NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

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This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts are instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item of we kind with a buckstate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/AATONAD PARKING THE FOR functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property	
historic name 'TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT	
other names/site number N/A, FMSF#LL2015	
2. Location	
street & number 15951 Captiva Drive	N/A not for publication
city or town Captiva	N/A vicinity
City of town <u>eaptiva</u>	1471 Li Vicinity
state <u>FLORIDA</u> code <u>FL</u> county <u>Lee</u>	code071 zip code <u>33924</u>
3. State/Federal Agency Certification	
Signature of certifying official/Title Date State Historic Preservation Officer, Division of Historical Resource State or Federal agency and bureau In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register of	s
comments.)	
comments.) Signature of certifying official/Title Date	
Signature of certifying official/Title State of Federal agency and bureau 4. National Park Service Certification	
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TWEEN WATERS INN HISTOR	RIC DISTRICT	Lee 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 Reso (Do not include any pr	urces within Prope reviously listed resources	rty in the count)	
□ private □ public-local	☐ buildings ☐ district	Contributing	Noncontribu	ting	
public-State public-Federal	☐ site ☐ structure	13	2	buildings	
	□ object	0	0	sites	
		0	0	structures	
		0	0	objects	
		13	2	total	
Name of related multiple pro (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of		Number of contr listed in the Nat	ibuting resources p tional Register	previously	
HISTORIC RESOURCES O	F LEE COUNTY, 1881-1950		0		
6. Function or Use					
Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)		Current Functions (Enter categories from ins	structions)		
COMMERCE/TRADE/Restaurar	nt	COMMERCE/TRADE	E/Restaurant		
DOMESTIC/Tourist Cottage		DOMESTIC/Tourist Cottage			
DOMESTIC/Staff Housing		COMMERCE/TRADE	E/Marina/Gift Shop		
7. Description					
Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)		Materials (Enter categories fro	om instructions)		
NOSTYLE/Frame Vernacular		foundation Cone walls Wood	crete Pier		
		roof Metal			
		other			

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

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				CAPTIVA, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
				DESCRIPTION

SUMMARY

The 'Tween Waters Inn Historic District is located at 15951 Captiva Drive in Captiva (Lee County), a small barrier island in the Gulf of Mexico. Thirteen contributing resources are found east of Captiva Drive, occupying approximately three acres of the larger site associated with 'Tween Waters Inn. The contributing resources consist of relatively small one-story wood frame buildings and one historic marina. The boundary encompasses an area between Captiva Drive on the Gulf of Mexico and Pine Island Sound and avoids taking in all but two noncontributing buildings that occupy sites to the north and south of the historic district. To the west, the gulf-front private beach associated with the inn has been excluded from the historic district because it supports no historic resources. In 2000, the Lee County locally designated 'Tween Waters Inn Historic District as a historic site. The contributing buildings in the district retain their physical integrity to a high degree. The district contributes to the sense of time, place, and historical development of the Community of Captiva through the location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association of its buildings. It possesses a significant continuity of historic buildings united by plan and physical development, and provides an important cultural link to the heritage of Lee County.

SETTING

Captiva is one of a series of barrier island in the Gulf of Mexico located west the larger neighboring Pine Island and mainland Lee County. Captiva has a long north-south axis that runs approximately six miles in length. At its widest, the island measures approximately one-quarter mile. The Captiva Census Designated Place (CDP) consists of 10.5 square miles of which 1.2 square miles is land and 9.3 square miles is water. Captiva has a year-round population of 379. Passes separate Captiva Island from Sanibel Island to the south and North Captiva and Cayo Costa islands to the north. The Gulf of Mexico lies to the west of Captiva and Pine Island Sound is located to the east. Captiva is primarily sand on the windward, or Gulf, side and coral rock on the east, side. Roosevelt Channel, named for President Theodore Roosevelt who fished at Captiva, runs parallel to the alignment of the island, providing a navigable waterway through the sound. Charlotte Harbor is found to the northeast and empties through Boca Grande Pass north of Captiva. Sanibel lies to the south, connected to Captiva by Blind Pass Bridge. Historically, Sanibel and Captiva were connected, but a nineteenth-century hurricane separated them with a strait at Blind Pass, which has been connected by a narrow bridge since 1912. Captiva and Sanibel are connected to the mainland of Lee County at Punta Rassa by Sanibel Causeway, which was completed in 1963. The seat of government of Lee County, Fort Myers, is located approximately thirty miles east of Captiva.

