

NOMINATION PROPOSAL - FLORIDA

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

Listed date
SEP 14 1984

DIVISION OF ARCHIVES, HISTORY AND RECORDS MANAGEMENT - FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS

1 NAME

MRNS #35

HISTORIC

South Side School

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 1901 Webber Street

CITY, TOWN

Sarasota

VICINITY OF N/A

STATE

Florida

COUNTY

Sarasota

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Sarasota County Board of Public Instruction

STREET & NUMBER South Side Elementary School
1901 Webber Street

CITY, TOWN

Sarasota

VICINITY OF

STATE

Florida

ZIP CODE

33579

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Sarasota County Court House Recording Department

STREET & NUMBER

Room 10, 2000 Main Street P. O. Box 3079

CITY, TOWN

Sarasota

STATE

Florida

ZIP CODE

33578

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Florida Master Site File (FMSF) #8So361
and Historic, Architectural and Archaeological Survey of Sarasota (HAASS)

DATE

FMSF: 1977

HAASS: 1982 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Division of Archives, History and Records Management Dept. of State

CITY, TOWN

The Capitol Tallahassee

STATE

Florida 32301

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED. DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

SUMMARY OF PRESENT AND ORIGINAL PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located at 1901 Webber Street, the two-story, rough-textured stucco and cast stone, Mediterranean Revival Style building was built as the South Side Elementary School in 1926. The school was designed by architect M. Leo Elliott of Tampa and St. Petersburg and prints of the original drawings which are extant provide excellent documentation of the original construction materials and appearance of the South Side School.¹ Photographic documentation of the entrance and west elevations of the school is provided by a newspaper photograph which appeared in the Sarasota Herald in 1926.² The plan of the school is centered around a central courtyard, located at the north elevation; exterior open corridors located at the first and second floors provided access to the classrooms, in addition to providing light and ventilation. The entrance elevation was located at the south elevation and was divided into five units: the entrance pavilion was located at the center of the south elevation and was flanked at the east and west sides by five-bay recessed banks of windows; the end wings were pedimented structures designed as severe stucco facades with the only ornamentation provided by the appearance of small balconies located at the second floor. The entrance pavilion was decorated with a cast stone ornamentation manufactured by Fischer & Jirouch,³ and the ground floor was marked by a three-bay open loggia, with bank of five windows flanked by large consoles at the second floor and the frontispiece topped by an oculus with a cast stone grille and patera center and laurel wreath enframement. The original gabled, half-gabled and hipped roof projections were originally covered in barrel tiling. The west elevation wing which intersects the west end of the entrance facade is original to the structure and is visible in the 1926 Sarasota Herald photograph of the South Side School.⁴ The wings located at the east and north elevations are not part of the 1926 design of the School and do not contribute to the site. The original school building is well-maintained and is worthy for inclusion on the National Register.

TEXT SUPPORTING SUMMARY OF PRESENT AND ORIGINAL PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The two-story, rough-textured stucco and cast stone Mediterranean Revival Style, irregular, rectangular building located at 1901 Webber Street, was built as the South Side Elementary School in 1926. The school was designed by architect M. Leo Elliott of Tampa and St. Petersburg, and prints of the original drawings which were used to build both the South Side and Bay Haven Elementary Schools, have survived and have been preserved by the Sarasota County School Board, Facilities Planning Department.⁵ Additional documentation of the original appearance of the South Side School exists in a newspaper photograph of the south and west elevations which appeared in the Sarasota Herald of 1926.⁶ Few alterations have occurred to the South Side School.

