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ATIONAL REGISTER OF		NATION	R OF HISTORIC PLACES
his form is for use in nominating or requi egister of Historic Places Registration For e information requested. If any item do assification, materials, and areas of sign arms on continuation sheets (NPS Form 1	orm (National Register Bulletin 16A). Co was not apply to the property being docu ificance, enter only categories and subc	enties and districts. See ins mplete each item by markin mented, enter "N/A" for "no ategories from the instructio	tructions in How to Complete the Na g "x" in the appropriate box or by en t applicable." For functions, archite ns. Place additional entries and nar
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EDUCATION/Public Library RECREATION AND CULTUR	E/Visitors Ce	nter/Museum		
7. Description				
Architectural Classification Materials (Enter categories from instructions) (Enter categories from instructions)	tions)			
MODERN MOVEMENT/Moderne foundation Stucco walls Stucco				
roof <u>Tar and Gravel</u> other <u>Glass Block</u>				
other Glass block				

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

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 1

CHIDSEY LIBRARY SARASOTA (SARASOTA COUNTY), FLORIDA DESCRIPTION

#### SUMMARY

The Chidsey Library, located at 701 North Tamiami Trail in Sarasota, Florida, is a two-story Moderne style building that was constructed in 1941. The building has an approximately rectangular ground plan and rests on a poured concrete foundation. The building is constructed of brick whose exterior walls are surfaced in smooth stucco. The main, flat roof is surfaced with tar and gravel and surrounded by a plain parapet topped by a molded coping. A small second story structure found near the center of the original building has brick bearing walls that rest on the main foundation of the building. This section also has a flat roof and plain parapet. The main fenestration of the building consists of large continuous panels of glass block filled windows and metalframed awning windows that are located beneath cantilevered concrete canopies. The main entrance to the building occupies a central one-story pavilion found behind a low concrete wall. The main recessed entranceway is accessed by paved ramps that run parallel to the main facade. Flanking the entrance are low stuccoed terra-cotta tile planters that extend to the corners of the main facade. The interior floor space of the building was constructed on an open plan and more than doubled in 1959 with an addition to the south and west of the building. The exterior of the addition reflects the Moderne appearance of the 1941 section of the building. The building now serves as the Sarasota County Visitor Information and History Center Museum, which provides a variety of guides, maps, and other information to tourists and local visitors. The Center also exhibits displays dealing with persons and events of historical significance in Sarasota and the region.

#### SETTING

Sarasota is a city with a population of approximately 55,000 located near the west coast of Florida, about 55 miles south of Tampa and 83 miles north of Fort Myers. It is located at the northwest corner of Sarasota County and serves as the county seat. Sarasota is situated on Sarasota Bay, an inlet to the Gulf of Mexico. The downtown area contains a mixture of historic and modern buildings, most of the latter having been constructed within the last 30 years. After a period of decline in the 1960s and 1970s, the downtown area has seen revitalization in recent years, including the restoration of historic properties. Currently, the downtown area is composed of a mixture of historic and modern buildings, dating from around 1909 through the present day, which serve as specialty stores, restaurants, offices, hotels, apartment buildings, and residential condominiums.

During the 1930s, the City of Sarasota acquired land for the 37-acre Sarasota Bayfront Park, in which the library would be built. Bayfront Park continues to serve as a recreational and cultural focal point within the City of Sarasota. This park is located at the intersection of Boulevard of the Arts and U.S. Tamiami Trail (U.S. Highway 41). The Chidsey Library (Photo 1) faces Tamiami Trail to the east and is one of a series of nearby historic buildings (Photos 2-3). These resources include the Sarasota Art Center (Photos 4-5) at 707 Tamiami Trail, constructed in 1946, and the National Register listed Municipal Auditorium (Photos 6-7), constructed in 1938, both of which are found north of the library. To the south is the historic "Blue Pagoda" Chamber of Commerce Building (Photos 8-9) designed in 1956 by Sarasota School architect Victor Lundy. The building is

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 2 CHIDSEY LIBRARY SARASOTA (SARASOTA COUNTY), FLORIDA DESCRIPTION

now the local headquarters of U.S. Masters Swimming. The Sarasota Garden Club building (Photo10) at 1131 Boulevard of the Arts building was designed in 1960 in the Sarasota School style by architect John Crowell.

#### Present and Original Appearance

The Chidsey Libray is a 6,600 square foot Moderne style building consisting of an original 3,000 square foot core, and a 3,600 square foot addition. The original building (Photo 11) was designed in 1941 by architect Thomas Reed Martin and his son Frank C. Martin. The main (east) facade and the front halves of the north and south elevations of the building largely maintain their original appearance. The exterior of the building is surfaced with smooth stucco, painted white, has a flat roof with a plain parapet and frieze, ribbon windows filled with glass blocks, and cantilevered concrete canopies. Metal awning windows are found at the corners of the main facade. The interior of the building now has a semi-open floor plan, with the tourist information and reception area found in the front (east) portion of the building and an exhibit area located in the back (west) portion. The visitor center offices, and the bathrooms are also found in the rear addition. In 1959, the architectural firm of Kannenberg and Hannebuth designed the south and west addition to the library. On the exterior of the building, the architects used many of the same Moderne style features found on the original building, including the smooth white stucco wall surfaces, a flat roof with a parapet, cantilevered canopies and rows of metal awning windows. However, some alterations have occurred since 1959, including the replacement of some of the historic doors, and the installation of a dropped ceiling with fluorescent interior lights that replaced the incandescent light fixtures. The exhibition areas have tract lighting to illuminate the various permanent and temporary exhibits of historical interest to tourists.

