

**Kautz, Kara**

---

**From:** Arva Parks [arvamiami@bellsouth.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 18, 2012 10:10 AM  
**To:** Kautz, Kara  
**Subject:** Re: 2 Casuarina Concourse - Alfred Browning Parker

Dear Member of the City of Coral Gables Historic Preservation Board: I am writing today in response to the Special Certification for Demolition of the exceptional Alfred Browning Parker home in Gables Estates. I had the privilege of being in the home many years ago. Even at the time, I was awed by its beauty and remarkable details. It is one of, if not the best example of Alfred Browning Parker's work in South Florida. I also had the privilege of knowing Alfred Browning Parker who is considered one of the most important architects in South Florida history. He was also recognized and honored on a national level. He taught many young architects and was always willing to help and share his expertise. The Landon house, is one of his best works and one of the few Parker homes in Coral Gables. Parker has been described in the same breath as Frank Lloyd Wright, a singular honor for a local architect. There is clearly no economic hardship for the owners and there is no doubt that a buyer who would love to live in the house could be found. It was an early home in Gables Estates which gives it another important historic element. In the years to come, the history of Gables Estates will become as important as the history of other sections of Coral Gables. Finally, Kirk Landon, who built the house, is also of historic significance for his business acumen and many philanthropic gifts to our community. I strongly urge you to follow the staff report and deny the demolition of this exceptional property. It is one of a kind and if demolished would erase an important historic structure that meets the criteria as an exceptional work by an exceptional architect. Thank you, Arva Moore Parks