PS Form 10-900 Rev. 10-90		RECEIVED 2280 1024-0
nited States Department of the Interio ational Park Service	er (* 1997) Na 2011	OCT 01 2008
ATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTO		NAT. REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
egister of Historic Places Registration Form (Natio e information requested. If any item does not ap	nal Register Bulletin 16A). Comple pply to the property being documen enter only categories and subcatego	and districts. See Instructions in FibWiGEC omplete the Nation of the section of
. Name of Property	·	
istoric name <u>CYPRESS LODGE</u>		
ther names/site number <u>CYPRESS PLAT</u>	NTATION/ MT520	
. Location		······································
treet & number 18681 S.W. Conners High	way	n/a not for publication
itv or town Port Mayaca		n/a LJ vicinitv
tate Florida code _	<u>FL</u> countv <u>Martin</u>	code <u>085</u> zip code <u>31438-9526</u>
. State/Federal Agency Certification	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	······································
☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the Historic Places and meets the procedural and provide the National Register ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ⊠ locally. (☐ See content of the National Register for the National Register f	the documentation standards for reg rofessional requirements set forth in er criteria. I recommend that this pro ontinuation sheet for additional com	36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property operty be considered significant ments.)
☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the Historic Places and meets the procedural and provide the National Register ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☐ locally. (☐ See constrained of the Constraint of the Signature of certifying official/Title Florida Department of State, Division of State or Federal agency and bureau	the documentation standards for reg rofessional requirements set forth in er criteria. I recommend that this pro ontinuation sheet for additional com /D.SHPO 9/24/ Date Historical Resources, Bureau o	gistering properties in the National Register of 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property operty be considered significant ments.) <b>2008</b> <u>f Historic Preservation</u>
□ request for determination of eligibility meets the Historic Places and meets the procedural and provide the National Register the	the documentation standards for reg rofessional requirements set forth in er criteria. I recommend that this pro ontinuation sheet for additional com /D.SHPO 9/24/ Date Historical Resources, Bureau o	gistering properties in the National Register of 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property operty be considered significant ments.) <b>2008</b> <u>f Historic Preservation</u>
□ request for determination of eligibility meets the Historic Places and meets the procedural and provide the National Registere and the National Registere	the documentation standards for reg rofessional requirements set forth in er criteria. I recommend that this pro ontinuation sheet for additional com /D.SHPO 9/24/ Date Historical Resources, Bureau o	gistering properties in the National Register of 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property operty be considered significant ments.) <b>2008</b> <u>f Historic Preservation</u>
□ request for determination of eligibility meets the Historic Places and meets the procedural and provide the National Register.         □ meets □ does not meet the National Register.         □ nationally □ statewide ⊠ locally. (□ See constrained to the constraint of th	the documentation standards for regrofessional requirements set forth in er criteria. I recommend that this pro- ontinuation sheet for additional com DSHPO $9/24/2DateHistorical Resources, Bureau ofthe the National Register criteria$	gistering properties in the National Register of 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property operty be considered significant ments.) <b>2008</b> <u>f Historic Preservation</u>
□ request for determination of eligibility meets the Historic Places and meets the procedural and provide the National Register is the national local statewide is locally. (□ See constrained the National Register is signature of certifying official/Title         Barbara       C. Matticle         Signature of certifying official/Title         Florida Department of State, Division of State or Federal agency and bureau         In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not comments.)         Signature of certifying official/Title         State or Federal agency and bureau         National Park Service Certification	the documentation standards for regrofessional requirements set forth in er criteria. I recommend that this pro- ontinuation sheet for additional com <u>DSHPO</u> 9/24/ Date Historical Resources, Bureau of the meet the National Register criteria Date	gistering properties in the National Register of a 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property operty be considered significant ments.) accos f Historic Preservation a. (□See continuation sheet for additional
□ request for determination of eligibility meets the Historic Places and meets the procedural and provide the National Register is the national legister is the National Register is the Nati	the documentation standards for regrofessional requirements set forth in er criteria. I recommend that this pro- ontinuation sheet for additional com <u>DSHPO</u> 9/24/2 Date Historical Resources, Bureau of the meet the National Register criteria Date	gistering properties in the National Register of a 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property operty be considered significant ments.) accos f Historic Preservation a. (□See continuation sheet for additional
□ request for determination of eligibility meets the Historic Places and meets the procedural and provide the National Register         □ meets □ does not meet the National Register         □ nationally □ statewide ⊠ locally. (□ See constrained to the National Register         □ Signature of certifying official/Title         Florida Department of State, Division of State or Federal agency and bureau         In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not comments.)         Signature of certifying official/Title         State or Federal agency and bureau         National Park Service Certification         nereby certify that the property is:         □ entered in the National Register	the documentation standards for regrofessional requirements set forth in er criteria. I recommend that this pro- ontinuation sheet for additional com <u>DSHPO</u> 9/24/ Date Historical Resources, Bureau of the meet the National Register criteria Date	gistering properties in the National Register of a 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property operty be considered significant ments.) <b>2008</b> f Historic Preservation a. (□See continuation sheet for additional 
□ request for determination of eligibility meets the Historic Places and meets the procedural and provide the National Register         □ meets □ does not meet the National Register         □ nationally □ statewide ⊠ locally. (□ See comparison of certifying official/Title         Signature of certifying official/Title         Florida Department of State, Division of State or Federal agency and bureau         In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not comments.)         Signature of certifying official/Title         State or Federal agency and bureau         In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not comments.)         Signature of certifying official/Title         State or Féderal agency and bureau         National Park Service Certification         neereb certify that the property is:         □ entered in the National Register         □ See continuation sheet         □ determined eligible for the National Register	the documentation standards for regrofessional requirements set forth in er criteria. I recommend that this pro- ontinuation sheet for additional com <u>DSHPO</u> 9/24/ Date Historical Resources, Bureau of the meet the National Register criteria Date	gistering properties in the National Register of a 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property operty be considered significant ments.) <b>2008</b> f Historic Preservation a. (□See continuation sheet for additional 
□ request for determination of eligibility meets I         Historic Places and meets the procedural and provide meets         □ meets       □ does not meet the National Register         □ nationally       □ statewide I locally. (□ See constraints)         Signature of certifying official/Title         Florida Department of State, Division of State or Federal agency and bureau         In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not comments.)         Signature of certifying official/Title         State or Federal agency and bureau         In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not comments.)         Signature of certifying official/Title         State or Féderal agency and bureau         National Park Service Certification         nereby certify that the property is:         Image: Provide the property is:      <	the documentation standards for regrofessional requirements set forth in er criteria. I recommend that this pro- ontinuation sheet for additional com <u>DSHPO</u> 9/24/ Date Historical Resources, Bureau of the meet the National Register criteria Date	gistering properties in the National Register of a 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property operty be considered significant ments.) <b>2008</b> f Historic Preservation a. (□See continuation sheet for additional 
□ request for determination of eligibility meets I         Historic Places and meets the procedural and provide meets         □ meets       □ does not meet the National Register         □ nationally       □ statewide I locally. (□ See constraints)         Signature of certifying official/Title         Florida Department of State, Division of State or Federal agency and bureau         In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not comments.)         Signature of certifying official/Title         State or Federal agency and bureau         In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not comments.)         Signature of certifying official/Title         State or Federal agency and bureau         National Park Service Certification         nereby certify that the property is:         D entered in the National Register         □ See continuation sheet.         □ determined eligible for the National Register         □ See continuation sheet.         □ determined not eligible for the National Register         □ See continuation sheet.	the documentation standards for regrofessional requirements set forth in er criteria. I recommend that this pro- ontinuation sheet for additional com <u>DSHPO</u> 9/24/ Date Historical Resources, Bureau of the meet the National Register criteria Date	gistering properties in the National Register of a 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property operty be considered significant ments.) <b>2008</b> f Historic Preservation a. (□See continuation sheet for additional 