### Exterior

The Chidsey Library rests on a poured concrete slab foundation, which supports the load bearing brick walls surfaced in smooth white stucco. The parapet roof minimizes the visual impact of the second floor section of the building which measures approximately 25 feet by 30 feet. The main entrance on the east facade (Photo 12) is characterized by a recessed entrance with fluted sides. A dated pink marble cornerstone faceplate (Photo 13) commemorating John and Ida Chidsey, who financed construction of the library, is located next to the main entrance. Original stucco-covered terracotta tile planters (Photo 14) found at the front of the building curve around the southeast and northeast corners of the building. A symmetrical entry ramp (Photos 15-16) is bordered by a low stucco covered terra-cotta tile wall at the entrance. The upper portion of the east facade is composed of glass block windows (Photo 17) that continue along both the south and north elevations of the original building. Above the windows is a cantilevered concrete canopy. The southeast and northeast corners of the building are emphasized with the use of paired, six-light metal awning windows.

The south side of the 1959 (Photo 18) addition to the library has a large 4X6-light awning window and a series of six 1/1-light metal single hung sash windows. All of the windows have projecting window sills and are

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 7 Page 3 CHIDSEY LIBRARY SARASOTA (SARASOTA COUNTY), FLORIDA DESCRIPTION

shaded by a cantilevered canopy. The west (Photo 19) elevation contains a ribbon of seven 4-light awning windows to the north and two narrow 4-light awning windows to the south. The west elevation also features the rear entrance which allows visitors to enter the building from the parking lot. The doorway lies at the top of a high concrete stoop flanked by sidewalls that leads to a non-historic double aluminum and glass doors surmounted by a single rectangular transom light. On the north elevation (Photo 20) is a ribbon of five 4-light awning windows and an emergency exit accessed by a short flight of concrete steps.

#### Interior

The front section of the building serves as the reception center for the Sarasota Visitor Information Center (Photos 21-22), where visitors get information and a variety of guides, brochures, maps and other materials dealing with the area's historic resources, tourist attractions, restaurants, places of entertainment, and sleeping accommodations. The first floor of the two-story central core of the building is used for the storage of items that are distributed to visitors to by the Information Center and has a wooden stairway (Photos 23-24) that leads to the second floor, which is used for general storage. The second floor space has no windows and was left largely unfinished, having simple sheetrock walls and exposed joists and rafters (Photos 25-26). The rear of the building on the first floor houses the Sarasota County History Center Museum, which contains exhibits that deal with historical events, persons, and places of interest in Sarasota and the surrounding region (Photos 27-29).

#### Alterations

In 1959, the building was enlarged from its original 3,000 square feet to 6,300 square feet, more than doubling the interior space. The interior of the library was designed with an open plan, with most of the floor space occupied by wooden shelves that held the books and other documents. The library was also furnished with file cabinets, a checkout desk, and tables and chairs. These furnishings were removed when the building ceased to be a library in 1976. The 1941 portion of the Chidsey Library has retained its original terrazzo floor and smooth stucco interior walls in the main public space at the front of the building. The interior of building has undergone only a few alterations since 1959. These have included the installation of the present drop tile ceiling, fluorescent light fixtures, and the replacement of some of the original doors.

Name of Property

#### 8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(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.)

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION

ARCHITECTURE

#### Period of Significance

1941-1959

Significant Dates

1941 1959

#### Significant Person

N/A

#### Cultural Affiliation

N/A

#### Architect/Builder

Arch: Martin, Thomas Reed & Martin, Frank C. Blder: Harvey, Jerry Wesley, Sr.

9. Major Bibliographical References		
Bibliography Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on on 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>	State Historic Preservation Office Other State Agency Federal agency Local government University Other Name of Repository	
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record	#	

Sarasota Co., FL County and State

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CHIDSEY LIBRARY SARASOTA (SARASOTA COUNTY), FLORIDA SIGNIFICANCE

#### SUMMARY

The Chidsey Library, designed by architect Thomas Reed Martin, is significant at the local level under Criterion A in the area of Education and under Criterion C in the area of Architecture for its Moderne style design. The building was the first in Sarasota to be constructed specifically as a public library and served that purpose from 1941 to 1976, when a new library was constructed at another location. When completed, the Chidsey Library reflected the latest ideas in small library design for the storage and access of resources and for the convenience of patrons wishing to use them. The interior of the building was designed with an open plan to allow for the installation of shelves on which to store books and other educational resources and to allow space for the furniture necessary for staff to manage the facility and for the convenience of patrons wishing to use the library addressed the needs of its users by easy access into the building, adequate lighting, and a wide variety of media The Moderne style replaced the Mediterranean Revival style, which had been dominant in the area during the 1920s. The building was enlarged in 1959 to make room for the library's growing number of books and other resources. The 1959 addition generally followed the exterior Moderne style design features of the 1941 building. Although the interior no longer retains its ambience as a library, the Chidsey Library retains its 1941-1959 integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

#### HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Shortly after the Town of Sarasota was incorporated in 1903, the women of the community formed the Town Improvement Society, and undertook steps to make improvements in the general appearance of the town, including the installation of street lights and the construction of paved sidewalks and streets.<sup>1</sup> In 1907, the Society persuaded John Hamilton Gillespie (1852-1923), the first mayor of the town of Sarasota, to establish a library in Sarasota. There were no funds at time for the construction of a public library building, but Gillespie provided an upstairs room in the Gillespie Block, located near Five Points at Main Street and Pineapple Avenue, to serve the function; and donated 300 books from his personal collection. With 55 subscribers, the library was open only on Wednesday mornings and Saturday afternoons.<sup>2</sup> By 1910, the library's collection had grown to 800 volumes. The Gillespie Block was purchased that year by banker Owen Burns (1869-1937), who continued to provide room for the library free of charge.<sup>3</sup>

By 1913, Town Improvement Society, now the newly organized Sarasota Woman's Club, began to address the civic, educational, and social needs of the city. In 1914, they took over the operation of the library and moved it into the east wing of their clubhouse (now the Florida Studio Theater) at 1241 North Palm Avenue. The city

Karl Grismer, The Story of Sarasota, (Sarasota, FL: M.E. Russell, Publishing, 1946), p. 140.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Sarasota History-Chidsey Building, http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFmGu1rHsY0.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> John McCarthy, former Sarasota County Historian, August 1988, paper on file at the Sarasota County History Center

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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CHIDSEY LIBRARY SARASOTA (SARASOTA COUNTY), FLORIDA SIGNIFICANCE

council of Sarasota designated \$150 per year to keep the library operating. In the summer of 1931, the library was moved to the old Sarasota High School building on Main Street (Photo 31), which had been constructed in 1913 and vacated when a new school was completed in 1927.<sup>4</sup> The building was to be used rent free for the first five years. Three years later, the city of Sarasota took over support for the library with a budget of \$5000 a year.<sup>5</sup> By 1936, the library had grown to 10,000 books in its collection. Because of its size, interior layout, and poor illumination, the deteriorating former high school building was an unsatisfactory location for such a large collection. To remedy the situation, the Junior Chamber of Commerce adopted the project of building a new library. Also, In 1937, the Sarasota School Board informed the Woman's Club and the Junior Chamber of Commerce that they could no longer occupy the building.

Sarasota mayor Ernest Arthur Smith (1878-1962) led an effort to acquire property along the bayfront for the city for \$15,000. Thirty-seven acres were acquired by the city to create the Bayfront Park as a recreational and cultural center.<sup>6</sup> The first important building constructed on the property using Works Progress Administration (WPA) funds was the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium, designed by architect Thomas Reed Martin (1865-1949). Martin, an established Chicago architect had come to Sarasota in 1911 to design the winter of home of Bertha Palmer (1849-1918), a wealthy Chicago socialite who came to Sarasota in 1910 and fell in love with the area. After completing his the design of Palmer's winter estate, "The Oaks," Martin stayed on, contributing much to the Mediterranean Revival architecture in Sarasota during the 1920s.<sup>7</sup>

In September of 1935, Martin was appointed fee architect by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) for Sarasota County, which included duties such as the inspection of houses being built with FHA insured money to ensure the homes were constructed to specification.<sup>8</sup> In 1938, the Works Progress Administration provided funds to build the Sarasota Municipal Auditorium and Martin was chosen as the architect. The steel and reinforced concrete hangar-shaped Municipal Auditorium was large enough to seat 3,200 people and was surrounded by 40 shuffleboard courts, nine tennis courts, and two grass bowling greens.<sup>9</sup> The completion of the auditorium paved the way for the construction of a new library nearby.

The construction of the Chidsey Library began as a project of the Sarasota Junior Chamber of Commerce (Jaycees), which originally planned to take funds from their popular annual Sara de Sota pageant to finance it;<sup>10</sup> however, John and his wife, Ida Chidsey, seasonal visitors from Bristol, Connecticut, came forward with the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Sarasota (New York: Sanborn Map Company, May 1925), p. 13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Unknown. Selby Library History. http://www.sclibs.net/libraries/selbyhistory.aspx.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Matthews 132

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Dorothy Stockbridge-Pratt, "Shaping Sarasota; Architect Thomas Reed Martin," Sarasota Herald Tribune, October 29, 2000.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Sarasota Herald-Tribune, September 9, 1935.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Dorothy Stockbridge-Pratt, "Shaping Sarasota; Architect Thomas Reed Martin".

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Betty W. Service, Library Journal, September 1, 1942; On March 22, 1916, Sarasotans held the first Sara de Sota Pageant, commemorating the legendary tragic love story of Sara, the daughter of Hernando de Soto and Indian Chief Chichi Okobee.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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offer to donate the entire cost of \$18,500 for the building if the Jaycees would raise the money to furnish it.<sup>11</sup> John Chidsey was the retired president of the Veeder-Root Manufacturing Company of Hartford, Connecticut.<sup>12</sup>

