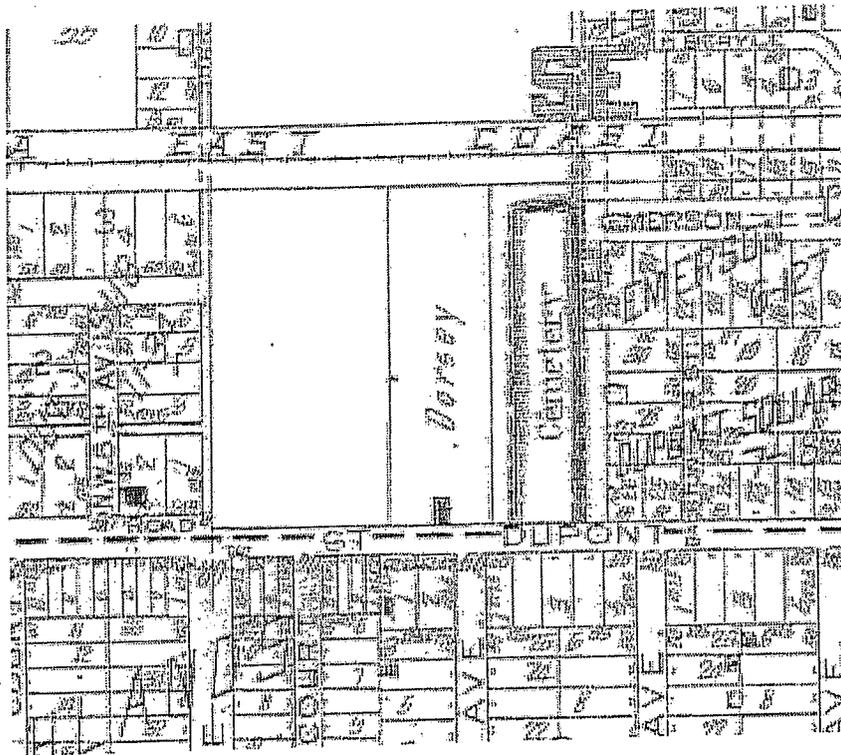

LEMON CITY CEMETERY

At the northwest corner of NW 71st Street and
NW 3rd Avenue

Designation Report



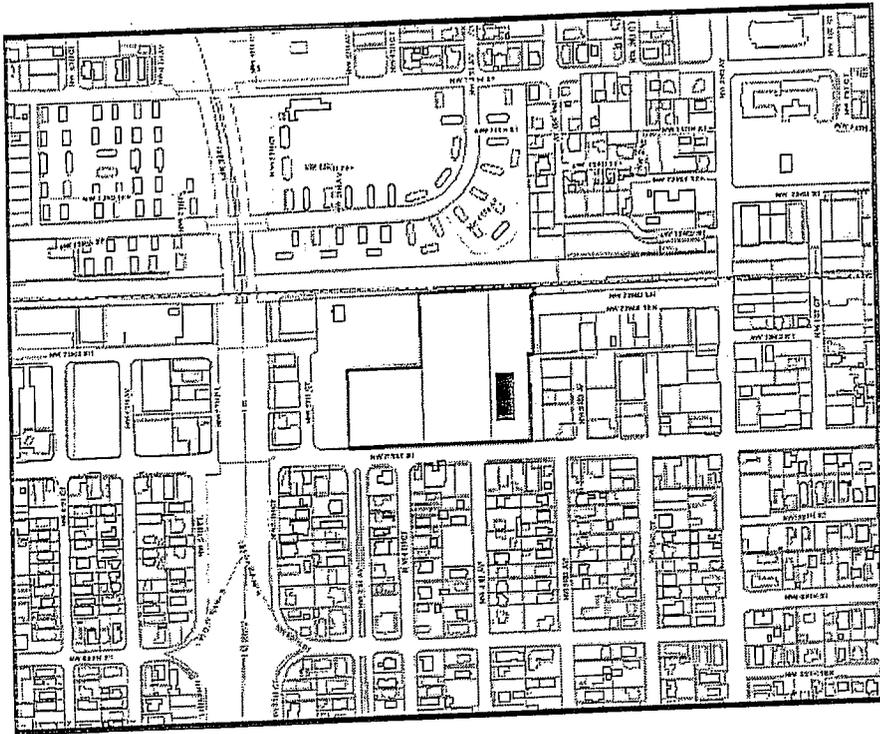
November 3, 2009

Historic and Environmental Preservation Board

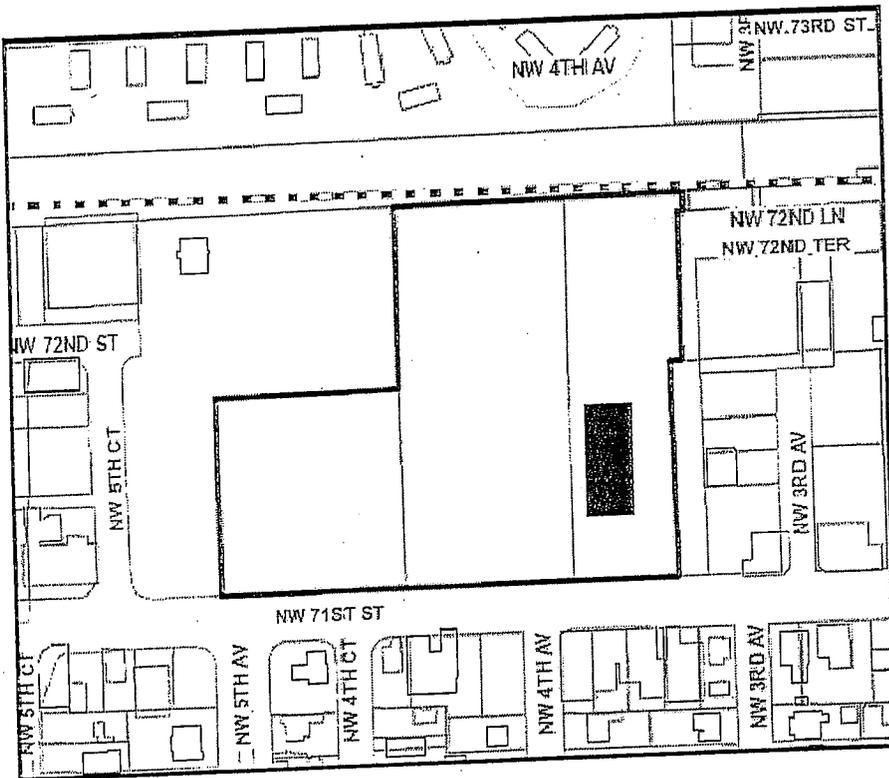


City of Miami

LEMON CITY CEMETERY



N
N
Location



N
N
Site Plan

REPORT OF THE CITY OF MIAMI
PRESERVATION OFFICER
TO THE HISTORIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION BOARD
ON THE LOCAL HISTORIC DESIGNATION OF THE
LEMON CITY CEMETERY
AS A HISTORIC RESOURCE

Prepared by: Mrs. Enid Pickney

Edited by: Ellen J. Uguccione,
Preservation Officer

Passed and
Adopted on _____

Resolution No. _____

CONTENTS

I.	GENERAL INFORMATION	5
II.	SIGNIFICANCE	6
III.	HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE	6-7
IV.	APPLICATION OF CRITERIA	7-10
V.	CURRENT CONDITIONS	10
VI.	CONCLUSION	10-11
VII.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	11
VIII.	BIBLIOGRAPHY	12
IX.	PHOTOGRAPHS	13
X.	APPENDIX A: WPA Veteran's Grave Registration 1940-41	
XI.	APPENDIX B: Lemon City Cemetery Legal Description	
XII.	APPENDIX C: The Community of Nazarene in Lemon City	
XIII.	APPENDIX D: Information on William M. English	
XIV.	ATTACHMENT E ¹	

¹ BECAUSE OF THE SIZE OF THIS DOCUMENT, IT IS NOT INCLUDED AS AN APPENDIX TO THIS REPORT BUT IS ON FILE WITH THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION OF THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT

I. General Information

Historic Name:

Lemon City Cemetery

Current Name:

YMCA/Village Carver Property

Location:

NW 71st Street north to railroad tracks and NW 4th Avenue east to NW 3rd Avenue.
Please see Exhibit "A" for a specific boundary description

Present Owner:

YMCA of Greater Miami
Miami, Florida

Present Use:

Housing Development

Present Occupant:

Not applicable, Development remains under construction

Zoning

C-2 Liberal Commercial

Folio No.

01-3112-112-0010

Proposed Boundary (Legal) Description

A parcel of land lying in the SW ¼ of Section 12, Township 53 South, Range 41 East in Miami-Dade County, Florida, being precisely described as follows: Commence at the SE Corner of the SW ¼ of Section 12, Township 53 South, Range 41 East, which is at the intersection of the centerlines of NW 71 Street and NW 2 Avenue in Miami, Florida; thence run West, as a basis for bearings, on the centerline of NW 71 Street for a distance 931.00 feet; thence N. 0°23'23" W., parallel to the centerline of NW 2 Avenue, for 35.00 feet to the northerly right-of-way line of NW 71 Street and the Point of Beginning of the following described as Parcel "A"; thence continue N. 0°23'23" E., on said right-of-way line, for 231 feet; thence S. 0°23'23" E. for 554.60 feet to the northerly right-of-way line of NW 71 Street, thence West, on said right-of-way line, for 231 feet to the Point of Beginning. LESS the North 207 feet of the South 237 feet of the West 54 feet of the East 139 feet thereof.

Note: The proposed legal description contains 2.68 acres, more or less. That area includes only the Lemon City Cemetery as demonstrated through scientific evidence, and does not include the existing structure under construction or any areas west of the recommended boundaries. The 231 feet east-west boundaries are based on a grave with twin babies located 220 feet from the east property line to the west, plus an 11ft

buffer. The north-south boundaries measure 554 feet, more or less, from the Florida East Coast Railroad right-of-way to the NW 71st Street right-of-way.

II. SIGNIFICANCE

Specific Dates

c. 1911 to mid 1930s

Statement of Significance

The Lemon City Cemetery is significant for its association with one of Miami's oldest pioneer communities. It also serves to illustrate the consequences of the Jim Crow laws enacted in Miami and throughout the United States. These laws set strict boundaries and placed distinguished separations between the black and white races based solely on skin color. This separation, enacted by the city council, included a physical boundary that separated blacks from whites, often referred to as a "color line." The location of that color line is in close proximity of the Lemon City Cemetery.

The cemetery sits on the edge of the old Lemon City pioneer development, which existed between 1858 and the mid 1930s. The existence of the cemetery was re-discovered in April of 2009 when construction crews began to unearth remains during development. The cemetery, which did not appear in plat books, was partially cleared during previous construction activity.

Using a database of Florida death certificates² compiled by the Mormon Church, 523 names of people, many of them Bahamian settlers or of Bahamian descent, shows that they have been laid to rest in the Lemon City Cemetery. The earliest listed burial was in 1911, and the last in 1935. The list includes the occupations of many individuals, from farmers to laborers, laundresses to maids, porters to cooks, truckers, and at least one minister. Many, if not all, were the backbone for early development of the City of Miami. The list also indicates a high death rate for infants in the black community at the time.

III. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Lemon City was a pioneering community on the shores of Biscayne Bay where many descendants of early Miamians lived. The name Lemon City did not appear until 1889, when John Saunders—the first owner of the "Lemon City" land, began selling parcels of his land. It is unknown where the name Lemon City comes from, although some suggest that it may have come from lemon trees that were present on the land. Until the late 1890s the area had few blacks, most of whom were from the Bahamas³. The blacks who settled in Lemon City held jobs performing physical labor for the developing area, as farm laborers, or as domestic workers.

² On file in the office of the City of Miami's Preservation Section, Planning Department

³ Merrick, George. "Pre-Flagler Influences on the Lower Florida East Coast." 1941.