Martin Co., FL County and State

5. Classification				
Ownership of Property (Check as many boxes as apply)	Category of Property (Check only one box)	Number of Resou (Do not include any pre	urces within Prope eviously listed resources	<b>rty</b> in the count)
<ul> <li>➢ private</li> <li>➢ public-local</li> <li>☐ public-State</li> <li>☐ public-Federal</li> <li>☐ structure</li> </ul>		Contributing	Noncontribu	ting
	structure	1	0	buildings
	object	0	0	sites
		0	1	structures
		0	0	objects
		1		total
Name of related multiple pro (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of		Number of contri listed in the Nat	buting resources   ional Register	previously
n	/a	(	)	
6. Function or Use			-	
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Functions (Enter categories from inst	tructions)	
Domestic: Single Dwelling Domestic: Hotel		Domestic: Single Dwe	lling	
7. Description				
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories from	m instructions)	
Late 19th & 20th Century Revivals	: Neo-Classical Revival	foundation Conc		
		walls <u>Wood: Cy</u>	press Weatherboard	
		roof Asphalt		
		other Brick		

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. 5

Statement of Significance	
plicable National Perister Criteria	

Applicable National Register Unterna (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

#### Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- **B** removed from its original location.
- **C** a birthplace or grave.
- **D** a cemetery.
- **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- **F** a commemorative property.
- **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

#### **Narrative Statement of Significance**

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References		
Bibliography Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one Previous documentation on file (NPS):	e or more continuation sheets.) Primary location of additional data:	
<ul> <li>preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) has been requested</li> <li>previously listed in the National Register</li> <li>previously determined eligible by the National Register</li> <li>designated a National Historic Landmark</li> <li>recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>State Historic Preservation Office</li> <li>Other State Agency</li> <li>Federal agency</li> <li>Local government</li> <li>University</li> <li>Other</li> <li>Name of Repository</li> </ul>	
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record	<u>#</u>	

Martin Co., FL County and State

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Engineering

#### **Period of Significance**

1935

#### **Significant Dates**

1935

#### Significant Person

n/a

#### **Cultural Affiliation**

n/a

#### Architect/Builder

Builder: Elkins, Isaac Matthew

CYPRESS LODGE Name of Property	<u>Martin Co., FL</u> County and State
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property 1.74 acres	
<b>UTM References</b> (Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)	
1     1     7     5     3     8     2     9     0     2     9     8     3     9     3     0       Zone     Easting     Northing       2	3        Zone   Easting   Northing     4        See continuation sheet
Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)	
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)	
11. Form Prepared By	
name/title Bonnie B. Dearborn, Consultant & Barbara E. Matticl	k/DSHPO
organization Bureau of Historic Preservation	date <u>September 2008</u>
street & number 500 S. Bronough Street	telephone <u>850-245-6333</u>
citv or town Tallahassee	
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets	
Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps	e property's location.
Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating th	e property's location.
Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating th A Sketch map for historic districts and properties ha	e property's location. aving large acreage or numerous resources.
Submit the following items with the completed form: <b>Continuation Sheets</b> <b>Maps</b> A <b>USGS map</b> (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating th A <b>Sketch map</b> for historic districts and properties has <b>Photographs</b>	e property's location. aving large acreage or numerous resources.
Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating th A Sketch map for historic districts and properties have Photographs Representative black and white photographs of th Additional items	e property's location. aving large acreage or numerous resources.
Submit the following items with the completed form: <b>Continuation Sheets</b> <b>Maps</b> A <b>USGS map</b> (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating th A <b>Sketch map</b> for historic districts and properties has <b>Photographs</b> Representative <b>black and white photographs</b> of th <b>Additional items</b> (check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)	e property's location. aving large acreage or numerous resources.
Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating th A Sketch map for historic districts and properties have Photographs Representative black and white photographs of th Additional items (check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items) Property Owner	e property's location. aving large acreage or numerous resources.
Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets Maps A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating th A Sketch map for historic districts and properties have Photographs Representative black and white photographs of th Additional items (check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items) Property Owner (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)	e property's location. aving large acreage or numerous resources.
Submit the following items with the completed form:         Continuation Sheets         Maps         A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating th         A Sketch map for historic districts and properties had         Photographs         Representative black and white photographs of th         Additional items         (check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)         Property Owner         (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)         name       Steven Roe XII and the Rev. Richard Tourigny	e property's location. aving large acreage or numerous resources. ne property.
Submit the following items with the completed form:         Continuation Sheets         Maps         A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating th         A Sketch map for historic districts and properties had         Photographs         Representative black and white photographs of th         Additional items (check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)         Property Owner         (Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)         name       Steven Roe XII and the Rev. Richard Tourigny         street & number       18681 S.W. Conners Highway         citv or town       Port Mayaca-Canal Point	e property's location. aving large acreage or numerous resources. he property. 

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 1

CYPRESS LODGE Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

#### SUMMARY

Cypress Lodge is a three-and-half-story, 7600 square foot, Neoclassical style residence located near the north central shore on the eastern side of Lake Okeechobee in the rural unincorporated community of Port Mayaca, Martin County, Florida. Cypress Lodge was built as an inn in 1935 for overnight guests traveling through the state, and remained a lodge for traveling guests until 1991. Today it serves as a private residence. A very small pump house for drinking water, installed in the front yard in 1972, is a noncontributing resource.

Cypress Lodge has a simple rectangular plan and is constructed almost entirely of cypress wood. The front foundation sits on the Okeechobee Ridge, a natural landform identified as the original shoreline of Lake Okeechobee. The remainder of the house sits on pilings resting on floating bundled cypress wood platforms embedded in the muck substrata that respond to the fluctuating water level of Lake Okeechobee. The front part of the foundation is eleven feet higher in elevation than the land beneath the remainder of the house. The difference in elevation provides ample space to accommodate a large daylight basement. The exterior walls of the house are clad with cypress wood. The low pitched, side gable roof has two ventilation dormers and two hooded fireplace chimneys, and is covered with composition shingles. All of the windows appear to be original, large 6/6 sash (41.5" x 70"), except for the smaller windows lighting the basement area. The interiors include Dade County pine floors, cypress wood wall paneling, Christian style ("Cross and Bible") paneled doors, and 10 foot ceilings throughout. Except for enclosing a small portion at the north end of the open porch in the back of the house in the mid 1940s to accommodate a small breakfast nook and pantry off the kitchen, the building for the most part is original.

#### SETTING

Cypress Lodge is located on the north central shore area of Lake Okeechobee. It sits just east of US 441 with the shore of Lake Okeechobee, the second largest lake east of the Mississippi, approximately 700 feet away, and south of the St. Lucie Canal and SR 76. It is the second house south of SR 76 and is one of nine residences built along the Old Conners Highway/US 98/441. Areas further north and east of Cypress Lodge are used for agriculture, primarily sugarcane and citrus groves, which are rapidly being bought up by developers to create residential and commercial communities. Further south are the unincorporated community of Canal Point (population 525) and the City of Pahokee (population 6,000).