Thomas Reed Martin and his son Frank C. Martin, who were partners in the architectural firm Martin Studio of Architecture, were chosen to design the new library.<sup>13</sup> The building's design produced by the firm was in the contemporary Moderne style (Photo 32) rather than the more traditional Beaux-Arts or Classical Revival style that many communities preferred for public buildings. Local contractor Jerry Wesley Harvey, Sr., was hired to erect Martin's Moderne style building, which was billed as "modern as tomorrow."14 Martin was known to incorporate the modern streamlined forms into his buildings while sometimes embellishing them with features of the Mediterranean Revival style. The pink marble-faced cornerstone of the building was laid on May 12, 1941 (Photo 33) with a sealed, copper tube time capsule in which John Chidsey placed a copy of the Sunday edition of the Sarasota Herald Tribune and the Saturday edition of the Bristol (Connecticut) Sun.15 World War II was then raging in Europe and a letter in the capsule read, in part: "... in future years, those who were to come after us would find our work well done and our faith in the city's future development fully justified in the comfort and happiness which its citizens of distant days will enjoy."<sup>16</sup> Work on the building (Photo 34) proceeded rapidly and was complete at the beginning of November 1941. As promised, the Junior Chamber of Commerce provided \$6,000 to furnish the new library (Photos 35-36). The furniture was primarily of oak finished in a blond or wheat color. Some of the oak bookshelves were built into some of the walls, while others were arranged in rows or "stacks" with narrow passages between them. All of the specialty furniture, like the dictionary stand and circulation desk, were also constructed of oak. The library opened to the public on November 12, 1941.17

After World War II, the Chidsey Library's resources began to outgrow the building's available space, and it became clear that the facility needed to be enlarged.<sup>18</sup> In 1959, architects Werner Kannenberg and Arthur Hanebuth, designed an addition to the library that more than doubled its size.<sup>19</sup> The addition built on the south and west elevations of the building incorporated modernistic architectural elements similar to the original building, including the use of a flat roof with a parapet, ribbon windows, and a smooth white stucco exterior. The addition allowed space for a conference room, offices, a small lecture hall, and additional room for archival

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.

<sup>12</sup> McCarthy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Betty W. Service, Library Journal, September 1, 1942.

<sup>14</sup> Service

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Sarasota History-Chidsey Building, http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFmGu1rHsY0.

<sup>16</sup> Sarasota Herald, May 12, 1941.

<sup>17</sup> Sarasota History-Chidsey Building, http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFmGu1rHsY0.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> "City awards contract for Library Addition," Sarasota Herald Tribune, December 11, 1958.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> "New addition doubles library floor space," Sarasota Herald Tribune, June 28, 1959.

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				SIGNIFICANCE

materials. A \$2,500 donation was given to the library by Marie Selby (1885-1971)<sup>20</sup> in order to purchase volumes of reading material that would be of interest to young people.<sup>21</sup>

The 1959 addition to the Chidsey Library was only a temporary solution to the growing needs for a city library. By 1976, the building no longer could accommodate the library's growing collection, so the City of Sarasota cooperated with Sarasota County to create a countywide library system. A new library building was constructed at 1001 Boulevard of the Arts after the city of Sarasota donated 4.7 acres of city-owned property on which to locate the facility. The William G. and Marie Selby Foundation donated the largest contribution to the project, \$500,000. The new library was designed by Walter Netsch of the architectural firm of Skidmore Owings and Merrill of Chicago. The original Selby Library today houses the G-Wiz Science Museum for young people interested in science. The current Selby Public Library at 1331 First Street in downtown Sarasota, designed by architect Eugene Aubry, is a two-story 74,000 square feet building with space for approximately 300,000 volumes. Its grand opening was held in August 1998. With the relocation of the public library, the Chidsey Library became the headquarters for the Sarasota County Historical Resources office. When the agency (now called the Sarasota County History Center) moved to 6062 Porter Way in 2007, the former Chidsey Library became the home of the Sarasota County Visitor Information and History Center Museum.

### HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE-EDUCATION

The Chidsey Building served as the official public library of the city of Sarasota from 1941 to 1976, a period of 35 years. It continued to acquire new books and other educational resources for use by the general public until the building no longer had space to accommodate new additions to the collection. The design of building reflected the latest ideas in library design for the storage and access of resources and the convenience of patrons wishing to use them. Public libraries can be differentiated from academic, school, and special libraries because they function to serve the needs of a diverse service population, including small children, students, professionals, and the elderly.<sup>22</sup>

Although public libraries serve the public at large, including those who are also served by other types of libraries, they are used primarily by members of the local community in which they are constructed and secondarily by members in communities in the immediately outlying areas. The members of those communities are the service population of public libraries and their needs affect the design and planning of public library spaces. The public library design must address the needs of its users by easy access into the building, adequate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Local philanthropist and founder of Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> "New addition doubles library floor space." Sarasota Herald Tribune. Published June 28, 1959.