The irregular, rectangular planned structure centered around a courtyard located at the north elevation. Open corridors which faced the central courtyard provided access to classrooms on the first and second floors and increased light and ventilation. The entrance placed at the center of the south elevation was marked by an open, three-bay loggia leading to a central lobby. To the east of the lobby, a

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item Number: 7 (Description)

Page Number:

kindergarten and classrooms were placed and to the west was located a private office, the principal's office and several classrooms.⁷ Also located on the ground floor were a set of living quarters, the bathrooms and a boiler room.⁸ At the second floor entrance block a library and teachers' room existed, with classrooms located off the open corridors to the east and west of the central block. The roof plan consisted of a series of gabled, half-gabled and hipped roof projections which were clad in barrel tiling and set on cast stone brackets.⁹

Located at the south elevation, the entrance facade was divided into five units with the pedimented entrance pavilion located at the center and flanked by recessed bays located to the east and west and divided into five-bays of windows at the first and second floors. The end wings of the south elevation were severe rough-textured stucco facades which were pedimented and decorated only with a narrow, round-arched window which originally opened on to a metal semi-circular iron balcony. The entrance pavilion was highly ornamented with cast stone manufactured by Fischer & Jirouch.¹⁰ The ground-floor entrance was marked by a three-bay open loggia carried on twisted shaft columns with cast stone capitals. The arcuated loggia was flanked by massive pilasters with foliated shafts which carried an entablature of dentilled and rinceau moldings. The spandrel of each arched opening was decorated with a motif of open books executed in cast stone. The second floor of the entrance block was divided into five bays of windows which were framed by console brackets. The continuous lintel of the five-bay window was decorated by an egg and dart molding and the top of the frontispiece was marked by a large oculus which was protected by a cast stone screen with patera center and laurel wreath enframingent. A large cast stone cornucopia was placed at either side of the oculus opening.

Located behind the entrance facade at the east and west elevations were two, 1- $\frac{1}{2}$ -story, shed-roofed aisles which were provided with round-arched openings with elaborate cast stone panels marking the "Boys" and "Girls" entrances. The "Boys" entrance was originally located at the west and the "Girls" entrance was placed at the east elevation. The original northwest elevation was marked by a pedimented, severe stucco facade with blind balcony opening identical to the entrance elevation and wings.

Additions were added to the South Side School in 1952.¹¹ The flat-roofed additions reflected the original open corridor concept with an arcuated ground floor corridor and a second floor trabeated corridor.

Alterations: The original barrel tiled roof surface has been removed and replaced by a synthetic roofing material. The application of barrel tiling to the south elevation would greatly enhance the appearance of the significant school building. In 1976 the original window sash was covered with break metal and the glazing was replaced by tempered bronze safety glass; the original transom openings were blocked.¹²

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1926

BUILDER/ARCHITECT T. A. Monk Company/
M. Leo Elliott

SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The two-story, rough-textured stucco, Mediterranean Revival structure located at 1901 Webber Street was built as the South Side Elementary School in 1926 according to the designs of M. Leo Elliott of Tampa and St. Petersburg.¹³ Mr. Elliott's drawings, which were issued in March of 1926, were used to construct the South Side and the Bay Haven Elementary Schools (MRNS #31, 2901 West Tamiami Circle).¹⁴ The South Side School was built by the T. A. Monk Company.¹⁵ The construction of the two elementary schools and the Sarasota High School (MRNS #34, 1001 South Tamiami Trail) were part of a major county-wide school expansion program.¹⁶ The sites selected were indicative of the expansion of the residential boundaries of the City of Sarasota. The South Side and the Bay Haven Elementary Schools were built at a cost of \$77,000, each.¹⁷ The construction, land acquisition and operating expenditures for the three new school facilities were floated by a bond issue in excess of \$1,500,000.¹⁸ The location of the South Side School was due in part to a planning study which was prepared in 1924 and issued in 1925 by the nationally known City Planner, John Nolen, of Cambridge, Massachusetts.¹⁹ Mr. Nolen actually recommended that four schools be constructed, two within a ½-mile radius of the City and one for the Indian Beach community and one for the Sarasota Heights area. Mr. Nolen advised that the South Side School be constructed for the Sarasota Heights and surrounding southern region and originally located the school east of Orange Avenue between Bahia Vista and Loma Linda. The architect of record, M. Leo Elliott, was an eclectic designer who was equally as skilled working in the Mediterranean Revival Style as in the "Collegiate Gothic," which was selected for the Sarasota High School, MRNS #34. In addition to his highly successful school designs, Mr. Elliott designed the first skyscraper, the First National Company's Main Street structure in 1924.²⁰ The South Side School with its remarkable cast stone and glazed terra cotta entrance frontispiece and classrooms skillfully arranged around a central interior court corridor is significant not only architecturally, but for the integrity of the building and site. In constant use since 1926, the South Side School is beautifully maintained and the entrance facade, in particular, is remarkably intact.