Cypress Lodge's wide circular driveway frames the front lawn (*Photos 1 and 2*), and a small noncontributing pump house, built in 1972, is centrally located beneath majestic cypress trees (*Photo 3*). The grounds front on the Old Conners Toll Road where it connects to US 441, and beyond is the Hoover Levee rising 35 feet above the shore of Lake Okeechobee. The levee was built in the 1930s to protect lakeside communities from flooding during storm events. North and south of the property are smaller one- and two story wood frame residences that

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_2 CYPRESS LODGE Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

are also part of the Mayaca Homesite Subdivision platted in 1936. Until recently, the Cypress Lodge property consisted of five acres with a guest cottage that was supposedly used as a seasonal home by Hadley Hemingway, author Ernest Hemingway's first wife. Part of the property, including the two-story cottage, was sold in 2000, reducing the property from five acres to 1.75 acres. The acreage taken from the property made up part of the back yard; consequently the "Hemingway Cottage" now sits on the adjacent property to the east and is not included within the National Register boundaries.

A circular driveway, entering the property from the Old Conners Highway, leads to the main entrance of the house. The surrounding grounds include large mature cypress trees concentrated along the Okeechobee Ridge (*Photos 1 and 4*). Other landscaping features include sabal palms, flowering and fruit trees, lush shrubbery, flower beds a vegetable garden, intimate garden vignettes with water fountains, bird baths, planters, and a pet cemetery. Various terraces are created to accommodate the elevated grade change from the driveway to the front door cause by the rise of the Okeechobee Ridge formation (Photo 8). These consist of a wide brick walkway, a 10-foot wide full-length patio, 4' x 8' wide brick platform, and another step at the front door.

The east (rear) elevation faces the back lawn and garden areas, where flowering tropical foliage, flower beds, shrubbery and decorative landscape elements are noted. Recent photographs compared with a historic postcard show that more lush foliage and landscaping have been added through the years (*Photos 1 and 2*).

### DESCRIPTION

#### Exterior

<u>West Elevation, Main Façade</u> – The main façade has eight Doric-like square columns, two-stories in height, lining the full-length brick patio. The house is clad with wide horizontal cypress wood siding. Six large, 6/6 windows (41.5" x 70") are symmetrically placed on the main façade at the ground level. These first floor windows are embellished with a crown lintel and classic detail surrounds, and are flanked with louvered shutters. The second floor fenestration consists of eight 6/6 windows with less detail and are also symmetrically located to complement the window placement and main door on the first floor (*Photos 7 and 9*). An oversized six-paneled Christian-style ("Cross-and-Bible") screen door with palm tree embellishments on the lower screen panels shields the front door from view. An elliptical fanlight above the doorway, and the 4-light surround, is trimmed with classic style details (*Photo 8*).

<u>North Elevation</u> - The west end of the north elevation sits on the north-south oriented Okeechobee Ridge formation. The east end of the north façade drops 11' from the ridge, where a vegetable garden and other garden-theme vignettes are located. The exterior is clad with horizontal cypress wood siding, and six smaller 6-light windows, placed in a ribbon pattern, provide ample light to the basement. The window placement on the

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_3

CYPRESS LODGE Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

main floor consists of two windows placed separately on the east end (kitchen area) and in a ribbon pattern on the west end (main dining room). The windows have plain surrounds and no shutters. The second floor (bedroom areas) has two windows individually placed, and a 4-light paneled door at the top landing of an exterior stairway. A small rectangular vent is noted in the upper gable area and is used to ventilate the storage crawl space in the attic (*Photo 10*). An exterior stairway leads from the backyard with a landing at the first floor for entry to the pantry and kitchen, and a landing at the second floor accessing the central hall (*Photo 11*).

East Elevation – A ten-foot wide concrete slab corridor extends the full length of the east (rear) elevation for entry into the basement at 12- 14 inches below grade, requiring two steps to enter the basement area (*Photo 6*). The basement is accessed through a single four-light door at the north end, and four-light double doors are on the south end. In addition to the four-light/panel doors, the basement is well illuminated with windows symmetrically placed in single and ribbon pattern along the east elevation. The main living quarters area has a porch overlooking the backyard covered with a secondary shed style roof. Originally the porch extended the full length of the east elevation. The north end of the porch was partially enclosed in the 1940s to create a small breakfast nook adjacent to a bar and a pantry off the kitchen (*Photo 12*). Eight windows are symmetrically placed along the east elevation of the main floor. Four windows light the original spaces, Florida room (music room), and sitting room. The remaining windows on the north end now light the small breakfast room and pantry enclosure. Ten-light French doors lead into the Florida room (music room) from the porch on the south end. Eight windows are symmetrically placed in pairs along the second floor (bedroom area) in the same fenestration pattern as on the west elevation. The north and south exterior stairs are accessed off the east elevation. Two gabled vent dormers are located symmetrically on the east side of the low-pitch gable roof and two arched hooded brick fireplace chimneys project from the gable ridge (*Photo 13*).

<u>South Elevation</u> – The ground floor (basement) is lined with six-light, ribbon-style windows. Windows on the main floor are placed separately or in a ribbon pattern similar to the north elevation only in reverse order. The ribbon windows light the Florida room (music room) and the single placement windows light the living room. The second floor (bedroom) windows are symmetrically placed in the same pattern as the north elevation, lighting a bedroom and sitting room. Also like the north elevation, an exterior stairway has a landing at the back porch on the main floor and also on the second floor to access entry to the central hallway. The entryway at the second level has a 4-light wood paneled door with a small secondary shed roof supported by two square wood columns (*Photo 14*).

### Interior

Cypress Lodge has over 7600 square feet of living and utility space, including the basement. The walls throughout the house are covered with cypress wood paneling. The floors are made of Dade County pine and 10-foot ceilings are also noted throughout. Working fireplaces are located in the dining room and in the living

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

4

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_\_

CYPRESS LODGE Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

room on the main floor. A two-flight stairway, with landing, leads to the second floor. The stairs and balustrades are also made of cypress wood. Except for the interior Dutch-style door leading into the kitchen from the bar area, all of the interior doors are solid cypress wood with Christian style ("Cross-and-Bible") paneling.

<u>Basement and Foundation</u> –The three-and-a-half-story frame residence has a simple massed ground plan. The foundation of the front of the house rests on the top of the Okeechobee Ridge formation, while the land elevation toward the rear of the house drops dramatically. The front of the house is 11 feet higher than the land for the rest of the house. This can be seen clearly in the historic postcard (Photo 2). The 11-foot drop from the top of the ridge allows for a large daylight basement, an unusual feature for houses built in Florida. The basement area is separated into several spaces, including a laundry area, bathroom and shower, sitting room, wet bar, large storage areas and two separate work spaces (Photos *15 and 16*). Rafters extend from the front porch to the rear porch. They are made of two 2" x 12" x 24' beams joined together to a length of forty-eight feet. The basement originally had a dirt floor, until it was covered with a three-inch thick concrete slab sometime between 1941 and 1944. Prior to installation of the concrete floor, a sump pump with a dedicated fuse box for operating the motor, pumped the water out of the basement when it became flooded.

