedi ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to**GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting [on Tuesday, May 12, 2020](#)

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Celina Hernandez <cmh2343@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 6:14 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Ave

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk:

I am a resident of Coral Gables for over 30 years both in Hammock Oaks and, for the last 14 years, in downtown Gables. As such I most strongly disagree with designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as an historic home.

Furthermore, the preservation board has spoken and I am in total agreement with their decision voting against designation.

I thank you for your consideration in this matter and hope that the board's decision prevails.

Celina Hernandez  
10 Aragon Ave.  
City Beautiful

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Samantha Hernandez <snh16@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 6:11 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** alexpina@me.com  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Avenue

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern. I, Samantha Piña, along with my husband Alexander Piña, reside with our family at 4110 Anderson Road here in Coral Gables. As a long time residents of the City Beautiful, we have to strongly disagree with the designation of 1208 Asturias Avenue as a historic home. We are in full support of the preservation board's vote against the designation.

We hope that you all are well and look forward to a positive outcome.

Thank you,

Alexander and Samantha Piña

Samantha Hernandez-Piña  
305-992-4121  
snh16@bellsouth.net

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Javier Baños <javierb@banoslawfirm.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 5:57 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at [1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134](#).

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at [1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134](#), as a local historic landmark.

I ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting [on Tuesday, May 12, 2020](#)

Javier Baños Machado, Esq, CPA  
Law Services, P.A.  
3126 Coral Way  
Miami, FL 33145  
(305) 519-5581  
Fax (305) 403-1061  
javierb@banoslawfirm.com  
Lawservicespa@gmail.com  
CPA AC5066  
BAR 25706

**Urquia, Billy**

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**From:** Norma E Arenas <norma.e.arenas@us.hsbc.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 5:47 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

DEAR BILLY URQUIA

I, NORMA ARENAS, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, Norma Arenas ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020

Kind regards,

**Norma E. Arenas**  
1231 Madrid St  
Coral Gables, FL 33134  
305-490 1641

\*\*\*\*\*

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\*\*\*\*\*

SAVE PAPER - THINK BEFORE YOU PRINT!

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Lisa Bennett <lisabennett5@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 4:59 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Fwd: Appeal 1208 Asturia Avenue

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

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

From: **Lisa Bennett** <[lisabennett5@gmail.com](mailto:lisabennett5@gmail.com)>  
Date: Mon, May 11, 2020 at 4:27 PM  
Subject: Appeal 1208 Asturia Avenue  
To: Valdes-Fauli, Raul <[valdes-fauli@coralgables.com](mailto:valdes-fauli@coralgables.com)>, Lago, Vince <[vlago@coralgables.com](mailto:vlago@coralgables.com)>, Keon, Patricia <[pkeon@coralgables.com](mailto:pkeon@coralgables.com)>, <[jfors@coralgables.com](mailto:jfors@coralgables.com)>, Mena, Michael <[mmena@coralgables.com](mailto:mmena@coralgables.com)>

Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and Commissioners,

As a member of the Board of Trustees of Dade Heritage Trust and a Director of The Historic Preservation Association of Coral Gables, I support the position of said organizations, previously conveyed to the Coral Gables Commission in written detail, as well as the opinion of the Coral Gables Historical Resources Department Staff, that the Russell Pancoast designed home at 1208 Asturia Avenue meets the criteria for historic designation.

I urge the Commission to grant the appeal and reverse the Historic Preservation Board's erroneous denial of designation.

Sincerely,

--

Lisa Bennett, Esq.  
Bennett & Bennett  
Attorneys at Law  
The Biltmore Hotel  
Executive Office Center, Suite #360  
1200 Anastasia Ave.  
Coral Gables, Florida 33134  
(305) 720-6020  
(206) 333-0792 (FAX)  
[www.bennettlawmiami.com](http://www.bennettlawmiami.com)  
[lisabennett5@gmail.com](mailto:lisabennett5@gmail.com)

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## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Myriam Ramirez <myriamtramirez@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 4:58 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** Desi@vallsgroupinc.com  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias, Coral Gables

CAUTION External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern: I am currently a resident at 5915 Granada Blvd. I have been a resident of the City Beautiful (Coral Gables) for 50 years. I wanted to let you know I strongly disagree in the proposed designation of the residence at 1208 Asturias as a historical home. It is no such thing. The Preservation board voted against designation and I support their decision. Whose idea is this and why? Hope you let the appropriate party know this residents opinion. I would appreciate it.

Sincerely, Myriam Ramírez

Sent from my iPad



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Armando Incera <aincera@att.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 4:15 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Fw: Pancoast Home 1208 Asturia

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Commissioners- For reasons outlined below, please vote to OVERTURN the denial of historic designation on the Russell Pancoast home located at 1208 Asturia.

Armando Incera

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Armando Incera <aincera@att.net>  
**To:** "kkautz@coralgables.com" <kkautz@coralgables.com>; "vлаго@coralgables.com" <vлаго@coralgables.com>; "jfors@coralgables.com" <jfors@coralgables.com>; "mmena@coralgables.com" <mmena@coralgables.com>; "pkeon@coralgables.com" <pkeon@coralgables.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 8, 2020, 05:43:23 PM EDT  
**Subject:** Pancoast Home 1208 Asturia

Dear Coral Gables officials- Please explain the basis on which the above referenced home was denied a historical designation by the Historic Preservation Board. If a home such as this, a cutting edge style in its time designed by one of South Florida's most prominent architects, does not meet the criteria for Historical designation, I question the credibility and credentials of the appointed board members. Please explain the reasons for denial of this important designation.

Armando Incera

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Debra Incera <debra.incera@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 4:07 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** OVERTURN Decision to Deny Historical Status 1208 Asturia

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Commissioners:

I am writing to reiterate my thoughts below regarding the denial of historical status for the ~~doe~~ referenced property designed by renowned architect, Russell Pancoast. I hope that you will restore the community's faith in the integrity of our City Commission by proving that you are unbiased in this decision and will evaluate the facts as presented by your own staff. This home clearly meets the criteria for historic designation. The voters will want answers if the prior decision is not reversed. If you will not follow the recommendations of the Historical Resources team, then why are we wasting tax payers' dollars on their salaries?