TEXT SUPPORTING SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Located at 1901 Webber Street, the two-story, Mediterranean Revival Style, rough-stucco facade building was designed by architect M. Leo Elliott of Tampa and St. Petersburg and was built as the South Side Elementary School in 1926.²¹ The "Element School" drawings which were issued by Mr. Elliott in 1926 were used in the construction of both the South side and Bay Haven Elementary Schools, MRNS #31, located at 2901 West Tamiami Circle²² and was constructed by T. A. Monk.²³ Each elementary school

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item Number: 8 (Significance)

was built at a cost of \$77,000, and the two elementary schools and the Sarasota High School located at 1001 South Tamiami Trail, were part of a major school facility expansion program undertaken by the County in 1926.²⁴ The cost of land acquisition, construction and operating expenses in the school construction program were funded by a bond issue estimated to have been in excess of \$1,500,000.²⁵

The location of the school sites was indicative of the residential development patterns of the city, which expanded to the north, south and east. In a planning report commissioned by the City and issued in 1925, the city planner, John Nolen of Cambridge, Massachusetts recommended that four elementary schools be provided.²⁶ Two of the sites which Mr. Nolen recommended, one to be located on 9th Street between East and Fletcher Avenues and one to be built on Alderman, were never implemented.²⁷ Mr. Nolen also suggested that an elementary school be provided for the Sarasota Heights community on a site east of Orange Avenue between Bahia Vista and Loma Linda, a recommendation which was realized in the construction of the South Side School, on a site further south on Webber Street.²⁸ It was Mr. Nolen's intent that each school be within walking distance of the residential communities served by each school facility.²⁹

The architect of record, M. Leo Elliott, was a master in the design of school facilities. The plan of the South Side and Bay Haven Elementary Schools centered around a courtyard and open courtyard corridors linked the classroom areas, while providing light and ventilation. The Mediterranean Revival Style cast stone ornamentation present at the entrance elevations of both the South Side and Bay Haven Schools was skillfully designed and integrated. As an eclectic designer, Mr. Elliott was capable of executing two elementary schools in the Mediterranean Revival Style and the Sarasota High School in the Collegiate Gothic Style. The South Side and Bay Haven Schools were rough-textured stucco facade structures, while the Sarasota High School was presented in red brick and glazed, ornamental terra cotta. (Please refer to MRNS #34, 1001 South Tamiami Trail.) Prior to his undertaking of the three school facilities, Mr. Elliott designed the first skyscraper for the City of Sarasota. The multi-story First National Company building on Main Street was designed in 1924 and is indicative of Mr. Elliott's versatility.³⁰ The First National Company building later became the Orange Blossom Hotel.

The South Side Elementary School has remained in service as a school operated by the Sarasota School Board. Both the original Elliott building and additions have been well-maintained. There have been few alterations to the original Elliott-designed building and the South Side School is significant for the integrity of the architectural fabric and site.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item Number: 7 (Description), 8 (Significance)

Page Number:

NOTES FOR NOMINATION PROPOSAL--FLORIDA
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION SARASOTA

¹M. Leo Elliott, Inc., Tampa and St. Petersburg. "Elementary School"
Drawings. 8 Sheets. March 2, 1926. Prints located at Sarasota County School
Board, Facilities Planning Department. Sarasota, Florida.

²Sarasota Herald. December 15, 1926. Section 2, p. 4.

³Elliott, Sheets 5 & 6.

⁴Sarasota Herald. December 15, 1926. Section 2, p. 4.

⁵Elliott, 8 Sheets.

⁶Sarasota Herald. December 15, 1926. Section 2, p. 4.

⁷Elliott, Sheet 2.

⁸Elliott, Sheet 3.

⁹Elliott, Sheet 4.

¹⁰Elliott, Sheets 5 & 6.