Although the front of the house rests on the top of the ridge, most of it is supported by pillars that rest on top of twelve platforms made of cypress logs bound together to form a bundle 15' x 12' x 12' that are embedded in substrata muck just east of the Okeechobee Ridge bedrock (see Basement floor plan and Building cross-section). The logs, which looked much like railroad ties, were coated with tar before their submersion in the muck. The platforms function as stabilizers to compensate for the fluctuating water table of nearby Lake Okeechobee. When the water level changes, the platforms rise and fall as needed to maintain the building plane. Visual evidence of the platforms is noted by uplifting bulges in the concrete slab, such as one near the south entrance to the basement (*Photo 5*).

#### First Floor

Foyer, Living Room, Florida Room (Music Room) – (Photo 17, 18, 19 and 20) Looking west, the main entry door is an oversized (4' x 7.5') door made of cypress wood with large elongated brass hinges. Above the door is an elliptical fanlight with a 4-light surround providing ample light into the foyer (Photo 17). Opposite the front door is the two-flight open stairway, with a landing, featuring stick balusters and railing, leading to the second floor. French doors open to the living room to the south, and another pair of French doors opens to the dining room on the north. A narrow doorway leads to a small hallway off the foyer opposite the front door into the sitting room beyond (Photo 18). To the right of the foyer is the living room. Looking southeast, a brick fireplace is centrally placed on the east wall, flanked with pairs of 10-light French doors leading into the Florida room (music room) (Photo 19). The Florida room (music room) has two single windows on the east exterior

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number \_\_\_\_7 Page \_\_5 CYPRESS LC

CYPRESS LODGE Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

wall with a pair of French doors leading to the porch on the east wall. Looking southwest, the west interior wall has two pairs of French doors leading into the living room. Windows are placed symmetrically on the east exterior wall and ribbon pattern windows line the south wall (*Photo 20*).

Dining Room, Bar, Kitchen – (Photos 21, 22 and 23) Looking north, the dining room is entered from the north side of the foyer through French doors near the foot of the stairway. Three symmetrically placed windows are on the west exterior wall and a set of ribbon windows are located on the north exterior wall. A brick fireplace is centered on the east interior wall with a pass-through window to the kitchen is located on the north side of the fireplace (*Photo 21*). Looking west, a door with a small round glass window in the upper right panel connects the dining room and bar. The round glazed opening on the door reflects the time when Cypress Lodge functioned as an inn and servers brought meals and refreshments from the kitchen and bar to the dining room and storage room is to the south, a breakfast nook is to the east, and the kitchen is to the north. The breakfast nook is located just beyond the bar created by enclosing part of the full-length porch on the east elevation. The large kitchen is lined with wood cabinets and shelves. Looking northwest, two windows are symmetrically placed on the north exterior wall with shelves and a pass through window into the dining room on the west wall (*Photo 23*). A pantry off the kitchen, created from enclosing part of the porch, opens onto the first landing of the north exterior stairway.

### Second Floor

<u>Stairway, Hallway</u> – Looking east, the second floor is entered from an open quarter-turned stairway with landing made of cypress wood (*Photo 24*). At the head of the stairs is a full length central hallway oriented north and south with doors at both ends leading to exterior stairways. All the doors to the bedrooms and sitting room are accessed from the central hallway (*Photo 25*). Each doorway on the second floor has an operating louvered wood transom for ventilation (*Photo 26*).

<u>Bedrooms, Sitting Room</u> - <u>Bedroom No. 1</u> is located on the southeast corner of the second floor. The bedroom is amply lit by two walls of windows symmetrically placed on the east and south walls. Two doors on the north interior wall lead to closets and a bathroom. <u>Bedroom No. 2 (Sitting room)</u> is located across the hall from Bedroom No. 1. Looking west, this bedroom is also well illuminated with two walls of windows symmetrically placed on the south and west walls (*Photo 27*). Interior doors lead to a bathroom and closets. This bedroom functions as the upstairs sitting room with a good view of Lake Okeechobee. <u>Bedroom No. 3</u> near the top of the stairs on the west side is used as an office. It has two single windows on the exterior west wall. <u>Bedroom Nos. 4, 5 and 6</u> continue to function as bedrooms. All bedrooms have cypress wall paneling and symmetrically placed windows. The master bedroom is centrally located on the east side of the hallway. Originally built as two rooms, a partition was removed to create a large single master bedroom. Interior doors open onto

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 6 CYPRESS LODGE Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

bathrooms and dressing areas on the interior north and south walls. A faux traditional style fireplace is located on the west interior wall. The ventilating transoms are visible above the doors leading into the hallway (*Photo 28*).

<u>Attic</u> - Originally a 15 x 15-foot floor area of the attic was accessible from the second floor and used for storage until it was damaged by a severe hurricane, likely the hurricane of 1947. Two of the dormers that were located on the west gable roof were damaged and were removed at that time. At the same time the floor area of the attic was reduced to a crawl space. A wooden vent system, covered with tar paper, was installed and extended through the attic from the two remaining ventilation dormers and continues to operate today. Brick chimneys extend through the attic and project from the ridge of the gable roof.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 1 CYPRESS LODGE

CYPRESS LODGE Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

#### SUMMARY

The Cypress Lodge, also known as the Cypress Plantation, is a Neoclassical style, three-and-a-half-story (with basement) 7,600 square foot residence built in 1935. It is significant at the **local level** under **Criterion C** in the areas of **Architecture** and **Engineering**. The large building, constructed entirely of cypress wood displays excellent craftsmanship and the use of materials. The front of the building sits at the top of the Okeechobee ridge landform, the remainder to the rear on pilings that rest on stabilizing platforms embedded in the underground muck, providing for a large daylight basement. This type of construction was developed in ancient Roman times and used in the United States in the nineteenth century, but is highly unusual for this part of Florida in the mid-twentieth-century.

#### Historic Context:

In 1915, the St Lucie Canal, which is located less than a half mile north of the Cypress Lodge, was dredged to connect Lake Okeechobee to the east coast. The twenty-five-mile long drainage and shipping canal was viewed as the main control canal of the vast Everglades drainage system, and the St. Lucie Canal was the last section of developer Hamilton Disston's long-time dream to connect the Gulf coast of Florida to the Atlantic coast. The canal provided a great boon to agriculture in the Port Mayaca area. The canal was enlarged in the 1970s and is now 200 feet wide at the top and has a minimum depth of 12 feet. It empties into the south fork of the St. Lucie River six miles above Stuart, reaching the Atlantic Ocean through the St. Lucie Inlet south of Stuart, approximately 28 miles east of Port Mayaca.<sup>1</sup>

The St. Lucie Canal became a constant and dependable water source to the Port Mayaca area. The manmade waterway made it feasible and profitable to develop an agricultural economy in the inland region, since water was now available during periods of drought. Sugarcane fields, citrus groves, and later, cattle ranches appeared. Due to soil deficiencies discovered in the drained saw grass soils, the U. S. Department of Agriculture established an experimental cane breeding station in Canal Point in 1920, because the area was relatively free of frost.<sup>2</sup> The land owned by W. J. "Fingey" Conners lying on the eastern shores of Lake Okeechobee in Martin County had been part of the vast acreage previously owned by the Disston Land Company and included the land where the Cypress Lodge property is located. After the Disston Land Company lost its land in western Martin County, due to debt during a downturn in the economy in 1893, the land was picked up by Southern Land and Timber Company who had bought Indiantown in 1901. Southern Land and