Thank you for your consideration,

Debra Incera

Hello- As a long-time Coral Gables resident, I am very passionate about maintaining the unique character of our city. I am very disappointed and disturbed to learn that the appointed (not elected) Historic Preservation Board denied Historical status for the Russell Pancoast home at 1208 Asturia. Mr. Pancoast's work is iconic, and was revolutionary at the time the home was designed. To destroy this historic home is a travesty. There are varied styles of architecture in Coral Gables, as was the design that George Merrick had in mind. It seems that the Historic Preservation Board is biased in its assessment of what constitutes historically important design. Please reconsider this decision, and allow Coral Gables to retain its beautiful history and character.

Sincerely,

Debra Incera  
917 Algaringo Avenue  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** william villa <williamvilla1@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 3:31 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

I'm a homeowner in the city of Coral Gables and I agree with the preservation boards decision in not designating 1208 Asturias historic.

The architecture in this house does not resemble any of Pancoast work, it's unappealing and out of place in that street. Designation is forever, this house shouldn't be.

Thank you!

William Villa  
1208 Mariana Ave

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Joseph Fadel <jedi.knight.0121@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 2:45 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Avenue

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Commissioners,

I am a resident at 901 Santiago Street. As a resident of the City Beautiful I am against designating 1208 Asturias Ave as a historic home. The Preservation Board voted against designation and I support their decision. I also am the owner of a historic home in Coral Gables.

Sincerely,

J. Fadel

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** eduardo abella <eduardoabel@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 2:04 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Historic Preservation of house located at 1204 Asturias Ave.

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon Mr. Urquia,

I would like to show my support to appellant, Maria V. Cerda, on her appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, regarding the decision taken March 4, 2020. It is reference to the property located at 1204 Asturias Ave. Coral Gables, Fl 33134.

Ms. Cerda is appealing the decision to not designate the property as a local historic landmark. I am asking the commission to consider said appeal in their next meeting to be held May 12, 2020

Respectfully yours, a Coral Gables resident,

Eduardo Abella

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Natty Elias <nelias@healthtexusa.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 2:07 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I'm a resident at 743 Jeronimo  
Coral Gables 33146

and as a resident I find the appeal of 1208 Asturias an unfair and costly process for the homeowners.

The preservation board voted against designation and I truly feel that designating this property historic would be a huge deterrent for future families wanting to settle in the City Beautiful. I'm all for preserving the history of our city but not every home built by a known architect deserves preserving

Preserving this home will take away the validity of historic designated homes that truly stand out and deserve the plaque.

Thank you,

Natty Elias  
nelias@healthtexusa.com

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Bertica Palacio <berticapalacio@att.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 1:26 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Avenue

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,  
My husband & I reside at  
1401 Coral Way, Coral Gables.  
As a resident of our City  
Beautiful for the last 32 years  
We totally disagree in designating 1208 Asturia Ave as Historic.  
The Preservation Board has  
Voted against it and we both  
Wholeheartedly support &  
Approve of their decision!  
If you need to contact us  
My Cell number 305 607 1972  
Thank you for making our  
City so special  
We remain  
Bertica & Luis Palacio

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Roland J. Martinez <Roland@rjmpalaw.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 1:24 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** City Clerk; Roland J. Martinez  
**Subject:** FW: NEXT STEPS to SAVE 1208 ASTURIA FROM DEMOLITION & how YOU CAN HELP with a short LETTER of SUPPORT AND/OR with PUBLIC COMMENTS at the APPEAL ON TUESDAY 5/12 at 10 AM!

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Billy Y. Urquia (City Clerk),

Please forward this letter to the City of Coral Gables Commission regarding the designation appeal of the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue. I am a resident of Coral Gables with a home address of 1251 Coral Way.

I, Roland Martinez, SUPPORT Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

It is important to note that the report by the city staff strongly recommends historic designation based on its 3 qualifying criteria (of which only 1 is needed).

I respectfully request The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to GRANT the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

Respectfully submitted

Roland J. Martinez

Best regards, Roland

Roland J. Martinez, Esq.  
Roland J. Martinez, P.A.  
1102 Ponce de Leon Blvd.  
Coral Gables, FL 33134  
Ph.: 305-447-6999



Fax: 305-447-8363  
[roland@rjpalaw.com](mailto:roland@rjpalaw.com)

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Carolina Minoso <cminoso@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 1:24 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** desi@vallsgroupinc.com  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Avenue

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

I currently reside at 620 Zamora Avenue Coral Gables, FL, 33134. As a current Coral Gables resident, I do not agree with designating 1208 Asturias Avenue as a historic home. Previously, the preservation board voted against the designation and I fervently support their decision.

Thank you,

Carolina Minoso Graterol

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Eddie Arvesu <eddie@usconstructioncorp.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 1:18 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** Arvesu; carvesu95@gmail.com  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias does not merit historical designation

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Members of the Appellate Review Board,

My name is Eddie Arvesu and I am a resident at 4410 Monserrate Street, Coral Gables. I have lived here for the past five years, but have lived in Coral Gables for the past 20 years; at 475 Amalfi Ave, 1220 Wallace Street, and 710 Palermo.

As a resident of the City Beautiful we are against designating 1208 Asturias Ave as historic. The house is a mid-century ranch style of which there are thousands in our Municipality and in our County (my house included). In my opinion this house holds no real historical value to warrant it be kept in perpetuity. This house is mediocre in design and not true to the Coral Gables classical and originating design.

Historical designation should not be based solely on the number of years the house has been in existence or on an opinion. It should also be based on whether removing the house would be detrimental to the city's future. These houses are not built to today's environmental wind load conditions and the much more stringent code requirements, thus putting a burden and life safety concerns on the future owners. A new house, built to today's code, would be hurricane resistant, safer electrically, energy efficient, conserving water, and because of the Architectural Review Board standards would be much more aligned with the city's growth and prosperity.

I supported the preservation board's decision when they voted against designation.

**1208 Asturias does not merit Historical designation.**

Respectfully,

Eddie Arvesu  
4410 Monserrate Street  
Coral Gables, FL 33146

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Alvaro Minoso <alvaro.minoso@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 1:11 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Ave

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

I am a resident at 1447 Siena Ave., Coral Gables and as a resident of the City Beautiful I disagree in designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as an historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and I wholeheartedly support their decision.