By 1900 there were three black communities in Lemon City, called Nazarene, Knightsville, and Boles Town.⁴ Nazarene (called Naz'ree) was located between 2nd and 3rd Avenues, from NW 71st Street on the north to an unknown boundary on the south. This area was platted by Lewis W. Pierce, a local farmer, as an area to provide housing for his workers.⁵ Knightsville was located along 68th Street near 2nd Avenue, occupying a mere 5 acres. Located within Knightsville were two churches: St. James A.M.E. Church and the Mount Tabor Baptist Church as well as the Odd Fellows Lodge which was used as both a school and a center for meetings and social events.⁶ Boles Town was located just west of present day Miami Avenue and 57th Street and was named for an early black settler, Elijah Boles who had purchased the property. The area consisted of a few shacks and a small store and could only be accessed by sand roads that ran through the pine trees⁷.

Lemon City did not have a local government but was a self-sustaining community located just north of Miami's city limits. Lemon City was never incorporated as a town but it was annexed into the City of Miami in 1925. The area is still historically recognized as Lemon City but many of its visible signs of its existence have vanished, including the post office, school and library—all which aided in its early development. As Miami grew, so did the land value, causing new businesses and houses to encroach into the southern edge of Lemon City.

IV. APPLICATION OF CRITERIA

The Lemon City Cemetery is eligible for designation under the following criteria as described in Section 23-4 (a) of the Miami City Code:

Section 23-4(a)(3) Exemplifies the historical, cultural, political, economic, or social trends of the community.

The Lemon City Cemetery is testament to the presence of a forgotten black settlement. The monuments and markings that would have identified the cemetery were lost many years ago. However that loss does not erase the fact that this cemetery exists and is important to the life, contributions, and history of blacks in Miami. It is the only known black cemetery associated with Lemon City.

"Jim Crow" laws were enacted roughly between 1876 and 1965, specifically to maintain the segregation of the Black community. During the Jim Crow era, segregation and racially based discrimination caused the black community to be disenfranchised from many of the inner workings of government. In Miami a wall was actually built to separate the blacks from whites next to the Liberty Square Housing Project, a low income Housing Development that was opened in the late 1930s.⁸ That wall functioned as a barrier, or color line. The fact that blacks were removed from this

⁴ Marvin Dunn, *Black Miami in the Twentieth Century*, Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 1997, 67.

⁵ Ibid

⁶ Ibid, 68

⁷ Ibid

⁸ The remaining portion of that wall was previously designated as a local historic landmark.

area in the 1940s and 50s because of the color line is one of the reasons why this cemetery was long forgotten and the land allowed to be developed in the 1950s.

The Lemon City Cemetery like the historically designated Liberty City "Wall" is a physical reminder of the Jim Crow era in South Florida. The Lemon City Cemetery remains a black burial ground that was long forgotten by many of its citizens due to the harsh reality of blacks being forced out of their homes and community by laws and customs that did not favor them.

During segregation blacks were separated from white establishments even in death. The cemetery represents this former area known as Lemon City that regardless of laws that were enacted to hinder the growth of blacks, as a race, blacks continued to survive and thrive as a community with self-actualized endeavors and businesses.

Section 23-4(a)(8) Have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Mr. Jeff Ransom, the Miami-Dade County Archeologist, was contacted for an interview at the author's request. He has visited the cemetery on an ongoing basis and has been reporting to the Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner, who currently has jurisdiction over the human remains. This author asked the County Archeologist a series of questions about what happened initially at the cemetery, how many remains have been found so far, the results of the ground penetrating radar, and current excavation methods and results. What follows is a paraphrased and partially quoted summary of his answers:

On April 22, 2009 the City of Miami's Historic Preservation Office notified the County Archeologist of the find. Upon arriving at the site, he noticed scattered human remains, planks of Dade County pinewood, and evidence of casket hardware such as nails and handles. He pointed out that the initial trench, where the first human remains were reported to have been found, measured approximately 100 ft in length and that to date, eleven individuals have been identified from that spoil alone. The number is likely to rise, as a third of the spoil pile associated with the trench has yet to be sifted. According to the County Archeologist, several spoil piles were located on the property and most, if not all, contained fragments of human bone. Based on this, it is easy to conclude that the remains were disturbed from the construction of the old YMCA (Figure 2), possibly from construction of the existing structure (Figure 7), and also from grading. Returning to the office after the initial discovery, he obtained a 1925 Hopkins map (Figure 3) from the City of Miami and a 1936 Hopkins map (Figure 4) from the archives at the County's Office of Historic and Archeological Resources. Both clearly showed a cemetery at the location. He also reviewed 1948 (Figure 5) and 1950 (Figure 6) aerials, which showed an overgrown yet undisturbed cemetery lot.

Referring to the Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) studies, the County Archeologist noted that it is often the only method considered for mapping cemeteries, but that it alone cannot confirm the presence of graves. "The goals of the GPR studies were to document the presence of anomalies that could be associated with graves and to determine the extent of these anomalies", he said. Generally speaking, he noted, the

GPR results were "good" and that "several targets and parallel lines commonly associated with grave plots were identified." Unfortunately, he added, the GPR report did not include "vertical sections, also known as time slices of the GPR transects." If made available, these may have been useful in determining the depth of the anomalies. The next step, he pointed out, was to "ground truth" the larger anomalies through controlled mechanical stripping of the disturbed construction fill and hand excavations of natural soils to locate evidence of grave shafts.

Archeologists from the Archeological and Historical Conservancy (AHC) excavated several trenches on the east and west sides of the existing structure. Evidence of one grave shaft was found on the east side and excavations were then shifted to the west side. The west side was clearly more disturbed as archeologists found large amounts of rubble and construction debris. However, the County Archeologist and several archeologists from AHC noted that natural soils were located only 2-3 feet beneath the disturbed context and within a few feet of the existing structure. Mr. Ransom pointed out that finding natural soil so close to the existing structure meant that the overall disturbances were less than previously thought and that it mostly occurred along the footprint of the old YMCA and the existing structure. What does this mean? "That there is now a higher probability for locating undisturbed graves on the east and the west, not only to the north" he said. He also added that, "the 2-3 feet of construction fill found throughout the cemetery property also contains fragmentary human remains."

Just a few feet north of the trench that yielded eleven individuals, archeologists from AHC located a rectangular feature consistent with that of a grave shaft. Measuring 5.5 feet in length and just over 2 feet wide, it is "likely the grave of a child" he said. "This find is significant for many reasons" he noted, "it shows that there are intact graves to the north, but also refutes the information from the 1936 Hopkins map." This map shows that the cemetery measures 150 feet from east to west and the grave shaft is located 50 feet further from the west cemetery boundary shown on the map. Additionally, he clearly remembers that a grave with twin babies was found 70 feet west of the Hopkins map boundaries. Taking this into account, the cemetery would then measure 220 feet from east to west. "Accurate measurements are essential," he added. In cases like this, he said, "there has to be a buffer from the spot of the outermost burial to where construction may continue."

Referring to the most recent document (WPA Veteran's Grave Registration 1940-1941, Appendix A) obtained by independent researcher Larry Wiggins, the County Archeologist stated that, "it unequivocally proves that the cemetery in question is the Lemon City Cemetery." According to the document, two black WWI servicemen, Murray Ferguson and Alexander McCombs, were buried at the Lemon City Cemetery. However, Mr. Wiggins pointed out that Mr. Ferguson was also listed on the City of Miami Cemetery burial records. Newly found documents also show that a black incorporator of the City of Miami in 1896 named William M. English (Appendix D), was laid to rest at the Lemon City Cemetery.

Finally, this author asked the County Archeologist about his thoughts in general. He said, "Historic cemeteries are important cultural and archeological resources. They provide us with information on the history of the community and are places that commemorate

the dead. There is no doubt that the Lemon City Cemetery was an essential part of the cultural landscape of the period and that it represents an area of pioneers who created lives for themselves against tremendous odds"⁹.

The database of Florida Death Certificates associated with the Lemon City Cemetery represents important historical information, that when analyzed can provide important insights into the lives of those interred. For example, investigation of the records may reveal the average life expectancy for different occupations, and information about infant mortality rates.

Criteria Exception Section 23-4(8)(b)

The Miami City Code states that ordinarily cemeteries shall not be considered eligible for listing in the Miami Register of Historic Places. However, such properties will qualify for designation if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria, or if they fulfill the intent of an exception.

The Lemon City Cemetery should be exempted as it meets the intent of **Section 23-4(8)(b)(3)** which explains that a cemetery would qualify for designation if it: *derives its primary significance from graves of persons of outstanding importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events.*

The cemetery meets the criteria based on age, being among the earliest cemeteries in Miami, from association with historic events such as early development in Miami and Jim Crow laws which mandated that blacks be buried there. As to the graves of persons of outstanding importance, at least one black WWII Veteran, Alexander McCombs (Appendix A), and one of the original incorporators of the City of Miami in 1896, William M. English (Appendix D), were laid to rest in the Lemon City Cemetery.

V. PRESENT CONDITIONS

Currently the site is being developed as an affordable housing project. Since the southern portion of the site has already been disturbed there is no evidence above of a cemetery. It is the desire of the community that the site is regarded as a burial ground of historic importance and that the remains that have been removed be re-interred on the site. Working with the developers, a historic park green space should be constructed at the site commemorating the history of Lemon City and its black pioneers with a permanent marker placed on site recording the names of the pioneers and veterans buried at the site.

VI. CONCLUSION

The Lemon City Cemetery, although it has no monumental landscape or markings, does not suggest that it does not exist. It is still a significant burial ground. A book by Thelma Peters (1976) titled "Lemon City, Pioneering on Biscayne Bay 1850-1925" clearly

⁹ Personal Interview between Miami-Dade County Archaeologist Jeff Ransom and Mrs. Enid Pinkney, August 10, 2009.

identifies three distinct settlements of blacks on and near Dupont Road (present day NW 71st Street.) Whether or not all the people buried there hold the accolades that some may deem nationally worthy is not of question. The history of a migration of people forced out of a neighborhood that was clearly established, long enough to where a sacred burial ground was forgotten, speaks volumes of our history to date. It is important that this ground be designated as a historic site due to the role that the information lost played during the Jim Crow era. Clearly history dictates and shows the black residents, native African-American and Bahamian born Africans, occupied this land prior to when the Northeast corridor of NW 7th Avenue was stripped of them due to Jim Crow laws. It is not unbelievable that a cemetery could out-live the citizens that remember its existence once they were presumably forced out. This could possibly be the last remaining site in Lemon City to what once were a thriving Bahamian and African American pioneering community.

VII. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It goes without saying that I owe a debt to a great many people. Of special note are Jeff Ransom , Miami-Dade County archaeologist, Leome Culmer, Maud Newbold, Rene Harris, Ketura Vann, and Antolin Garcia Carbonell.

VIII. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Dunn, Marvin. *Black Miami in the Twentieth Century*. University Press of Florida: Gainesville, Florida, 1997.

Garcia Carbonell, Antolin. "The Community of Nazarene in Lemon City: North East Miami's Pioneer African American Neighborhood and the Lemon City Cemetery." [Paper written at the request of Enid Pinkney based on Mr. Garcia Carbonell's knowledge and resources of the Lemon City Community (Appendix C). 2009.]

Merrick, George. "Pre-Flagler Influences on the Lower Florida East Coast." *Tequesta* Volume I, 1941.

Peters, Thelma. *Lemon City, Pioneering on Biscayne Bay 1850-1925*. Miami: Banyan Books, Inc. 1976.

Ransom, Jeff B. Personal Interview. August 10, 2009.

Works Project Administration (WPA). Florida Department of Military Affairs, Special Archives Publication Number 39, WPA Veteran's Grave Registration, Broward, Collier, Dade, Lee, Monroe, Palm Beach, George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida Digital Collections, Florida and History and Heritage Collections. 1940-1941.

