

# NOMINATION PROPOSAL - FLORIDA

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

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

TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS

## 1 NAME MRNS# 1

HISTORIC

Capt. W. F. Purdy Residence

AND/OR COMMON

## 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

3315 Bayshore Road

CITY, TOWN

Sarasota

VICINITY OF N/A

Sarasota

STATE

Florida

COUNTY

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" 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 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
	NA	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Vacant

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Estate of Henry Cape, Jr.  
Rhoderick B. MacCleod, Kirk, Pinkerton, Savary, Caar & Strode, P.A.

STREET & NUMBER  
720 S. Orange Avenue

CITY, TOWN  
Sarasota

VICINITY OF N/A

STATE  
FL

ZIP CODE  
33577

## 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  
FL

ZIP CODE  
33578

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Florida Master Site File (FMSF) #8So314  
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

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED. DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

### SUMMARY OF PRESENT AND ORIGINAL PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The one-and- $\frac{1}{2}$ -story, wood-frame bungalow located at 3315 Bayshore Road, was constructed of pre-fabricated materials ordered from Sears Roebuck of Chicago, and was built by prominent local contractor H.K. Browning for Chicagoan Captain W. F. Purdy during the winter season of 1911-1912. The plan of the building is "U"-shaped with projecting irregular wings located at the east elevation. The western or bay elevation is of primary importance consisting of six-bay verandah with gable roofed, pair of triple windowed dormers, decorated with Tudor-arched bargeboards. The Bay elevation is sheathed in green stained shingles; while the north, south and east elevations are clapboarded. The bungalow, site, original outbuildings and landscaping are remarkable intact. Outbuildings include: original wooden water cistern, 1-story wood-frame garage and large 1-story, wood-frame shed. Original planting includes cocoanut and Canary Island date palms.

### TEXT SUPPORTING SUMMARY OF PRESENT ORIGINAL PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The 1- $\frac{1}{2}$  story bungalow located at #3315 Bayshore Road of 1911 was described in the contemporary press as follows: "One of the most handsome bungalows on the bay is being built for Captain W. F. Purdy at Indian Beach by contractor H.K. Browning. The building has seven rooms, a frontage of nearly 100 feet with wings extending from the rear. The material was purchased in Chicago by Captain Purdy, and the interior will be finished in modern style."<sup>1</sup> According to his niece, Mrs. Sumner Britton, Captain Purdy purchased the materials from the building department of Sears and Roebuck of Chicago.<sup>2</sup> The plan of the bungalow is "U"-shaped with irregular wings located at the east elevation. The wood-frame construction bungalow, rests on a foundation of brick piers with wood lattice in-fill. Wood shingles stained green appear at the west or bay elevation; while clapboards (once stained a redwood color -- now painted white) are the primary fabric of the east, north and south elevations. A fireproof, one-story brick lean-to is located at the north-east elevation of the bungalow. The main gabled roof intersects with secondary gabled roofs of the wings located at the north and south ends of the east elevation. Smaller, one-story additions and two-story open porch have shed roofs. Two gabled dormer windows with Tudor-arched bargeboards pierce the raking slope of the main gabled roof. Fenestration is irregular. Window types include: double-hung-sashed, 9/1 windows; 10-pane wood casement windows; two dormers each with a set of three single pane windows with multi-light surrounds, located at the west elevation; a triple window with central pointed arch at the gable end of the north elevation. The most prominent exterior feature is the six-bay verandah located at the west or bay elevation. The porch piers are supported on brick bases. The piers are sheathed in shingle. The verandah openings are Tudor-arched. Approached by a wooden staircase with turned balister and straight railings, the verandah provides the formal progression to the main entrance door.

Site Features and Outbuildings: The original water cistern for the property is located at the east elevation of the Purdy Residence, (at the intersection of the south wing). Original outbuildings include: a one-story gabled roof garage (wood-frame, desolate, but salvageable) located at the southern extremity of the property; and a large, one-story shed (tumble-down) located at the north property line. Original exotic plant materials include a row of cocoanut palms which mark the water line; as well as several Canary Island Date Palms which accent the west facade of the Captain W.F. Purdy Residence. A later pink-tinted drive-way approaches the bungalow from Bayshore Road.