Thank you,

Alvaro Minoso

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Michelle <DunajM@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 12:58 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** APPLICATION NO. 19-008: Appeal of March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134 as a local historic landmark

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

RE: APPLICATION NO. 19-008: Appeal of March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134 as a local historic landmark

Dear Honorable Mayor Raúl Valdés-Fauli and Honorable Commissioners of the City of Coral Gables,

I respectfully request the City of Coral Gables Commission grant Ms. Cerda's appeal, reverse the Historic Preservation Board decision, and order approval of historic designation for the 1208 Asturia Avenue property. **The direct evidence presented at the Historic Preservation Board's ("HPB") March 4, 2020 meeting, establishes that the HPB committed error in its decision, and that therefore the erroneous decision must be reversed.**

The historic value and significance of this home is evidenced by the testimony of the City's historic preservation officers, and the heavily researched reports and recommendations provided to the City on this issue. Newspaper articles have also detailed the many reasons why there is no principled reason to deny historic designation in this case. The 1208 Asturia Avenue property clearly meets the criteria of having historical, cultural and architectural significance.

**My concerns with the HPB's decision (beyond the obvious in permitting demolition of a historic property in contradiction to City criteria), is the significant appearance of impropriety for our City, and the destructive precedent created which will negatively impact our Coral Gables community and our property values.**

Regarding the appearance of impropriety, many citizens are questioning the erroneous and disparate treatment provided to this particular property. There is overwhelming evidence this house meets the criteria, and at least one other ranch style home (my 1950's house a block away) with far less significance has already been designated historic. Please take into consideration that many residents in our area are particularly concerned about the alarming increase in demolition permits and appearance of disparate treatment, which has enabled some to build large modern concrete boxes among our lovely historic homes. Reversing the HPB decision would go a long way in restoring resident's confidence in our processes and the fairness of our City Commissioners in righting obvious wrongs.

Reversing the HPB decision would also protect our City from the creation of a dangerous precedent that would have long-term adverse consequences risking our property values and the unique historic beauty of our neighborhoods. Many with current historic designations, would have good arguments using this precedent to seek reversal of their designations. Others could use this precedent to completely subvert the policies and

requirements of the City's Historic Preservation Ordinance that was enacted to protect our neighborhoods and the distinctive characteristics of our homes that makes Coral Gables such a special place to live.

In sum, it would be a huge loss for our neighborhoods and our City to deny historical designation and permit demolition of this home. For the reasons stated above, and which are established by the plethora of evidence presented, I respectfully request that you reverse the erroneous decision of the HPB and grant the appellant's request.

Respectfully,

*Michelle C. Dunaj*

1224 Castile Avenue  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Maria Velez <marivelez1235@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 12:21 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Avenue

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning, I have lived at 1235 Asturia Avenue since January, 1979 and knew the Davison family, who lived at the house for many years.

Please accept this letter as my support for the appeal filed by neighbor Vicki Cerda to overturn the Historic Preservation Board's decision to not designate the house at 1208 Asturia as historic. Two other houses similar to the one at 1208 have been demolished on our block and replaced with large houses that overpower the scale and look of our neighborhood. I reviewed the research and report that was produced by our city's historic preservation department in support of the historic preservation of the Davison house, and ask the City Commission to GRANT Ms Cerda's appeal and designate the house at 1208 Asturia Avenue as a historic landmark.

Thank you.

Maria C. Arriola Velez  
1235 Asturia Avenue  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Tensy Cobb <tensycobb@floralseasonscorp.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 12:00 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Pancoast property 1208 Asturia Avenue

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Urquia,

I am resident and owner of property at 1100 Asturia Ave.

I'm writing in support of Ms. Maria Cerda and her appeal to the city of Coral Gables regarding historic designation for the Pancoast home at 1208 Asturia.

I am thankful to Ms. Cerda for her attempt to save this wonderful historic property and ask that you consider and grant her appeal at next scheduled commission meeting.

Sincerely,

Hortensia Skiving Cobb  
1100 Asturia Ave.

Mobile: 786-423-5878



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Alina's Email <alib129@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 11:40 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias ave

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear city Clerk:

I am a resident at 124 Paloma Drive in Coral Gables. As a resident of Coral Gables I disagree in designating 1208 Asturias ave as a historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and I support the decision

Thank you,

Alina Bolano

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Johanna Minoso <johanna.minoso@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 11:22 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Ave. - Historic Designation

CAUTION External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good morning,

I am a resident at 1447 Siena Ave., Coral Gables. As a resident of Coral Gables, I disagree with designating the home at 1208 Asturias as a historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and I support their decision.

Thank you,

Johanna C. Miñoso, Esq.  
786-213-6600

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Julio Ramirez <julior007@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 11:15 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias

CAUTION External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I agree with the decision of the preservation board that the above referenced house should not be designated as a historical property . Thank you. Julio Ramirez ( Coral Gables resident)

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** maribel delamo <mdelamo12@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2020 10:21 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** Vicki Cerda  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Avenue

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To Whom It May Concern:

As a long time business owner in the City of Coral Gables, I would like to express my support for Maria V. Cerda on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board to not designate the property located at 1208 Asturia as a local historic landmark. I believe this property designed by architect Russell Pancoast is an example of what Coral Gables has always valued and maintained in the past and is what has made Coral Gables into such a beautiful, unique city rich in architectural history.

I ask the City of Coral Gables Commission to please consider said appeal and vote to grant the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday May 12.

Thank you,

Maribel Del Amo  
Versailles De Toro Optical  
5434 S.W. 8th Street  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Gordon Sokoloff <gordons360@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 10, 2020 9:04 PM  
**To:** Urquia, Billy  
**Subject:** re: 1208 Asturia issue at May 12 Commission meeting

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

I am sending this letter to you (below) in support of Ms. Cerda's appeal regarding historic designation of the home located at 1208 Asturia. Would you kindly ensure that this letter/email is properly introduced in the appropriate venue when this issue comes up for consideration. -- Billy, - this is being sent from my "new" Gmail account because my AOL e-mail doesn't always seem to go through the City firewalls. Please excuse any "duplication".

Many thanks.

Gordon Sokoloff

Dear Mayor, Commissioners, and All Concerned,

I wish to cast my support in favor of resident, Ms. Maria V. Cerda, on her appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, - in which the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, FL 33134 was denied designation by the Historic Preservation Board as a local historic landmark. The application number for this appeal is 19-008.

