

McAneeny-Howerdd House (Casa Della Porta)
195 Via Del Mar
Palm Beach
Palm Beach County
Florida

HABS No. FLA-231

HABS,
FLA,
50-PALM
8-

PHOTOGRAPHS

HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20243

McANEENY-HOWERDD HOUSE
(Casa Della Porta)

- Location: 195 Via Del Mar [covering a square block, this structure has additional addresses of 810 South County Road, 821 South County Road, and 810 South Ocean Boulevard] Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida.
- Present Owner: Eugene M. Howerdd.
- Present Occupant:
- Present Use: Residence.
- Significance: This house is a good example of works by architect Maurice Fatio, and represents also the average type of residence built in Palm Beach.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATIONA. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: About 1928.
2. Architect: Maurice Fatio of Treanor and Fatio, Architects, New York and Palm Beach.
3. Original and subsequent owners: Supplemental Material [see Appendix] shows that W. J. McAneeny owned the house from 1928 until 1947; followed by R. K. Roberts in 1947; in 1954 by Mrs. Marshall Davidson; and in 1964 by Mr. Eugene Howerdd.
4. Builder, contractor, suppliers:
 - a. General contractor: Vought & Halpern, Inc., Plaza Bldg., Palm Beach Beach. Approximate cost was \$350,000.
 - b. Subcontractors and suppliers were:

E. C. Hilder, Inc., Plumbing and Heating Supplies, Office and showroom, 505 15th St., West Palm Beach, Florida.

Dayton J. Kort, Painting-Decorating, Palm Beach, Florida. By 1932 Kort had decorated 22 other prominent Palm Beach structures.

Kelsey City Landscaping and Nurseries Co., Ind., 300 Royal Palm Way, Palm Beach. By 1932 Kelsey had landscaped or planted 13 other Palm Beach estates.

Roger Bacon Company, Inc., Tile Decoration, Antique and Modern Tile; Pottery, Palm Beach. By 1932 Roger Bacon Company had fixed tiling in 19 other prominent Palm Beach structures.

Monmouth Plumbing Supply Co., Inc., ("Standard" Plumbing Fixtures) , Miami and West Palm Beach, Florida.

O'Brien Varnish Company, Varnishes, Enamels, Paints, South Bend, Indiana. By 1932 the O'Brien Varnish Company had supplied materials for 38 other prominent residences and buildings in in Palm Beach.

Trane Company, Steam Heating, LaCrosse, Wisconsin, and Tampa, Florida; By 1932 the Trane Company had supplied fittings to seven other Palm Beach structures.

Woodite Inc., 509 Bunker Road, West Palm Beach. (Special "Woodite" developed to reproduce antique carvings which would be fireproof.

5. Original plan and construction: No known plans have been located here. From all evidence the building was erected in 1928, with changes and repairs taking place in 1933, 1947, 1949, 1953, and 1964. All of these alterations were minor. [See Appendix.]
6. Alterations and additions: In 1933 a swimming pool strainer was repaired by N. K. Bennett for \$500; in 1947 a gardner's lodge was constructed for \$5000; in April 1949 a two-story addition on South County Road was added by the Carpenter Roofing Company; in September 1949, a two-story frame addition on the Del Mar side was made also by the Carpenter Roofing Co. for \$1,634; in November 1953 the roof was repaired on the main residence by the Carpenter's Sheet Metal Works; in September 1954 the main residence was further repaired by the Carpenter's Sheet Metal Works for architect Paul Kohler, Jr., for \$975. In December 1954 a cinder block garden wall was added, constructed by the Lund Construction Company, also for architect Paul Kohler, Jr., for approximately \$900. In March 1954, more roofing repairs were made by the Hawthorne Roofing Company for \$450. [See Appendix.]

B. Historical Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:

Maurice Fatio came to the Palm Beach area in the 1920s as a representative of Treanor & Fatio, Architects, of New York and Palm Beach. Fatio, Swiss-born and educated as an architect, began his career after coming to America as a young man.