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Caroline Pomeroy Ziemba, Martin County, Our Heritage, a Historiography. (Stuart, Florida: Stewart Heritage, Inc., 1997), 203.
 <sup>2</sup> G.H. Snyder & J.M. Davidson, Everglades Agriculture: Past, Present, and Future (Delray Beach, Florida: St. Lucie Press, 1994), 87.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number \_\_\_\_8 Page \_\_2

CYPRESS LODGE Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

Timber Company eventually owned all of western Martin County and for many years experimented in sugarcane and other agricultural activities.<sup>3</sup>

In August 1925, Phipps Realty Company of Florida incorporated.<sup>4</sup> The Phipps family interest, which later became part of Bessemer Properties, Inc., subdivided several thousand acres into 40-acre fields separated by drainage ditches, farm roads and windbreaks. Over 100 miles of drainage waterways were dredged in the Port Mayaca area and linked by huge pumps to the St. Lucie Canal.<sup>5</sup> After S. Davies Warfield brought his Florida Seaboard Railway to Indiantown in the early 1920s, Port Mayaca, which was then considered part of Indiantown, flourished. A post office was established in Port Mayaca in 1928.<sup>6</sup>

On October 31, 1925, W. J. Conners Realty (W. J. "Fingey" Conners, President) sold 10 sections (6,600 acres) of land on the eastern shore of Lake Okeechobee to the Mayaco Company,<sup>7</sup> which was owned by the three sons of Henry Phipps, Jr., a steel magnate, philanthropist, and former partner of Andrew Carnegie. His oldest son, Howard Phipps of New York, was President of the Mayaco Company. The Company had incorporated on October 5, 1925, to buy, sell, manage, farm and improve and dispose of land.<sup>8</sup> On December 12, 1925, the Internal Improvement Trust Fund deeded several sections of land to the Mayaco Company. The purchase included the southeast portions of Section 15, Section 22, and Section 27 and all of Section 26 located in T. 40 S; R 37E for \$7043.00.<sup>9</sup> The area of land included in the purchase skirts the northeast shore of Lake Okeechobee in Port Mayaca and contained the Cypress Lodge property. In March of 1926, the Maya<u>co</u> Company changed the name to Maya<u>ca</u> Company.<sup>10</sup>

Paul M. Hoenshel and his wife, Amy, moved to Port Mayaca from Homestead in 1927, when Paul was offered a job by the Phipps brothers. Paul Hoenshel surveyed the Port Mayaca area for investors who wanted to develop the land. With easy access to the St. Lucie Canal, the Phipps' company saw opportunities for agriculture through scientific water control by tapping on to the St. Lucie Canal with pumps for irrigation during dry periods. Hoenshel was the first agricultural manager in the Port Mayaca development. Through his leadership and Phipps' financial backing, the investments in developing productive farm areas and citrus groves became profitable. The Port Mayaca Valencia Orange Groves represent the first large-scale planting of citrus in Martin County.<sup>11</sup> The Hoenshels lived on the east side of Lake Okeechobee in the Phipps Administration

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ziemba, Martin County, Our Heritage, a Historiography, 390.

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "Abstracts of Title," No. 4288, 1936. Certificate of Corporation to Phipps Realty Company, filed December 1926, Item 71, P. 63.
 <sup>5</sup> Aerial map, Appendix-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Janet Hutchinson, *History of Martin County* (Stuart: Historical Society of Martin County, 1998), 253.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> "Abstracts of Title," No. 4288, 1936. Affidavit John J. Meegan to Public, filed March 1926, Item 58, p. 47.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> "Abstracts of Title," No. 4288, 1936. Certificate of Incorporation of Mayaco Company, filed March 1926, Item 67, p. 57.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> "Abstracts of Title" No. 4288, 1936. Deed No. 17,432, Item 65, p. 57.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> "Abstracts of Title" No. 4288, 1936. Amendment of Certificate of Incorporation File #4183, Certificate of Incorporation of Mayaco Company, filed March 26, Item 69, p. 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> "St. Lucie Canal, Approved in 1914, Is Boon to Agriculture," The Stuart News 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition. January 9, 1964.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 3

CYPRESS LODGE Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

Administration building until the fall of 1928. The 1928 Hurricane, which killed over 2000 people in the Lake Okeechobee region, destroyed the Phipps Administration Building, and the Hoenshels then moved to a small house on the lake front.<sup>12</sup>

In 1928 Isaac Matthew Elkins moved from Ballist Point Tampa to the Stuart area right after the Hurricane of 1928. According to his son, Isaac Elkins, Jr., who was five years old at the time, they took a trip around the lake in a Model T Ford shortly after the storm and could only see roofs of many of the houses above the lake waters. His father was employed to build houses for the Phipps brothers in the Port Mayaca area, and continued working for Bessemer Properties, Inc. most of his life.

By June 1931, the East Shore Company, that was holding a first and second mortgage of approximately \$2 million for Mayaca Company, took the Mayaca Company to court for nonpayment of mortgage and interest. A special master reported that the Mayaca Company had only three days to pay or the property would be put up for public sale at the courthouse in Martin County.<sup>13</sup> The Phipps brothers, through the Mayaca Corporation, which had incorporated in January 1932,<sup>14</sup> and owned thousands of acres in Port Mayaca area was awarded the bid at a public sale at the courthouse in Martin County.

In November 1932, Amy and Paul Hoenshel took out a mortgage of \$5,761.53 to Mayaca Corporation with 6% interest for land in T 40S; R37 E Sections 22 & 26 and became owners of the property where Cypress Lodge would eventually be built.<sup>15</sup> In 1935 the Hoenshels hired the elder Isaac Elkins to construct Cypress Lodge for them. The Hoenshels paid off their mortgage with the Mayaca Corporation in September 1936.<sup>16</sup> Their daughter, Mary Louise Hoenshel, while helping her parents operate the Lodge, met her husband when he was a guest there, and they were married at the Lodge in 1938. The Hoenshels employed several residents of Pahokee, Canal Point and area while operating the inn. They catered to travelers until they closed the Lodge in 1941, when gasoline was being rationed to accommodate the demands of World War II.<sup>17</sup>

Aside from the Lodge, Hoenshel also contributed to the local economy when he and Stanley Smith partnered in the development of flower plantings as a cash crop, and also grew avocadoes, papayas and other tropical fruits. When scientists discovered they could closely control the blooming time of the flowers by

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> "Biography" – Amy Hoenshel, 1961 faxed to South Regional Office, Follow-up of telephone interview with Carol Snyder, and brother Paul Smith (grandchildren) of Stuart, Florida, Telephone Interviews on October 2 and 3, 2007, p. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> "Abstracts of Title" No. 4288, 1936" Notice of Lis Pendens East Shore Company vs. Mayaca Company, filed June 1931, Item 105.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> "Abstracts of Title" No. 4288, 1936, Permit for Incorporation of Mayaca Corporation, filed January 1932, Item 105.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> "Abstracts of Title" No. 4288, 1936 Mortgage Deed \$5.761.53, Amy & Paul Hoenshel to Mayaca Corporation, 1932, Item 110.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> "Florida Abstract Company, Stuart, Florida, Florida Abstracts of Title and Title Insurance to all Lands and Lots in the County of Martin State of Florida," No. 4288A, 1936, Satisfaction of Mortgage Mayaca Corporation & Paul & Amy Hoenshel, 1936, Item 2, filed September 1936, p. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> "Biography – Amy Hoenshel," 1961, p. 2

