

335 El Vedado Road



DESIGNATION REPORT March 15, 2000



**Landmarks Preservation Commission
Palm Beach, Florida**

DESIGNATION REPORT

335 El Vedado Road

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Report produced by Research Atlantica, Inc.

Report edited by Timothy M. Frank, AICP, Planner/Projects Coordinator, Town of Palm Beach.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Location: 335 El Vedado Road
Palm Beach, Florida

Date of Construction: 1940

Principal Architect: Clarence Mack

Present Owner: Diana S. Wister

Present Use: Residential

Present Zoning: R-A

**Palm Beach County
Tax Folio Number:** 50-43-43-27-08-000-0500

Current Legal Description: Jungle Point Revised LTS 50 & 51

Classification in the "Historic Building Survey of Palm Beach 1997" "This is a fine example of the formality of the Neoclassical Revival style designed and built by master architect, Clarence Mack, at the end of the Depression/New Deal era."

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Original
Update 07/01/97

HISTORICAL STRUCTURES FORM
FLORIDA MASTER SITE FILE

SITE 8PB04205

Recorder JD

SITE NAME: D.S. Wister, House
HISTORIC CONTEXTS: Depression/New Deal
NAT. REGISTER CATEGORY: Building
OTHER NAMES OR MSF NOS: none
COUNTY: Palm Beach OWNERSHIP TYPE: Private-individual
PROJECT NAME: Town of Palm Beach, Historic Sites Survey DHR NO:
LOCATION:

ADDRESS: 335 El Vedado Road CITY: Town of Palm Beach
VICINITY OF/ROUTE TO: On the north side of El Vedado Road between South
County Road and Lake Worth.

SUBDIVISION: Jungle Point BLOCK NO: LOT NO: 51

PLAT OR OTHER MAP:

TOWNSHIP: 43 RANGE: 43 SECTION: 27 1/4: 1/4-1/4:

IRREGULAR SEC? yes LAND GRANT:

USGS 7.5' MAP: Palm Beach Quadrangle 1946 PR 1983

UTM: ZONE: EASTING: NORTHING:

COORDINATES: LATITUDE: LONGITUDE:

HISTORY

ARCHITECT: Clarence Mack
BUILDER: Clarence Mack
CONST DATE: 1940 CIRCA: RESTORATION DATE (S):
MODIFICATION DATE (S):
MOVE: DATE: ORIG LOCATION:
ORIGINAL USE (S): Residence-private
PRESENT USE (S): Residence-private

DESCRIPTION

STYLE: Neo Clasical revival
PLAN: EXTERIOR: irregular
INTERIOR:
NO: STORIES: 3 OUTBUILDINGS: PORCHES: 5 DORMERS:
STRUCTURAL SYSTEM (S): masonry
EXTERIOR FABRIC (S): smooth & scored stucco
FOUNDATION: TYPE: continuous MATLS: concrete
INFILL:
PORCHES: (4) 2nd story balconets-S., recessed entry-S.
ROOF: TYPE: hip, flat SURFACING: flat tile
SECONDARY STRUCT.:
CHIMNEY: NO: 2 MATLS: stucco LOCNS: east & west exterior
WINDOWS: 6/6 DHS, NOTE-storm shutters prevented complete viewing
EXTERIOR ORNAMENT: shutters, cast stone balustrades, pilasters, finials
CONDITION: good SURROUNDINGS: residential
NARRATIVE: Scored stucco in a block pattern defined the ground floor.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS AT THE SITE

FMSF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FORM COMPLETED? Y x N (IF Y, ATTACH)
ARTIFACTS OR OTHER REMAINS none observed

RECORDER'S EVALUATION OF SITE

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: architecture

ELEGIBLE FOR NAT. REGISTER?	Y	N	LIKELY, NEED INFO x	INSF INF
SIGNF. AS PART OF DISTRICT?	Y	N	LIKELY, NEED INFO x	INSF INF
SIGNIFICANT AT LOCAL LEVEL? x	Y	N	LIKELY, NEED INFO	INSF INF

SUMMARY ON SIGNIFICANCE

This is a fine example of the formality of the Neoclassical style designed and built by master architect, Clarence Mack, at the end of the Depression/New Deal Era.