William Joseph McAneeny (1872-1935), for whom the house was built, began his business career as a purchasing agent for the Riker Motor Vehicle Co., later moving to a similar position with the Electric Vehicle Company, then to the Chalmers Motor Co., and the Hudson Motor Car Co., becoming factory manager of the Hudson Company by 1910, secretary by 1918-1927, and president of the company in 1929.

C. Bibliography:

a. Secondary and published sources:

Recent Florida Work by Treanor & Fatio, Architects, New York
& Palm Beach. Palm Beach: Davies Publishing Co., Inc., 1932.

Who Was Who In America 1897-1942, Vol. I. Chicago: Marquis'
Who's Who, Inc., 1943.

D. Supplemental Material:

Notes by Carolyn Taylor, on the Eugene M. Howerdd residence, taken from records in the Building Department, from the Office of the Town Clerk, Palm Beach, Florida. [See Appendix.]

Prepared by: Bryan Bowman
Student Historian
University of Florida

Prof. Woodrow W. Wilkins
Dept. of Architecture
University of Miami
Project Supervisor
Summer 1971

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character: This house is noteworthy for its very fine proportions and scale, and the sensitivity of its ornamentation. It is a thoroughly liveable adaptation of a Romanesque Eclectic Mediterranean design to the prevailing climate, with all major first-floor rooms disposed around a central courtyard or patio.
2. Condition of fabric: Although the exterior walls have weathered well, there is a noticeable failure in exposed wood and hardware.

B. Description of the Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: Although no measurements were taken in 1971, building permit records [see Appendix] refer to the structure to be built there as 150' x 180', with a height of 35', composed of two stories and a tower. It is of an irregular L shape.

2. Foundations: Not known.
3. Wall construction, finish, and color: All exterior walls, except in the service wing on the west, are finished in coursed ashlar quarry Key limestone (coral rock) weathered to grays and buffs.

The main mass of the house projecting to the south is asymmetrically composed. Slender three-quarter engaged colonnettes rise at the corners in two registers--both below and up to and above a chainwork stringcourse. The capitals of both end colonnettes are carved with small-scale acanthus, and the top ones support the ends of a corbel table with brick infill in a variety of patterns--basketweave, running diagonals in opposed directions, and common bond. Green louvered vents occupy three of the arched spaces in the corbel table.

The colonnettes flanking the portal, and rising from the impost block, become compound above the stringcourse, and have small capitals supporting corbel-based diminutive lions interrupting the corbel table and rising to the modillions of the cornice. The cornice consists of a series of closely spaced modillions and crown molding.

The south wall articulation continues around the east wall until it meets the tower wall at a quarter-round column without a capital. The walls of the three-story tower are framed at the corners by 3'-6" rectangular pilaster piers projecting 5" from the face of the wall. A 6'-8" high base course with wash is flush with the piers. A carved string course surrounds the tower at the window sills of the third floor. Below this stringcourse is a nine-arched shadow arcade which echoes the corbel table on the main wall, and is slightly projected to be flush with the plane of the corner pilasters. This small shadow arcade is supported by corbels, carved alternately with acanthus and birds.

Above the tower stringcourse the wall is divided into three trabeated bays, filled with paired arcuated openings (one of which is blind, the remaining two are glazed), and supported in the center by a free-standing column. The column capitals in the two external bays are carved, Byzantine-like, in geometric pattern, while in the center bay, human and animal grotesques are used.

The lintel that effects the trabeated bay is bracketed to support the uppermost ashlar course in the wall. Above this is a series of closely spaced corbels carved with animal and human masks alternating with acanthus carving on every sixth corbel. At the corners the corbel is diagonal, and becomes a gargoyle bracket. The cornice is a simple crown molding.

The walls of the living room, which extend north and east from the tower, are less decorated, having no vertical articulation. The ashlar first-floor wall terminates with a horizontal cable molding and a stringcourse carved in a vine pattern at the second-story window sills. Above the cable molding, there are deep brackets with acanthus alternating with plain panels at the ends. A crown mold supports the overhanging eaves. On the east wall there is a stone balcony supported by stone brackets. In the service wing on the northwest, walls are of cream-colored stucco with a wood cornice.

