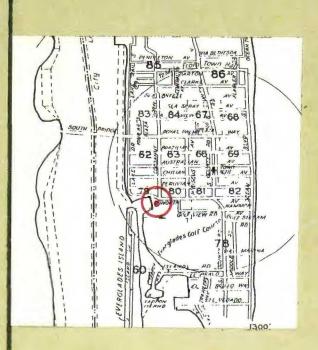
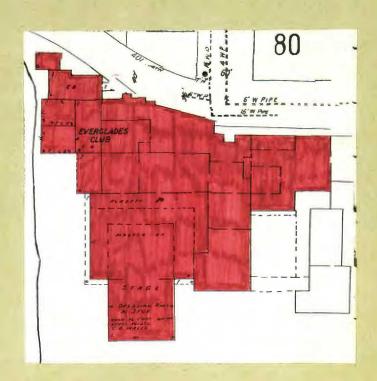
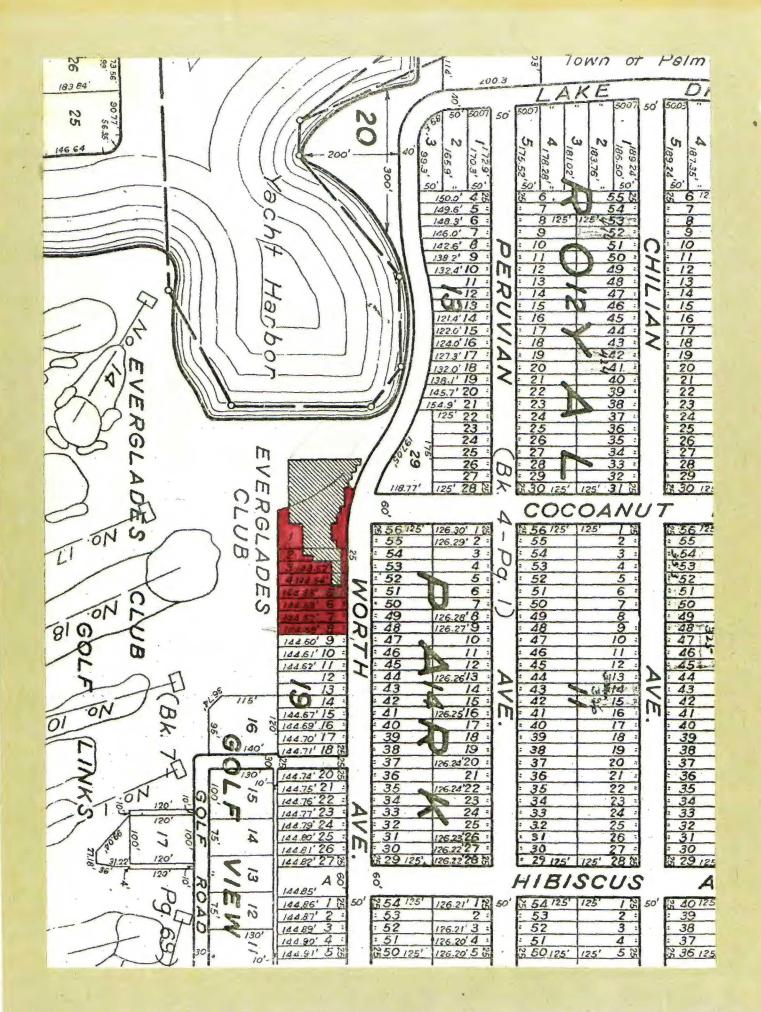


EVERGLADES CLUB







INFORMATION GENERAI

GENERAL INFORMATION

NAME OF STRUCTURE

The Everglades Club

ADDRESS OF STRUCTURE

350 Worth Avenue Palm Beach, FL 33480

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Royal Park Addition Lots 1-8

PRESENT OWNER

Everglades Protective Syndicate (not legal name as of 1979)

c/o Everglades Club 350 Worth Avenue, Palm Beach, FL ARCHITECT

Addison Mizner

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION

1918 1919 - 1920 alterations

FUNCTION

Entertainment

ZONING

Commercial

PREVIOUS SURVEYS

NRMP Inventory

ARCHITECTURAL

Everglades Club

Architectural Description

The Everglades Club was designed around three courts with adjacent cloisters; the cloister garden, the central court and the orange court. The original design has been modified by a number of changes over the years. Still evident are a number of original features including the Venetian Gothic windows, a bell tower and a residence tower reminescent of the Italian Renaissance. Other notable features include latticed balconies of Moorish extraction, an imaginative use of colored tiles in a variety of places, and an arcade with tiled spandrels - also Moorish - combined through the mediation of tinted stucco, barrel - tile roofs, and striped awnings.