* * *DHR USE ONLY * * * * * DHR USE ONLY*

DATE LISTED ON NR _____

* KEEPER DETERMINATION OF ELIG. (DATE):	-YES _____	-NO _____
IPO EVALUATION OF ELIGIBILITY (DATE):	-YES _____	-NO _____
LOCAL DETERMINATION OF ELIG. (DATE):	-YES _____	-NO _____
OFFICE _____		

* * * DHR USE ONLY* * * * * DHR USE ONLY* * * *

RECORDER INFORMATION: NAME F Jane M S. L Day
DATE: MO 01 YR 1997 AFFILIATION Research Atlantica, Boca Raton, Florida

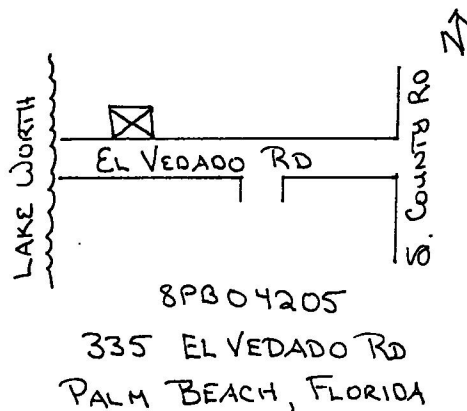
PHOTOGRAPHS

LOCATION OF NEGATIVES Town of Palm Beach
NEGATIVE NUMBERS roll #27, neg. #15

PHOTOGRAPH



MAP



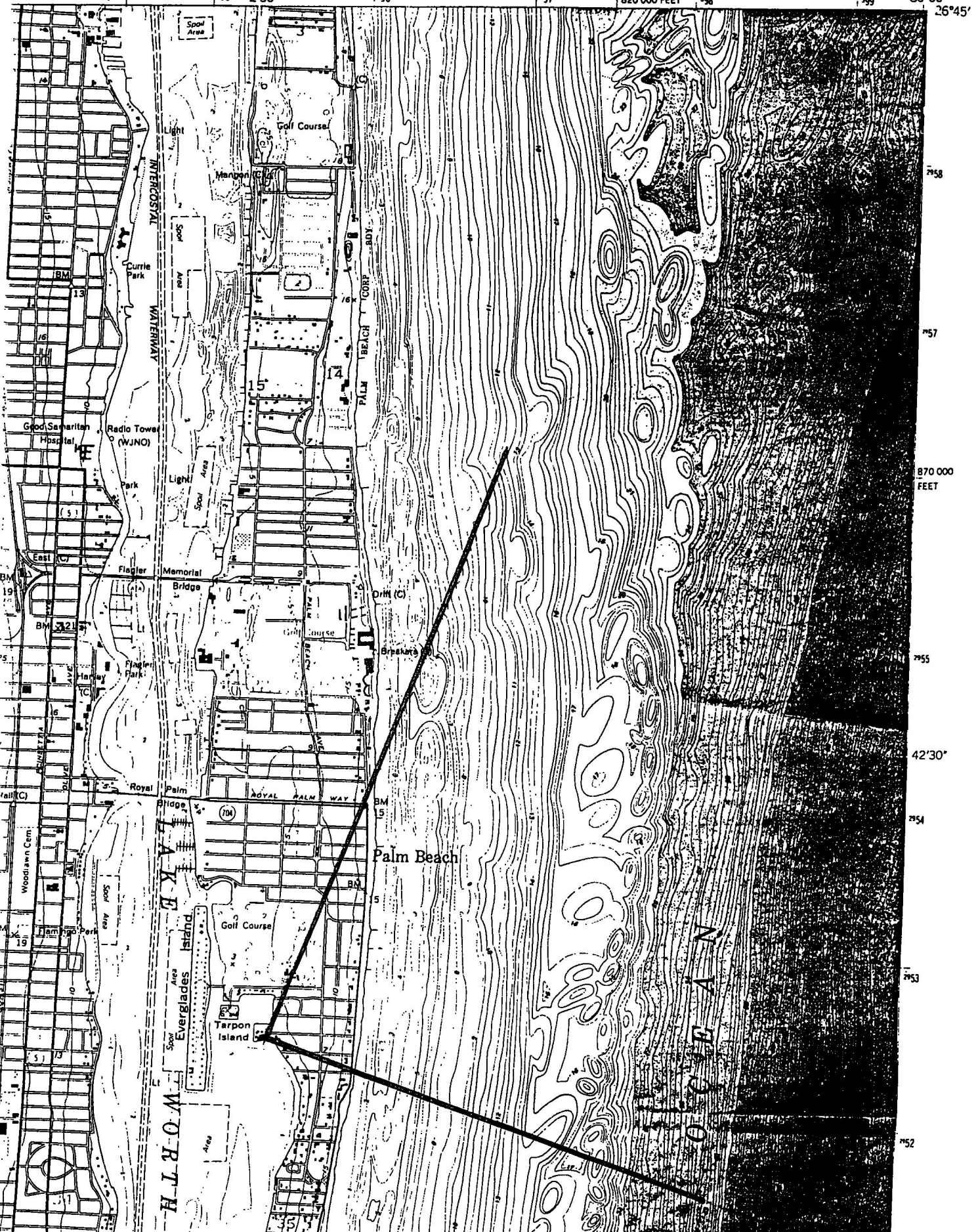
335 El Vedado Road
PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