Coral Gables, by definition is the most historic of all the municipalities in Miami-Dade County. So many of the homes in our city deserve their designation as being historic, - and this home is certainly one of them. The background of this house, designed by nationally-acclaimed architect Russell Pancoast is interesting, beautiful, - and historically significant. This home was the first transition out of Mediterranean Style. This home was built in 1936 as a "bungalow", - and considered more of a Ranch-Art-Deco styled home. This home might be considered one of the first 'visions' and the precursor to the ranch-home that came later, post-war, - beginning in 1945. All of Pancoast's projects were custom designed, - including this home. There are only eight other homes in Coral Gables designed by this accredited and highly acclaimed architect. He also designed one of the original buildings at Fairchild Tropical Garden.

As a pre-World-War II home which has endured many hurricanes and severe storms throughout its years, please allow this special home to survive the wrecking ball. This home thoroughly satisfies the requirements for being a historically designated home in Coral Gables. I ask that you please support Ms. Cerda's appeal and reinstate this home's designation of historic significance for our community.

Gordon Sokoloff

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** netcon <netcon@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 10, 2020 6:36 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** Vallsjr@aol.com  
**Subject:** FW: 1208 Asturias, Coral Gables

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern:

I am a resident of Coral Gables and homeowner since 1986.

I agree with the board's decision in not designating 1208 Asturias historic.

The historic preservation department has had 50 years to determine what should be designated historic. It seems unfair to attempt to designate as such now when a new homeowner pulls a permit for a ranch house to be demolished. The board's original ruling should stand.

Sincerely,

George Jarp  
5800 San Vicente Street  
Coral Gables, Florida 33146

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Maria Castro <castromaria93@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 10, 2020 5:36 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Avenue.

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I, María **Castro López fully support** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to ~~NOT~~ designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020

Sincerely,

Maria Castro López,

401 Malaga Ave.



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Victor <victor\_dediego@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 10, 2020 5:33 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias ave

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

I am a resident at 708 Anastasia Ave, Coral Gables.

I am close friends with the owners and as a resident of the City beautiful I disagree in designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as an historic home. The new owners have the financial capacity and construction expertise to create a beautiful home for the street and our city. It will make us better and raise values to allow them to move forward.

Thank you,

Victor A. de Diego  
Sent via iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** andres paniagua <paniagua.andres@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 10, 2020 5:23 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Ave. Appeal.

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk & Commissioners:

It's with sadness and tears in my eyes that I add my support Maria V Cerda's appeal the outrageous decision of the Historical Preservation Board on the property located at 1208 Asturia Ave. The property in question was recommended by city staff to qualify for a historic landmark status. Instead of one of the preservation requirements for such a designation, it complies with three of them. Why did the board choose to ignore its own guidelines in this case?

What is most appalling, why, after receiving several petitions requesting him to file an appeal to the Board's decision, he ignored it? Why such blatant disregard for constituent's basic rights? Furthermore, I would like to ask with all due respect, where has the due public transparency gone?

I implore you to grant this appeal and ~~OVERTURN~~ the decision of the Historic Preservation Board, and add this property where it rightfully belongs, in the history of this city. It goes against history, reason and the best interest of our city to maintain the Board of Historical Preservation decision. Please, follow the path that George Merrick traced for us when he founded this city, honor his legacy and dream reërting this decision and stopping this wrong. We are all placing our hope on each one of you as our official representatives.

Thank you.

Andrés Paniagua

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** sheryl gold <shergoldcom@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 10, 2020 2:34 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia - Letter of Support for Historic Designation

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

May 10, 2020

Dear Mayor and Commissioners:

Re: Appeal hearing - 1208 Asturia

Attached is my original letter to the Historic Preservation Board in support of the historic designation of 1208 Asturia.

In addition, I submit for your consideration the FACTS in this case:

- #1 The real estate listing for 1208 Asturia stated the home was potentially historic; the buyer purchased it anyway
- #2 City staff followed the City Code and issued a letter stating the house should NOT be demolished as it meets minimum criteria
- #3 City staff conducted an exhaustive study and recommended designation
- #4 The Historic Preservation Board voted against designation without explanation
- #5 The appellant is within their rights to appeal as a neighbor within 1,000 feet
- #6 Designation is to be determined by criteria; not opinion

I urge the Commission to comply with the City Code and designate 1208 Asturia based on the criteria.

Sincerely,  
Sheryl Gold  
721 Biltmore Way #302

**From:** sheryl gold <[shergoldcom@gmail.com](mailto:shergoldcom@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia - Letter of Support for Historic Designation  
**Date:** November 20, 2019 at 10:34:13 AM EST  
**To:** "Spain, Dona" <[dspain@coralgables.com](mailto:dspain@coralgables.com)>

November 20, 2019

To:  
Dona Spain and Coral Gables Historic Preservation Board  
From:  
Sheryl Gold  
Re:  
1208 Asturia - Letter of Support for Historic Designation

I am unable to attend the meeting that was postponed to next month.  
This is to convey my support for the Historic Designation of 1208 Asturia,  
A single family home designed by the revered Florida architect,  
Russell Pancoast.

As a long time advocate for historic preservation who grew up on Miami Beach  
In the 1950s, I am particularly appreciative of Pancoast's legacy. The following  
Excerpt of an article written in 2017, demonstrates why.

"Russell T. Pancoast was the grandson of Miami Beach mogul, John A. Collins. Pancoast is considered by many to be key in helping shape the architecturally exotic Art Deco landscape of Miami Beach. He earned a degree in architecture from Cornell in 1922 and worked for Kiehnel & Elliott before starting his own practice in 1928. His first "big job" was designing the Surf Club in Surfside in 1929 and is also responsible for designing The Bass Museum of Art, The Miami Beach Woman's Club, The Mead Building and Peter Miller Hotel. His buildings range in style from Mediterranean Revival to Art Deco and Postwar Modern."

Coral Gables now has the opportunity to recognize and preserve one of the few remaining ranch houses designed by Pancoast.

I urge you to accept the recommendation of staff in its exhaustive report and vote for designation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sheryl Gold,  
[721 Biltmore Way #302](#)

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Maria River Abella <mariariverabella@outlook.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 10, 2020 11:29 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Historic Preservation

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mr. Urquia,

This letter is in support of the appellant, Maria V, Cerda, regarding the decision taken by the Historic Preservation on March 4, not to grant preservation status to the property on 1204 Asturias Coral Gables, FL 33134, application number: 19-008.

As a resident of Coral Gables, I am asking the City of Coral Gables Commission to reconsider its decision, and vote to grant the appeal at its upcoming meeting on May 12, 2020.