The arcaded walls of the garden room, which extends beyond the walls of the living room, are surmounted by a low parapet with crown molding at the coping, inset with stone panels of arabesques.

4. ~~Structural system, framing:~~ The main living area has wood framing on brick piers, except for the garden room on the northeast. Here there is a concrete basement with concrete walls, floors, and ceiling slab.
5. Porches, stoops, loggias, courtyards or patios: At the main entrance is a quarry Key limestone stoop of three risers.

All outdoor living spaces are disposed around the central courtyard or patio. On the southwest corner of the patio is a relatively low-ceilinged tile-roofed porch. The floor which is one riser above grade, contains a field of red hexagonal glazed tiles bordered with square tiles and coral rock at the edge. Most of this small patio/porch is recessed in the north wall of the house, extending one open bay to the north, and two open bays to the west. The wood lintels over the openings are carried by hexagonal stone columns with carved capitals below wood brackets. These lintels are decorated on the inner and outer faces with small-scale modillions and crown molding. The shallow coffered wood plank ceiling is painted with urn and vine designs.

On the east side of the central patio is an arcaded loggia of five bays defined by rectangular piers with engaged Byzantine columns supporting the arches. The ceiling is barrel-vaulted with groin vaults over each arch. The floor is a field of hexagonal tiles bordered with rectangular tiles and coral rock pavers defining the bays and used as diamond insets in each bay.

The service wing encloses the west side of the central patio.

On the north, the central patio is enclosed by a broad arcaded loggia open on both the north and south sides. The floor of the loggia is three risers above patio grade, and is enclosed on the east and west by small rooms. The arcaded sides consist of five bays, approximately 7'-6" on center, defined by five hexagonal columns and rectangular pilasters at the ends, with vine and rose capitals.

Above the capitals are four-sided impost blocks from which the arches spring. The chief feature of this loggia is the ceiling, with its highly decorative and complex pattern of beams and joists. Above the stuccoed walls of the arcade is a wood perimeter beam which is bracketed to support paired spaced wood tie beams between each arch. The spaced beams are connected at third points by wood members of the same depth to form a pattern of two intersecting triangles inscribing a square. This configuration, grooved and painted on the lower surfaces, forms an eight-pointed star opening. Several feet above this open transverse beam system is a simulated coffered tray-shaped wood ceiling, formed by two longitudinal spaced beams and exposed roof rafters supporting the hipped roof.

These long beams are connected with the intermediate diagonals of the same depth to form a coffering of alternating elongated hexagons. The rich, three-dimensional effect between the transverse tie beams and the coffered ceiling above, is enhanced by the painted decoration.

The exterior faces of the tie beams are painted white with trailing vines in ochre. The interior faces are painted in a band of triangles in Venetian red. The longitudinal grooves on the underside are painted ochre. The roof rafters above are painted pale green with white and yellow stripes on the underside. The ground of the rectangular coffers is ochre with painted arabesques in white and dark green. The field of the hexagonal panels in the coffers is antique white on which are painted miniature medallion portraits. Square wrought-iron lanterns with clear leaded glass sides are suspended from wrought-iron rosettes in the centers of the second and fourth bays.

The open central patio is roughly paved with broken coral rock. In the center is a coral-rock fountain on a low base with square bombé sides. In the center of the pool four griffons support a large circular splash dish with a smaller dish supported by a carved urn rising from its center.

6. Chimneys: Reference is made to fireplaces in the first-floor living room and the second-floor master bedroom, and to heating vents in the living room. The chimney serving these heating arrangements rises just within the eave-line of the roof, directly above the line of the stone balcony on the west wall face. Its cap, faced, as the walls of the house, with quarry Key limestone, is composed of a plain frieze lying above a small dentil band and beneath a very plain, small crown molding of molded brick.