¹¹Norman Fix. Tampa. "Additions for South Side and Bay Haven Elementary
Schools." 10 Sheets. May 14, 1952.

¹²Draeger-Ramaecker Architects, Sarasota. September 22, 1976. Black line
prints on file Facilities Planning. Sarasota, Florida.

¹³Elliott, 8 Sheets.

¹⁴Ibid.

¹⁵Bronze plaque. Lobby. South Side Elementary School.

¹⁶Karl Grismer. The Story of Sarasota. Sarasota: M. E. Russell, 1946,
p. 240.

¹⁷Ibid.

¹⁸Ibid.

¹⁹John Nolen. Report on Comprehensive City Plan for Sarasota, Florida.
Cambridge, Massachusetts. 1924, p. 14.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item Number: 7 (Description), 8 (Significance)

²⁰Sarasota Times. May 8, 192

²¹Elliott, 8 Sheets.

²²Ibid.

²³Bronze plaque. Lobby. South Side School.

²⁴Grismer, p. 240.

²⁵Ibid.

²⁶John Nolen. Report on Comprehensive City Plan for Sarasota, Florida.
Cambridge, Massachusetts. 1925. p. 14.

²⁷Ibid.

²⁸Ibid.

²⁹Ibid.

³⁰Sarasota Times. May 8, 1924.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item Number: 9 (Bibliographical References)

Draeger-Ramaeker, Architects. Sarasota. Window Replacements. September 22, 19
Black lines at Sarasota County School Board. Facilities Planning Department
Sarasota, Florida.

Elliott, M. Leo, Inc. Tampa and St. Petersburg. "Elementary School: Drawings,
8 Sheets. March 2, 1926. Prints located at Sarasota County School Board.
Facilities Planning, Sarasota, Florida.

Fix, Norman F., A.I.A. Tampa. "Additions South Side and Bay Haven Schools."
10 Sheets. May 14, 1952. Located at Facilities Planning. Sarasota, FL.

Grismer, Karl. The Story of Sarasota. Sarasota: M. E. Russell. 1946.

Nolen, John. City Planner. Report on Comprehensive Plan for Sarasota, Florida.
Cambridge, Massachusetts. 1925.

Sanborn Map Company. Maps of Sarasota. 1929. Sanborn Map Company. New York.
1929.

Sarasota Herald. December 15, 1926.

Sarasota Times. February 21, 1924, May 5, 1924.

9 BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

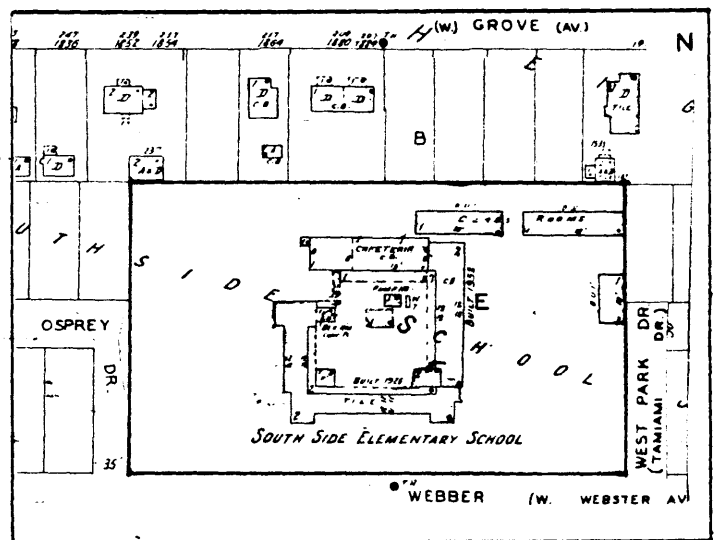
Site Size (Approx. Acreage of Property):

Apx. 2 acres

UTM Coordinates:

17	348460	3021330
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

Township	Range	Section
T36S	R18E	S31



VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

All blocks A, B, C, D, E, less E 17.23 feet of Lots 5, 6 Block B & less E 17.12 feet of lots 4, 5 block.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A			

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Sarah Latham Kearns/Preservation Consultant, City of Sarasota