**8 SIGNIFICANCE** MRNS #1, Captain W. F. Purdy Residence, 3315 Bayshore Road

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input 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 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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Sears Pre-fab. Materials
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES December 1911 - Winter 1912 BUILDER/ARCHITECT H.K. Browning

**SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Number 3315 Bayshore Road is one of the first documented Sears Roebuck Company "pre-fab." material structures to have been built in Sarasota. Built between December 1911 and the winter season of 1912, the shingle and clapboard bungalow is representative of the second period of Sarasota development (1900 - 1913).<sup>3</sup> The influx of mid-Western seasonal residents and the decision on the part of the Captain W.F. Purdy family of Chicago to build a residence is also indicative of Captain Purdy's efforts to oversee his avocado farms located across the Bay on Longboat Key.<sup>4</sup> The Purdy family became influential Sarasota residents. Captain Purdy<sup>5</sup> trained the Sarasota Naval Militia and led the militia to England during World War I.<sup>5</sup> H.K. Browning who arrived as a Scots or Ormiston colonist supervised the construction of #3315 Bayshore Road. H.K. Browning was one of very few local architects and craftsmen. He served as a member of the Council during the early years of the incorporated Town of Sarasota.<sup>6</sup> The property and improvements are remarkably intact including: the "U"-shaped bungalow, 1-story shed, garage, water cistern and exotic palms.

**TEXT SUPPORTING SUMMARY OF STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Built between December of 1911 and early winter of 1912, the one-and-one-half story shingle and clapboard bungalow, located at 3315 Bayshore Road is representative of residential construction of the second period of development of Sarasota which occurred 1900 - 1913. The influx of mid-Western seasonal visitors is evident in the arrival of Captain W.F. Purdy and family and their decision to build in the Indian Beach section. The Indian Beach site overlooked Captain Purdy's agricultural tract of twenty acres "on Longboat Key which were set to Avocado Pears". At the time of construction the building was described as "One of the most handsome bungalows on the Bay" with "seven rooms, a frontage of nearly 100 feet with wings extending from the rear.... material...purchased in Chicago...and the interior finished in modern style."<sup>8</sup> The building materials were purchased from Sears Roebuck of Chicago.<sup>9</sup> H.K. Browning constructed the bungalow, integrating design and materials. Of particular note are: the six-bay verandah with Tudor-arched porch openings and the pair of triple windowed dormer projections located on the bay or west elevation; screened porches and water cistern at the east elevation; and the bracketed gabled ends of the north and south facades, pierced by tiny pointed-arched window openings. The bungalow is not only significant in design and materials but in site integrity: the original water cistern, one-story shed, early garage, and Canary Island Date Palms are vestiges of the Purdy era.

Captain W. F. Purdy<sup>10</sup> was captain of the Illinois Naval Reserves until retirement brought him to Sarasota. During World War I, Captain Purdy trained the Sarasota Naval Militia and after the War, remained in England as head of the U.S. Shipping Board.<sup>11</sup>

CONTINUATION SHEET

Item Number: 8 (Significance)

TEXT OF SIGNIFICANCE cont.

H.K. Browning the architect/builder of 3315 Bayshore Road was the brother of Alex Browning, architect and author of the 1932 Browning Manuscript documenting the Ormiston Colony. In 1885, Alex and Hugh or H.K. Browning arrived with their parents as part of the Ormiston Colony from Scotland. H.K. Browning moved to Chicago "where he studied architecture", returning to Sarasota around 1910.<sup>12</sup> Browning was clearly familiar with Craftsman bungalow styles and he was active in residential and commercial building including the Watrous block on Main Street.<sup>13</sup> His remodelling commissions included the home of Charles Ringling, R.C. Caples' bungalow and John Ringling's first seasonal house.<sup>14</sup> Browning left Sarasota in 1916 for New Jersey, where he "was engaged in the brick manufacturing business", returning to the area in 1927, he died in 1937.<sup>15</sup> In addition to his architectural achievements, Mr. Browning served as a member of the Town Council.<sup>16</sup>

Preservation Threat: Although the Purdy residence and site are remarkably intact, the 2.9 acre tract of Bay-front property on which this early documented "pre-fab." bungalow sits is of primary marketing interest. The marketers consider the bungalow structurally unsound and termite ridden. Based on exterior examination, there appears to be no evidence of structural fault; the building is supported on many brick piers. The verandah stairways and the exterior porches on the east elevation require remedial care, the shed is perhaps beyond repair but the garage may be salvable.