IX. PHOTOS

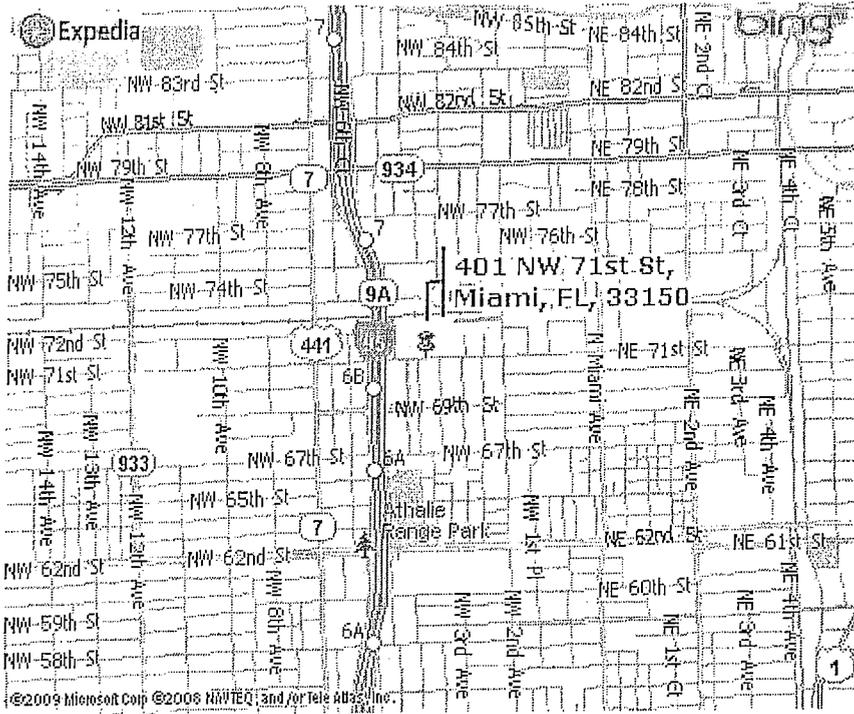


Figure 1. Expedia map showing cemetery location.

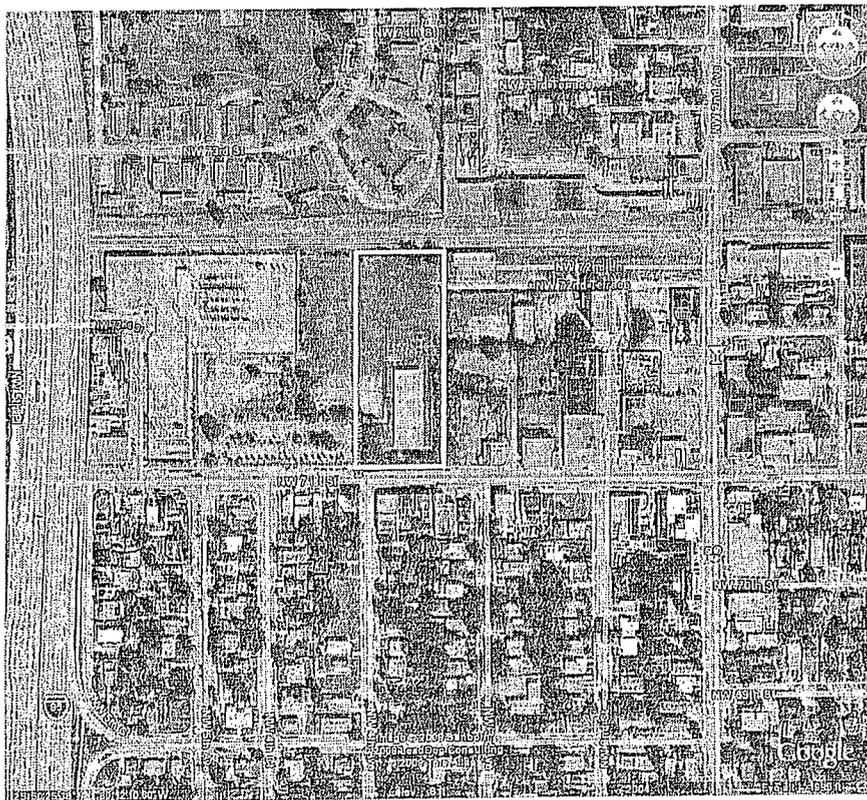


Figure 2. ca. 2006 Google aerial of the YMCA/Lemon City Cemetery.

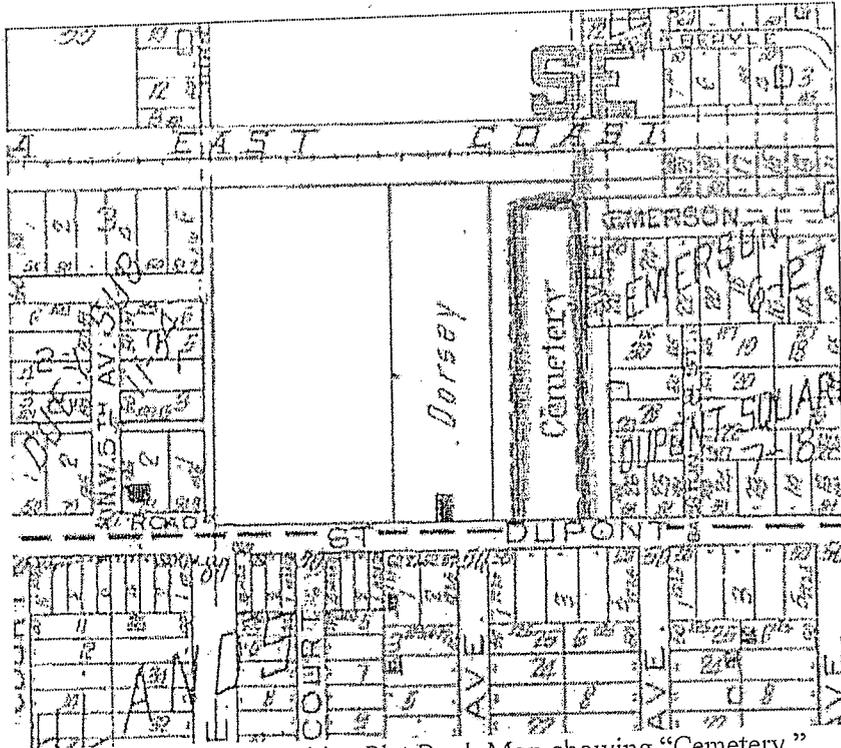


Figure 3. 1925 G.M. Hopkins Plat Book Map showing "Cemetery."

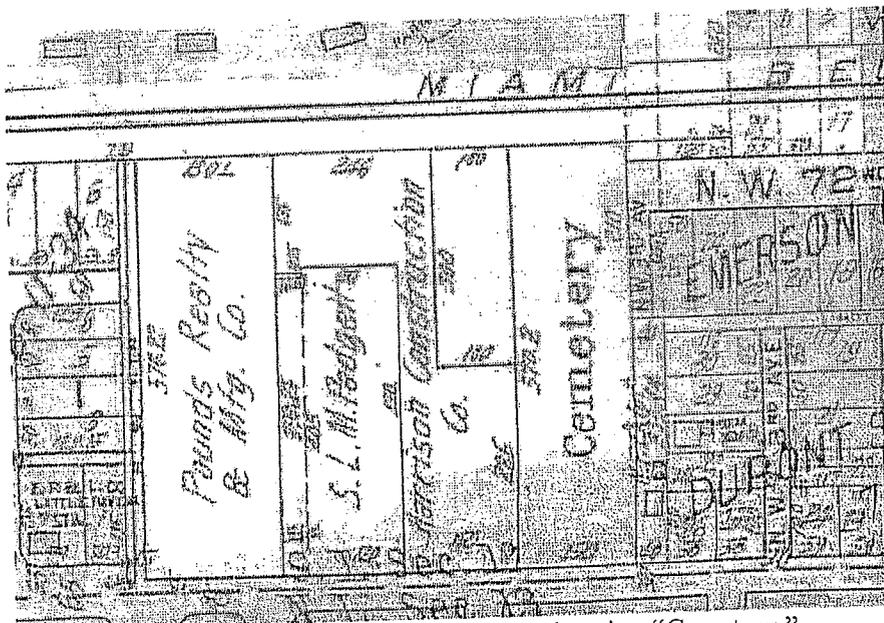


Figure 4. 1936 G.M. Hopkins Plat Book Map showing "Cemetery."

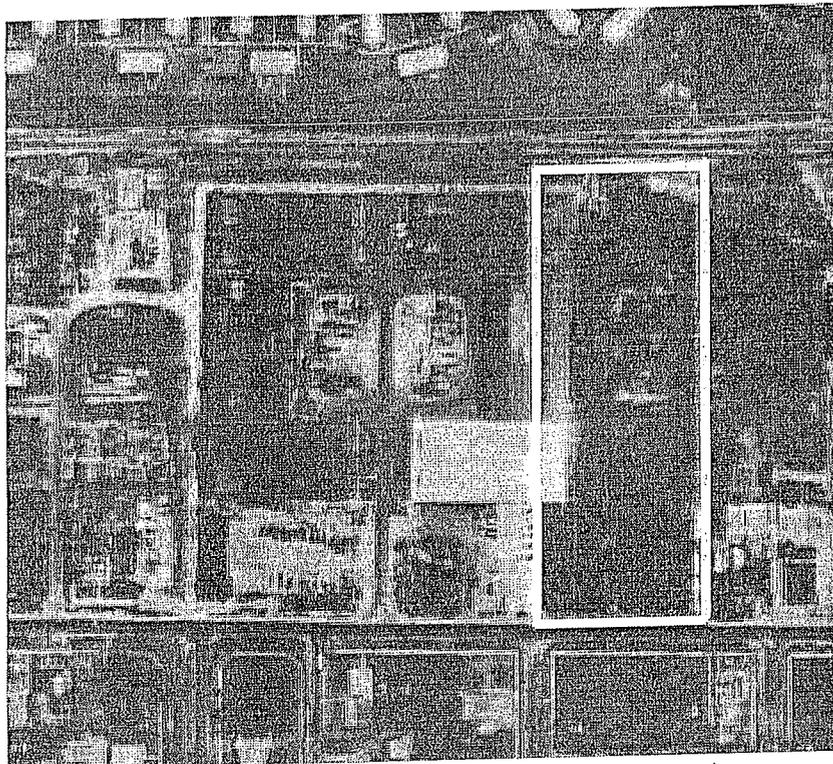


Figure 5. 1948 Aerial Photograph showing cemetery property.

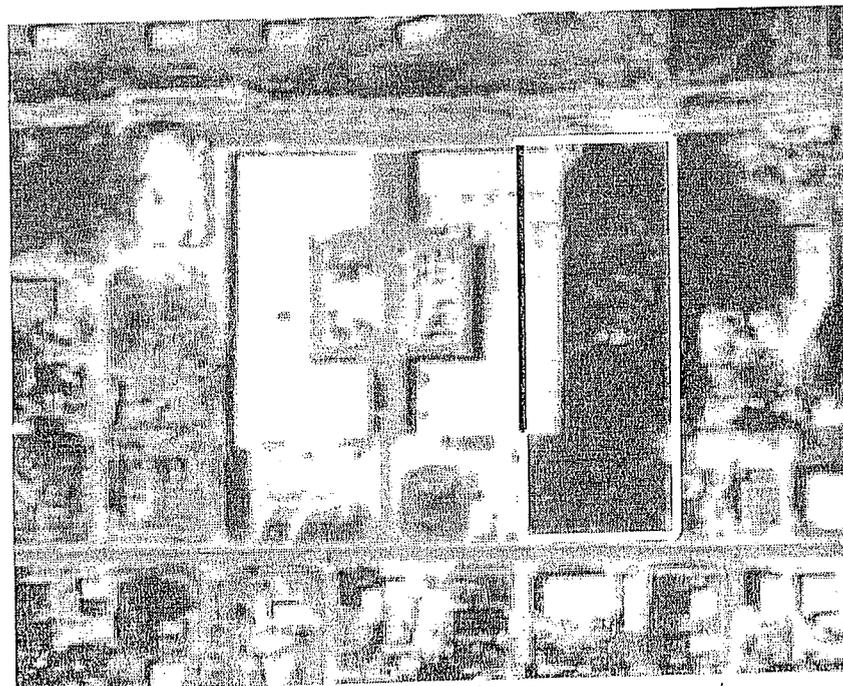


Figure 6. 1950 Aerial Photograph showing cemetery property.