ORGANIZATION

c/o Planning Department

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

City Hall P. O. Box 1058

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

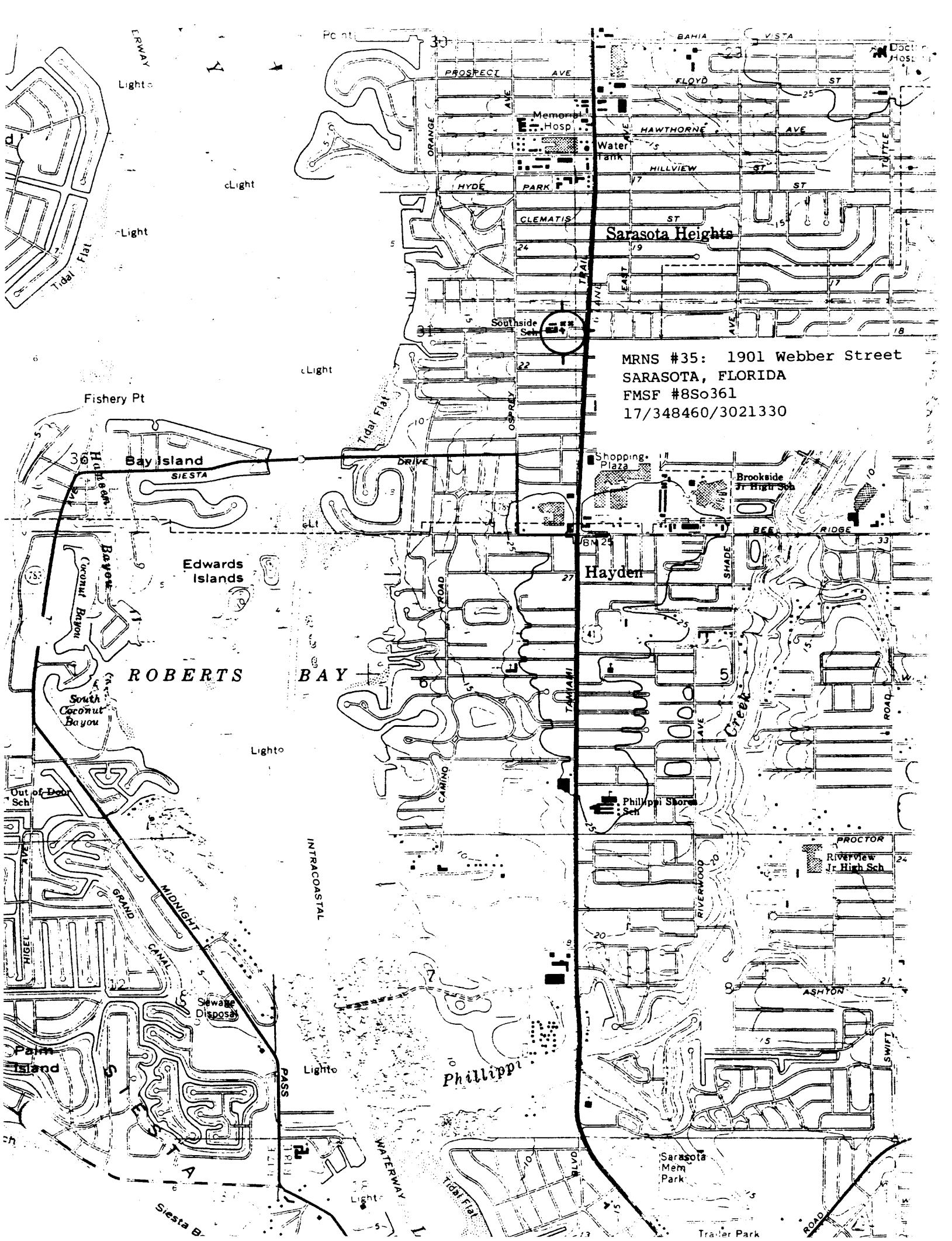
Sarasota

STATE

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SARASOTA, FLORIDA
FMSF #8So361
17/348460/3021330