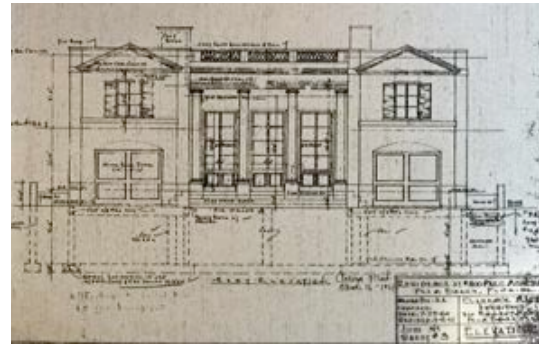


# TOWN OF PALM BEACH



## **Historically Significant Building Designation Form 124 Parc Monceau**



Historic Conservation District:	Beach South Conservation District
Address:	124 Parc Monceau, Palm Beach, FL
Date of Construction:	1961
Current Owner:	Paul and Leigh A. Gravette
Architect:	Clarence Mack
Builder:	Clarence Mack
Present Use:	Residential
Present Zoning:	RB
Palm Beach County Tax Folio Number:	50-43-44-11-02-000-0060
Current Legal Description:	Parc Monceau Lot 6

Town of Palm Beach Historic Conservation District Ordinance No. 02-2020 outlines the criteria for designation of a historically significant building and states that the building must be at least 50 years old and meet at least one criterion to justify the designation. Listed below are criteria that relate to this property and the justification for designation:

**(1) “Exemplifies or reflects the broad cultural, political, economic or social history of the nation, state, county or town.”**

124 Parc Monceau is located in the Parc Monceau subdivision that was designed, built, landscaped, and developed by Clarence Mack, an architect with a vision to create an exclusive neighborhood with a distinctive architectural style. The Island was thriving in the late 1950s and early 1960s and affluent buyers looking to spend their winter seasons in Palm Beach were attracted to the stately, yet manageable houses of Parc Monceau set in a prime south end location between the ocean and the lake. The success of Regents Park, the first subdivision Clarence Mack developed, and Park Monceau inspired Robert Gottfried to develop numerous Palm Beach streets with Regency style houses, significantly altering the architectural character of Palm Beach. In addition, the first owner, David C. Ayers, was one of the first residents to buy in Parc Monceau and was a prominent interior designer from New York with an office and showroom on Worth Avenue.

**(3) “Embodies distinguishing characteristics of one or more architectural types, or contains specimens inherently valuable for the study of a period, style, method of construction or use of indigenous materials or craftsmanship.”**

124 Parc Monceau embodies the distinguishing characteristics of the Regency style as interpreted by Clarence Mack. The main façade of the residence faces east with the focal point being the two-story portico with four columns supporting an entablature and cast stone balustrade. The entrance to the residence is centrally located under the portico and features wood entrance doors with multi-lighted glass and a transom above. Flanking the doors are large four-over-four sash windows with wood panels below. A two-story garage bay is located on each side of the portico. The garage bays project forward of the portico, emphasizing the importance Mack put on the automobile. This residence retains its architectural integrity and displays the Regency architecture characteristics of simplified classical elegance.

**(4) “Is representative of the notable works of one or more master builders, designers or architects whose individual ability has been recognized to have influenced their age.”**

Clarence Mack arrived in Palm Beach in 1935 after a successful career designing and building classically styled houses for wealthy clientele in Ohio and Michigan. His early Palm Beach houses were designed in Colonial, Georgian and Neoclassical Revival styles. Mack was unlike most architects because in addition to designing the houses, in many projects he also took on the roles of builder, engineer, interior designer, landscape architect and developer. Mack began designing Regency style houses in 1945 and is often credited with creating the Palm Beach Regency style adapted for the South Florida climate and modern lifestyles of the times.