X. APPENDIX A

WPA Veteran's Grave Registration 1940-1941

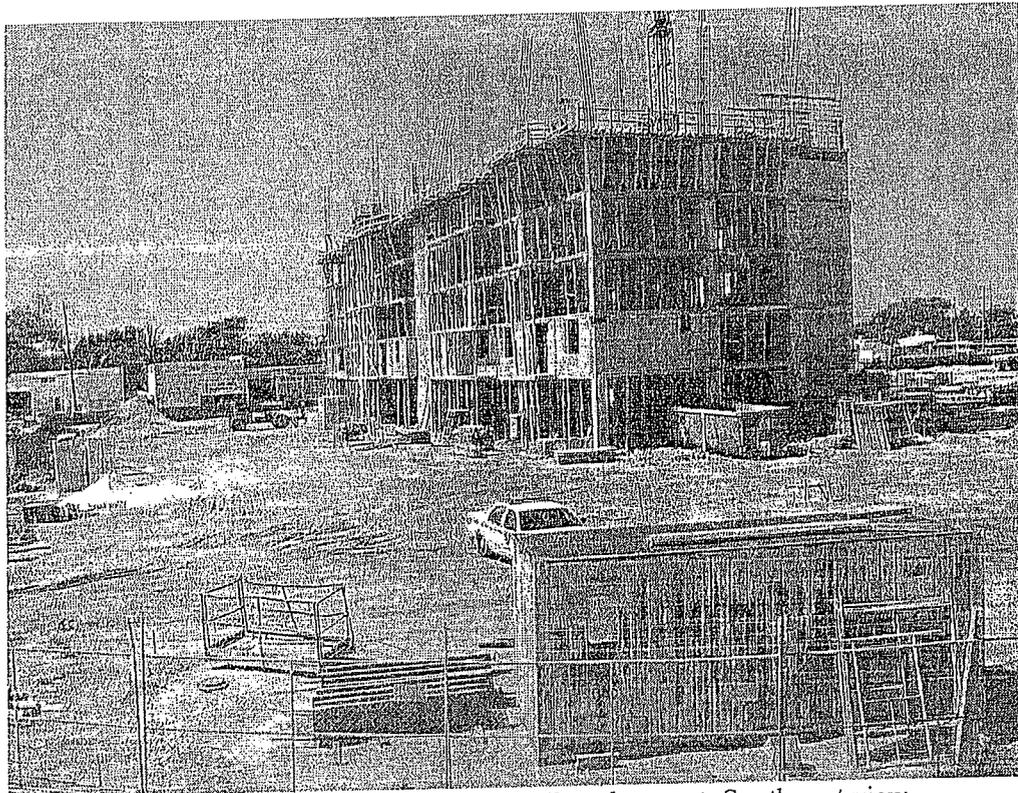
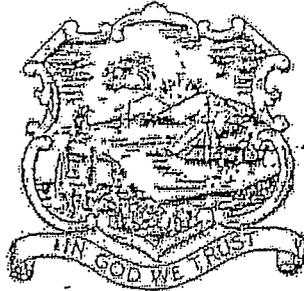


Figure 7. April 2009 Village Carver Housing Development. Southwest view.

FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF
MILITARY AFFAIRS



SPECIAL ARCHIVES PUBLICATION
NUMBER

35

WPA
VETERAN'S GRAVE REGISTRATION
1940-1941
REPRINT

BROWARD, COLLIER, DADE, LEE, MONROE,
PALM BEACH.

STATE ARSENAL

ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA

PREFACE

The Veterans' Graves Registration Project is a state-wide project in the Research and Records Section, Professional and Service Division, Work Projects Administration. It was organized by, and has operated under the sponsorship of the Military Department of the State of Florida and the co-sponsorship of the American Legion, Department of Florida.

We have attempted to prepare a comprehensive record of all graves of honorably discharged veterans of the United States (including Confederate Veterans) that may be found in Florida. The record compiled consists of a card giving all available data and their sources, concerning the service record and burial place of each veteran whose grave can be located, and plots of cemeteries in which such graves are to be found. Cards and plots are filed as permanent records in the office of the Adjutant General in the State Arsenal, St. Augustine, Florida.

The project wishes to record here its particular indebtedness to the Adjutant General and his staff for the invaluable assistance they have rendered throughout the survey. Service and patriotic organizations whose cooperation is gratefully acknowledged are The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Disabled American Veterans of the World War, United Spanish War Veterans, United Daughters of the Confederacy, United Sons of the Confederacy, Daughters of the American Revolution, Sons of the American Revolution, The American Red Cross and local units of the Florida National Guard.

It is impractical to enumerate in this volume the various state, county and local officials, as well as the numerous agencies, organizations and individuals who have made valuable contributions to this survey. However, we wish to acknowledge this splendid cooperation, without which the compilation and publication of this survey would not have been possible. We trust that the potential usefulness of this record will justify this cooperation.

WAC DUNN

State Supervisor

CEMETERIES

Cemeteries	Plat No	Page No
Brickell (Private)	22	55
Charlotte Jane Memorial Park (Colored)	17	54
City	5	50
Community (Colored)	19	52
Dade County	12	52
Dade County Hospital	20	52
Dade County Hospital (Colored)	21	52
Evergreen	9	51
Flagler Crematory	6	51
Flagler Memorial	10	53
Franklin Avenue Park (Colored)	18	52
Graceland Memorial Park	1	50
Greater Miami Jewish	15	54
Legion Home (Private)	23	55
* Lemon City (Colored)	11	53
Lincoln Memorial (Colored)	5	51
Miami Memorial Park	4	50
Philbrick Funeral Home	7	51
Pineywood	14	54
Silver Green (Colored)	16	54
St. Joseph's Memorial Park of Flagler	13	53
The Palms	8	51
Woodlawn Park	3	50

Name	War	Rank	Organization	Born	Died	HL	Gr
Mulvanhill, James H**	W	Pvt L. Cl	USA	1901	1935	2-1-3- 42 2A	
Mulvanhill, James H** (See Mulvanhill, James H)						2-1-3- 42 2A	
Murson, Fliam	SA	Pvt	3rd US Cav	1879	1935	1-4-3 4	
Murphy, Albert Edmund	W		17th Div 83rd Inf	1892	1920	2-3-1 4	
Murphy, Charles V C	U	Capt	Co A 10th NJ Inf	1842	1929	4-1A 24	
Murphy, Edward Maynard	W	Corp	Co L 108th Inf	1900	1935	2-2-3- 10 2A	
Murphy, Frederick W	W	Pvt	315th Engr	1895	1935	2-1-3- 45 2A	
Murphy, John Augustine	W	1 Sgt	301st FA	1892	1926	2-1-3 12	
Myers, Edwin Roy	W	Sgt	USMC	1898	1935	2-2-2- 27 9	
Nyong, Louis C (or Louis C)	W	Pvt	Gas Co 1st Corps	1887	1939	3-7 2	
MacKinnon, Joseph W	W	Pvt	95th Aero Sq	1892	1935	2-1-3- 6 2A	
MacVicar, Lewis Stewart	W	Corp	Hq Co 42nd Inf	1895	1925	2-2-1 4	
McAllister, William A	W	Sgt	14th Co 2nd Regt Air Serv Hq Regt	1895	1925	2-4-1 4	
McBurnie, John	W	1 Sgt	Co B 71st Regt Inf	1891	1934	2-2-2- 2 9	
McGabe, Harry J	SA	Corp	Co D 27th Regt W Va Vol Inf	1876	1935	4-1A 8	
McGill, W C	U	Sgt Maj	Co K 15th Ca. Inf	1841	1914	3-4 2	
McGinn, James O	W	Pvt	Co K 1st Inf	1890	1935	2-2-3- 36 2A	
McGinn, W H	U	Pvt	17th US Inf	1845	1907	3-2 27	
McCloud, Charley*	W	Pvt	321st Co 4 Corps	1897	1936	9-2 13	
McCluskey, Herbert	W	Pvt L. Cl	Co A 325th MG Bn 84th Div	1895	1939	1-J-K 16	
McCombs, Alexander	W	Corp	22nd Co 301st Shev Regt	1883	1918	2-1 1	
McCoy, George E	FR	Corp	5th Qbn Elm Serv Aero Sq	1879	1935	2-1-2- 50 2A	
McDaniels, John			USN	1896	1939	3-3 9	
McDonald, James Edward				1897	1927	2-2-3 2	
McDonald, Joseph Albert				1842	1918	3-1 26	

XI. APPENDIX B

Lemon City Cemetery Legal Description

3

XI. APPENDIX B

Lemon City Cemetery Legal Description

Legal Description

A parcel of land lying in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 12, Township 53 South, Range 41 East in Miami-Dade County, Florida, being precisely described as follows: Commence at the SE Corner of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 12, Township 53 South, Range 41 East which is the intersection of the centerlines of N.W. 71 Street and NW 2 Avenue in Miami, Florida; thence run West, as a basis for bearings, on the centerline of N.W. 71 Street for a distance of 931.00 feet; thence N. $0^{\circ}23'23''$ W., parallel to the centerline of NW 2 Avenue, for 35.00 feet to the northerly right-of-way line of NW 71 Street and the Point of Beginning of the following described parcel of land identified as Parcel "A"; thence continue N. $0^{\circ}23'23''$ W. for 553.21 feet to the southerly right-of-way line of the Florida East Coast Railroad; thence N. $89^{\circ}38'53''$ E., on said right-of-way line, for 231.00 feet; thence S. $0^{\circ}23'23''$ E. for 554.60 feet to the northerly right-of-way line of NW 71 Street; thence West, on said right-of-way line, for 231.00 feet to the Point of Beginning, LESS the North 207. feet of the South 237. feet of the West 54. feet of the East 139. feet thereof.

For: Lemon City Cemetery Task Force

Order 2230

September 14, 2009

T.L. RIGGS
3081 SHIPPING AVE.
MIAMI, FL 33133
(305) 448-9032


T.L. RIGGS
SURVEYOR AND MAPPER
LS #2849
STATE OF FLORIDA

XII. APPENDIX C

The Community of Nazarene in Lemon City

The Community of Nazarene in Lemon City: North East Miami's Pioneer African-American Neighborhood and the Lemon City Cemetery

It is not clear when African-Americans first settled in North East Miami. In 1848, Alvah Woods, a white settler, filed a homestead for the 160 acres encompassing today's El Portal. This is the oldest-known document relating to the area. By 1880 most of the Biscayne Bay front as well as the pine lands to west had been homesteaded by white settlers. African-Americans do appear in census the records of that time but since most homesteads were subsistence family farms there was little demand for hired labor.

Shortly after John Saunders platted the community of Lemon City in 1889 at today's N.E. 61st Street, other area homesteaders sold off their property in smaller parcels which the new owners planted with citrus groves and winter vegetables. In 1892, Dade County built its first road linking Lemon City with Lantana improving access to the entire area. Road building and the new farms created the first demand for African-American workers.

Four years later, when Henry Flagler's East Coast Railroad came through the area, he built four stations approximately one mile from each other just north of Miami: Buena Vista (N.E. 36th Street); Lemon City (N.E. 59th Street); Little River (N.E. 79th Street) and Biscayne (N.E. 103rd Street). Each of these stations formed the nuclei of separate communities with Lemon City, already possessing a dock on Biscayne Bay, a hotel, and a school, turning into the regional center.

It was likely at this time that Bahamian and African-American railroad workers first built houses in the area that for the next 60 years became known as Nazarene. It is not clear when the name Nazarene was first associated with this settlement, but seems to have come from one of the community's churches. Houses were concentrated in what became in 1912 Blocks 25 and 26 of Pierce's Subdivision. This area, just west of the F.E.C. tracks and south of Du Pont Road (N.E. 71st Street), was physically undesirable to white settlers yet very central to the four farming communities where demand for field workers, day laborers, and packers rapidly grew. It was one the few areas in Greater Miami where African-Americans could live.

