



To ARCOM and Town Council of Palm Beach,

In 1973, The Garden Club of Palm Beach encouraged the Town Council to enact the "Historic and Specimen Tree Ordinance Act" (Ordinance No 2-73), and assisted in identifying and documenting rare trees on the island. It was one of the earliest and strictest tree-protection laws in Florida and is currently maintained through a partnership with the Garden Club and the Town Public Works Department.

Today there are 118 trees on the list with 5 being considered High Priority. One of those High Priority trees resides at 1161 North Ocean Way. It is a Green Buttonwood, *Conocarpus erectus* and is approximately 150 years old.

The Garden Club of Palm Beach's mission is to preserve and protect these rare specimen trees. The irreplaceable Green Buttonwood Tree needs to be protected from any new construction within its canopy. A new project being proposed at 171 El Pueblo Way could have a negative impact on the health and vitality of the tree. This tree's root system extends beyond the property line of its home at 1161 North Ocean Way and on to the property at 171 El Pueblo Way. It is imperative to minimize any distress, construction and disturbance in this tree's environment and the Garden Club is concerned that the pending plan for 171 El Pueblo Way fails to take into consideration this tree's circumstances. Accordingly, we ask that ARCOM and the Town Council take into consideration the Historic and Specimen Tree Ordinance Act before granting any variances under consideration for 171 El Pueblo Way. This tree must be protected.

We hope that you will look favorably upon our request and that you work to protect this tree and all trees on the Historic and Specimen Tree List for future generations to enjoy.

Nancy Madden

President, The Garden Club of Palm Beach



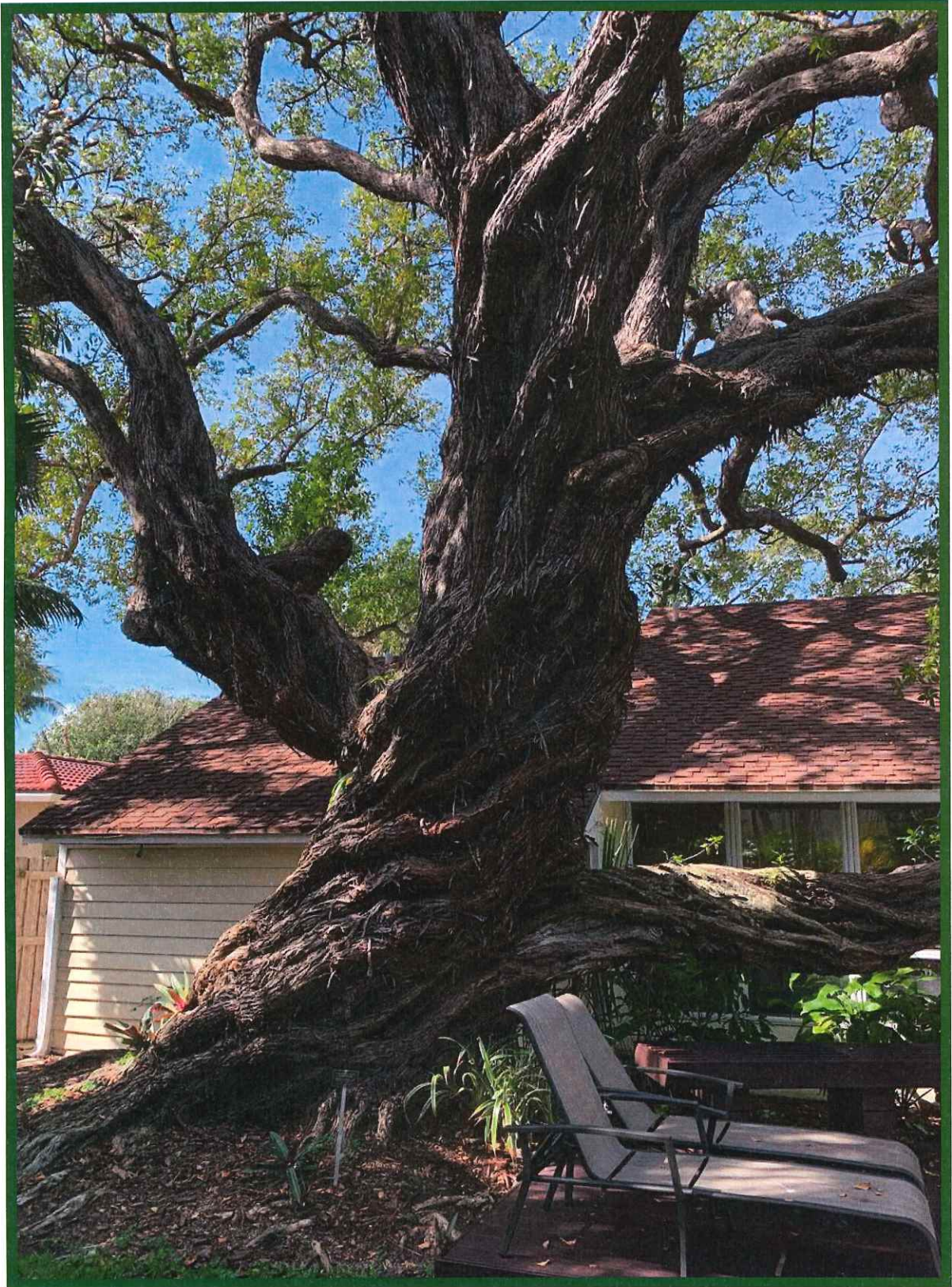


Photo By: Jean Matthews