The whole of the 'Tween Waters Inn property occupies a ten acre site that extends from the Gulf of Mexico to Pine Island Sound, divided by Captiva Drive (Photos 1-2), the primary avenue of travel on Captiva. Vegetation at 'Tween Waters Inn historically consisted primarily of native palm trees and planted Australian pine trees and Century plants. Time, tides, and hurricanes destroyed most of the latter two, but some native palms remain. In

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addition, the inn is landscaped with traditional and unusual plants and trees identified by signage. Those include several remaining Australian pine trees, bird of paradise, bottle palm tree, bougainvillea, cabbage palm tree, Canary Island date palm tree, copper leaf, croton, crown of thorn, fishtail palm tree, ground orchid, hibiscus, pink trumpet tree, schefflera tree, shaving brush tree, silver Bismarck palm tree, silver buttonwood tree, silver trumpet tree, thatch palm tree, and wild olive tree. The plants and trees contribute ambiance and charm to the island resort.

DESCRIPTION

Thirteen historic one-story wood-frame buildings and cottages illustrate the development of the inn between the 1930s and 1950s. The cottages are numbered, but also carry picturesque names some of which impart historical references, others plant names. For example, Cottage 107 is Roosevelt Cottage; Cottage 108 is Ding Darling Studio; and Cottage 112 is Hibiscus Cottage. Cottages adjacent to Captiva Drive appear in paired and linear alignments, the original scheme of development. Another group of cottages near Pine Island Sound form a semi-circular plan, the result of relocating two of the cottages to accommodate new construction. Two buildings—the Old Captiva House and 'Tween Waters Marina—are larger in scale and massing than the cottages, the product of their commercial purposes, additions during the historic period, and modern additions and alterations. Small in scale, most cottages measure approximately fifteen feet by twenty-five feet. They display slight irregularities in plan, reflecting vernacular stylistic influences. Cottage 115-116 is the largest of the cottages, measuring twenty-eight by forty-five feet and originally served as the home of the Wakefields, the second owners of 'Tween Waters Inn. The cottages display shallow-pitch hip and gable roofs accented with exposed rafter ends and surfaced with crimp metal panels, brick chimneys, front and rear screened porches with shed roofs, and wood shingle exterior wall fabric. Replacement metal sash windows display mullion patterns similar to the original windows. Systems of limestone and solid cast concrete block piers support the cottages.

Individual Buildings

Old Captiva House Restaurant (noncontributing)

Unfortunately, the original and most famous building on the property has lost its historic integrity through modern additions; it is classified as noncontributing. Built about 1910 (Photo 3) as a schoolhouse and acquired as the first part of the inn, the Old Captiva House Restaurant displays changes in use and appearance from school to owner's home to lodge to restaurant-and-lounge by F. Bowman Price and Grace B. Price with alterations and expansions made c. 1925, c. 1931, c. 1935, c. 1940, and c. 1954. (Photos 4-11) Located near the center of the property, the one-story wood frame building displays a central steeply-pitched gable roof from which radiate flat-hip roof and shed-roof extensions. A small entrance porch protrudes at the west elevation and French doors and replacement sash windows provide natural interior lighting. Modern additions (1982, c. 1998) to the rear (north) elevation include construction of the Crow's Nest Lounge, Ding Darling Room, and

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Wakefield Room. Connected by a small hyphen, a modern free-standing covered terrace radiates along the south elevation. The Wakefield Room overlooks the Gulf of Mexico. It has a long balcony with several French doors that open to spectacular views of the white sandy beaches and turquoise waves. Alterations include the enclosure of the original south-facing entrance porch, the creation of a new west-facing entrance porch, plywood sheets to simulate board-and-batten exterior wall fabric, and replacement sash windows with mullions reflecting the original configuration.