Nazarene's cemetery was established a mile to the west in an otherwise undesirable area of high ground between the Humbuggus and Pocomoonshine Prairies at the dead end of DuPont Road. Over time, it became known as the Lemon City Cemetery and served not just African-Americans and Bahamians living in Lemon City and Nazarene but in adjacent North West Miami communities as well.

Unlike Coconut Grove, where a large number of the descendants of Bahamian and African-American settlers remained for generations, Nazarene had a much larger number of transient residents. Illustrative of this trend was the Platts family, South Carolina farm-workers counted in the 1910 Lemon City Census who later moved upstate. Indiana, one of the daughters, returned to Miami in the 1920's as the wife of Herbert Lee Thompson and worked as the cook of aviator and developer Glenn Curtiss and his wife Lena, at their Miami Springs home.

By 1920, there were numerous groves and plantations in the area providing employment opportunities for African-Americans. Among them: the T.V. Moore pineapple

As of 2009 there are only three or four houses surviving in the two blocks where Nazarene once stood. The Lemon City Cemetery, survived as an image on the page of old plat books until recent construction excavations unearthed human remains.

This brief and quickly written overview of the history of the community of Nazarene and the Lemon City Cemetery is only intended as a starting point. It is strongly recommended that a detailed study to document the hundred plus years of the African-American, Bahamian and Haitian presence in North East Miami be undertaken before even more sites disappear and surviving long time residents die.

Antolin Garcia Carbonell, R.A.
Miami, Florida
August 7, 2009

XIII. APPENDIX D

Information on William M. English

Collection: Florida Deaths, 1877-1939

Name: William English

Titles:

Titles & Terms - Prefix(standardized):

Death date: 14 Jul 1931

Death place: Miami, Dade, Florida

Gender: Male

Race or color (on document): Negro

Race or color (expanded): Negro

Age at death: 53y

Estimated birth year: 1878

Birthdate:

Birthplace: Fla.

Marital status: Married

Spouse's name: Maggie English

Spouse's titles:

Spouse's Titles & Terms - Prefix(standardized):

Father's name: Peter English

Father's titles:

Father's Titles & Terms - Prefix(standardized):

Father's birthplace: Fla.

Mother's name: Sophie

Mother's titles:

Mother's Titles & Terms - Prefix(standardized):

Mother's birthplace: Fla

Occupation: Porter

Street address: 46 St & 27 Ave

Residence: Dade Co

Cemetery name:

Burial place: Lemon City

Burial date: 18 Jul 1931

Funeral home:

Informant's name:

Additional relatives:

Film number: 2135449

Reference number: cn10733

Collection: Florida Deaths, 1877-1939

**Alcade
Prescription
Pharmacy**

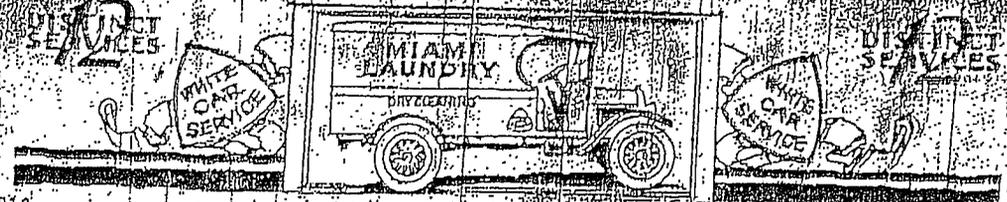
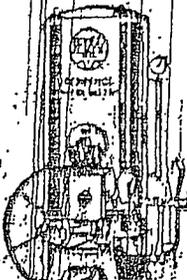
W. E.
ROSSETT
Prop.

The Only
Exclusive
Prescription
Drug Store
in Greater
Miami

No. 6 Haldyon
Arcade No. 2
12 N. E. 2d Av.
and 606
Huntington
Bldg.

PHONES
2-7691, 2-7692
and 2-7714

DURO
Automatic
WATER
SYSTEMS
SOFTENERS
Pumps of
All Kinds
Electric
Motors



- 310 (1930) R. L. POLK & CO. S
- ENGELMAN**
Engelman Apartments 219 SW 6th st
" Martin (Ida) barber 221 SW 8th st h
221 SW 8th st apt 2
" Max O. (Paula B) blsmn h1212 NW
42d st
England Arth E (Dorothy) water cool-
ers h1232 NW 7th av
" Benj (C; Rose) lab h3902 Grand av
" Chas W clk PO r176 SW 11th st
" Dorothy r1232 NW 7th av
" Harry Hr Inshr r003 NW 28th st
" Roy E chauff r767 SW 9th st
" Ruth r1232 NW 7th av
Englebright Harry L (Florence T) electn
E A Robinson h7047 NW 18th st
Englehardt J R clk Hotel Everglades r
Marion, ind
Englelow Robt O h1820 NE 4th av
Engler Abr (Anna) real est h1744 S
Miami av
" Jacob S (Minnie) men's clo 1008 NW
2d av h1037 NW 11th st
" Reba sten r1744 S Miami av
Englewood Apartments 2138 SW 5th st
English Abbie Mrs maid 327 SW 5th st
" do
" Chas (C; Buster) lab h1955 NW 6th
st
" Edw A (Emily J.) Chapeland Service
Stn r368 NE 57th st
" Enny Mrs (Mary, Alice) Coffee Shop
r224 NE 1st st
" Floyd A (Mary R) butcher Tanner
Geo Co Inc h1376 NW 36th st apt 2
" Gaken (Chas) barber r118 SW 1st st
" Geo C (Alice V) clk r753 SW 3d st
" Geo C (Josephine M) plmbr h1377 N
W 75th st
" Helen r368 NE 57th st
" Elbert S servicem Viking Ballistic
Corp r1220 N Miami av
" John musician r120 SW South River
dr
" John C (Jack) driver r1377 NW 75th st
" Kate r190 NW 7th st
" Lawrence (Archie) barber r818 SW 1st
st
" Mildred (wid Jas M) h1376 NW 35th
st apt 3
" Nellie Mrs (Mary Alice) Coffee Shop
r224 NE 1st st
" Elchd V printer Miami Printing Co h
100 NW 7th st
" Robt C (Bridget) pdnr h1315 Brick-
all av
" Robt E (Neddy) gas ltn 6300 NE 2d
av r368 NE 57th st
" Wm M (C; Maggie) soft drinks 2707
NW 4th st h2713 do
Englund Olaus (Victoria J) carp h1748
NW 8th st
Engman Charlotte (wid Aug) r178 1/2 SW
17th av
Engraham John (C; Lula) porter Rey-
hold Baking Co r492 NW 9th st
Engwall John Rev (Annie) pastor St
Johns Lutheran Ch h2200 NW 26th
apt 2
Enman Frank (C; Clara) lab h320 NW
16th st
- ENO**
Enb Rufus B (Addie E) lab h1361 NW
2d ter
Enos Herbert W (Susie N) eng h129 NE
6th st
Enright Thos M (Leona C) prohibition
agt. U S Prohibition Bur h344 SW
12th av apt 1
Ensey Geo F Jr (Anna W) clk PO h445
SW 6th st
" Geo F III clk All States Grocery Inc
r445 SW 6th st
Ensign Walter C (Lucille T) real est h
1720 SW 11th ter
Enslay John A (Jeanne) bldg cont h 33 NW
2d av h do
Ensof John B (Mattie; Kitchen Craft
Shop) h127 NE 21st st
ENSTROM HUGO C (Española), Attor-
ney-at-Law, 2-4 Wayne Bldg, 34 W
Flagler st. Tel 2-6809, h1136 SW
13th av
Ent Gordon A (Lena C) auditor h1337
NW 4th st
Entekin Lee R (Blanche P) gas ltr r
1444 NW 15th av
Egavart Jesse J (Dairy B) carp h1028 SW
12th st
" Mildred M (Wm T) W Woolworth Co
r1028 SW 12th st
Erdel Savini (Antoinette) rto 1505 NW
8th av h do
Eppbach Arth W real contr 159 NE
20th st r do
Epling Roy L (Vida) h260 NE 2d av
Epperson Clyde A (Clara A Epperson
& Co) r2961 SW 5th st
EPPELSON-CLYDE A & CO (Clyde A
Epperson), Accountants, 826 In-
gram Bldg, 25 SE 2d av, Tel 3-
2385
" Martha student r3947 La Plaza bldg
Eppinger Geo C (Lula M) carrier PO
h173 NW 5th st
Epple Wm (Ada M) steward h2223 SW
12th st
Epps Jeremiah (C) lab h near 934 NW
1st av
Epsel John driver Green Cab Co r262
W Flagler st
Epslein Harry (Ada) h2736 SW 5th st
apt 7
Jerome F clk Fairfax Hotel r2336 SW
5th st apt 7
" Leonard lawyer 117 NE 1st av R014
h420 SW 6th st apt 11
" William sten r2138 SW 5th st apt 9
Epling Myrtle lchr Robt E Lee Jr Hilda
Sch r222 NW 36th st
Equally Cleaners Saml J Helman maid
904 W Flagler st
Equitable Bank & Trust Co Robt N
Lumphreys sec-treas office 19 W
Flagler st R201
EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SO-
CIEITY OF THE U S, Walter T
Schult Dist Mgr, 1210-1211 Bank of
Bay Biscayne Bldg, 19 W Flagler st,
Tel 2-0721
Erasmus Otto A (Van Dyke Studios)
r40 SW 12th st
Erdmans Halle Mrs Mrs Emma Ann

 Ancestry

1930 United States Federal Census

Name: **William English**
 Home in 1930: **Hiialeah, Dade, Florida**
 Age: **55**
 Estimated Birth Year: **abt 1875**
 Birthplace: **Florida**
 Relation to Head of House: **Head**
 Spouse's Name: **Maggie**
 Race: **Negro (Black)**

Household Members:	Name	Age
	<u>William English</u>	55
	<u>Maggie English</u>	42
	<u>Willie English</u>	11

Source Citation: Year: 1930; Census Place: *Hiialeah, Dade, Florida*; Roll 311; Page: 19B; Enumeration District: 92, Image: 512.0.

Source Information:

Ancestry.com. *1930 United States Federal Census* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2002. Original data: United States of America, Bureau of the Census, *Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930*. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 1930. T626, 2,667 rolls.

Description:

Containing records for approximately 123 million Americans, the 1930 United States Federal Census is the largest census released to date and is the most recent census available for public access. The census gives us a glimpse into the lives of Americans in 1930, and contains information about a household's family members and occupants including: birthplaces, occupations, immigration, citizenship, and military service. The names of those listed in the census are linked to actual images of the 1930 Census.

AncestryLibrary.com

1920 United States Federal Census

Name: **William English**
 Home in 1920: **Miami, Dade, Florida**
 Age: 40 years
 Estimated Birth Year: **abt 1880**
 Birthplace: **Florida**
 Relation to Head of House: **Head**
 Spouse's Name: **Maggio**
 Father's Birth Place: **Alabama**
 Mother's Birth Place: **Alabama**
 Marital Status: **Married**
 Race: **Black**
 Sex: **Male**
 Home owned: **Own**
 Able to read: **Yes**
 Able to Write: **Yes**
 Image: **18**
 Neighbors:
 Household Members:

Name	Age
<u>William English</u>	40
<u>Maggio English</u>	37
<u>Maggio McCloud</u>	8

Source Citation: Year: 1920; Census Place: Miami, Dade, Florida; Roll T625_216; Page: 9A; Enumeration District: 23; Image: 18.

Source Information:

Ancestry.com. 1920 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2009. Images reproduced by FamilySearch.