7. Openings:

- a. Doorways and doors: The main entranceway to the house on the south is set in a deep, recessed, arched and carved stone opening. At the wall is a pilaster containing eight richly carved panels, above which a similarly carved capital supports the extrados which continues the carving of the shaft in mythological motifs. Next within the reveal are twisted, engaged columns with similar capitals supporting an archivolt carved in a foliated design. The next archivolt is similarly carved, but it springs from a rectangular pilaster, with carved panels. Behind this is a second pair of twisted columns with a large-scale cable archivolt of spiraling acanthus leaves. This deepest archivolt frames the plain-surfaced stone jambs and lintel of the double wood-paneled doors. The carved stone tympanum above contains two circular medallions representing the horse-drawn chariots of the heavens, surmounted with crescent moons, flanking a central foliated motif.

On the north wall of the living room there is a pair of black metal sliding doors leading to the garden room. Each door contains a single light, 32" x 96". These, as well as the wrought-iron screened doors, slide into wall pockets.

The openings on the north, east, and west walls of the garden room are glazed in a bronze sash, 7'-7" x 8'-0". These sashes disappear into the floor, being operated by switches to electric motors in the concrete basement below. Above these openings are glazed arched transoms.

The single opening leading to the west porch also contains screened French doors with wrought-iron grilles. They are flanked by screened sidelights and grilles.

On the north wall of the house are three arched openings supported by engaged columns. The capitals are carved with owls and the archivolt is a carved band between two flat bands. These arches contain wood doors, 34' x 100", with eight lights each, 14" x 17". There is a three-part fanlight over each. A stone stoop, with two risers, spreads out from the sill.

- b. Windows: In the south and east walls of the living room, windows are identical, consisting of sets of three pointed-arch openings. The bronze lower sash, 36" x 81", slides into pockets in the exterior wall on each side. The sash in the middle bay is fixed, 42" x 81". The fixed-arch transoms are approximately 30" at the point of the arch. All sash and transoms contain leaded diamond lights, approximately 5" x 8" overall.

In the east wall of the stair hall, bronze casements, 40" x 50", contain leaded lights, 3-1/2" x 10", in a vertical hexagonal pattern, with a similar fixed rectangular transom, 30" high.

The arched opening over the transom is approximately 20" high, and contains clear and amber glass lights.

On the south wall of the living room is a slender single wood casement, 16-1/2" x 55-1/2", leaded in clear glass in a hexagonal pattern, 3-1/2" x 10".

In the south and west walls of the dining room there are paired sliding bronze windows, 38" x 54", under a glazed arched transom, approximately 2'-0" high. Both window and transom are leaded with clear and amber lights in a hexagonal pattern, 5" x 6".

In the powder room, the wood casements, 20" x 56", contain three lights, 16" x 18", in clear glass.

The north wall of the house is a glazed loggia, consisting of three sets of three arched openings each. The bronze window frames are set midway in the reveal of the 18" wall, the fixed rectangular window in the center bay contains a single light, 33" x 64". This is flanked on each side by a sliding sash with a single light of clear glass, 30" x 64". The arched opening above, approximately 18" high, is glazed in clear glass. The three arches are enclosed by a single arch with a heraldic shield over the center arch.

On the east wall of the bar-grille room, there are wood casements, 38" x 54", divided into three horizontal sections by wood muntins. Each section contains leaded clear glass in a pattern of tangential circles, 5" in diameter.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape and covering: Both hipped roofs, over tower and main sections, as well as minor shed roofs, are covered with red clay knee tile.
- b. Cornice, eaves: Modillions with acanthus pattern or large or small denticulation beneath crown molding appear beneath the overhanging red clay tile eaves.
- c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: (See wall construction for tower.)

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

- a. First floor: The entrance toward the east end of the south wall leads to a spacious foyer opening on the east to a well-proportioned stair hall, which in turn leads to the living room and the garden room beyond.

On the west, the foyer opens directly to a glazed loggia providing circulation to the large powder room and dining room, disposed linearly, with an additional stairs to upper levels. West of the dining room are the pantry and kitchen. North of the dining room is a roofed porch with the bar-grille room adjacent to it on the west.