Best regards,  
Maria Rivero

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** cheryl akerman <cherylakerman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 9, 2020 12:10 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Historic Designation of 1208 Asturia

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I support preserving 1208 Asturia for its significant art deco styled ranch design. It dates from 1936 and you should consider the opinion of the City Historic Preservation staff.

Sincerely, Cheryl Akerman, member of Villagers and Gables resident 816 Sorolla Ave

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Gloria Ordaz <gordaz1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 9, 2020 12:09 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern;

I am a resident of Coral Gables and I agree with the decision of the board to not to deem 1208 Asturias Ave. historic.

Thank you,  
Gloria Ordaz  
841 Andalusia Ave.  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** alexandra hernandez <alexh918@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 8:25 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Ave

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern:

I'm a resident at 10 Aragon Ave, Coral Gables, FL 33134. I recently heard that the preservation board voted against designating 1208 Asturias Ave a historic site. I think that this was the right decision for the property and potential homeowners in the future who are hoping to purchase the property. It is a burden on a young homeowner to have to deal with the legal and financial implications of the property being designated historical.

While I can understand the desire to preserve historic homes throughout Coral Gables, in this case since the home is not in the style that made the architect famous preserving it does not seem necessary. Part of why I love living the Gables is all of the historic homes in the area. However, I do believe in this case preservation does not have value to the Coral Gables or the value of this home since it does not have the design or appearance that historic homes in the Gables are famous for.

I support the board on their decision in ~~NOT~~ designating 1208 Asturias historic.

Thank you,  
Alexandra

--

Alex Hernandez  
786.210.4801



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Tommy Valls Edwards <tommyvallsedwards@pm.me>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 7:38 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 San Asturia

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern:

I am a resident of the Gables and agree with the board's decision not to deem 1208 Asuria historic.

My address is 4722 Granada Blvd Coral Gables, FL 33146

Thank you.

Cheers,  
Tommy Valls Edwards

[\(305\) 343-3408](tel:(305)343-3408)

**Skype:** tommyvalls

**Telegram:** @tommyvalls

Sent with [ProtonMail](#) Secure Email.

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** zaydah@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 5:56 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To Whom it may concern:

Several years ago I was given the opportunity of buying a family members home in Coral Gables.

They went through many unnecessary obstacles set by the historical and architectural board and extremely costly delays due to their request. This was one of the reasons why when it was our time to buy a larger home, we decided not to invest in the City Beautiful.

Remodeling a home is stressful enough, and the thought of going through the added scrutiny was something we preferred to stay away from. Our daughter wanted to buy a property in the Gables last year. She wanted an old Spanish home to remodel and we convinced her not to go through that headache. She bought a condo in 10 Aragon instead.

Reading about the 1208 Asturias appeal, reinforced our decision not to buy a home in the Gables. This is a costly and unfair process for the owners. It's easy to impose a designation when it has no cost and hardship to you. I agree with the board's decision in not designating this house historic.

Sincerely,  
A lost resident

Mr. and Mrs. Jose C. Hernandez

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Yuri Moreno <yrossi@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 5:26 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Avenue.

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear All,

I'm a resident at 7424 Los Pinos Blvd. Coral Gables, Fl.  
I've been living in the Gables since 2007.

Designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home goes against all the Gables is known for, their Spanish Mediterranean flavor and Merrick's vision of the City Beautiful.

The preservation board voted against designation, why is this being appealed.

Thank you,  
Yury Rossi

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Eugenia Legorburu <geniecocoplum@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 4:21 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Ave , Coral Gables.

CAUTION External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi, I am a resident at 620 Prado Blvd. Coral Gables, We are against in designation 1208 Asturias Ave, Coral Gables as a historic home. The presentation board voted against designation and we support their decision.

Thank you ,  
Eugenia Legorburu

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** jvnntt@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 4:05 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Historical Designation Appeal of 1208 Asturia

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Afternoon:

I have been following the recent news and fuss over of the historical designation of 1208 Austria (as other properties with same efforts). I have lived in the Gables for over 40 years. First and most importantly, this has already gone to the board and has been decided, the board should uphold their decision: let these owners knock down that house, there is truly nothing appealing or valuable or worth saving in that structure.. The home they will be building will add much more value and prestige to that block & neighborhood.

But now that I have the time (thanks to Corona!), I would like to express my thoughts about this whole "historical designation" issue, as I've been wanting to for a while now. I have owned & remodeled over 6 houses in Coral Gables. Back in the day, historical designations were truly "historical homes", beautiful old Spanish's, Colonials, homes in the French village, the Chinese village, Santa Maria, etc. We original "Coral Gables" all know the homes and neighborhoods which are relevant and were intended to be historically designated homes. I continue to remodel & design homes in the Gables and everyday it gets more difficult, time-consuming and discouraging. Homes that were never historical are all of a sudden being deemed historical and preventing thousands of homeowners, prospective buyers, architects and designers from doing anything in Coral Gables, thus forcing them to invest in other neighborhoods. The ability to demolish a home which is not truly historical, such as 1208 Asturia, and so many others that have been deemed historical and never were, should not be solely based on who the architect was or information which needs to be diligently researched in able to find some redeeming or historical shred of evidence so that it may possibly be qualified as such. Any design, new construction, demolition of a home in the Gables should first, take the homeowners desire into account, the design and style of the new construction which will be put in its place and **if it is truly** historical (such as the old Spanish, colonial etc., mentioned, not 1208 Asturia), then you must also take into account how easily an addition, renovation, update can be done on that "historical" structure and if the end product would just be a poorly laid out, non-functional home due to the restrictions placed on these properties. Miami has excellent architectures, developers and designers which have always contributed to the preservation of the City Beautiful in many ways, but preventing ranch homes to be replaced with more inspiring, beautiful and functional structures (which need to be approved by an already very strict BOA and City anyway) is not a way of preserving our City Beautiful, but rather a way of impeding its desirability, accessibility and preventing future generations from continuing to make Coral Gables their home. There will always be someone who doesn't like the decision made by boards, government and authority but this has already gone to the board, has been decided and I can tell you from just speaking to other residents, they do not oppose the non-historical designation of 1208 Austria. To continue on with this case is a waste of the City's time, resources and energy, this has already been decided and I agree with that decision, 1208 Asturia should not be deemed as a historical designation, the homeowner should be allowed to demolish and build a new home. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter, I hope this has served to assist you in upholding your already made decision about the non-historical designation of 1208 Asturia.