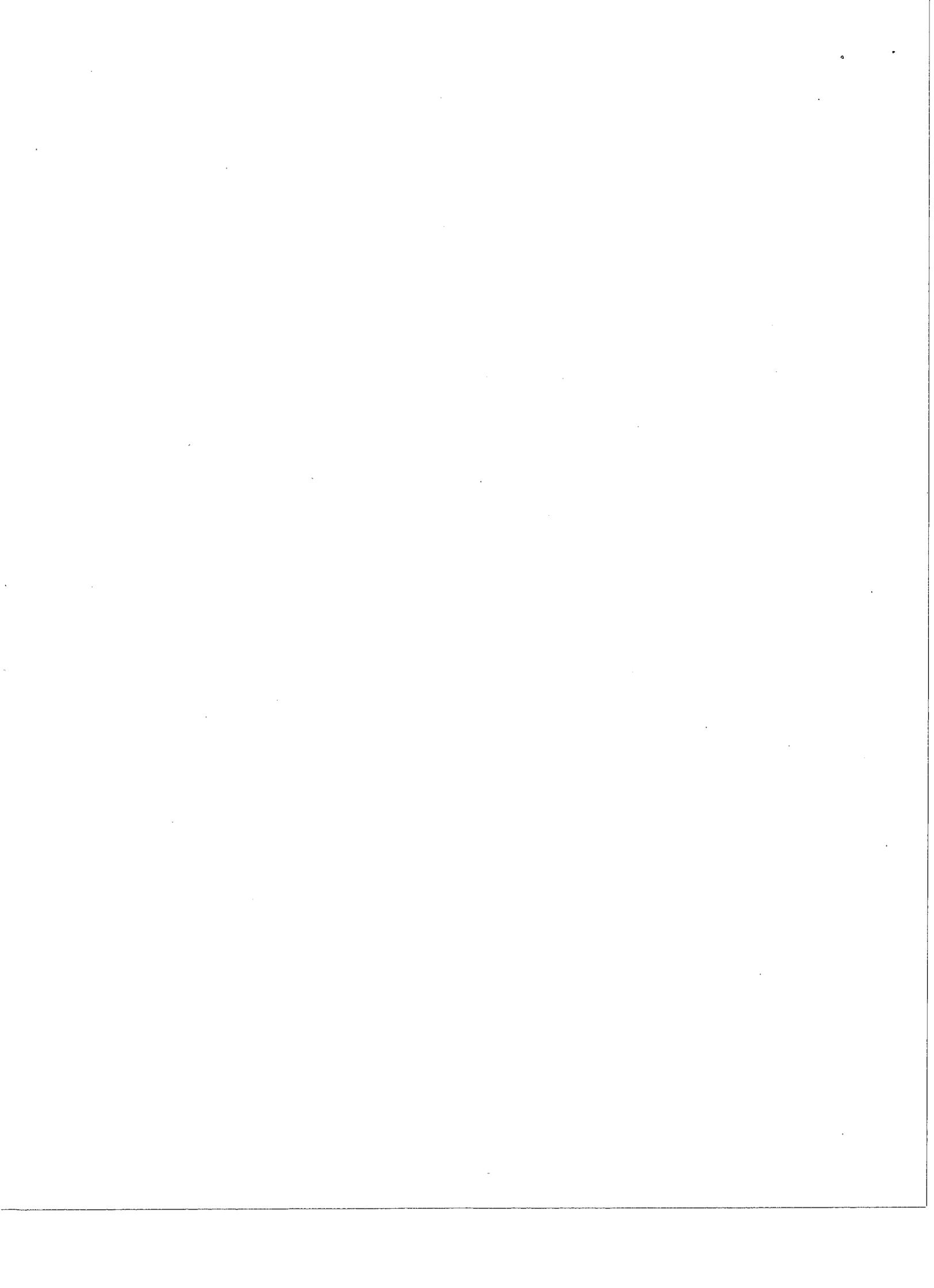
For details on the contents of the film numbers, visit the following NARA web page: .

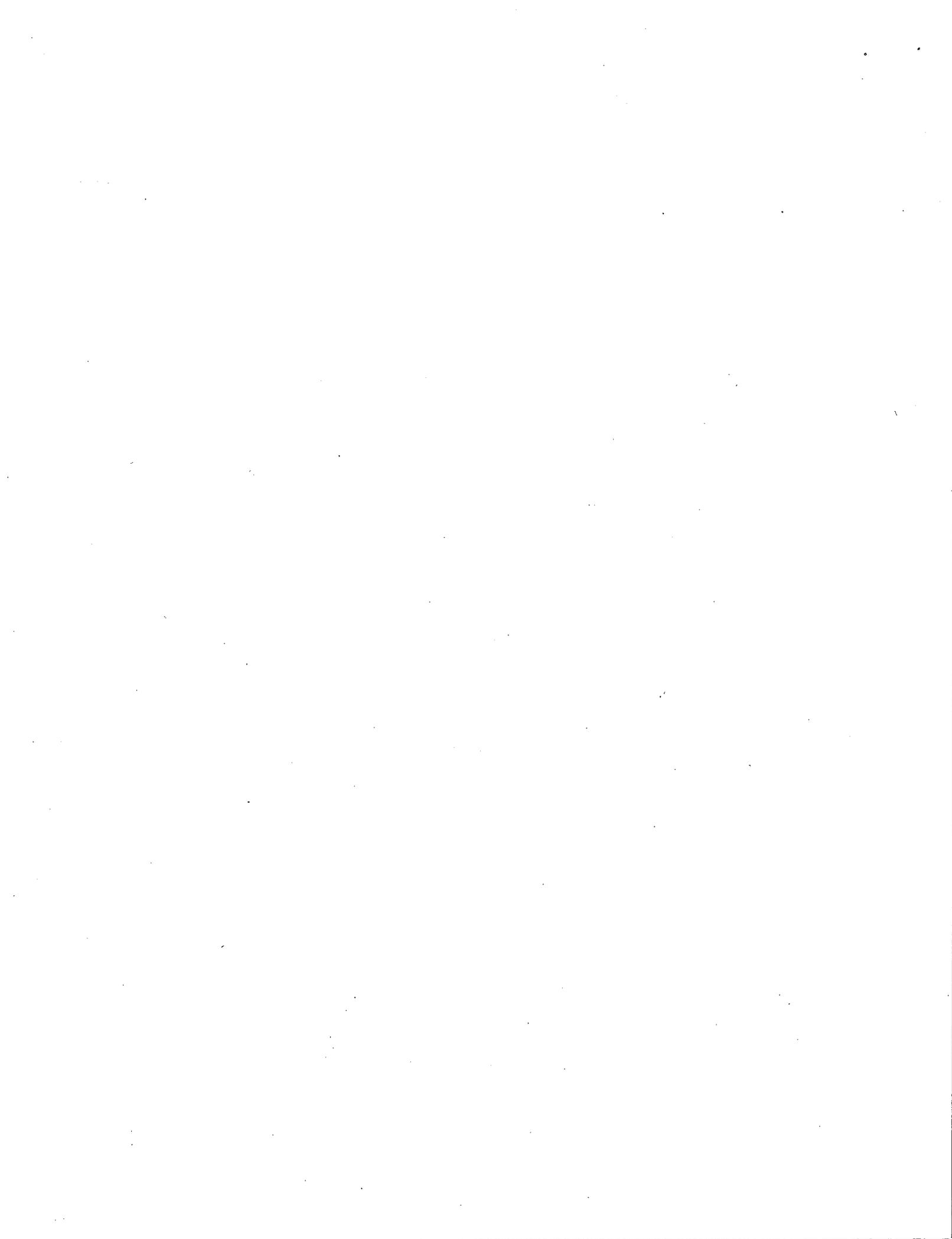
Note: Enumeration Districts 819-839 on roll 323 (Chicago City)

Original data: Fourteenth Census of the United States, 1920; (National Archives Microfilm Publication T625, 2076 rolls); Records of the Bureau of the Census, Record Group 29; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Description:

This database is an index to individuals enumerated in the 1920 United States Federal Census, the Fourteenth Census





plantation in Biscayne; the Griffing, Winfield and Hart Groves along the bay at Little River; William Ogden's Groves at the T-House Plantation in Lemon City; and the Charles Deering Estate on the bay in Buena Vista. In addition, a string of packing plants and warehouses built along the tracks just south of the Little River F.E.C. station and within walking distance of Nazarene provided packing jobs during the winter season.

Even before the land boom, George Pfeiffer, a German born Miami architect, had built his house, Villa Florence at the bay in Lemon City and had many clients in the area. While a lot of the specialty masonry and finish work on the buildings he designed was done by white craftsmen, there was plenty of work for African American workers in local projects like William Ogden's T-House (1911) and the Agricultural High School (1914) on N.W. 2nd Avenue, which later became Edison High School.

Although most of North East Miami was platted during the Land Boom, very little was actually built except for a few large estates and show houses, almost all of which have been demolished. During the 1920's and 30's African-American families served as caretakers at some, like the estate of the President of the Little River Bank and Trust Company on Biscayne Boulevard and at Madam Sherry's Moorish Castle on N.E. 54th Street.

In 1923, the Florida East Coast Railway started construction on a spur just north of Nazarene, heading west to Hialeah and from there to continue in two directions: to the north west to Lake Okeechobee and south to Larkins. This south spur was called the Miami Belt Line and allowed trains from south Dade and the Keys to by-pass downtown Miami. This spur also passed north of the Lemon City Cemetery, further degrading its desirability for other purposes. Although the Okeechobee spur was never built, the Belt Line was in very heavy use until much of the freight traffic was diverted further west to the CSX tracks.

Starting in 1934, the build out of the failed North East Miami 1920's subdivisions resumed, providing construction work for residents of Nazarene. Parallel with residential construction, hotels, restaurants and other commercial structures sprang up along Biscayne Boulevard and other through streets providing additional opportunities for construction and later service jobs.

Around this time, the construction of the Liberty Square Housing project, about a mile west of the Lemon City Cemetery, offered a more attractive housing option for dwellers of shotgun houses in Nazarene, setting in motion trends that would ultimately lead to the community's demise. At the same time, the Lemon City Cemetery's proximity to Liberty Square probably led many residents of that project to select it as the final resting place for their loved ones.

By the 1950's much of the former farmland adjacent to both Nazarene and the Lemon City Cemetery had been built out for industrial uses. While initially providing some employment opportunities for Nazarene residents, the resulting noisy and congested environment along with the many options that gradually became available with the success of the Civil Rights Movement led to an exodus of the African-American from the area. Most of Nazarene's shotgun houses were demolished and replaced with warehouses. The Lemon City Cemetery fell into disuse and other facilities were built on its footprint. Starting in the 1970's, Haitian immigrants settled in the area.

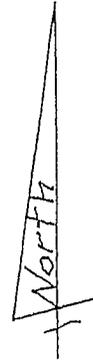


FEC. RR.

N. 89° 38' 53" E.
231.00'

South R/W

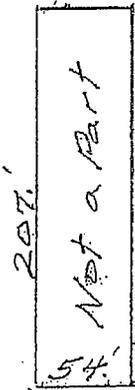
Parcel "A"



1" = 100'

Point of Beginning

N. 0° 23' 23" W. 553.21'



S. 0° 23' 23" E. 554.60'

West 231.00'

North R/W

35'

1/4 NW 71

Street

West 931.00'

1/4 NW 2 Ave. N. 0° 23' 23" W.

Point of Commencement

SE. Cor. SW 1/4

Sec. 12-53-41

Sketch to accompany Legal Description

Note: This Sketch does not represent a Land Survey.

Lemon City Cemetery

511-07





W-13; P-10
FLAGLER MEMORIAL CEMETERY

SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 54, S., RANGE 41, E.

From the court house in Miami, go west on W. Flagler Street for 5 miles to N. W. 53rd Avenue and cemetery entrance.

W-16; P-11
LIMON CITY (COLONIAL) CEMETERY

SECTION 12, TOWNSHIP 53, S., RANGE 41, E.

From the court house in Miami, go west on W. Flagler Street to N. W. 2nd Avenue. Turn north on N. W. 2nd Avenue and go 4 and 4/10 miles, then west on N. W. 71st Street 1/10 mile to cemetery which lies on the right, between N. W. 71st Street and Florida East Coast railroad.