MERCE
SURVEY

Photorevised 1983
PALM BEACH QUADRANGLE
FLORIDA-PALM BEACH CO.

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC-BATHYMETRIC)

95 2°30' 96 97 820 000 FEET 98 99 80°00' 26°45'



III. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

335 El Vedado Road is an interesting example of the Neoclassical Revival style of architecture as designed by Clarence Mack in 1940.¹ The Neoclassical Revival style was a "dominant style for domestic architecture throughout the country during the first half of the 20th century."² The style is identified by classical details and is usually symmetrically balanced. In Mack's design, the architect also used details from the Georgian, Adam, and Italianate styles that flourished during the 19th century and manipulated the particulars to fit the house's lake front lots.

The residence at 335 El Vedado Road is of wood frame construction with brick veneer.³ It is three stories in height and covered with stucco. The roofs of the house are low pitched and hipped. They are covered with clay tile. The roof/wall junction has a slight eave overhang and the cornice is decorated with tooth like dentils that are typical of both the Georgian and Adam styles. Paired end chimneys rise above the east and west walls.

On the south facade of the house, the structure rises to its full three stories. The center block of the house has three garage doors and the main entrance is to the east. Unassuming in scale, the front paneled door is topped with a decorative crown that is supported by engaged Tuscan columns. These columns, with the balustrades above the front door and three garage doors show the buildings Italianate roots.

In the first floor of the house, the stucco surrounding the garage doors is scored. Above this section a double belt course separates the first and second floor. Windows are 6/6, 12/9 and 12/16 double hung sash. The central windows on the south second floor are single paned and have been altered. Two large windows with side lights face the lake. Most of the windows are shuttered and some central windows have rounded fanlights above.

The north facade facing the water gives the impression of a two and a half story building. Symmetrical in fenestration, a central door leads down to the ground floor. Above it a curved stairway leads to the main living area. The lake side area is completed with a pool and cabana. To the east is a tennis court. Although the house has been altered over time, it still retains it's architectural integrity

IV. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Building Permit # 3540 was issued to architect, Clarence Mack, to construct a residence for himself

¹Building Permit #3540. March 20, 1940. On file with the Town of Palm Beach.

²Virginia and Lee McAlester, A Field Guide to American Houses. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1988) pp. 342-353.