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page

**CYPRESS LODGE** Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

regulating the relative amounts of light and darkness, gladiolus and later chrysanthemums became lucrative cash crops in the Port Mayaca-Glades area. He published as least two articles about avocado cultivation in the Proceedings of the Florida State Horitcultural Society.<sup>18</sup> The bulk of plantings extended along both sides of the St. Lucie Canal, 20 miles from Port Mayaca on Lake Okeechobee to the locks ten miles west of Salerno on the east coast.<sup>19</sup>

On April 27, 1947, Paul and Amy Hoenshel, who had moved to Stuart, guitclaimed lots 2 and 3 of the Mayaca Homesite plat, where the Cypress Lodge is located in Martin County, to Bessemer Properties, Inc.<sup>20</sup> That same month, A.R. & Hazel Chastain took out a mortgage on Cypress Lodge on tracts 2 & 3 with Bessemer Properties, Inc., and Bessemer Properties then sold the personal property, including furniture in the Cyprus Lodge, to the Chastains, who also ran the Lodge as an inn until 1991.<sup>21</sup>

In 1972 the Mayaca Land Company discontinued providing water services to local residents free of charge, offering instead, to provide water to them at a cost of \$6.00 a month. When residents refused to pay for water, which they had been receiving free for years, the Mayaca Land Company discontinued water services to them, which forced the residents to dig their own wells. The owners of the Cypress Lodge property built a small pump house in 1972, which is located in the front vard of the Cypress Lodge property (See Photograph 3). In 1993, the present owners, Steven Roe XII and the Reverend Mr. Richard Tourigny, purchased the Cypress Lodge as their home from Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dorrell, who had operated the 16-room inn off and on from 1971 to 1991. Roe and Tourigny have since occupied the property as a single-family residence. On October 2000, the 5.1-acre property of the Cypress Lodge was subdivided into two parcels, leaving 1.74 acres of lots 2 and 3 with the Cypress Lodge property.<sup>22</sup>

### NEOCLASSICAL ARCHITECTURAL STYLE

The Cypress Lodge includes multiple identifying features, which associate it with the Neoclassical architectural style, which was popular in the United States from 1895 into the 1950s. The distinguishing identifying features include its low pitched side gable roof, full three-story façade colonnaded porch supported by eight slender, full-height, square columns, and the Greek Doric style capitals that are typically related to this style. This particular combination of features was especially popular between 1925 and the 1950s. The full-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Paul M. Hoenshel, "The Growing of Avocados in the Everglades," Proceedings of the Florida State Horticultural Society. 46 (1933):121-122; Paul M. Hoenshel, "Avocado Growing in the Okeechobee Region," Proceedings of the Florida State Horticultural Society. 52 (1939): 69-71. Available online.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Hutchinson, History of Martin County, p. 450.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> "Florida Abstract Company, Stuart, Florida, Florida Abstracts of Title and Title Insurance to all Lands and Lots in the County of Martin State of Florida." No. 4288B, 1936, Ouitclaim Deed, Paul M. Hoenshel and Amy R. Hoenshel, 1947, p. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> "Abstracts of Title" No. 4288B, 1947, Bill of Sale Bessemer Properties Incorporated to A.R. & Hazel Chastain. Item 4, p. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> PAG Surveys, Inc. LB 3411 Boundary Survey for Rev. Richard Tourigny, Work Order No. 00.3.212, October 13, 2000. Sheet 1 of 1.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 5

**CYPRESS LODGE** Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

height columns, full-façade porch and six-paneled front door surrounded by narrow sidelights and transom fanlight create a notable grand entrance. The main facade doorway and glazing are incorporated into an elaborate door surround. The eight square columns are composed of simple boards and moldings with Greek Doric type capitals. The columns have no base, another distinction between the Greek and Roman Doric Column styles.<sup>23</sup> Windows of the Neoclassical style have sashes, most commonly incorporating multi-light glazing as noted in the 6/6 sashes at Cypress Lodge. The windows on the main floor of the main façade have elaborate classical detailed feature surrounds, while the other windows are relatively plain. All windows on the main façade are flanked with wood louvered shutters. Cypress Lodge is an excellent example of the Neoclassical Style, but beyond its style its use of cypress wood throughout is an outstanding use of materials and demonstration of fine craftsmanship.

### ENGINEERING CONTEXT AND SIGNIFICANCE

Although the Cypress Lodge displays a well known architectural style, the engineering of its floating foundation is quite unusual. The Florida State Historic Preservation Office asked the engineering firm of Ardaman & Associates to evaluate the significance of the foundation and provided contextual information. Their letter is largely quoted below:

... [W]ood foundations (especially timber) have been in use for centuries for foundation support in difficult soil conditions. The use of timber piles and timber grillages (a foundation of crisscrossing timber beams, usually for spreading heavy loads over large areas) for foundation support appears to have been widely utilized by the Romans since the early days of the Roman Empire. The use of heavy timber grillages also appears to have been prevalent during the Middle Ages, grillages having been found under the walls of Gothic Cathedrals. Additionally, many utilitarian buildings of the period 1820 to 1900 were constructed on shallow wood foundations. Wood was likely chosen for its local availability, ease of construction to size and its longevity.

... The popularity of shallow wood foundations appears to have decreased in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, partly due to larger structures and the foundation loads associated with them, and partly because of increasing availability and popularity of Portland Cement. In Florida, Portland Cement was first used in St. Augustine in the late 1880s. The material was shipped from New York and Germany by rail and/or ship. By 1890, Portland Cement reached the West Coast of Florida. Concrete, a mixture of Portland Cement, sand and aggregate (rock, shell or brick), was more durable than wood and could be placed into almost any shape while in its flowable state prior to hardening. Unlike wood, it was thought to be perennial and fireproof.

Virginia McAlester & Lee McAlester. A Field Guide to American Houses. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1984), 345-347.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 6 CYPRESS LODGE Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

One of the more popular examples of a structure supported on a wood mat foundation was the historic Cape Hatteras Light Station in Button, North Carolina. Cape Hatteras is the tallest brick lighthouse in North America, with a stated height of 198 feet. The original foundation for this structure, built in 1870, consisted of two levels of crisscrossed yellow pine timber forming a mat located about 6 to 7 feet below the ground surface and resting on natural dense sand. The Light Station was relocated in 1999 to safer ground approximately 2,900 feet inland due to concern regarding erosion of the soils surrounding the foundation and lateral stability of the Light Station, and intrusion and deterioration of the wood foundation by salt water. However, when excavated prior to moving the structure, the timber mat foundation was discovered to be in good shape, having served for over 125 years. The National Park Service designated the Cape Hatteras Light Station as a National Historic Landmark in August 1998. The American Society of Civil Engineers designated the lighthouse a civil engineering historic landmark on October 18, 1999.

In Florida, a foundation system similar to that of the Cape Hatteras Light Station also appears to have been used for the construction of the foundation of the 157-feet tall Loggerhead Key (also known as Dry Tortugas Lighthouse) located in Monroe County and built in 1858. Besides supporting the structures and spreading the loads over a larger area, it is believed that the use of wood mat foundations provided a more level and better working surface over which the stone block forming the base of the lighthouse could be placed.