W-16; P-12
DADE COUNTY CEMETERY

SECTION 29, TOWNSHIP 54, S., RANGE 40, E.

From the city of Miami, go south on U. S. Highway #1 for 11 miles to cemetery located in the town of Kendall.

W-13; P-13
ST. JOSEPH'S MEMORIAL PARK OF FLAGLER CEMETERY

SECTION 6, TOWNSHIP 54, S., RANGE 41, E.

From the court house in Miami, go west on W. Flagler Street to intersection of N. W. 53rd Avenue and N. W. 53rd Avenue Road. Turn northwest on N. W. 53rd Avenue Road to cemetery which lies on the left side of the road.

NO BURIALS OF VETERANS REPORTED

Name	War	Rank	Organization	Born	Died	PL	Gr
Erwin, William Wallace	U	1 Lt	Co K 74th NY Vols	1842	1908	3-1	25
Evans, Earl Leslie	W	Pvt	Co D Div Bn #1	1888	1935	2-3- 22	5
Evans, Eugene E	W	Pharm Mate 2 cl	USN		1933	2-2-2- 8	37
Evans, Willfred I	W	Pvt	11th Co 3rd Tn Bn	1893	1938	2-1-6	1
Evans, J W				1850	1917	2-2-5	13
Ealey, Timothy A	W	Sgt	Btry E 82nd FA Reg Army Res	1893	1937	1-6-11	1
Earnum, Joseph N	W	Pvt	Base Hosp #58	1898	1930	2-1-2- 9 2	6
Earr, Vincent G** (See Earr, Vincent J)							
Earr, Vincent R**	W	Ensign	USNRE	1875	1937	2	6
Eaturos, George Konstantino	W		5th Div	1889	1922	2-10	13
Eddel, Maurice F A	W	Chief Yac	Rec Ship Norfolk Va	1894	1928	2-2- 21	21
Eads, Oliver Howard Perry	U	Pvt	Co F 16th Regt Mich Vol Inf	1848	1933	2-2-6	4
Eads, William McKinley	W	Sgt Hq	Co A 308th Engr Stat Div	1896	1926	2-1-2- 9	38
Eddel, Frank	W	Ensign	USS Quail	1898	1937	10-2	6
* Eargason, Murray*	W	Pvt	Co D 516th Engr	1891	1919	21	2
Eargason, Zack*	W	Pvt	52nd Co 153rd Dep Brig	1893	1938	5-2	2
Eash, Harry T	W	Pvt 1 cl	5th Co Gas Cp 1 Motor Truck Div	1892	1919	3-1	7
Elsch, Julius	W		USA	1891	1936	4-2A	19
Elsch, Andrew** (See Goetz Andrew J)						4-1A	7
Eisher, Cernon W	SA	Pvt	Co I 47th NY Regt	1875	1936	X	
Eisher, Charles E	PH	Lt	US Constabulary Philippine Islands	1885	1927	2-2-2- 9	1
Fitzgerald, D W	W	Pvt 1 cl	62nd FA	1896	1956	1-3-21	9
Flagle, William A	SA		Co F 157th Ind Vol Inf	1879	1932	4-2A	6
Fletcher, Harley	SA	Pvt	Co H 1st Ill Arty	1875	1930	4-1A	11
Fletcher, Harry Everette	W		USA	1888	1939	X	

EXPLANATION OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AC	Air Corps	
AEF	American Expeditionary Forces	
AGD	Adjutant General's Department	
Air-Res	Air Corps Reserve	
BR	Boxer Rebellion	1900-1901
C	Civil War, Confederate Forces	1861-1865
CAO	Coast Artillery Corps	
CP	Cuban Pacification	
CSA	Confederate States Army	1906-1909
CWS	Chemical Warfare Service	
DC	Dental Corps	
FA	Field Artillery	
GAR	Grand Army of the Republic	
Gr	Grave	
I	Indian Wars	1816-1891
M	Mexican War	1846-1848
MC	Medical Corps	
MD	Medical Department	
MG	Machine Gun	
MP	Military Police	
MP	Motor Transport	
NC	Nicaragua Campaign	1912
NG	National Guard	
PEM	Punitive Expedition into Mexico	1916-1917
PI	Philippine Insurrection	1899-1902
PL	Plat	
PT	Peace Time Service	1783-1940
QMC	Quartermaster Corps	
QM-Res	Quartermaster Corps Reserve	
R	American Revolution	1775-1783
SA	Spanish-American War	1898-1899
SATC	Students Army Training Corps	
U	Civil War, Union Forces	1861-1865
USA	United States Army	
USCG	United States Coast Guard	
USMC	United States Marine Corps	
USMCR	United States Marine Corps Reserve	
USN	United States Navy	
USNR	United States Naval Reserve	
VIC	Vera Cruz Expedition	1914
W	World War	1917-1923
X-	Operation or Place of Burial Unknown	
1812	War of 1812	1812-1815
*	Colored Veteran	
**	Ventilation in Name Spelling	

Note: Other abbreviations used in this compilation are those listed in Army Regulations No. 350-150, and Navy-Marine Register for 1950.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION
VETERAN'S GRAVE REGISTRATION
1940-1941

During the Depression years of the 1930's, the federal government sponsored many programs to help alleviate national unemployment. One of these projects, operated under the Works Progress Administration, was a state by state veteran's grave location and registration program, including one in Florida. Begun on the eve of the Second World War, the project was aborted before completion by America's pre-war national mobilization.

The premature ending of the graves registration project left 15 of Florida's counties excluded from the final published results. Inquiries have been pursued in Washington, D.C. and in Florida but no information can be found on the missing counties. There are old references to maps and biographical information cards accompanying the survey. No maps or cards have been located to date.

The county lists included in this booklet are as originally published in 1941 with some condensation and re-arranging for ease of distribution. Each list is relatively self-explanatory. To identify the cemetery in which a listed veteran rests, use the number under "pt." in the alphabetical list and locate the corresponding number in the list of county cemeteries.

(Some biographical and military/naval career information on listed Florida veterans of the Civil and First World Wars is available from the Florida Department of Military Affairs)

The narrative descriptions of cemetery locations included in these publications is often less than helpful. Many geographical and landmark features used to describe cemetery locations in 1941 no longer exist and many of the cemeteries, especially the older ones in rural counties, are now "lost." Old county property records maps and U.S. Geological Survey maps may be of assistance in locating these long-abandoned old cemeteries.



**HISTORIC ENVIRONMENTAL AND PRESERVATION BOARD
FACT SHEET**

for the meeting of November 3, 2009

FILE ID#: LHD 2009-06

Item #:1

LOCATION / ADDRESS

Lemon City Cemetery at the intersection of NW 71st Street and NW 3rd Avenue

FOLIO NUMBER / LEGAL DESCRIPTION

0131121120010

Generally:

A PORTION OF THE LAND IDENTIFIED AS YMCA CARVER, TRACT A, IN PLAT BOOK 167, PAGE 47 THAT WILL INCLUDE THE AREA WHICH CONTAINS HUMAN REMAINS, AND WHICH EXCLUDES THAT PART OF THE PROJECT ALREADY BUILT ON THE SITE (SEE SURVEY EXHIBIT "A")

APPLICANT

MS. ENID PICKNEY
4990 NW 31 AVE MIAMI FL 33142-3417

OWNER

YMCA OF GREATER MIAMI
1200 NW 78 AVE #200 MIAMI FL 33126-1817

NET

Little Haiti

COMMISSION DISTRICT

[Commissioner Michelle Spence-Jones - District 5]

ZONING DESIGNATION

C-2 Liberal Commercial

The property is:

Individually Designated Historic Resource	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Contributing Resource in Historic District	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Non contributing Resource in Historic District	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The property is located in:

Archaeological Conservation Area	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Preservation District	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scenic Transportation Corridor	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

PETITION

Consideration of approval of historic resource designation and an amendment to the Official Historic and Environmental Preservation Atlas of the City of Miami, Florida, pursuant to Chapter 23 of the Miami City Code.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval of designation

RESOLUTION NO. HEPB-2009-76

A RESOLUTION OF THE HISTORIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION BOARD ("HEPB") OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA, GRANTING OR DENYING DESIGNATION OF THE LEMON CITY CEMETERY, LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF NW 71ST STREET AND NW 3RD AVENUE (FOR EXACT BOUNDARIES, SEE EXHIBIT A, LOCATED IN THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION OF THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT FILES), AS A HISTORIC RESOURCE AND LISTING IT IN THE MIAMI REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, AFTER FINDING THAT IT MEET CRITERIA (1) AND (2) AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 23-4(a) OF THE MIAMI CITY CODE, AND CRITERIA EXCEPTION (3) AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 23-4(b) AND THAT THE OFFICIAL HISTORIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION ATLAS OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA BE AMENDED TO REFLECT ITS DESIGNATION.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 3RD DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2009.

ITEM NO. 1
VOTE:

ATTEST:

ELLEN J. UGUCCIONI
PRESERVATION OFFICER

WILLIAM E. HOPPER, PH. D
CHAIRMAN

**HISTORIC ENVIRONMENTAL AND PRESERVATION BOARD
FACT SHEET**

for the meeting of November 3, 2009

FILE ID#: LHD 2009-06

Item #: 1

LOCATION / ADDRESS

Lemon City Cemetery at the intersection of NW 71st Street and NW 3rd Avenue

FOLIO NUMBER / LEGAL DESCRIPTION

0131121120010

Generally:

A PORTION OF THE LAND IDENTIFIED AS YMCA CARVER, TRACT A, IN PLAT BOOK 167, PAGE 47 THAT WILL INCLUDE THE AREA WHICH CONTAINS HUMAN REMAINS, AND WHICH EXCLUDES THAT PART OF THE PROJECT ALREADY BUILT ON THE SITE (SEE SURVEY EXHIBIT "A")

APPLICANT

MS. ENID PICKNEY

4990 NW 31 AVE MIAMI FL 33142-3417

OWNER

YMCA OF GREATER MIAMI

1200 NW 78 AVE #200 MIAMI FL 33126-1817

NET

Little Haiti

COMMISSION DISTRICT

[Commissioner Michelle Spence-Jones - District 5]

ZONING DESIGNATION

C-2 Liberal Commercial

The property is:

Individually Designated Historic Resource	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Contributing Resource in Historic District	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Non contributing Resource in Historic District	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The property is located in:

Archaeological Conservation Area	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Environmental Preservation District	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scenic Transportation Corridor	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

PETITION

Consideration of approval of historic resource designation and an amendment to the Official Historic and Environmental Preservation Atlas of the City of Miami, Florida, pursuant to Chapter 23 of the Miami City Code.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval of designation

RESOLUTION NO. HEPB-2009-76

A RESOLUTION OF THE HISTORIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION BOARD ("HEPB") OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA, GRANTING OR DENYING DESIGNATION OF THE LEMON CITY CEMETERY, LOCATED AT THE INTERSECTION OF NW 71ST STREET AND NW 3RD AVENUE (FOR EXACT BOUNDARIES, SEE EXHIBIT A, LOCATED IN THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION SECTION OF THE PLANNING DEPARTMENT FILES), AS A HISTORIC RESOURCE AND LISTING IT IN THE MIAMI REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, AFTER FINDING THAT IT MEET CRITERIA (1) AND (2) AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 23-4(a) OF THE MIAMI CITY CODE, AND CRITERIA EXCEPTION (3) AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 23-4(b) AND THAT THE OFFICIAL HISTORIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION ATLAS OF THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA BE AMENDED TO REFLECT ITS DESIGNATION.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS 3RD DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2009.