<sup>22 &</sup>quot;Planning the Small Library," Whole Building Design, http://www.wbdg.org/design/public\_library.php.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Page 5 CHIDSEY LIBRARY Section number 8 SARASOTA (SARASOTA COUNTY), FLORIDA SIGNIFICANCE

lighting, and a wide variety of media, such as large-print books for people with limited vision. The Chidsey Library attempted to fulfill these needs throughout its period of service.<sup>23</sup>

### ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

BACKGROUND AND INSPIRATION: The Art Deco style was the first widely popular style in U.S. to break with the revivalist tradition represented by Beaux-Arts and period houses. Art Deco uses a style of decoration applied to jewelry, clothing, furniture, handicrafts, and buildings. Industrial designers used art deco designs to decorate streamlined cars, trains, kitchen appliances. The term Art Deco takes its name from the Exposition Internationale des Arts Decoratifs and Industriels Modernes, held in Paris 1925. A showcase for works of "new inspiration and real originality." The style strove for a modern and artistic expression to complement the machine age. An emphasis on the future rather than the past was the style's principal characteristic. Both Art Deco and its cousin, Art Moderne, were rarely used for houses; they were more common for commercial buildings, skyscrapers, and institutional buildings. It was most popular in New York City, but was spread widely across the country.24

IDENTIFYING FEATURES: (1) ART DECO: Smooth wall surface, often stucco; smooth-faced stone and metal; polychromy, often with vivid colors; forms simplified and streamlined; geometric designs including zigzags, chevrons; towers and other vertical projections, presenting a vertical emphasis; machined and often metalic construction materials for decorative features. (2) ART MODERNE: Smooth, rounded wall surfaces, often stucco; flat roof with small ledge at roofline; horizontal grooves or lines in walls (sometimes fluted or pressed metal); asymmetrical facade; casement/corner windows or other horizontally arranged windows; metal balustrades; glass-block windows, often curved. Unlike Art Deco, Moderne style buildings placed a greater emphasis on the horizontal.25

The Moderne style began to surmount the popularity of the Art Deco style in the early 1930s and was widely used throughout Florida for commercial and apartment buildings, especially during the years of economic depression, in Florida's coastal communities such as Miami Beach and Sarasota which continued to grow despite the poor economic climate. The Chidsey Library represents this style well in its use of the architectural

<sup>23 &</sup>quot;Planning the Small Library," Whole Building Design, http://www.wbdg.org/design/public\_library.php.

<sup>24</sup> Dr. Tom Pradis, "Art Deco and Art Moderne Architecture 1925-1940," University of Northern Arizona, http:// jan.ucc.nau.edu/~twp/architecture/artdeco/. 25 Ibid.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number	8	Page	6	CHIDSEY LIBRARY
			-	SARASOTA (SARASOTA COUNTY), FLORIDA
				SIGNIFICANCE

features of the flat roof and parapet; the use of materials with the smooth texture of the stucco cladding and the glass block detailing; and the emphasis of streamlined design and horizontality with the cantilevered canopies over the windows, and the curved terracotta planters on the main facade. The use of glass block windows by Martin demonstrated his attention to the control of the intensity of sunshine in Florida. Since the main facade of the building was oriented to the east, the high placement of the windows and the use of glass block to diffuse the sunlight assured that library patrons would not be blinded by the eastern morning sun which moves from the northeast to the southeast as the seasons change. The sunlight would complement the artificial lighting of the front reading room.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9 Page 1

CHIDSEY LIBRARY SARASOTA (SARASOTA COUNTY), FLORIDA MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

#### Books

Burns, Lillian G. "John Hamilton Gillespie." Sarasota Origins 1 (1988), 19-46.

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

LaHurd, Jeff. Sarasota: A History. Charleston: The History Press, 2006.

Matthews, Janet Snyder. Journey to Centennial Sarasota, 2nd ed. Sarasota: Coastal Printing, 1997.

#### Internet Sources

Dr. Tom Pradis, "Art Deco and Art Moderne Architecture 1925-1940," University of Northern Arizona, http:// jan.ucc.nau.edu/~twp/architecture/artdeco/.

"Planning the Small Library," Whole Building Design, http://www.wbdg.org/design/public library.php.

Sarasota History-Chidsey Building, http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFmGu1rHsY0.

Selby Library History. http://www.sclibs.net/libraries/selbyhistory.aspx.

#### Maps

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps of Sarasota. New York: Sanborn Map Company, May 1925, p. 13.

#### Newspapers

Sarasota Herald Tribune. September 9, 1935.

Sarasota Herald Tribune. May 12, 1941.

"City awards contract for Library Addition," Sarasota Herald Tribune, December 11, 1958.

"New addition doubles library floor space," Sarasota Herald Tribune, June 28, 1959.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 9 Page 2

CHIDSEY LIBRARY SARASOTA (SARASOTA COUNTY), FLORIDA MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Stockbridge-Pratt, Dorothy. "Shaping Sarasota; Architect Thomas Reed Martin," <u>Sarasota Herald Tribune</u>, October 29, 2000.

#### Periodicals

Service, Betty W. Library Journal, September 1, 1942.

#### **Unpublished Documents**

- McCarthy, John, former Sarasota County Historian, August 1988, paper on file at the Sarasota County History Center.
- Puig, Francis J. Spend A Summer This Winter In Sarasota: Four key figures in Sarasota's development. Sarasota: Archaeological Consultants Inc., 2002.