Respectfully,

Jeannette Edwards  
833 Coral Way  
Coral Gables, FL 33134

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Pamela Conde <psconde@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 3:48 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** In support of 1208 Asturias

CAUTION: External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern;  
I am a resident of the gables and agree with the board's decision not to deem 1208 Asturias Ave. historic.  
Thank you and warm regards,

Pamela Silva  
548 San Esteban Ave.  
Coral Gables, FL 33146

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Michelle Sague <brdcast@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 12:37 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Support for Maria V Cerda' s appeal

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I, Michelle E. Sague, resident of 1533 Ancona Ave., Coral Gables, FL 33146, SUPPORT Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, Michelle E. Sague, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to GRANT the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Ileana Casanova <ilecasa@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 12:13 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Support of Vicki Cerda's appeal

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

TO  
BILLY Y. URQUIA  
CITY CLERK

cityclerk@coralgables.com

My name is Ileana Casanova and am writing to support the appeal and want the commission to overturn the decision of the historic preservation board who did not consider the factual report of how this house meets criteria for designation.

I, Ileana Casanova, **SUPPORT** Maria V. Cerda, Appellant, on her Appeal to the Coral Gables City Commission, from a decision by the Historic Preservation Board at its regular meeting held on Wednesday, March 4, 2020, regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134.

APPLICATION NO. 19-008: The Appellant is appealing the March 4, 2020 decision of the Historic Preservation Board to NOT designate the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134, as a local historic landmark.

I, Ileana Casanova, ask The City of Coral Gables Commission to consider said appeal and vote to **GRANT** the appeal at its regular City Commission Meeting on Tuesday, May 12, 2020



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Roberta Neway <robertajn@att.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 11:38 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Statement of Support to Preserve the Pancoast House - 1208 Asturia Avenue

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I would like to put on record that I support the appeal of Maria V. Cerda to the Coral Gables Commission concerning the May 4, 2020 decision by the Historic Preservation Board.

The house located at 1208 Asturia Avenue should be saved. It is part of our history, and if we lose our history, we lose everything . .

Thank you, and stay safe!!

Sincerely,  
Roberta Neway  
1236 South Alhambra Circle  
Coral Gables, FL 33146  
305.450.5324

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Christian Arfert <christianarfert@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 9:20 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia qualifies to be a local landmark

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Coral Gables Commissioners,

THE DECISION BY THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD DOES NOT SUPPORT THE DATA. IT IS WRONG. THIS PROPERTY IS UNIQUE. SAVE IT! I ASK THAT YOU OVERTURN IT AND GRANT THE APPEAL.

I, Christian Arfert, **SUPPORT** the Appellant regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134. And I urge you to **SUPPORT** it as well..

Thank you so much for doing the right thing.

Christian Arfert

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Gabriele Greiner <gabrielegreiner@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 8, 2020 9:15 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Ave

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Coral Gables Commissioners,

Please do the right thing and **OVERTURN** the decision of the Historic Preservation Board which inexcusably failed to honor the recommendations on the city staff's designation report that clearly showed that 1208 Asturia qualifies to be a local landmark.

To Coral Gables Commissionrs,

THE DECISION BY THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD DOES NOT SUPPORT THE DATA. IT IS WRONG. THIS PROPERTY IS UNIQUE. SAVE IT! I ASK THAT YOU OVERTURN IT AND GRANT THE APPEAL.

I, Gabriele Greiner, **SUPPORT** the Appellant regarding the property located at 1208 Asturia Avenue, Coral Gables, Florida 33134. And I urge you to **SUPPORT** it as well..

**Gabriele Greiner**  
+1 305 781 6666  
[gabrielegreiner@mac.com](mailto:gabrielegreiner@mac.com)

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Sebastian Almaguer <sebastianalmaguer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 3:52 PM  
**To:** City Clerk

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident at

[1211 Castile Ave, Coral Gables, FL 33134](#)

As a resident of this City Beautiful since 1993 , my family and I are against designating [1208 Asturia Avenue](#) a historical house.

The Historic Preservation Board voted against this designation and I strongly support the decision.

Although I am in favor of maintaining our city's architectural values, the fact that this house is old does not mean that it holds architectural value and as such, in my opinion, this home holds no historical value. This is the reason why I support the Historical Preservation Board's decision.

My house is directly adjacent at the rear property line to the above mentioned property. I have seen the proposed design concept for this property and highly agree and welcome the improvement, value and beauty that it will bring to our community.

The positive impact will be great for the City Beautiful as well as for all of us. The constant back and forth between the city and the homeowners sets a dangerous precedent and will cause hesitation to bring much needed investment and renovation to these dated and distressed homes.

As a city we should foster a welcoming community of residents open to change and progress, not one where an uninterested third party can derail a families plans and cause them serious financial distress.

Sincerely,

Sebastian Almaguer

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Alex Trench <alex.trench@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 3:24 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** desi@vallsgroupinc.com  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Avenue

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

Good afternoon. I am a resident at 412 Alminar Avenue in Coral Gables. As a Coral Gables resident, I disagree with designating the home at 1208 Asturia Avenue as an historic home. The Preservation Board voted against designation and I support their decision.

Thank you,

Alexander Trench

## Urquia, Billy

---

**From:** Dona Horowitz-Behrend <donawhb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 7, 2020 11:03 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Astoria-please save

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

This is my second letter on behalf of saving 1208 Astoria. I neglected to mention that I was born and raised in Coral Gables and am now live at 700 Biltmore Way in retirement. The beauty of "the Gables" remains but more and more of it's architectural history is lost each year through overbuilding of concrete apartments and modernization of housing fronts.

1208 Astoria represents a ranch before WWII with Art Deco and Modernist leanings. Amazingly it has not be altered. Through it's preservation we can continue to have pride in our city's past and better plan for now and the future.

Dona Horowitz-Behrend PhD  
700 Biltmore Way  
Historian Emeritus Philadelphia Records Department Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Adalys Genemaras <wonderseventh@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 9:52 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** desi@vallsgroupinc.com  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Ave

CAUTION External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

I am a resident at 18030 Miranda St. Coral Gables, FL 33156. I strongly disagree in designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home. The presentation board voted against designation and I am in complete agreement. 1208 Asturias Ave should not be designated as a historic home!

Thank You,  
Adalys Genemaras

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** monchoprats@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 9:31 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias av

CAUTION External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

I am a resident at 4820 Ronda st, Coral Gables and as a resident of this beautiful City I disagree in designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as an historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and I wholeheartedly support their decision.