ITEM NO.
VOTE:

1

ATTEST:

ELLEN J. UGUCCIONI
PRESERVATION OFFICER

WILLIAM E. HOPPER, PH. D
CHAIRMAN

My Home



ACTIVE TOOL BAR



Show Me:

Property Information

Search By:

Select Item

Text only

Property Appraiser Tax Estimator

Property Appraiser Tax Comparison

Summary Details:

Folio No.:	01-3112-112-0010
Property:	485 NW 71 ST
Mailing Address:	THE YOUNG MENS CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF GREATER MIAMI INC 1200 NW 78 AVE #200 MIAMI FL 33126-1817

Property Information:

Primary Zone:	6600 LIBERAL COMMERCIAL
CLUC:	0081 VACANT LAND
Beds/Baths:	0/0
Floors:	0
Living Units:	0
Adj Sq Footage:	0
Lot Size:	7 ACRES
Year Built:	0
Legal Description:	Y M C A CARVER PB 167-047 T-22656 TRACT A LOT SIZE 289951 SQ FT M/L FAU 01 3112 000 0390 & 0710-0720

Assessment Information:

Year:	2009
Land Value:	\$2,409,493
Building Value:	\$0
Market Value:	\$2,409,493
Assessed Value:	\$2,409,493

Taxable Value Information:

Year:	2009	
Taxing Authority:	Applied Exemption/ Taxable Value:	Applied Exemption/ Taxable Value:
Regional:	\$2,409,493/\$0	
County:	\$2,409,493/\$0	
City:	\$2,409,493/\$0	
School Board:	\$2,409,493/\$0	

Additional Information:



Digital Orthophotography - 2007

0 110 ft

[My Home](#) | [Property Information](#) | [Property Taxes](#)
| [My Neighborhood](#) | [Property Appraiser](#)

[Home](#) | [Using Our Site](#) | [About](#) | [Phone Directory](#) | [Privacy](#) | [Disclaimer](#)

If you experience technical difficulties with the Property Information application, or wish to send us your comments, questions or suggestions please email us at [Webmaster](#).

Web Site
© 2002 Miami-Dade County.
All rights reserved.



City of Miami
MAYOR DAN WOOTEN
CITY COMMISSIONERS

Property Search:

485 NW 71 ST

GO

Address Owner Folio

Welcome

Search Results

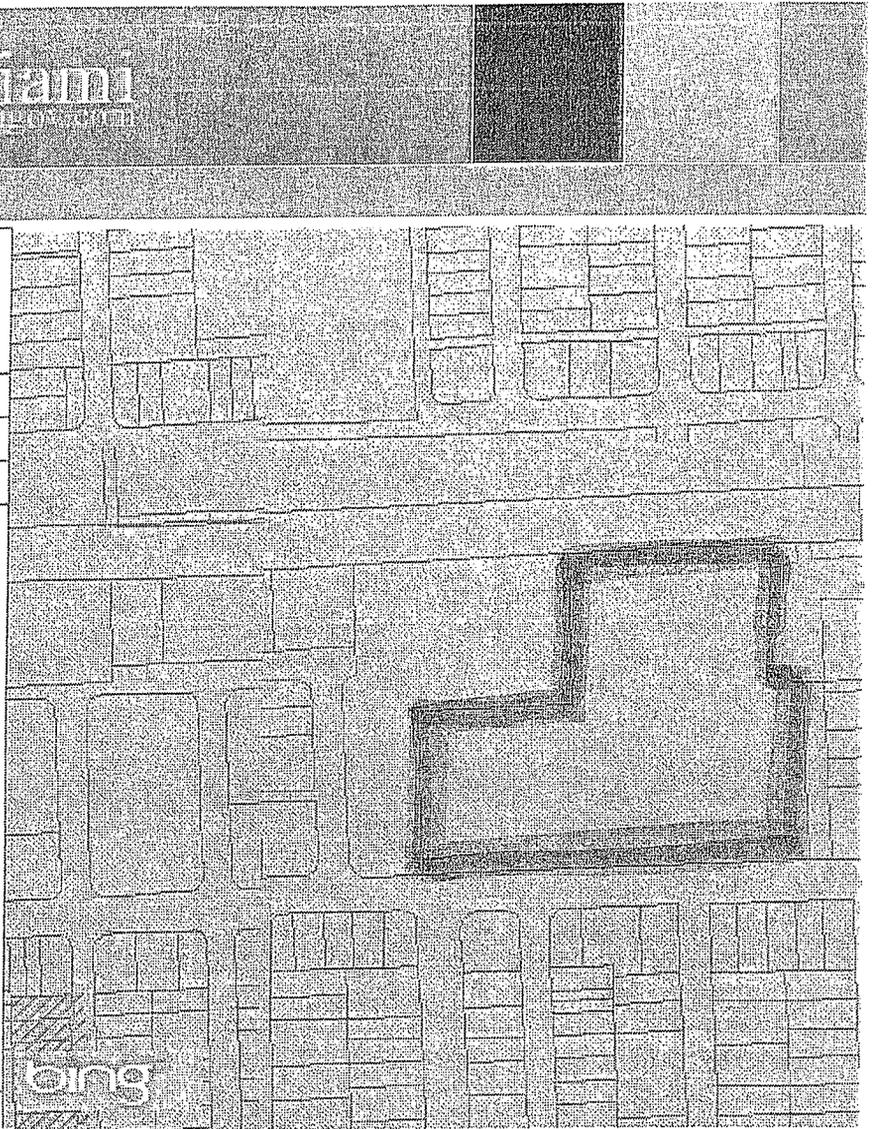
Property Details

Property ▾

FOLIO 0131121120010
 Street Address 485 NW 71 ST
 Owner YMCA OF GREATER MIAMI
 Mailing Address 1200 NW 78 AVE #200, MIAMI FL 33126
 Legal Description Y M C A CARVER PB 167-047 T-22656 TRACT A LOT SIZE 289951 SQ FT M/L FAU 01 3112 000 0390 & 0710-0720

Zones & Districts

Export Mailing List



ITEM 6

HISTORIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION BOARD FACT SHEET

NAME Lemon City Cemetery .

ADDRESS Approximately 401 NW 71st Street
LHD-2009-06

PROJECT DESCRIPTION Preliminary evaluation of a proposal for designation for conformance with the criteria for designation as a historic resource.

BACKGROUND

Construction of the affordable housing development called "Village Carver" began in January, 2009. The discovery of human remains occurred on April 21, 2009 during the initial construction phase. The City of Miami Historic Preservation office was notified and on April 22, 2009 Jeff Ransom, the Miami-Dade County Archeologist, arrived to investigate the site. Human bones and parts of caskets were found in the earth that the bulldozer disturbed. The human remains were taken to the county coroner, pending further investigation.

Carver Village I (the development that was slated to be built on the land where the bones were discovered), was the subject of a Major Use Special Permit (MUSP) which is required for major development and addresses issues such as traffic, compatibility with the neighborhood, and infrastructure improvements. The developer, Village Carver I and Carlisle Development, were awarded the MUSP by action of the Miami City Commission on July 24, 2008.

All construction stopped after the discovery of the human remains and the developer promptly employed the firm of Archaeological Conservancy to act on their behalf in navigating through this very sensitive set of circumstances. Spoil piles from the site were sifted through by the developer's archeological consultant, and any findings were collected and cataloged.

Meanwhile a growing concern was voiced by citizens who understood the site to be an abandoned African-American cemetery. Mrs. Enid Pinckney, former president of Dade Heritage Trust and present chairman of the DHT's African-American Committee, met with the developer's representatives to learn more about the site, and to ask the developers to safeguard the site as sacred ground where it appeared that hundreds of African-American citizens were buried.

AT THAT TIME, THE INVESTIGATION AND PROFESSIONAL EVALUATION OF THE SITE HAD NOT BEEN COMPLETED. Later, largely through the efforts of historian Larry Wiggins, a repository of some 500 death certificates was discovered, which named LEMON CITY CEMETERY as a final resting place.

October 6, 2009

ITEM 6

The death records are problematic as not all of them verify that the person was actually buried in the cemetery. The notation "Lemon City" is also given for those persons who were born there, and for some that actually died there (without conclusive evidence of their place of burial).

On July 7, 2009, the board adopted a resolution (2009-51) that supported the efforts to preserve the cemetery in principle. At the time of the July HEP Board's meeting, the evidence of the cemetery's boundaries, interments, and age were not known. Since that time, ground penetrating radar was used to evaluate the site, and information was also found that proved the location and intent of the Lemon City Cemetery. Mr. Wiggins also found a Works Progress Administration pamphlet entitled: WPA Veteran's Graves 1940-41. The table of contents lists: "Lemon City Cemetery (Colored)"

CRITERIA FOR SIGNIFICANCE

Having read the materials presented in the report provided by Mrs. Pinckney, the HEP Board staff agree that, while additional information should be provided, the boundaries addressed more specifically, the cemetery would qualify for local historic designation, in its tangible expression of the horrendous inequities inflicted on the African-American race; and its association with Miami's pioneering community. Without the talent of the African-American community during Miami's formative years (and later) the city could not have succeeded.

The applicable criteria as identified in Chapter 23 of the Miami City Code:

(3) Exemplifies the historical, cultural, political, economic, or social trends of the community.

The Lemon City Cemetery is the only known African-American cemetery in what was once known as Lemon City.¹ The struggle for equality has been a long one, and the history of Miami (in the Old South) sadly includes the perpetuation of "Jim Crow" laws, designed to keep Blacks in a subservient, and less-than-equal position in society. The entire state of Florida held on to the "Jim Crow" laws which disenfranchised blacks from the white community, well into the 1960s. In Lemon City, one of the first communities in the Miami area, migrating African-Americans from the Bahamas and Key West took residence in several small segregated enclaves in the Lemon City area.

In death, as in life, African-Americans were marginalized so much so, that they were denied burial in white cemeteries. What appears to be the largest of these African-American cemeteries is the one located in Lemon City. While at this time, the extent and actual boundaries of the cemetery are unknown, what has been discovered is sufficient to conclude its cultural, historical, and social trends of a segregated Miami.

¹ Lemon City was located north of NE/ NW 61st Street (61st street was originally called "Lemon Street")

ITEM 6

(8) Have yielded, or may be likely to yield information important in pre-history or history.

As the archaeological investigation continues, more and more evidence will be found that has the potential of illuminating our understanding of the Black experience in Miami.

CRITERIA EXCEPTIONS

Section 23-4(8)(b) states that:

"Ordinarily cemeteries, birth places, or graves of historical figures...shall not be considered eligible for listing in the Miami Register of Historic Places". The ordinance goes on to say that they may be eligible for listing if it is:

A cemetery that derives its primary significance from graves of persons of outstanding importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or *association with historic events* (emphasis added).

The Lemon City cemetery does meet this exception, as it recalls the social realities of segregation, and the impact of that segregation on distinguished African-Americans.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Having found that the preliminary designation of the Lemon City Cemetery meets at least one of the criteria for significance, the Historic and Environmental Preservations Board directs the planning department to prepare a designation report.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/ CLARIFICATION

Before the designation report can be considered adequately documented and insure that the context of this neighborhood is fully described, the following should be provided:

- Boundaries of the cemetery
- An expanded history of Lemon City and its role before the incorporation of Miami.
- A map (or an approximation) that describes the area where the three African-American settlements in Lemon City were located.

October 6, 2009

ITEM 6

- An expanded version of the "Jim Crow" area, noting important dates such as the Plessy vs. Ferguson Supreme Court decision (1896) and Brown vs. Board of Education (1954).
- A summary of the contents of the notebook of death records in order to characterize the community and its residents (e.g. occupations) and any other information that helps to document the cemetery.

A DEVELOPMENT IN PROGRESS

Throughout this process, the developer has been sensitive to the issues and the overarching significance of the cemetery. The Carlisle Group (the developer) has plans for the construction of three buildings/garages on the site, and building permits were issued for that construction. Phase I construction has begun, and is continuing. There is no further ground disturbing activity because the tower is vertical, and the foundation/ footings already poured.

It is our understanding that the Carlisle Group will present a proposal to the board that will not only safeguard the cemetery but also build the sorely needed affordable housing. They have also spoken about providing a suitable monument on the site that will memorialize those within the cemetery.

That proposal will be presented to the board at its October 6, 2009 hearing.