CHIDSEY LIBRARY Name of Property	Sarasota Co., FL County and State
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property Less than 1	
UTM References (Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)	
1     1     7     3     4     6     9     6     0     3     0     2     5     2     9     0       Zone     Easting     Northing       2     Image: State of the	3 Bee 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 Mariell Lumang, Architectural Historian/Lorrie Muldowne	ey, Historic Preservation Specialist/Carl Shiver, Historic Presevationist
proanization Bureau of Historic Preservation	date February 2011
street & number 500 South Bronough Street	telephone (850) 245-6333
city or town Tallahassee	
Additional Documentation	
Submit the following items with the completed form: Continuation Sheets	
Maps	
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating	the property's location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties	
Photographs	
Representative black and white photographs of	the property.
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 Mayor Kelly Kirschner	
street & number Sarasota City Hall, 1565 First Street	telephone (941) 365-2200
city or town Sarasota	state Florida zio code 32236
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the	

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number 10 Page 1

CHIDSEY LIBRARY SARASOTA (SARASOTA COUNTY), FLORIDA GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

#### Verbal Boundary Description

Tax Parcel 2009-01-0002. Begin at the curb line in parking area between 701 and 707 North Tamiami Trail, then run north approximately 25 feet midway between 701 and 707 North Tamiami Trail, then run west approximately 200 feet, just short of the curb line of Van Wezel Way, then run south approximately 95 feet, then run east to the aforementioned curb line, then run northwest along the curb line to the point of beginning.

The parcels of the properties in Sarasota Bayfront Park do not have separate block and lot numbers and, therefore, need to be located by geographical references.

#### **Boundary Justification**

The above described boundaries encompass all of the historic resources associated with the original Chidsey Library Building.

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Page 1

CHIDSEY LIBRARY SARASOTA (SARASOTA COUNTY), FLORIDA LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

#### PHOTOGRAPHS

- Chidsey Library
- 2. 701 Tamiami Trail, Sarasota (Sarasota County), Florida
- 3. Marielle Lumang
- 4. March 2010
- 5. City of Sarasota
- 6. East Elevation, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 1 of 36

#### Items 2-5 the same unless otherwise noted

- 1. Streetscape
- View Looking Northwest between Chidsey Library and Sarasota Art Center
- 7. Photo 2 of 36

1. Streetscape

- 6. View Looking Southwest between Sarasota Art Center and Old Chamber of Commerce Building
- 7. Photo 3 of 36
- 1. Sarasota Art Center
- Main (East) Facade, Looking West
- 7. Photo 4 of 36
- 1. Sarasota Art Center
- 6. Main (East) Facade, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 5 of 36
- 1. Municipal Auditorium
- 6. Main (East) Facade and South Elevation, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 6 of 36
- 1. Municipal Auditorium
- 6. Main (East) Facade, Looking West
- 7. Photo 7 of 36

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number

Page 2

- 1. Former Chamber of Commerce Building
- 6. Northeast Elevation, Looking Southwest
- 7. Photo 8 of 36
- 1. Former Chamber of Commerce Building
- 6. Main (Southeast) Elevation, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 9 of 36
- 1. Sarasota Garden Club
- 6. Main (South) Facade, Looking Northeast
- 7. Photo 10 of 36
- 1. Chidsey Library
- 3. Unknown
- 4. c. 1941
- 6. East Elevation, Looking Southwest
- 7. Photo 11 of 36
- 6. Main (East) Facade and South Elevation, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 12 of 36
- 6. Main (East) Facade, Detail, Cornerstone, Looking West
- 7. Photo 13 of 36
- Main (East) Facade, Detail, Planter, Looking Southwest
   Photo 14 of 36
- 6. Main (East) Facade, Detail, Paved Ramp, Looking West
- 7. Photo 15 of 36
- Main (East) Facade and South Elevation, Looking Northwest
   Photo 16 of 36
- 6. Main (East) Facade, Detail, Looking Southwest
- 7. Photo 17 of 36
- 6. Main (East) Facade and South Elevation, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 18 of 36

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

3

Section number Page

- 6. Rear (West) Elevation, Looking East
- 7. Photo 19 of 36
- 6. Rear (West) and North Elevations, Looking Southeast
- 7. Photo 20 of 36
- 6. Interior, Reception Area, Looking Southeast
- 7. Photo 21 of 36
- 6. Interior, Reception Area, Looking Northeast
- 7. Photo 22 of 36
- 6. Interior, Central Storage Area, Looking West toward Stairs to Second Floor
- 7. Photo 23 of 36
- 6. Interior, Second Floor, Looking East Downstairs to Storage Area
- 7. Photo 24 of 36
- 6. Interior, Second Floor, Looking West toward Stairs
- 7. Photo 25 of 36
- 6. Interior, Second Floor, Looking Northeast
- 7. Photo 26 of 36
- 6. Interior, Hallway, Looking West toward Rear Exit
- 7. Photo 27 of 36
- 6. Interior, Exhibit Area, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 28 of 36
- Interior, Rear Exhibit Area, Looking South toward Exit
   Photo 29 of 36
- 6. Interior, Rear Exhibit Area, Looking East along Hallway
- 7. Photo 30 of 36

### NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number

Page 4

- 1. Sarasota High School
- 2. 518 Main Street, Sarasota
- 3. T.F. Arnold
- 4. c. 1913
- 5. State Library of Florida Photo Archives
- 6. Main (North) Facade, Looking South
- 7. Photo 31 of 36
- 1. Chidsey Library, Architectural Elevation Drawing
- 3. Thomas Reed Martin
- 4. 1941
- 5. Sarasota History Center
- 7. Photo 32 of 36
- 1. John and Ida Chidsey
- 3. Unknown
- 4. May 12, 1941
- 5. Sarasota History Center
- 6. Couple Standing in Front of Chidsey Library under Construction
- 7. Photo 33 of 36
- 1. Chidsey Library
- 3. Unknown
- 4. c. June 1941
- 5. Sarasota History Center
- 6. Main (East) Facade, Looking West
- 7. Photo 34 of 36
- 1. Chidsey Library
- 3. Unknown
- 4. November 12, 1941
- 5. Sarasota History Center
- 6. Interior, First Floor Reception Area, Looking Southeast
- 7. Photo 35 of 36