'Tween Waters Marina (contributing)

Built about 1935 overlooking Roosevelt Channel and Pine Island Sound immediately east of Old Captiva House, 'Tween Waters Marina (Photos 12-13) has been adapted over time for use from housing-to-marina. Constructed as staff housing at 'Tween Waters Inn, the building has a steeply-pitched cross-gable roof protecting the primary two-story unit, one-story gable extension, and small shed extensions, all surfaced with crimp metal panels. Wood board-and-batten serves as the exterior wall fabric and replacement sash and fixed windows permit natural light into the interior. Built at the water's edge, the building is supported by a system of large tapered limestone piers. The two-story unit historically contained housing for staff employed by 'Tween Waters Inn. Added about 1950, the one-story extension contained a commons and kitchen area for staff. 'Tween Waters Inn adapted the building from a housing to a marina function in 1971 with alterations including replacement fixed storefront windows along the south elevation, shed extension bait boxes and storage areas, and rehabilitation of the interior spaces for commercial purposes.

Ann Lindbergh Cottage 104 (contributing)

The Ann Lindbergh Cottage, built about 1931, Cottage 104 (Photo 14) faces Captiva Drive on the west. It has an irregular plan with a hip roof and a small porch that wraps across the west and north elevation protected by a distinctive flared hip roof. The exterior walls are finished in wood shingles, and replacement metal sash windows simulate the original 8/8-light double-hung wood sash windows.

Charles Lindbergh Cottage 105 (contributing)

Constructed about 1935, the Charles Lindbergh Cottage 105 (Photo 15) is paired with Cottage 104 overlooking Captiva Drive and the Gulf of Mexico. It displays a irregular plan with a porch centered on the front (west) facade and French doors. Wood shingles serve as the exterior wall fabric and replacement sash windows reflect the original mullion pattern. The foundation system consists of poured concrete piers.

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Roosevelt Cottage 107 (contributing)

Named for President Theodore Roosevelt who came to Captiva Island in the early 20th century to fish for Tarpon and Manta Rays, Cottage 107 (Photo 16) also faces west onto Captiva Drive. It has a slightly T-shape plan with a hip roof and a small screened porch that extends across the west facade and is protected by a hip roof. The exterior walls are finished in wood lap siding, and two pair of French doors provide access to the interior of the house from the front porch.

Ding Darling Cottage 106, Ding Darling Studio 108, and Roger Tory Peterson Cottage 109 (contributing)

Built in the late-1930s, the Ding Darling Cottage 106, Ding Darling Studio 108, and Roger Tory Peterson Cottage 109 (Photo 17) are organized in a perpendicular axis east of Captiva Drive. The cottages display hip roofs surfaced with crimp metal panels, porches, wood shingle siding, and replacement sash windows. The center and west (right-hand in photograph) cottages are associated with J.N. "Ding" Darling. The center cottage (108) contained Darling's studio and the west, or gulf-front, cottage (106) served as his seasonal residence between 1937 and 1942.

Orchid Cottage 111 and Hibiscus Cottage 112 (contributing)

Orchid Cottage 111 (Photo 18) and Hibiscus Cottage 112 (Photo 19) were built about 1943 at Buckingham Army Air Field and relocated to 'Tween Waters Inn in the mid-1950s, and are representative of four cottages located near the sound. It has a gable roof with crimp metal panels, brick chimney, plywood exterior wall fabric, and replacement metal sash windows. The buildings were constructed as temporary quarters. John T. Wakefield, the second owner of 'Tween Waters Inn, served as an officer at Venice Army Air Field in Sarasota County and then Page Army Air Field on Lee County's mainland during World War II, and supervised the moving of the cottages from Buckingham Army Air Field on the mainland to the island after the war.

Bougainvillea Cottage 113 and Frangipani Cottage 114 (contributing)

Six cottages radiate along Captiva Drive, setback slightly from the island's primary thoroughfare and overlooking the Gulf of Mexico. Six additional cottages are located closer to the sound. The latter cottages include four dwellings constructed at Buckingham Army Air Field northeast of Fort Myers and moved to the inn before 1958. Two of the buildings, Cottages 113 (Photo 20) and 114 (Photo 21) were relocated approximately 100 feet south from their 1950s location to accommodate the construction of the Coconut Hotel in 1998.