Thank you,

Ramon Prats

Sent from my iPhone



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Frances H <frances.hassun@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 7:30 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** Preservation Board

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

I am a resident at 90 Edgewater Drive, Coral Gables and as a resident of the City beautiful I disagree in designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as an historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and I wholeheartedly support their decision.

Thank you,

Frances Hassun

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Gabriella Aballi <gabriella.aballi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 7:15 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias

CAUTION External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

I am a resident at 521 Santurce Avenue, Coral Gables and as a resident of the City Beautiful I disagree in designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and I support their decision.

Best,  
Gabriella Aballi Miranda

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Dona Horowitz-Behrend <donawhb@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 2:26 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** Dona Horowitz-Behrend; Brett Gillis  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Ave

CAUTION External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please support the historic preservation of 1208 Asturia Ave in Coral Gables, Florida. It is a well preserved ranch built before World War 11 ,very rare in Florida. The ranch became very popular post WW 11 because of the development of stock building supplies making it affordable for GI's returning home to start families. The house is extremely well preserved with few modifications.

Thank you

Dona Horowitz-Behrend PhD  
Historian Emeritus  
City Records Department  
Philadelphia

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Maribel Muñiz <maribel@designit.mx>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 1:47 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I'm a resident at 1421 Milan Ave  
Coral Gables  
and as a resident of the City beautiful we are against in designating  
1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and we support their decision.  
Thank you,

Marbel Muñiz  
Designit Studio

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Wesley Ulloa <wesley@luxeknows.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 6, 2020 11:00 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Cc:** Valdes-Fauli, Raul; Lago, Vincente; Jorge Fors; Keon, Patricia; Mena, Michael  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Hearing

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good Morning,

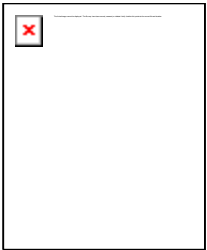
I am a local resident in Coral Gables for the past 9 years and I also own a large real estate brokerage in the area. While working in this neighborhood I have seen drastic changes in the commitment to preservation of the city and it is quite disappointing on the part of our elected officials.

While I understand there needs to be balance between preservation and new development, it seems your city has taken a stance of catering to developers needs over that of the citizens in the past few years. I don't understand why our mayor is so concerned with developers and basically wants to tear down everything that makes our city beautiful. Developers don't make our city special, its our connecting to the past which our mayor has ZERO regard for.

There are numerous vacant lots or homes of less historical significance that can be torn down. Russell Pancoast is a famed architect and his work should be preserved for future generations. While you and your commissioners may not view the home at 1208 Asturia as beautiful or significant in your eyes I guarantee you that there are many other residents who feel quite the contrary.

Please uphold the high standards of Coral Gables when making your decision of the fate of this property and I urge you to deem the property historic.

Best Regards,



**Wesley Ulloa**  
**Broker, LUXE Properties**  
**305.986.7041**  
**wesley@luxeknows.com**  
**www.LUXEknows.com**



Need to schedule an appointment with me? Do so [here!](#) Best Regards,

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Ana Quincoces <ana@anaquincoces.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 5, 2020 8:59 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Avenue

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Sir(s)/Madam(s),

My name is Ana Quincoces. I have been a resident of the City of Coral Gables for over 25 years.

During that time, I have owned two homes and am very familiar with the architectural style which has earned Coral Gables "The City Beautiful" moniker.

A ranch style home such as the one at 1208 Asturias Ave does not merit historic designation.

The purpose of this writing is to formally express my opposition to the designation of 1208 Asturias Ave as a historic home. The Coral Gables Preservation board voted against the designation and I fully support that decision.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Ana Quincoces  
Skinny Latina 🇵🇷  
AnaQooks, Inc.  
AnaQ.com  
Instagram: @AnaQooks & @OfficialSkinnyLatina  
Twitter: @OfficialAnaQ

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Maria Bardina Farah <mbf1215@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 5, 2020 4:56 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturia Avenue-Appeal from the Historic Preservation Board to the City Commission

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident at  
1211 Castile Ave, Coral Gables, FL 33134

As a resident of this City Beautiful since 1998, my family and I are against designating 1208 Asturia Avenue a historical house.

The Historic Preservation Board voted against this designation and I strongly support the decision.

I graduated from the University of Miami School of Architecture in 1985 and have worked in the architectural field for many years.

Although I am in favor of maintaining our city's architectural values, the fact that this house is old does not mean that it holds architectural value as such, in my opinion. This being the reason why I support the Historical Preservation Board's decision.

My house is directly adjacent at the rear property line to the above mentioned property. I have seen the proposed design concept for this property and highly agree and welcome the improvement, value and beauty that it will bring to our community.

The positive impact will be great for the City Beautiful as well as for all of us.

Sincerely,

Maria Bardina Farah

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Ela Waddell <ela.waddell@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 5, 2020 3:24 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias, Coral Gables

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

We are residents at 1232 Castile Avenue, Coral Gables and residents of the City Beautiful. Our property falls within 1000 feet of 1208 Asturias and we are against designating it a historic home. The Preservation Board voted against designation and we support their decision.

Sincerely,  
Jim & Ela Waddell  
1232 Castile Ave, Coral Gables, FL 33134



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Silvia Elena Rios <silviaelenar@bellsouth.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 5, 2020 1:03 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias ave

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am a resident of Coral Gables. My address is 3780 Riviera drive.  
I am writing to you because I am not in agreement with the idea of making 1208 Asturias a historic home.  
The preservation board voted against the designation and I believe it was the right decision.

If you need to contact me, this is my phone number (305)799-8235.

With kind regards,  
Silvia Fortun.

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Aileen Ortega <aileen@lolaw.net>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 5, 2020 9:45 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** NO Historic Designation - 1208 Asturias Avenue

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Aileen Ortega, Esq.

Larrea & Ortega/ Cambridge Title & Closing Services, Inc

p: (305) 476-8701

a: 2151 S. Le Jeune Road, Suite 301  
Coral Gables, Florida 33134

[www.cambridgetitleservices.com](http://www.cambridgetitleservices.com)

[www.larreaandortega.com](http://www.larreaandortega.com)

**[\[+\] Add me to your address book](#)**

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Vivian Williams <Vivian@canteratax.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 5, 2020 8:40 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Ave

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Sir or Madam-

I'm a resident at 3613 Alhambra Circle  
Coral Gables

and as a resident of the Citybeautiful we are against designating  
1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home. The preservationboardvoted against designation and we support their decision.