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number Page 5

- 1. Chidsey Library
- 3. Unknown
- 4. November 12, 1941
- 5. Sarasota History Center
- 6. Interior, First Floor Reception Area, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 36 of 36

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Chidsey Library NAME:

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: FLORIDA, Sarasota

DATE RECEIVED: 3/23/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/14/11 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 4/29/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/08/11 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000241

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN

5.4.11 DATE REJECT

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in The National Register of Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA		
REVIEWR	DISCIPLINE	-
TELEPHONE	DATE	

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



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CHIPSEY LIBRARY SARABOTA CO, FL 9/36



CHIDSEY LIBRARY SARASOTA CONFL 10/36



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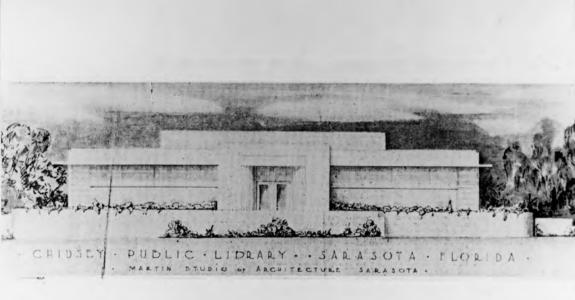


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CHIDSEY LIBRARY SARASOTA Co, FL 32/36

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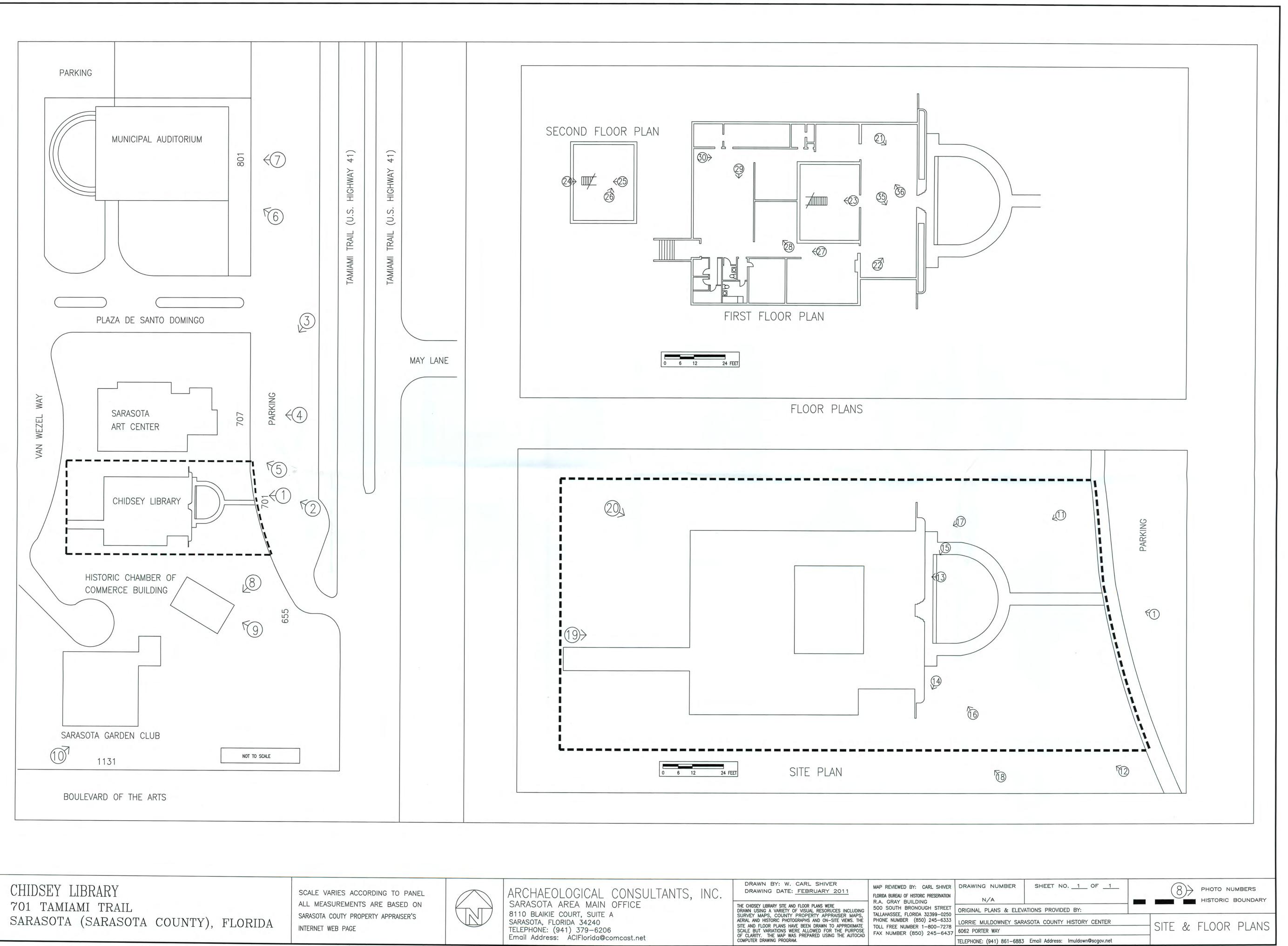