- b. Second-floor plan: Above the living room is the master-bedroom suite with double dressing rooms and baths between it and a terrace on the north. The suite is reached by a balcony over the stair hall. West of the stairs are three corner bedrooms separated by an arrangement of closets and three baths.
- c. Tower rooms (third floor or belvedere): An elevator as well as a stairs lead to a belvedere room and bath in the tower.

2. First-floor rooms:

- a. Foyer ante-room: This room is three risers above the driveway, is square in plan with a floor of quarry Key limestone pavers with a rectangular inlay enclosing a positive-negative design of interlocking circles in black and white marble. Walls are rusticated ashlar quarry Key limestone. The plastered ceiling is treated with a Florentine design of hexagons and diamonds with inset rosettes. The surface of the double oak entrance doors is treated with metal straps and diamond-head bolts. They are larger than the masonry opening and are set in the interior face of the wall.

Up three risers on the west wall is an arched opening with filigreed doors and tympanum backed with a screen mesh. An electrified cage chandelier of wrought iron hangs from the center of the ceiling. Other ornamental features are two standing taper holders, 5'-0" high.

- b. Interior foyer: The plan is square. The quarry Key limestone paving is inlaid with terra cotta tiles in a decorative pattern. Walls are painted plaster with quarry Key limestone base. The wall is articulated with quarry Key limestone columns with carved ram's head capitals. The ceiling is a modified quadripartite groined vault which is plastered. Two three-taper candelabra stand on the floor.
- c. Stair hall: East of the interior foyer, and up two risers, is the main stairway consisting of quarry Key limestone risers and treads. There are 28 risers. The first tread is elliptical. All others are rectangular except for the broad winders at the right-angle turn along the south wall. The balustrade is filigreed wrought iron, which continues as a railing along the stair well and balcony. Floors at both levels are quarry Key limestone with glazed tile insets on the first floor.

Walls of the stair hall are cream-colored plaster without a baseboard. The ceiling is plastered with coffered hexagonal design created by cable molding surrounded by egg-and-dart molding. It is painted light green. The cornice is a 12" wood panel with applied rosettes between acanthus trim at the top and bottom. The caaed opening with wood trim is a modified Tudor arch. On the west wall is a sitting alcove with a quarry Key limestone bench on richly carved supports. A wrought-iron cage lamp is suspended from the ceiling.

- d. Living room: The flooring is 8" pegged oak. The walls are pickled-oak boiserie with fluted pilasters framing all openings and also at the corners of the room. These pilasters begin at a chair rail 32" above the floor. Slightly above the doors is a second molding which follows the profile of the pilasters. Paneling between the pilasters is of linenfold design below the molding. Above, short fluted pilasters occur over the major pilasters below with carved acanthus and animal designs in the panels between. A bracketed projecting cornice conceals continuous cove lighting. The inverted tray ceiling is treated with bombé squares in low relief, trimmed with acanthus design, and containing a heraldic crest within each panel. All doors are solid wood, 8'-0" high, also paneled with linenfold design. The fluted pilasters which trim the door jambs support a wood Tudor arch enclosing, above the transom bar, a carved panel decorated with a shield and eagle, fruit, and acanthus. Windows are framed in pointed arches supported by spiral columns with modified Corinthian capitals. These columns are repeated on the exterior of the windows.

The accent on the east wall is the hooded fireplace faced with ashlar quarry Key limestone. At the intersection of the hood with the ceiling is a banding of acanthus with marmoset figures clinging to the two outer corners. Below the hood is a deep stone panel trimmed with acanthus around a central heraldic crest and shield. The lintel is supported on corbels carved as the head of a man in medieval headdress on the left, and a woman in medieval headdress on the right. The hearth is of cast stone.

The north wall is fitted with built-in bookcases on each side of the doorway. The east bookcase is false, complete with false bindings. It can be raised to reveal the bar behind it. Heating vents are concealed behind grilles in the boiserie.