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Tarpon Cottage 115-116 (contributing)

The largest of the historic cottages is Tarpon Cottage 115-116 (Photo 22), a single building divided internally into two units. Built about 1946 and slightly remodeled in the 1980s, the cottage faces the sound. It displays a side-facing gable roof with metal crimp panels, front porch with a shed roof, cross-hip rear extension, weatherboard exterior wall fabric, and replacement metal sash windows.

Jasmine Cottage 117 (contributing)

This one-story wood frame cottage (Photo 23) is found near the east boundary of the historic district. Constructed in the late 1930s, it has a rectangular ground plan and is covered with a V-crimp metal roof. It is sheathed in weatherboard siding and has a full-width porch on its main facade. The main entrance from the porch is French doors, and the fenestration is paired 1/1-light windows.

Coconut Hotel (noncontributing)

The Coconut Hotel, constructed c. 1998 (Photos 24-25), is a three-story modern style masonry building with a stucco covered exterior. It is located between the historic marina and Cottage 117. It is covered with a multi-hip raised seam metal roof. The guests rooms are all located on the second and third floors and have balcony access on the bayside. Business amenities include small meeting rooms, technology support staff, and audio-visual equipment. The inn offers 3 restaurants along with a poolside bar and a bar/lounge. Guest parking is complimentary. Event space measuring 2000 square feet consists of exhibit space, conference/meeting rooms, and banquet facilities.

List of resources in 'Tween Waters Historic District 8LL2015

Site File Number	Old Cottage Number	New Number (as of 2001)	Date
8LL1073	106	109	c. 1940
8LL1074	105	108	c. 1940
8LL1075	103	106	c. 1940
8LL1076	104	107	c. 1940
8LL1077	102	105	c. 1940
8LL2009	111	111 (no change)	c. 1940
8LL2010	112	112 (no change)	c.1940
8LL2011	113	113 (no change)	c. 1940
8LL2012	114	114 (no change)	c. 1940
8LL2565	115-116	115-116	c. 1946

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8LL2013	117	117 (no change)	c. 1940
8LL2014	Old Captiva House	Old Captiva House	c. 1930
8LL2016	101	104	c. 1931

Name of Property	County and State			
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.)	Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)			
A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.	COMMERCE ENTERTAINMENT/RECREATION LITERATURE			
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.	Period of Significance			
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.)	Significant Dates			
Property is:	1941 1946			
□ A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.	Significant Person Darling, J.N. "Ding"			
☐ B removed from its original location.				
C a birthplace or grave.	Cultural Affiliation N/A			
D a cemetery.				
☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.				
☐ F a commemorative property.	Architect/Builder Arch: Unknown			
☐ G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years	Blder: Unknown			
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): preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) has been requested previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey	e or more continuation sheets.) Primary location of additional data: State Historic Preservation Office Other State Agency Federal agency Local government University Other Name of Repository			
# recorded by Historic American Engineering Record	#			

Lee Co., FL

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SUMMARY

'Tween Waters Inn Historic District is significant at the local level in the areas of Commerce, Entertainment/Recreation, and Literature under Criteria A and B for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Under Criterion A, the historic district possesses significance as a tourist lodging facility established in 1931 with a main restaurant building that is the historic core of an important Lee County resort. Developed between 1931 and 1958, 'Tween Waters Inn accommodated visitors who sought seclusion at a remote resort isolated from the thousands of tourists who annually vacationed in Florida. Within that broader context, founders F. Bowman and Grace B. Price built the Old Captiva House at 'Tween Waters Inn into a social center on the island. Under Criterion B, the historic district has significance for its association with the renowned editorial cartoonist and conservationist Jay Norwood "Ding" Darling. At 'Tween Waters Inn, Darling drew many of his editorial cartoons, composed Cruise of the Bouncing Betsy, and gained inspiration for the creation of a national wildlife refuge at nearby Sanibel. Perhaps his greatest legacy, the refuge was named J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge in 1967. The contributing resources retain their historic physical integrity to a high degree and contribute ambiance, character, and linkage to the historic district. The district possesses a significant concentration and continuity of buildings united historically and by physical development. The district contributes to the Historic Resources of Lee County, FL Multiple Property Submission under the Great Depression, World War II, and Modern Lee County historic associated contexts and the F.8 Property Type, Tourist Lodging Facility.

HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Juan Ponce de Leon, the official discover of Florida, sailed into the waters of the Calusa Nation in May 1513. He described the islands of Sanibel and Captiva as "jutted out into the sea." Upon his return to Calusa waters in 1521, Juan Ponce once again entered the dangerous waters of the Calusa. Ponce de Leon organized a colonizing expedition to Florida consisting of two ships and 200 men, including priests, farmers and artisans, 50 horses and other domestic animals, and farming implements The colonists Spaniards began to build a settlement presumably on Punta Rassa but were attacked by Calusa warriors. Eighty of the colonists were were killed and Ponce de Leon was wounded with an arrow. He sailed to Havana, Cuba, where he died of the wound.

Captiva Pass was named by the Spanish in the 1500s and When the United States acquired Florida in 1821, the only inhabitants of Sanibel and Captiva islands were a few Cubans who maintained seasonal fishing camps there. In 1862, the Homestead Act was passed, but it was not until 1888 that Captiva was opened to homesteaders. William Herbert Binder came to Captiva in 1888, homesteading the central part of the island.

Juan Ponce de Leon Biography, http://www.travelponce.com/Ponce-de-Leon-biography.html

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Ten years later, George W. Carter came to the island and with his family homesteaded the northern end. With the planting of groves, coconuts and many tropical fruits, plants and vegetables, the island flourished.²

As decades passed, word spread about the tranquil beauty Captiva possessed, and the solitude one could find on the island. Former president Theodore Roosevelt came to Captiva in 1914, with his personal friend Russell J. Coles, a tobacco dealer from Danville, Virginia, who, like Roosevelt, was an avid sportsman. In late March, 1917, Coles invited Roosevelt to Captiva Island to harpoon giant manta rays, called devilfish. Roosevelt wrote of their adventures as "Devilfishers - successors of the Buccaneers" in Scribner's Magazine in late 1917.

By the 1920s, however, hurricanes in 1921 and 1926 destroyed the Captiva Island Hotel Resort and other buildings on Captiva, giving little hope for the island to grow and thrive as a 20th century vacation destination. But a bold plantation developer named Clarence Bennett Chadwick shifted the fate of Captiva. In 1927, he came poised to find success for himself, and keep the island on the map. Twenty-years after his arrival, he had built a key lime plantation empire and subsequently sold the land to developers, where the South Seas Island Resort currently stands.⁴

Grace and F. Bowman Price established 'Tween Waters Inn on Captiva in 1931, expanded it over time, and accommodated wealthy tourists and seasonal visitors primarily from the Midwest, Northeast, and Upper South. Competition from other lodges and inns on Captiva in the 1930s consisted of Camp Gore, Captiva Lodge, Fisherman's Lodge, Green Lawn Lodge, and Moon Over. The Prices made their first visit to Captiva in 1924, in part, to help Bowman Price rest and recuperate from an illness. Bowman Price made the initial purchase of property that became 'Tween Waters Inn in 1925 (lot 7, Dickey's subdivision), which then contained the Fitzpatrick cottage, where Reba Fitzpatrick had lived and worked as the private teacher for the Dickey boys. The purchase included riparian rights, providing the Prices with a private beach on the Gulf of Mexico. Bowman Price expanded the cottage, and adapted the interior for an inn that Grace Price opened in 1931 (Photo 2). It then contained the Prices' home and the inn's registration office, dining hall, and a guest room. Subsequent additions made to the primary building (1935, 1940, and 1954) expanded the dining facilities and added a lounge.⁵

In 1931, Bowman and Grace also built the first of several small cottages (Photo 10) to expand accommodations at the inn. To take advantage of the small but growing parade of seasonal tourists, the Prices built that cottage and then subsequent cottages just east of Captiva Drive. The attractive site plan proved to be a well-conceived

² Captiva History, http://www.gloriaoflannery.com/area_history_captiva.asp

³ "Theodore Roosevelt and Russell J. Coles," http://historical.ha.com/c/item.zx?saleNo=6031&lotNo=35069.

