Form 10-300 (July 1969) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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7.	DESCRIPTION									
	1	(Check One)								
	CONDITION	☐ Excellent	☐ Good	X Fair	☐ Det	eriorated	Ruins	Unexposed		
	CONDITION	(Check One)				(Check One)				
	<u></u>	[X] Alter	re d	Unaltered	1		☐ Moved	▼ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"The Barnacle" today, 1972, is an irregularly shaped two-story residence with buff-colored stucco exterior walls, and a red Ludowici tiled hip roof. There is a two-story wood piazza, open on the first floor and screened on the second floor, facing a deep grassy lawn and Biscayne Bay on the east. The overall dimensions are 59'-0" X 66'-6".

Originally when it was built in 1891, "The Barnacle" was a one-story wood framed and sheathed residence, built approximately 6'-0" above grade on pitch pine foundations, surrounded by a wood piazza under a broken hipped roof with wood shingles. It was equipped with cisterns, still in place, and pumps. Natural ventilation of the interior was achieved by the chimney-stack principle of a square cupola at the crown of the hip centered above the central octagonal room. This central octagon, open to a balustraded attic, was flanked by four corner rooms. An arrangement of pulleys operated the top-hinged windows in the cupola.

Minor alterations of the piazza and stoop occurred between 1891 and 1908. At this latter date, the house was jacked up and a new first floor with moulded faceted concrete block was installed.

Later a flat-roofed library wing was added on the southeast This room was extended to northeast, and a hipped tiled roof was installed. This probably occurred after the 1928 hurricane when the rough-troweled stucco finish was applied on the exterior of both floors. At an undetermined date the piazzas at the north and south were enclosed and the visible form as we see "The Barnacle" today was established. In addition to the ventilation provided by the central cupola, other natural ventilating principles occur in the kitchen and library wings with screened louvers and transoms placed high in the exterior walls above the windows, operated by ropes and pulleys. In addition a dry-cellar is dug into the coral rock below the pantry.

SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as .	Appropriate)		
☐ Pre-Columbian	16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	🔀 19th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable	le and Known) 1891		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Che	ck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	Education	Political	Urban Planning
Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specify)
☐ Historic	Industry	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	Invention	Science	
X Architecture	Landscape	Sculpture	
☐ Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	
Commerce	Literature	itarian	
☐ Communications	☐ Military	Theater	
☐ Conservation	☐ Music	Transportation	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

"The Barnacle" is without a doubt the most significant private residence standing in Dade County today. The historical association of its builder, "Commodore" Ralph M. Munroe, one of the earliest pioneers of Coconut Grove warrant its importance in the history of Dade County. It is one of the few remaining structures of the earliest period of Coconut Grove, with its original architecture practically intact on the now second floor.

It is an excellent example of architecture, indigenously designed for the climate and the site. As such, it displays a sensitivity to physical environment which probably only a designer of sailing ships understood in that period.

As a pioneer of Coconut Grove, Commodore Munroe has taken his place as a benefactor of the culture of the Grove, contributing tracts of land to the Housekeeper's Club, the oldest Women's Club in Florida, the Coconut Grove Library and a community church and cemetery presently the site of the Coconut Grove American Legion Hall.



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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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Florida Florida	
COUNTY	
Dade	
FOR NPS USE ON	_Y
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
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(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Catlow, Mrs. Patty. (Commodore Munroe's daughter.)
Personal Interview. Miami, Florida.

Munroe, Ralph M., and Vincent Gilpin. <u>The Commodore's</u>
Story. Narbeth, Pennsylvania: Livingston
Publishing Co., 1930.

Munroe, Mrs. Wirth M. (Commodore's daughter-in-law.)
Personal Interview. Miami, Florida.

Munroe family photographs and records. Miami, Florida.



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER DATE

				.L			APR 1	1 1973
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	COMMON: The Ralph M. Munroe House	3					WX.	
	AND/OR HISTORIC: "The Barnacle"				אכ	30	_	
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	street and number: 3485 Main Highway			9	LSIE	19 1		
	Miami (Coconut Grove)			10	₩ <u>P</u>	972		
	STATE: Florida	12	county: Dade		\$17TE		r)	025

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

USGS Quadrange. (Key Biscayne)

SCALE: 1:24000 7.5

DATE: 1962; Photo revised, 1969.

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- 1. Property broundaries where required.
- 2. North arrow.
- 3. Latitude and longitude reference.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

THE BARNACLE COCONUT GROVE, FLA. DADE COUNTY, FLA.