The halls and cloisters lead one through a rich variety of architectural space. In the main hall is a cast stone spiral staircase designed by Mizner. Floors are of quary tile with concrete Spanish Moorish tile insets.

The exterior fabric is primarily stucco with cast stone trim. The elevations contain a variety of Spanish Moorish detailing accenting the various openings. French wood doors lead to second floor balconies supported by decorative stone brackets. Windows are a variety of wood casement and double hung. The eaves are supported by decorative wood rafters extending beyond the structure.

Interior features include raftered ceilings and stuccoed walls, with wrought iron and leaded glass lighting fixtures. The ballroom lies below cross joists decorated with painted designs and rafters of naturally finished pecky cypress. The diningroom features European walnut paneling and frescoes above by Achille Angeli.

A RCHITECTU ANALYSIS

Everglades Club
Architectural Analysis

The Everglades Club has long been one of the most famous social and architectural landmarks on Palm Beach. The club was designed in 1918 by Addison Mizner in conjunction with Paris Singer who acted as the developer. Both men were facing retirement and were looking for diversion, which resulted in this Mizner's first building in Florida. Originally planned by Paris Singer to be a temporary military hospital and convalescent home for war veterans, it emerged as an exclusive club and made Singer the social dictator of Palm Beach for a number of years. The complex combines a Californian Mission style tower, Spanish-Moorish arches and ornament and a heterogeneous collection of Spanish ornamental embellishments. It is an outstanding example of Mizner's romantically inspired genius. The Mediterranean character of the club, unifies the concept around three courts with adjacent cloisters, is the blend of Moorish and Spanish architecture. Although the complex today is composed of several later additions and alterations, it still retains the original architectural character on both the interior and the exterior. Thus, the Everglades Club as it survives today is without question one the most important works associated with Addison Mizner, and is a noteworthy example of his art.

Many architectural concepts Mizner incorporated into his architecture on Palm Beach over the years may be traced back to the Everglades Club. The Mediterranean flavor that later became the hallmark of Mizner's architecture began with this complex. The strikingly impressionistic feature so noticable in his architecture, the feeling that one has stepped back into the Spanish Renaissance in an authentic setting from a romantic story or bit of history. Here lies much of the charm and fascination of many of his creations beginning with the Everglades Club. The patios created by Mizner over the years, possibly derived from those of Seville are the

organizational basis of the plan of the complex. The look of wood and stucco, the inner courts and arcades, and the incorporation of finely crafted decorative motifs became typical of his style. Regrettably, the entire building as the important western terminous of Worth Avenue is badly damaged by the crude service entrance. Curiously, also, Mizner did not succeed in making much out of the Lake Worth (western) front.

HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

The Everglades Club

Historical Analysis

The Everglades Club was Addison Mizner's first architectural project. The building was financed by Paris Singer, one of the big developers of the period, and this became the start of a close association between Singer and Mizner.

There are conflicting reports of just why Singer built the Everglades Club. Most of the evidence shows that he sincerely intended it as a convalescent home for officers wounded in World War I, then in progress. Some sources believe that Singer never intended it to be anything other than the social club that it is but, under war time regulations, had to call it a convalescent home to obtain a building permit.

The Everglades Club was designed in 1917-18, and opened its doors on January 25, 1919. During construction the war had come to a close, and we know that it opened as a social club. Paris Singer, of course, was the first president of the club, and dominated the Palm Beach social scene for several years. For years the Everglades Club afforded about the only general gathering place for selected Palm Beach society, outside of the old Royal Poinciana and Breakers hotels. It was not until the 1926-27 season that another major social landmark, the Bath and Tennis Club, came into being. The buildings of Worth Avenue grew up around the Everglades Club and were influenced by the architecture. Paris Singer supposedly owned the club until 1924 when was incorporated.

The Everglades Club has changed gradually over the years, although an attempt to conform to the architectural concept of Addison Mizner has been fairly successful. In 1925, the maisonettes along Worth Avenue were built, to be replaced in 1965 with the present commercial arcade. In 1927, the so-called Barley House on the

lake-front was built and a card room and upper and lower golf view apartments were added. Part of the lakeshore was filled in to add nine holes to the original nine-hole golf course, which has somewhat changed the original site relationships.

The ex-actor Hugh Dillman served the longest term of any president - from 1935-1950. The club was in poor financial condition in 1935 due to the depression but, along with the late attorney Jack Salisbury, he reorganized it. With a gift of showmanship, Dillman went to great pains to put new life into the institution.

SRAPHY