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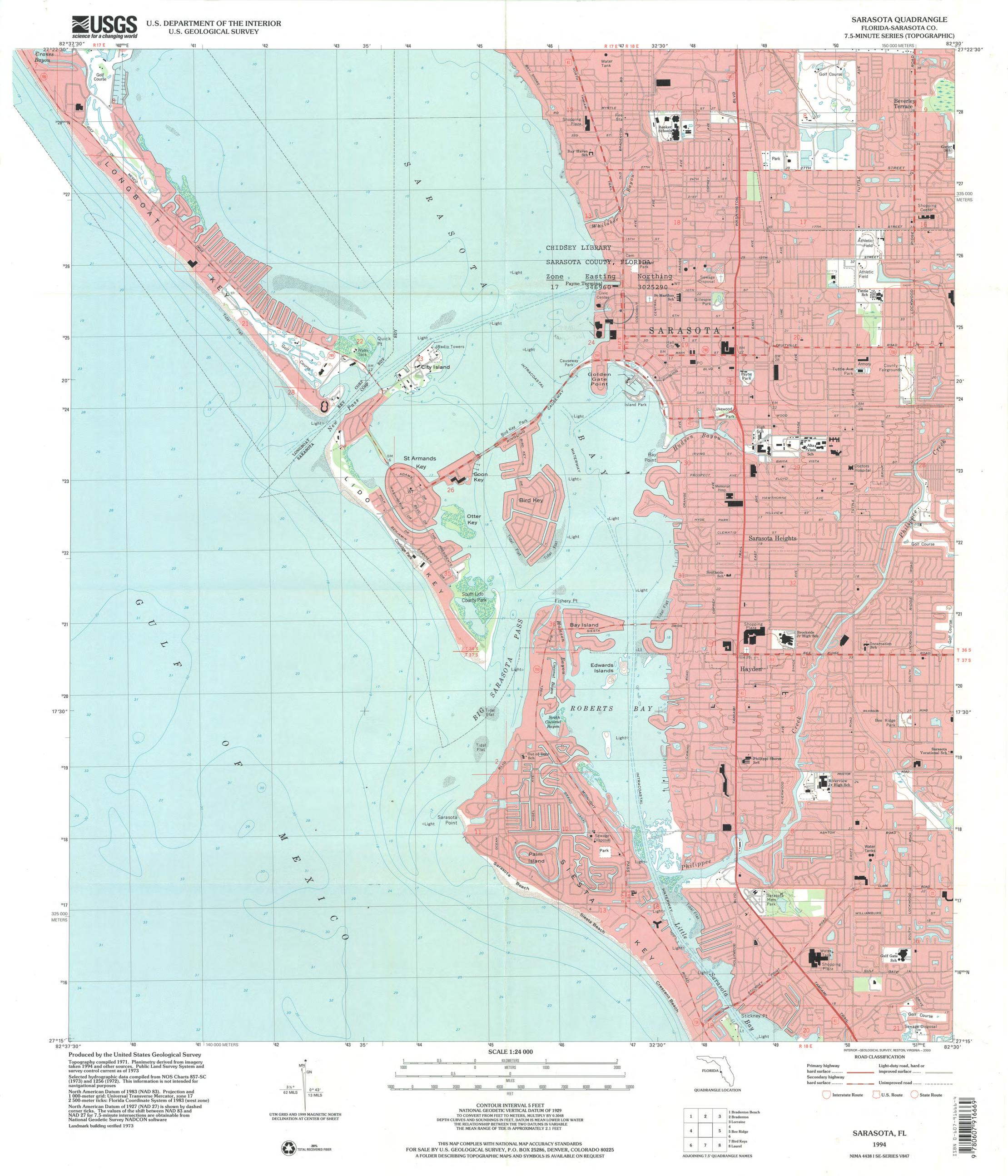


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RASOTA AREA MAIN OFFICE 0 BLAIKIE COURT, SUITE A ASOTA, FLORIDA 34240 EPHONE: (941) 379-6206 ail Address: ACIFlorida@comcast.net		TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0250 PHONE NUMBER (850) 245-6333 TOLL FREE NUMBER 1-800-7278 FAX NUMBER (850) 245-6437	ORIGINAL PLANS & ELEV	ASOTA COUNTY HIST





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	MAR 2 3 2011
NAT	REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Kurt S. Browning Secretary of State DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

March 18, 2011

Ms. Carol Shull, Keeper National Register of Historic Places Department of Interior 1201 Eye Street, N.W., 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed is a request to nominate the following property from the National Register:

## Chidsey Library, Sarasota, Sarasota County, Florida

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (850) 245-6364 if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Sincerely,

Bartana C. Matteck

Barbara E. Mattick, Ph.D. Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for Survey & Registration

Enclosures

500 S. Bronough Street • Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250 • http://www.flheritage.com

Director's Office (850) 245-6300 \*FAX: 245-6436 Archaeological Research (850) 245-6444 •FAX: 245-6436 G Historic Preservation (850) 245-6333 •FAX: 245-6437