⁴ About Captiva Island, http://www.captivaislandhomesandvillas.com/captivaisland.aspx/.

⁵ Deed Book 75, p. 212, Clerk of Court, Lee County Courthouse, Fort Myers, Florida; Captiva Civic Association, Voices from the Past: True Tales of Captiva (Fort Myers: Sutherland Publishing Company, 1984), p. 111-114, 201; Fort Myers News-Press, 22 November 1934.

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marketing strategy, in part, because the inn was the first tourist facility encountered by visitors driving on Captiva Drive after they crossed Blind Pass Bridge. Wealthy tourists in automobiles first appeared regularly on Captiva in 1928 when the Kinzie Brothers Steamer Line introduced automobile ferry service between Punta Rassa and Sanibel. The cost of travel by car and ferry created a wealthy clientele for the remote resort. The picturesque cottages faced west in close proximity of the beach, and readily caught the attention of passing motorists. Earlier in the decade, storm waters had washed over Captiva with the resulting salt water residue killing citrus trees and destroying crops, which compelled property owners to look for new sources of income. Tourism emerged as the foremost source of revenue, and 'Tween Waters Inn ranked among the earliest of those businesses catering to tourists.⁶ F. Bowman Price provided guided fishing services on his cabin cruiser "Herd," and often joined other Captiva residents and tourists on fishing trips into the Calooshatchee River, Charlotte Harbor, the Gulf of Mexico, and Punta Gorda.⁷

In 1935, federal aid in the form of Public Works Administration (PWA) grants provided funds to pave Captiva Drive with a sand-asphalt surface. An increase in the numbers of tourists arriving in Fort Myers encouraged Grace Price to run an advertisement in the annual tourist edition of the Fort Myers News-Press. Placed immediately above the Sanibel Ferry ad by the Kinzie Brothers, a one-eighth page advertisement appeared in the Fort Myers News-Press on November 28, 1935, apparently the first formal advertisement for the inn. 8

The alluring name and Grace's charm coupled with a keen business acumen helped make 'Tween Waters Inn a popular Captiva institution. Lee County's emergent tourism business encouraged the Prices to build a cottage each year to accommodate growing numbers of tourists seeking the privacy and seclusion afforded by Lee County's resort island. By 1935, the Prices had built five cottages and a dock. A skilled carpenter, Price designed and constructed cottages using building materials he secured in Fort Myers. The Prices also constructed housing for the inn's newly-hired staff, a building (Photo 9) that a subsequent owner adapted into a marina. In 1935, an enumerator for the Florida State Census recorded Bowman Price as a poultry dealer and Grace Price as a hotel keeper. That year, Grace Price acquired adjoining lot 6, where she built additional cottages (Photos 11 and 13) in the closing years of the Great Depression.

In 1936, following a tour of Captiva and Sanibel, writer Nell Boswell of the <u>News-Press</u> composed a column on Lee County's "Enchanting Shell Beaches." Boswell wrote that "Over the bridge you pass one lovely home after another so you begin to slow down so that you can try to take them all in. 'Tween Waters Inn has its sign out and you've heard so much about it you drive in a driveway that is studded on each side with shells all just alike. You have often wondered why it was called 'Tween Waters and on the left and on the right you see the water

⁶ Voices from the Past, p. 111-114, 215; Fort Myers News-Press, November 22,1934.

⁷Fort Myers News-Press, January 3, February 15, March 8, 1931; January 11, November 24, 1932, January 24, December 17, 1934, November 28,1935.

Fort Myers News-Press, November 28, 1935.