- e. Garden room: This indoor-outdoor room is north of the living room. The floor is laid in polished glazed hexagonal tiles with green diamond insets. The border is a double row of square tiles. The plaster ceiling contains decorative beaming in multi-faceted starburst design. The beams are inlaid with wood strips, the shallow coffers painted in earth tones.

The cornice is carved with similar inlays and painting. The four large bronze vertically sliding doors have been described under dooways and doors, page 7.

- f. Dining room: Floors are red glazed terra cotta tiles in octagons and squares and elongated lozenge shapes, with green lozenge-shaped tile border. The baseboard is glazed tile. Walls are plastered, painted white. The plaster ceiling has wood coffering decorated with egg-and-dart below acanthus molding. Rosettes are centered in each panel. The double doors on the north wall leading to the glazed loggia are paneled in medieval scenes with figures in high relief. The transom panel above is similarly treated. The door to the kitchen has raised panels with a single glass light at eye level.

Windows are set in deep beveled reveals of quarry Key limestone, with engaged columns at the jambs plus an intermediate column supporting the arched openings.

The fireplace is framed by fluted stone pilasters and a mantel consisting of an entablature with dentils, fluted band, and egg-and-dart molding. The raised hearth is of unglazed square tiles. Grilled iron registers are located below the windows.

- g. Lounges: Between the foyer and the dining room are two lounges opening to the glazed loggia. The men's room on the west is up two risers. Floors are of glazed tiles combining green hexagons with black diamonds. The border and baseboard are square black tiles.

Plaster walls are painted and the pecky cypress ceiling is rubbed antique white. The cornice is painted dentils and egg-and-dart molding. The ceiling is also treated with shallow coffering. Mirror-backed sconces are on the wall. The water closet and lavatory are in an adjacent room.

The ladies' lounge is similar except that the floors are of hardwood. Walls are antiqued gray boiserie with a denticulated cornice. The ceiling is painted plaster.

- h. Bar/Grille room: Here the floors are hexagonal red glazed tiles. A 6'-0" high mahogany dado contains paneling and carved bas-relief pilasters. Above this are handpainted tiles set in the plaster walls forming squares decorated with heraldic emblems. The shallow coffered ceiling consists of painted beams and panels. Doors are wood paneled. A wood liquor bar is built into the southwest corner of the room and decorated with the same designs as the dado. Below the counter are five inset panels of heraldic emblems painted on tiles.

The countertop is of oak. A six-lamp chandelier is suspended from the ceiling.

- i. Kitchen and Service areas: Floors are asphalt tile. Walls and ceilings are painted plaster. Doors are wood paneled with transoms above.
 - j. Glazed loggia: This loggia overlooks the patio. The floor is quarry Key limestone with terra cotta tile insets continuing the floor pattern of the interior foyer. The south wall is of ashlar quarry Key limestone. The north wall is a glazed arcade with quarry Key limestone quoins, voussoirs, and sills on the interior. The room is notable for its proportions and scale.
3. Second-floor rooms:
- a. Master bedroom: Floors are varnished oak. Walls are papered above a simple molded baseboard. The cornice is denticulated and the ceiling is painted plaster. Doors are paneled. Trim is simple and painted. The fireplace is framed by engaged Corinthian wood columns on marble pedestals. An ogee arch surrounds the opening. The hearth is black marble.
 - b. Northeast dressing room: Floors are varnished oak, walls are paneled pine with denticulated cornice. Ceiling is painted plaster.
 - c. Northwest dressing room: Finishes are similar to the northeast dressing room, except the paneled walls are decorated with hand-painted murals.
 - d. Northeast bathroom: Floors are gray glazed tile. Walls and ceiling are plastered above a tile wainscot decorated at the top with hand-painted tiles. There is a marble lavatory and a built-in-floor scale.
 - e. Northwest bathroom: Floors are green glazed tile. Walls and ceiling are similar to the northeast bathroom, except that the arched tub enclosure is completely surfaced with colorful decorative handpainted tiles. The opening is framed by fluted pilasters supporting a recessed cavity for the shower curtain.
4. Southwest bedroom wing: The corridor leading to these rooms is down eight wood risers from the stair hall. Floors and baseboard are tile. Walls and ceiling are painted plaster. The ceiling is vaulted over the flight of steps and at the entry to the stair hall. The door contains raised panels. Two weathered lamps with leaded faces are suspended from the ceiling. There is an enclosed elevator at the east end.