³ Building Permit #3540. March 20, 1940. One file with the Town of Palm Beach.

on March 20, 1940. The cost of the building was \$27,000 and it was placed on Lots 50 and 51 of the Jungle Point Subdivision. The house was originally called "South Villa."⁴ Mack had come to Palm Beach during the 1930s from Cleveland, Ohio with money to invest. He was an architect, builder and developer and is also responsible for the design of the landmarked house across the street at 334 El Vedado.⁵

Over the course of its sixty year history, 335 El Vedado has undergone changes but still maintains its architectural integrity. In 1952 a Slat house was built, and a pool cabana was added in 1959 with Clarence Mack as architect. Other changes include interior changes to the kitchen, complete remodeling in 1971, and the enclosure of a second floor open terrace in 1977. Sid Neal was the architect of record for that alteration.

V. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

335 El Vedado Road is a good example of the Neoclassical Revival style of architecture as interpreted by Clarence Mack in 1940. It incorporates Georgian, Adam and Italianate details in a design that was carefully adapted to its lake side lot.

VI. CRITERIA FOR DESIGNATION

Chapter 54 of the Code of Ordinances of the Town of Palm Beach (Historic Preservation Ordinance) outlines the criteria for designation of a landmark or landmark site and suggests that at least one criterion must be met to justify the designation. Listed below are criteria which relate to this property and justification for designation:

(c) "embodies distinguishing characteristics of an architectural type or is a specimen inherently valuable for the study of a period, style, method of construction or use of indigenous materials or craftsmen."

335 El Vedado Road is a good example of the Neoclassical Revival style of architecture as interpreted by architect Clarence Mack. With its collection of details from Georgian, Adam, and Italianate predecessors, and the unique orientation of the house away from El Vedado Road and toward Lake Worth, it is valuable for study and thus fulfills criteria (c).

(d) "Is representative of the notable work of a master builder, designer or architect whose individual ability has been recognized or who influenced his age."

335 El Vedado Road was designed by Clarence Mack in 1940 as his personal residence. Mack was

⁴Building Permit #3540. March 20, 1940. On file with the Town of Palm Beach.

⁵Interview with Fred Eckel by Dr. Sandra Norman, March, 1994.

important because he possessed skills as an architect, builder and a developer. He came to Palm Beach during the 1930s with financing from a successful career in Cleveland, Ohio. Therefore while others were concentrating on smaller homes, Mack was able to build large homes at the end of the Depression.

VII. ARCHITECT'S BIOGRAPHY

Clarence Mark

No biography is currently available for Clarence Mack. What little information was available was provided by architectural historian, Fred. Eckel.