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and here you find one big main building with little cottages scattered about the grounds, all with little walk ways studded with shells."9

In 1937, after F. Bowman Price died, Grace Price operated the inn with her daughter, Dorothy, and several staff members. In 1938, Price again advertised 'Tween Waters Inn in Fort Myers, but this time distilled the inn's character into the simple phrase: "A small hotel for discriminating people, unique and attractive." Instead of building a large facility, Price depended on small cottages, the gulf's clear blue-green waters, and a picturesque setting to accommodate tourists. She discovered that patrons appreciated her discretion in not revealing the names of her other guests. She also found that the beach was an important part of the inn where guests spent at least as much of their time as in cottages or elsewhere on the property. Mrs. J. Paul McCulloch of Greenwich, Connecticut, later recalled that "...the beach was an integral part of life. The beach was a living space, and was where people were. The whole lovely length and extent of it, was there to be enjoyed; a place for swimming, walking, fishing, talking, for reading, writing letters, listening to opera, for having fish fries and barbeques, noonsies and sundowners. Occasionally, there were big parties." ¹⁰

In January 1939, Grace Price helped organize with the Fort Myers Air Service and Carl Hanton of the Fort Myers News-Press an air mail island newspaper service. Initially termed "the dawn patrol," an aircraft dropped morning copies of the daily newspaper in ten locations on five of Lee County's barrier islands: Captiva, Gasparilla, Pine, Sanibel, and Useppa. 'Tween Waters Inn participated in the inaugural daily air mail service to provide its guests with the uncommon island advantage of a current newspaper with breakfast.

Price operated the inn on a seasonal basis between November and April, and then relocated each summer to Bristol, Tennessee, where she operated 'Tween Hills Inn, a mountain resort. Several of Captiva's earliest settlers and tourists came from Bristol, which shared a common heritage with Bristol, Virginia. In the twin cities, State Street separated the municipalities and also served as the states' boundary. Grace Price seasonally migrated from 'Tween Waters Inn and 'Tween Hills Inn for nearly thirty years, accommodating guests in the Blue Ridge Mountains and by the Gulf of Mexico. Seasonal visitors at 'Tween Waters Inn consisted primarily of successful upper middle class Americans with sufficient leisure time and resources in the Great Depression to travel to Southwest Florida during the winter.

From the beginning, the Prices discouraged parents from bringing their children to 'Tween Waters Inn, in part, so that they and other patrons could enjoy the relaxed social environment and club-like feel of the resort. Max and Jean Hayford first stayed at 'Tween Waters Inn in February 1938, and returned with their children in 1939.

⁹ Fort Myers News-Press, December 22, 1932, December 21, 1933, November 22, 1934, November 26, 1936, Deed Book 132, p. 317; Voices from the Past, pp. 285-286.

¹⁰ Florida Department of State, Florida State Census, 1935; Lee County, FL; Fort Myers News-Press, December 22, 1932, December 21, 1933, November 22, 1934, January 30, 1938; Voices from the Past, p. 285-286.

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They collected shells along Captiva's beach, used the bathtub to house sealife, and became friends with "Ding" Darling. But, in 1940, Grace Price politely advised them that if they intended to return to Captiva with their children, they should seek accommodations elsewhere. From the beginning, "Grace Price thought of her Inn as a club. The same people came year after year, and virtually made it one. They were vital, intelligent, urbane people, highly individualized. Perhaps, because of the ambiance of 'Tween Waters, and the nature of the times, a net of commonality developed. There were no phones, no television in the earlier years, no causeway, very few navigational markers...."

Visitors during the 1930s and 1940s included Arlan Clarke, the manager of a food manufacturing company in Detroit, Michigan; J. William Doxey, a Brooklyn physician; Chalmers C. Laughner, an Atlantic City, New Jersey oil broker who relocated to St. Petersburg to open a real estate finance business; H. Edward Davenport, a telephone company executive from Michigan; John R. Heath, a drug company accountant from the affluent community of Riverside, Illinois; Colonel J.N. Pickens of La Mesa, California; J.B. Ross, professor of history at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York; Russell W. Todd, an automotive engineer from Bronxville, New York; James L. Loomis, the president of the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company and president of the Loomis Institute at Windsor; and Roger T. Peterson, author and publisher of field guides for birds (1934) and developer of the Peterson Identification System, a practical method for field identification that highlights readily apparent visual features rather than technical scientific features. ¹²