- a. Bedrooms: All floors are hardwood. Walls are painted plaster except in the east bedroom which has a chair rail with painted canvas mural above. Cornices are carved with a running key design except in the southwest room where it is denticulated. Doors are paneled and painted.
 - b. Bathrooms: Floors are octagonal glazed tile. Walls are of painted plaster above a glazed-tile wainscot decorated at the top with handpainted tiles. The built-up bathtub is faced with similar decorative tiles.
5. Tower room, or Belvedere: The rectilinear plan includes an elevator, full bath, and stairs on the west side. This room is eighteen risers above the second floor. The stairs have black glazed tile treads and emerald green risers. The floor in the room consists of a field of black diamond and trapezoidal tiles bordered with green tiles set in a herringbone pattern. The baseboard is also black tile.

Walls and ceiling are painted plaster. In addition, the ceiling is coffered in antique white decorated with acanthus sunbursts. The cornice combines fig-leaf with egg-and-dart moldings. A leaded glass lantern which is electrified hangs from the ceiling. Grilled heat registers are located in the walls. The double-arched window openings contain a single-light operating sash. The adjoining bath is up three tile risers from the room. Here floors are green hexagons of glazed tile. Walls and ceilings are painted plaster.

D. Site:

1. General setting: The house is located on the northeast corner of South County Road and Via Del Mar, in a section of similar fine residences. There is a circular graveled driveway from Via Del Mar to the main entrance steps. An unpretentious service wing and garages face South County Road on the west, and the east elevation borders on South Ocean Boulevard. Landscaping in the patio consists of randomly placed trees which include coconut palm, sago palm, chinese fan palm, fishtail palm, traveler's palm, seagrape and trumpet vine. Large terra cotta wine jars are spotted around the patio. Zoysia grass grows between the patio pavers. There is a quarry Key limestone wall on the north property line bordering on Via La Selva. The wall incorporates a fountain and a reflecting pool.
2. There is an accessory outbuilding on the northwest corner and a patio and pool in the northeast corner.

Prepared by: Richard C. Crisson
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Richard High
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Prof. Woodrow W. Wilkins, AIA
Dept. of Architecture
University of Miami
Project Supervisor
Summer 1971

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

The Florida project to survey the historic architecture of Palm Beach and to emphasize the written historical and architectural data was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) in cooperation with the Historical Society of Palm Beach County and the Florida Board of Archives and History in the summer of 1971. Under the direction of James C. Massey, then Chief of HABS, the project was carried out in the Historic American Buildings Survey field office in the Flagler Museum, Whitehall Way, Palm Beach, with Professor Woodrow W. Wilkins, AIA, (University of Miami) Project Supervisor; Richard C. Crisson, Architect (University of Florida); Richard High, Student Architect (Georgia Institute of Technology); and Bryan Bowman, Student Historian (University of Florida). Under the general direction of John Poppeliers, Chief of HABS after March 1972, additional documentation was prepared, and archival photographs for the project were taken in April 1972 by Jack E. Boucher, HABS photographer. Editing and final preparation of the documentation was carried out in 1980 in the HABS Washington office by Lucy Pope Wheeler of the HABS professional staff.

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810 South County Road, Palm Beach, Florida.

EUGENE M. HOWERDD

W. 276.04' of S. 300' of N.
941.52' of Gov. Lot 1, E. of
County Road.
Section 35 Township 43, Range 43.

q

- Original use - Residence
- Original owner - W. J. Mc Aneeny
- Present use - Residence
- Present owner - Eugene M. Howerdd
- Architect - Treanor & Fatio

Note

Associated with the June 2, 1928, Town of Palm Beach Building Permit No. 8728 the structural plan, not folded is in the top center bin, in the Building Dept.