Thank you,

James and Vivian Williams

Sent from my iPhone

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Lissette Calderon <lcalderon@neologylife.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 4, 2020 1:28 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias Avenue, Coral Gables, FL

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern:

I'm a resident at 7528 Los Pinos Blvd, Coral Gables, FL and as a resident of the City Beautiful, I am against designating 1208 Asturias Avenue as a historic home.

From the City's very own website, "Coral Gables, The City Beautiful, stands out as a rare pearl in South Florida. It is a cohesive community build on a grand scale that blends color, detail and the Mediterranean Revival architectural style to create harmony with the environment. Early city planners and visionaries were influenced by the aesthetics of the City Beautiful Movement that swept across America in the early 1900's. Inspired by the works of landscape architect Frederick Law Olmstead, who designed New York's Central Park, The City Beautiful Movement encouraged the use of wide tree-lined avenues, monumental buildings, winding roadways, green space, ornate plazas, and fountains."

The City's founder, George Merrick, together with a team of extraordinary designers, which included artist Denman Fink, architects H. George Fink and Phineas Paist, and landscape architect Frank Button, set out to create a unique suburb of the city of Miami. A project that would be an unrivaled beauty, constructed in the Mediterranean Revival style, featuring all the elements of the City Beautiful Movement right down to the finest details. Paist in particular, was a known colorist and created a vibrant color scheme for the city that ranged from the pastels to the more intense, all true to the original Mediterranean style. Under this master architect's hand, even the newest buildings were made to look old. Architectural designs featured the rounded arches and loggias of ancient Rome.

Visionaries like George Merrick of Coral Gables and Addison Mizner of Palm Beach carried this style through; planning and designing unparalleled communities to look as if they had been picked up and transported directly from the Mediterranean Coastline in all their antiquity. For Merrick - Majorca, Sevilla, Cartagena, and Malaga were not just cities in Spain, but symbols of his American ideal; his dream was to develop his vast land holdings while building on Florida's rich Spanish history.

Today, all these elements of style have been and continue to be incorporated throughout the City. The City continues to promote a Mediterranean architectural aesthetic by offering incentives for buildings designed in this style, paying tribute to George Merrick's initial design that were largely based on the Andalusian area of Spain.

Paradoxically, this very property sits on Asturias Avenue, a providence in Spain. While the home may have been built in 1937, this property is a classic ranch style home with its single story, long, low-pitch roofline and attached garage. As I am certain you are aware, first built in the 1920s, the ranch style was extremely popular with the war time middle class of the 1940s to the 1970s. The style is often associated with tract housing built at this time, particularly in the southwest United States, which experienced a population explosion during this period, with a corresponding demand for housing.

The simplicity of the ranch style of design is the very antithesis of the ornate and mediterranean vision of the City's founders. Coral Gables would be setting a terrible precedent designating an unimportant, unattractive & architecturally incompatible home "historic" based solely on year built. This property has no correlation or significance to the vision of George Merrick or the Florida Vernacular Architectural style.

As a result of many of the same arguments above, the preservation board voted against the historic designation and I support and applaud their decision. 1208 Asturias Avenue does not meet the criteria of a "historic home" for the City Beautiful. Our City deserves far better than this.

Thank you,

Lissette M. Calderon

Chief Executive Officer  
1951 NW South River Drive  
Miami, FL 33125  
O: 305.444.6565  
[www.neologylife.com](http://www.neologylife.com)



**Effective March 16, 2020, due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, our office will be closed to the General Public until further notice. Our offices will continue to operate during this time.**

Important Notice: The information contained in this email is private and confidential. It is intended only for the recipient(s) named above. If you are not named above or are not an agency of the recipient(s), then you have received this email in error, and to review, distribute or copy this transmission or its attachment(s) is strictly prohibited by federal law. If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender by email immediately.

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Eduardo M. Cantelar <cantelar@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 3, 2020 7:33 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To whom it may concern,

I am a 1926 historic homeowner of Coral Gables and as a resident of the City beautiful we are against designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as a historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and we support their decision. If Russell Pancoast were alive today he would agree with the board.

Regards,

Eddie M. Cantelar

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Belfranin <belfranin@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 2, 2020 8:03 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

In regards to designating 1208 Asturias as an historic designated property, I would like to state that I DISAGREE.

As a resident of Coral Gables and structural engineer, working with many architects for 37 years,

I only see a typical ranch house that does not speak to me of the flavor of Coral Gables.

The architect of this residence has far better projects than this unassuming home.

Respectfully yours,

Zvonimir Belfranin

Zvonimir T. Belfranin, P.E. 4836 SW 74th Court Miami, FL 33155P. (305) 669-0255F. (305) 669-1073 belfranin@aol.com

## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** ERIN VALDES <erinvaldes@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, May 1, 2020 12:25 AM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 ASTURIAS

**CAUTION:** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been a resident of Coral Gables for over 30 years. As a resident of the City Beautiful, I am against designating 1208 Asturias Avenue as a historic home.

I believe that when a house is designated as historic, it is because it has some intrinsic architectural features that can not be replicated. While this house was designed by Russell Pancoast, I do not believe that it is one of his properties that should be deemed historic. It is neither a ranch house, nor an art deco house.

It is, rather, a "hodgepodge" of several different styles and is more of any eyesore than anything else on that beautiful street full of mediterranean architecture. When a house is deemed historical, it brings value to the city, both architecturally and historically, and is visually appealing. I support the decision of the preservation board which voted against designation of this property as historical. I think an appeal of the board's decision is an unfair process as well as a waste of time and taxpayer's money. Appealing this decision would be detrimental to the growth of our City Beautiful.

Sincerely,

Erin Valdes  
1464 Ancona Avenue  
Coral Gables, Florida 33146



## Urquia, Billy

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**From:** Lourdes <lourdesbelfranin@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 30, 2020 9:08 PM  
**To:** City Clerk  
**Subject:** 1208 Asturias

**CAUTION** External email. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Clerk,

I am a resident at 3405 Banos Court, Coral Gables and as a resident of the City beautiful I disagree in designating 1208 Asturias Ave. as an historic home. The preservation board voted against designation and I wholeheartedly support their decision.

Thank you,

Lourdes Armenteros

Sent from my iPhone