IX. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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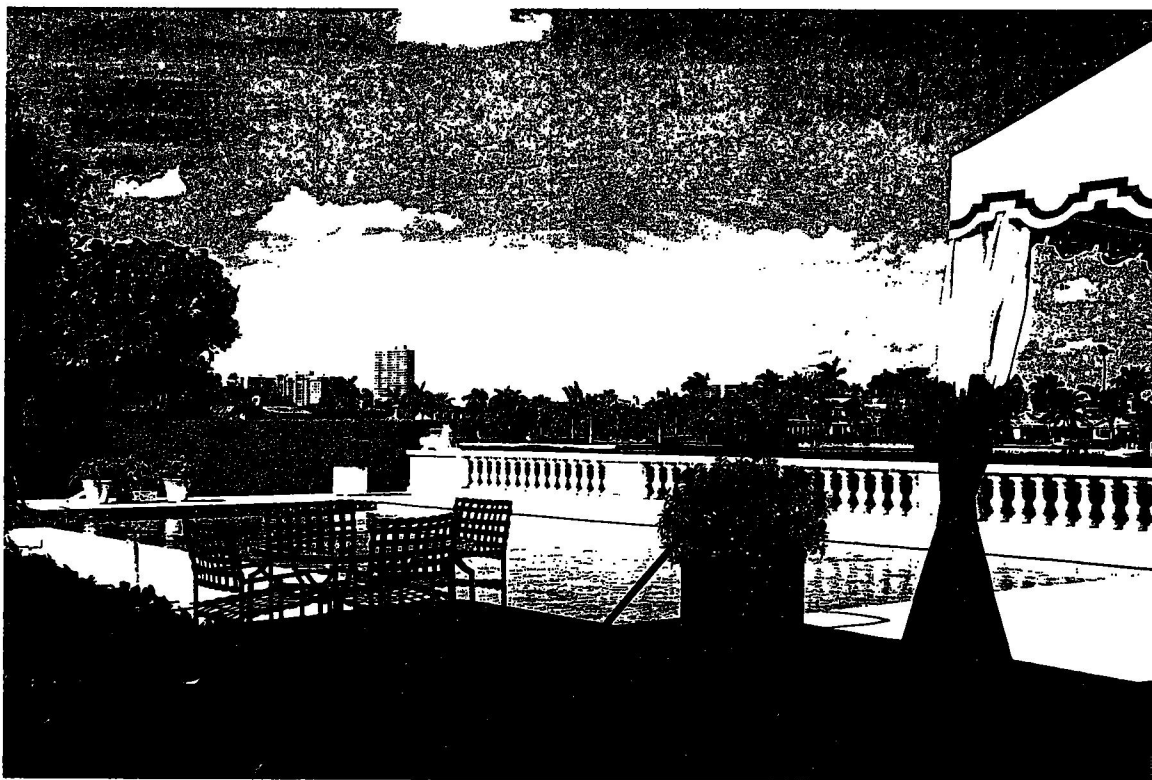
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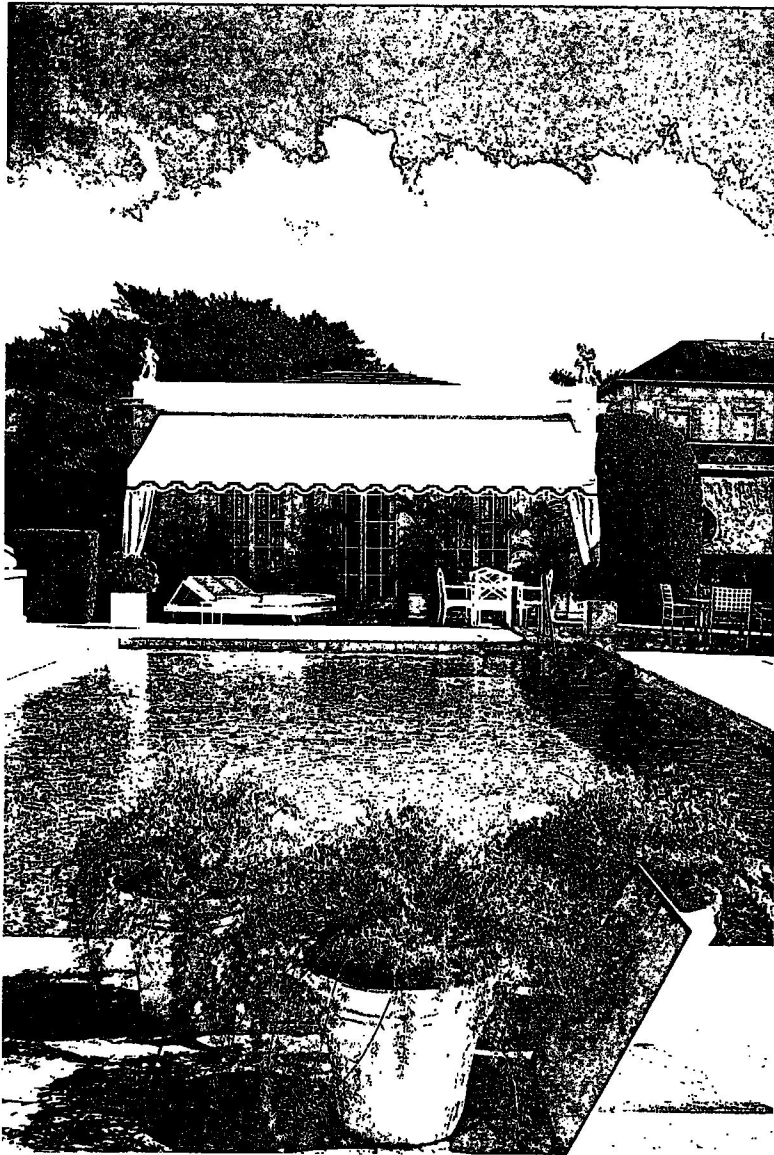
Town of Palm Beach Building and Zoning Department.