Plan on garden wall Dec. 1, 1954, Town of Palm Beach Building Permit No. 45354 is in the vertical file.

There is a land survey made by Karl Riddle, Registered Land Surveyor made for Eugene M. Howerdd in the vertical file.

810 South County Road, Palm Beach, Florida.

Same description.

June 2, 1928

Permit No. 8728

Permit to Vought & Halpern, Inc.
To construct: Residence for W. J.
Mc Aneeny, Esq.

Class of Zone: Residence

Class of Building: Residence.

Size of Addition - 150 x 180

Material: Stone & hollow tile

Roofing: Tile

Located on Via Le Silva Lot 18 and
19 Via Del Mar Lot 2-7

On Via Del Mar between County Road
and Ocean Blvd.

Owner's name: W. J. Mc Aneeny

Address: Detroit, Michigan

Builder's name: Vought & Halpern, Inc.

Address: Plaza Bldg., Palm Beach.

Approximate cost: \$325,000.00

Height 35'. Story: 1, 2 & tower.

Dec. 1, 1933.

Permit No. 9633.

To W. J. Mc Aneeny

To construct: Replace swimming pool
strainer

Class of Zone: Beach (can't read it)

Class of building: pool

Material: concrete

On S. Ocean Blvd.

Owner's name: W. J. Mc Aneeny

Builder's name: N. K. Bennett

Approximate cost: \$500.00

April 29, 1947.

Permit No. 7147

To: Luther Ruup

To construct: Gardner's Lodge

Class of building: 1 story.

Size of addition: Plan filed.

Material: O.B. Roofing: Ash

Addition (can't read it)

On Via Delmar

Owner's name: R. K. Roberts

Builder's name: Luther Ruup

Estimated cost: \$5,000.00

810 South County Road, Palm Beach, Florida.

EUGENE M. HOWERDD

- Sept. 14, 1949 Permit No. 20849
To Carpenter Roofing Co.
To construct - Res.
Class of Zone - A
Class of building - two story
Material - Frame
Located on Lot (?)
Addition - Delmar
On So. County Road
Owner's name - R.K. Robertson
Builder's name - Carpenter Roof-
ing Co.
Estimated cost - \$1,634
- Nov. 12, 1953 Permit No. 40453
To Carpenter Sheet Metal Works
To construct - Repair roof
Class of Zone - Res. A
Class of building - Residence.
No additions.
On 821 S. County Rd.
Between - Via La Selva and Via
Del Mar
Owner's name - Gen. R.K. Robertson
Builder's name - Carpenter's Sheet
Metal Works
- Sept. 21, 1954. Permit No. 34554
To Carpenter's Sheet Metal Works
To construct - Repair roof.
Class of zone - Res. A.
On 821 S. County Road
Between Via La Selva and Via
del Mar
Owner - Mrs. Marshall Davidson
Builder - Carpenter's Sheet Metal
Works
Architect - Paul Kohler, Jr.
Approximate cost - \$975.
- Dec. 1, 1954 Permit No. 45354
To Lund Const. Co.
To construct - Garden wall
Class of Zone - Res. A.
Class of building - Residence.

810 South County Road, Palm Beach, Florida.

EUGENE M. HOWERDD

Dec. 1, 1954

Permit No. 45354 (cont'd.)
Size - 6' high, 50'
Material - CBS
Roofing - none
Addition - Del Mar Addition
On 821 S. County Rd.
Between Via La Selva and Vid Del Mar
Owner - Mrs. Marshall Davidson
Builder - Lund Const. Co.
Architect - Paul Kohler, Jr.
Approximate cost - \$900.
Height 6'

Mar. 11, 1964

Permit No. 8964
To Hawthorne Roofing Co.
To construct - Repair roof
On 195 Via del Mar, 810 So. Ocean
and N.E. Corner County Road
Zoning - Res A
Occupancy classification - single
family dwelling. No addition.
Roofing material - existing repairs
Owner's name - Mr. Eugene Howerdd
Builder's name - Hawthorne Roofing.
Approximate cost - \$450.00