Based on the brief information provided above, the part of the foundation for Cypress Lodge (which was constructed in 1935) consisting of cypress logs bound together to make a 15 feet by 12 feet by 12 feet mat foundation appears to be unique for two reasons. First, the use [of] wood grillages by the 1930s had been mostly replaced by concrete mats and the use of pilings driven into the deeper competent soils or rock. The piles popular at the time include wood, steel and concrete. We believe the choice of using a wood mat foundation was based on the availability of cut timber and the difficulty of obtaining concrete-making materials in the area of Florida where Cypress Lodge is located.

Secondly, it appears that the design of the wood mat foundation used for Cypress Lodge was based purely on intuition (admittedly pretty good intuition), without the benefit of the design techniques of the period, to take into consideration the groundwater fluctuation that occurs in nearby Lake Okeechobee. We believe the design intent was to allow the wood mat foundation to sink down into the muck soils until reaching equilibrium or a competent soil layer. . . ..<sup>24</sup>

<sup>24</sup> Fikret Atalay, E.I., Ardaman & Associates, Inc., Tampa, Florida, to Barbara E. Mattick, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for Survey & Registration, Tallahassee, Florida, July 11, 2008. A copy of the entire letter is included as an attachment.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 8 Page 7

**CYPRESS LODGE** Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

The special construction of the floating foundation has successfully operated through the years as it was designed, allowing the entire building to rise and fall, keeping the building stable despite the fluctuating subterranean water levels influenced by Lake Okeechobee. Residents of the house through the years have noted the adjustment; the present owners report that occasionally entire house moves with the fluctuation of the water table, usually between two to three inches in a year, but in 1997, when heavy rains raised the lake levels especially high, the house fluctuated up to seven inches. The whole house will "sort of jerk" to stabilize itself while adjusting to the changing water-logged subterranean (muck) conditions. It is notable that other houses in the area without this provision to adjust to the fluctuating water table have suffered significant structural damage over the years. The efficacy of the floating foundation is demonstrated by the fact that Cypress Lodge has never flooded and, to date, has only one small crack, in the kitchen ceiling.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number \_\_\_\_9 Page \_\_1\_\_\_

CYPRESS LODGE Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

### MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Atalay, Fikret, E.I., Ardaman & Associates, Inc., Tampa, Florida, letter to Barbara E. Mattick, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for Survey & Registration, Tallahassee, Florida, July 11, 2008.

"Biography" – Amy Hoenshel, 1961. Mss.

Carol Snyder, and brother Paul Smith, (grandchildren) of Stuart, Florida. Telephone Interviews with Bonnie Dearborn, October 2 and 3, 2007.

Elkins, Isaac Matthews, Jr. Telephone Interview with Bonnie Dearborn, October 3, 2007.

- Florida Abstract & Title Insurance Co. of Stuart of Florida searched in 1972 Abstracts of Title and Title Insurance to all Lands and Lots in the County of Martin State of Florida. **No. 9811**. Florida Abstract company, Stuart, Florida, 1936.
- Florida Abstract & Title Insurance Co. of Stuart of Florida. Abstracts of Title and Title Insurance to all Lands and Lots in the County of Martin State of Florida. **No. 4288**. Florida Abstract company, Stuart, Florida, 1936.
- Florida Abstract & Title Insurance Co. of Stuart of Florida. Abstracts of Title and Title Insurance to all Lands and Lots in the County of Martin State of Florida. **No. 10564**. Florida Abstract company, Stuart, Florida, 1936.
- Hutchinson, Janet. History of Martin County. Stuart, Florida: Historical Society of Martin County, 1998.
- PAG Surveyors, Inc. LB 3411, Boundary Survey for Rev. Richard Tourigny, Work Order No. 00.3.212, October 13, 2000.
- "Plat Book, Public Records of Martin County," Mayaca Homesites, Certificate of Approval, March 23, 1936. File No. 157572.
- Snyder, G.H.and J.M. Davidson. *Everglades Agriculture: Past, Present, and Future*. Delray Beach, Florida: St. Lucie Press, 1994.
- "St. Lucie Canal, Approved in 1914, Is Boon to Agriculture," *The Stuart News 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition*. January 9, 1964.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number \_\_\_\_\_9 Page \_\_\_\_2

CYPRESS LODGE Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

Ziemba, Caroline Pomeroy. *Martin County, Our Heritage, a Historiography*. Stuart, Florida: Stewart Heritage, Inc., 1997.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10 Page 1

CYPRESS LODGE Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Mayaca Homesites, the southwesterly 257.65' of tracts 2 & 3, described in OR 1518/2104.

This parcel is shown on the boundary survey prepared for the Rev. Richard Tourigny, Martin County, Florida, by PAG Surveyors, Inc. in preparation for the sale of the northeasterly portions of tracts 2 and 3. The parcels that are the subject of this nomination are indicated with hatching on the enclosed copy of the survey.

### **BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION**

This boundary encompasses the land that is directly historically associated with Cypress Lodge.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES **CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number Photos Page 1

**CYPRESS LODGE** Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

#### LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

- 1. Cypress Lodge
- 2. 18681 SW Connors Hwy, Port Mayaca, Martin County
- 3. Pat H. Golembe
- 4. January 27, 2005
- 5. Digital Disk

#### Items 1-5 are the same for following photographs:

- 6. Main Façade, west elevation, Vernacular Greek Revival Façade and setting, mature Cypress and Palm Trees, 2story 8 columns attached to principal roof, Cypress Wood horizontal cladding, Looking Northeast
- 7. Photo 1 of 28
- 6. Postcard advertising Cypress Lodge, Main Façade, West elevation, Cypress Wood horizontal cladding, looking Northeast, ca.. 1939
- 7. Photo 2 of 28
- 6. Front lawn, Pump house beneath mature Cypress Trees, Historic Conner's Hwy and Lake Okeechobee Levee in background, looking West
- 7. Photo 3 of 28
- 6. Close-up Okeechobee Ridge landform, mature Cypress Trees, looking Southeast.
- 7. Photo 4 of 28
- 6. Close-up of bulging cement caused by uplifting of floating platforms beneath, East elevation, looking west.
- 7. Photo 5 of 28
- 6. Full-length basement patio, two steps below grade, looking south
- 7. Photo 6 of 28
- 6. Close-up, Main Façade, West elevation, Cypress Wood horizontal cladding, 6/6 sash windows with crown lintel 1<sup>st</sup> floor, louvered shutters, main entrance, 2-story column, looking Southeast
- 7. Photo 7 of 28
- 6. Detail, Main Facade, West elevation, oversized Cypress paneled door with screen with elliptical fanlight and side windows, 6/6 windows with crown lintel, 1<sup>st</sup> floor, louvered shutters, Looking East
- 7. Photo 8 of 28
- 6. Detail, North and West elevations, columns, Cypress cladding, windows, looking Southeast.