CONTINUATION SHEET

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

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

- <sup>1</sup> Sarasota Times, December 14, 1911, p. 1, col. 3.
- <sup>2</sup> Mrs. Sumner Britton, 1983: Personal communications.
- <sup>3</sup> Sarasota Times, December 14, 1911, p. 1, col. 3.
- <sup>4</sup> Sarasota Times, September 28, 1911, f.p., col. 3.
- <sup>5</sup> Britton.
- <sup>6</sup> Karl Grismer, The Story of Sarasota (Sarasota, Florida: M.E. Russell, 1946)  
p. 304.
- <sup>7</sup> Sarasota Times, September 28, 1911, f.p., col. 3.
- <sup>8</sup> Sarasota Times, December 14, 1911, p. 1, col. 3.
- <sup>9</sup> Britton.
- <sup>10</sup> Sarasota Times, September 28, 1911, f.p., col. 3.
- <sup>11</sup> Britton.
- <sup>12</sup> Sarasota Times, January 2, 1912, p.4, col. 2.
- <sup>13</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>14</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>15</sup> Higel Obituary File (March 13, 1937) Vol. 2, p. 173, Sarasota County  
Historical Archives, Sarasota, Florida.
- <sup>16</sup> Grismer, p. 304.

## 9 BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Britton, Mrs. Sumner. Personal Communication, 1983.

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

Higel Obituary File. Vol. 2. March 13, 1937. Located at the Sarasota County Historical Commission Archives, Sarasota, Florida.

Sarasota Times. September 28, 1911. December 14, 1911. January 2, 1912.  
Located at the Sarasota County Historical Commission Archives, Sarasota, Florida.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Site Size (Approx. Acreage of Property):

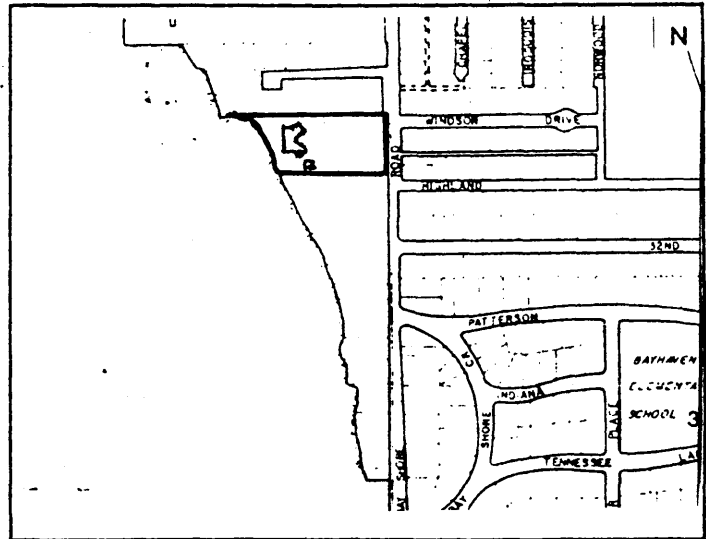
2.9 acres

UTM Coordinates:

1, 7	3 4 6 0 6 0	3, 0   2, 7   6, 0, 0
ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

USGS Sarasota 7.5 1973

Township	Range	Section
T36S	17E	12



### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Blocks 55, 56, less N 200 feet of Block 55 and N 4.5 feet of Block 57 Map of Indian Beach

### 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

May 1983

STREET & NUMBER

City Hall P.O. Box 1058

TELEPHONE

(813) 365-2200 EXT. 262

CITY OR TOWN

Sarasota

STATE

Florida

ZIP CODE

33578

STATE OF FLORIDA

MRNS #1: 3315 Bayshore Road  
SARASOTA, FLORIDA  
FMSF #8So314  
17/346060/3027600



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