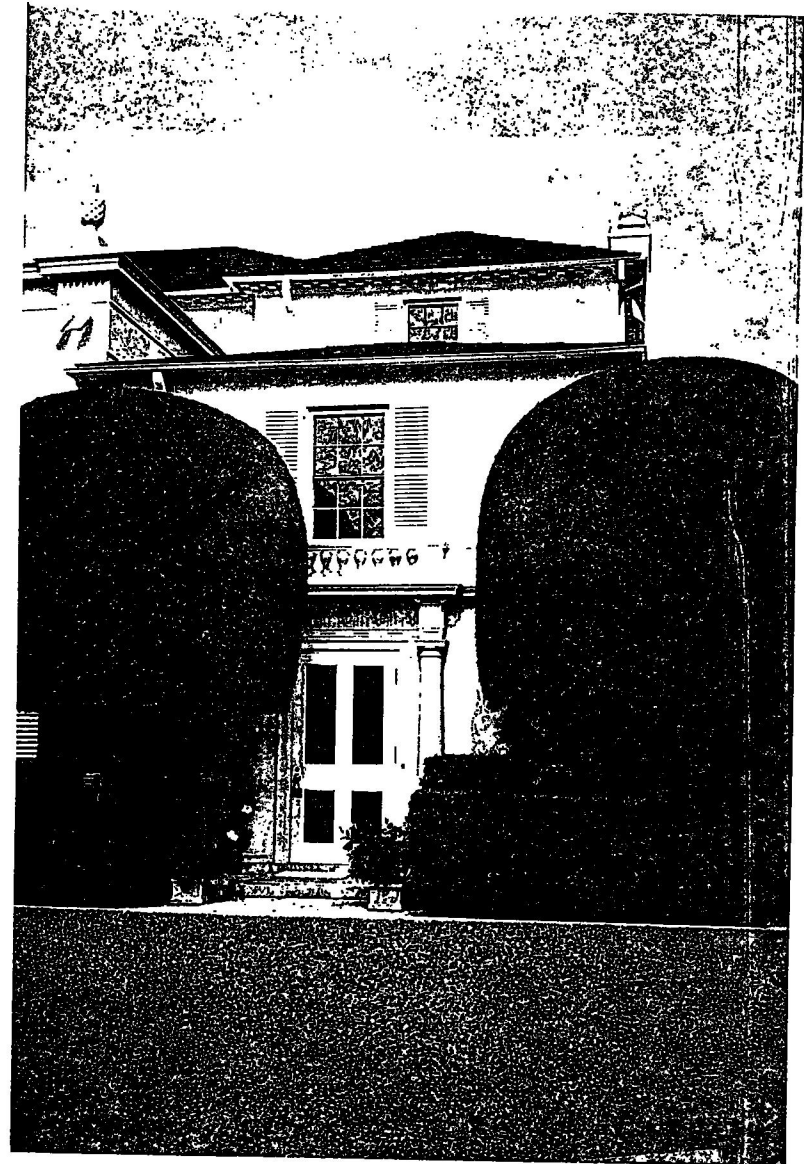
North facade



Pool area, camera facing north.



Pool Cabana added in 1959.



Front Entrance on the south facade.