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number <u>Photos</u> Page 2

\_\_\_\_ CYPRESS LODGE Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

- 7. Photo 9 of 28
- 6. North elevation, low pitch gable roof, multi-pane windows, ribbon style basement, attic louvered vent, looking South.
- 7. Photo 10 of 28
- 6. North and East elevations, exterior stairway north elevation, dormers and hooded chimneys, looking Southwest.
- 7. Photo 11 of 28
- 6. East elevation South exterior stairway, porch with secondary roof, entrance to basement, Looking West,
- 7. Photo 12 of 28
- 6. Detail, gabled doghouse dormers, hooded chimney wooden louver vents, looking Southwest
- 7. Photo 13 of 28
- 6. South elevation, exterior stairway, shed roof, 4-light & panel door to entrance on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor hallway, looking North
- 7. Photo 14 of 28

**INTERIORS** 

**Basement** 

- 6. Wet bar, glazed and paneled double doors, 6-light windows on east exterior wall, looking Southeast
- 7. Photo 15 of 28
- 6. Basement midway, Support Columns sitting on top of stabilizing platform below grade, Looking Southwest

7. Photo 16 of 28

#### First Floor

- 6. Main Entrance Foyer-oversized Christian style Cypress paneled front door with elliptical fanlight and sidelights, looking West
- 7. Photo 17 of 28
- 6. Foyer right, 10-light Cypress French Doors to living room, entrance to sitting room beyond, Cypress stairway to 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, looking East
- 7. Photo 18 of 28
- 6. Living Room Cypress wood paneling, central fireplace interior wall, looking Southeast,

7. Photo 19 of 28

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Photos F

<u>8</u> Page <u>3</u>

CYPRESS LODGE Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL

- 6. Florida (Music)Room, Ribbon multi-pane windows, south exterior wall, French doors leading into living room, Cypress paneling, looking Southwest
- 7. Photo 20 of 28
- 6. Dining Room, central fireplace, Cypress paneling, looking North
- 7. Photo 21 of 28
- 6. Circular window on service door between Dining Room and Bar, looking West.
- 7. Photo 22 of 28

6. Kitchen, Pass thru window to Dining Room, Shelving, windows exterior north wall, looking Northwest.7. Photo 23 of 28

- 6. Foyer Cypress wood paneled walls, two-flight Stairway with landing, looking East
- 7. Photo 24 of 28

#### Second Floor

- 6. Hallway with Cypress paneled walls, stair railing, Looking North
- 7. Photo 25 of 28
- 6. Cypress paneled louvered transom over bedroom doorways to hallway, looking West
- 7. Photo 26 of 28
- 6. Sitting Room, (view of Lake Okeechobee seen from this room) looking West
- 7. Photo 27 of 28
- 6. Master Bedroom, Cypress paneled walls, floors, louvered transom over Cypress paneled Christian style doors, looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 28 of 28



18681 S.W. Conners Highway, Port Mayaca, Martin Co., FL











 $\checkmark$ 





PORT MAYACA QUADRANGLE FLORIDA 1971 Scale: 1:24,000



## MAYACA HOMESITES Cypress Lodge noted

## MAYACA HOMESITES

Port Mayaca, Martin County, Florida SECS. 22,23,26 ~ TWP. 40 S.~ R. 37 E.

Scale | in = 100 ft. March 23, 1936 Bearings from Magnetic Meridian, Declination about N. 1º 30' E.

> John P. B. Ellis, Surveyor Reg. No. 76 - State of Florida

### DESCRIPTION MA DEDIGATION STATE OF FLORIDA) COUSTY OF MANYING BE

correction of the last a ie Th Tees to

to the point of bugin Beetican BE, BF and land situated adjou being a part of the 249 and 19455, and m ins matring file Many 10 the same spart on an args part of and here and here a start of the same spart of the manufact Conners of the second start o 2 2401 1281

d do here Sold fret with, 12400 fort an althout side of storing and of sold families and its the south controlling follows the within Althout the souther gent of law of Compare Righman Which are instand of Way of Compare Righman Which are instand reels; and subject to the Right of Way of the intim any herefrom Recepting herefrom a included within the the Florida 2.02

II TITES II Derperati to be signed on its behelf, by and with by its Fresidant, and sitested by its this // day of guil tery, and its A.D. 2904. stil the

this day personally appeared before telements of Dects, Nos., David T. L Als sautar wis analatat the favoring Datastics as Provident



y

27"E. NY. Co. Clerk's 442, Rog. No. 8 W 262 Thoulas A. New NASSAU COUNTY Ä Commission Expires Merch 30,1938 23.0 1 12.0 41.70 4002 82 + N. 72°23'05" COURT OF NEW YORK 23200 OUNTI OF NEW YORK { ss. Outsil of NEW YORK { ss. of this day personally appeared before me, an of the Arytes Corporation who executed the foregring Testandica as Settertary of the Maytes Corporation and interesting the corporation thereof to be lie fore set and deed as such afficient and interesting the persons therein mentioned, and that he affired therets the efficient set of corporations of the set and control of the set of the set of the persons therein mentioned, and that he affired therets the efficient set of corporations being in the set and control of the fore of the fore of the set and control of the fore of the fore N.Y. Ca Clerk's 442, Reg. No BW 262 Amel. A. Main for the set of country AFFIDATION EMATE OF FLORIDA (and for the set of the set of the set of the set of the set N.Y. Ca Clerk's 442, Reg. No BW 262 AFFIDATION AFFIDATION EMATE OF FLORIDA (and for the set of the set of the set of the set of the set N.Y. Ca Clerk's 442, Reg. No BW 262 AFFIDATION EMATE OF FLORIDA (and for the set of the set of the set of the set of the set N.Y. Ca Clerk's 442, Reg. No BW 262 (and for the set of the s 15093234Ft  $\overline{\mathbf{N}}$ PT Ġ , Ά 65.0 74 15 ) |4 \* 330 170 N. 72°23'05" E P.C. פיטר 16666±Sq.Ft. I.P. N -1784.20 -1784.20 -142.47 -142.51 -142.51 -142.51 SOUTE OF FLORIDA ) SOUTT OF MENTARS #8. .94±A. 165.0 4 I HNEET OF MATANDA I HNEET ORNELFT that I have support and platted the types of land shown on the stindard plat of MATADA HOMBITHS, and that said plat is a servet supresentation thesens to the best of up herefolge and the land the Fernance Reference Monmarite have been placed as required by law. N. 72" 23'05"E 70.85 John P. B. Cllis Reg. Surveyor Ic. 76 State of Florida. 17.0 55 +8239× N Subscribed and sworn to before me this fort. day of March, A.D. 1986. 65.0 5 89±A. By Commission expires Jan. 15-1938 - adeline Schnider Hovery Public. Ş. Ż N. 72"23'05" E. 753.08 CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL 33.0 File No. 15757 17.0 65.3/ 83.78 Approved for Recert in behalf of the Reapt of County Commissioneys for Martin County, Florida, this Teath day of April A.D. 1986. 2 9637+5. By WmH. Roat 73±A. 6 County Surveyor 81.22 Bolt 126.63 \$ 53.43 121.11\* N. 72"23"03"E. 33.0 72.0 67.47 S 177.73 364.95 ± I.A S. 72 " 04' 13" E. N. 87 46 05"E. PRM 4232±5.F P.R.M. Filed and recorded this 10th day of april, a.D. 1936, in Plat Book 2, page 26 Public Gecards of Martin Flaids. Click Circuit Court - 3ec. 23 3ec. 26 **≥**0. No. 1 Rou N (Seal) Martin Cumitis + Praile