If Grace Price provided accommodations for dozens of tourists at 'Tween Waters Inn between the Great Depression and the 1950s, she also entertained and served hundreds of others guests at dinner and parties in the Old Captiva House. In the process, she built 'Tween Waters Inn into a social center and prominent tourist facility on Captiva with seasonal visitors and tourists often returning to enjoy her hospitality. Distinguished visitors who dined but did not secure overnight accommodations at 'Tween Waters Inn were aviator Charles A. Lindbergh and his wife, Anne Morrow Lindbergh, who drew from her vacations at Captiva inspiration for her best-selling book Gift from the Sea. Her essay-style work used shells on the beach for inspiration, and reflected on the lives of Americans, particularly mid-twentieth century American women. Lindbergh shared her meditations on youth and age; love and marriage; and peace, solitude and contentment. Sometimes classified as inspirational literature, the book presaged many of the emergent themes in that genre of popular literature: simplicity, solitude, and caring for the soul. First published in 1955, Gift from the Sea remained on the New York Times' best-seller list for over one year and eventually sold over 3,000,000 copies. 13

¹¹ Voices from the Past, p. 225-226, 285-286; 'Tween Waters Inn Register, 'Tween Waters Inn Archives, Captiva, FL.

¹² Fort Myers News-Press, May 5, 1943; 'Tween Waters Inn Register; Tony Lapi, Informant, 2010.

¹³ Tom Pendergast, St. James Encyclopedia of Popular Culture (Detroit: St. James Press, 2000); Susan Hertog, Anne Morrow Lindbergh: Her Life (New York: Nan A. Talese, 1999).

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After World War II, Anne vacationed on Captiva's secluded shores by herself and on other occasions with family members. She never publicly revealed Captiva as the source of inspiration for her classic Gift from the Sea. Some students of Lindbergh claim that she intentionally protected the exclusive image of Captiva and 'Tween Waters Inn from the hordes of vacationers pouring into Florida in the 1950s. But, after Charles' death in 1974, close-lipped acquaintances revealed the couple's clandestine getaway spot. In November 2005, the Earth Shine Institute sponsored the 50th Anniversary Festival of Gift from the Sea. Held at Captiva and Sanibel, the week-long festival celebrated the fifty years of wisdom, insight, and inspiration associated with the Lindbergh classic. Participants included Margaret Eiluned Morgan, niece of Anne Morrow Lindbergh; Susannah Brown and Kristina Lindbergh, granddaughters of Anne Morrow Lindbergh; Captiva artist Sarita Van Vleck; and Judith A. Schiff, chief research archivist at Yale University Library, which houses the Charles A. Lindbergh Papers. That year, Schiff presented a keynote address, "The Writer and the Writing," at a one-day Lindbergh Symposium held at 'Tween Waters Inn. 14

In May 1943, Grace Price's daughter, Dorothy Price, married John T. Wakefield, who then was serving as an ordinance officer at Venice Army Air Field. The couple was married at 'Tween Waters Inn and enjoyed their honeymoon at the Darling's Fish House, a home Darling built farther north on Captiva Island in 1942, from which Jay and Penny Darling had departed the previous week for Iowa. A native of Massachusetts, Wakefield subsequently secured a transfer to Page Army Air Field near Fort Myers. Wakefield's military duties included operating an air-to-ground target range at Bowman's Beach on the north end of Sanibel, several miles south of 'Tween Waters Inn. After the war, Wakefield established a real estate business and custom-home design-build company through which he developed several homes on Captiva and Sanibel, and expanded 'Tween Waters Inn. 15

In 1944, 'Tween Waters Inn was struck by the first of several significant hurricanes that the resort has survived. Traveling in a northeast path, the mid October 1944 storm traveled west of Lee County's barrier islands and entered the mainland south of Sarasota. Its winds measured 120 miles per hour at Fort Myers, and probably higher gusts at Captiva. At Captiva, the storm destroyed Belton Johnson's home and many mature trees, breaking branches, uprooting trunks, and in some areas blocking Captiva Drive. The storm's wave action resulted in significant beach erosion with the gulf's waters washing up to Captiva Drive and nearly flooding the island. The winds on nearby Pine Island ripped the ripening fruit from citrus trees, and grapefruit and oranges flew through the air like cannonballs. As far inland as Bartow, the 1944 hurricane blew over 100 large oak trees. ¹⁶

¹⁴ Schedule of Events, Gift from the Sea 50th Anniversary Festival November 12-18, 2005; "Gift from the Sea Festival to be Held on Captiva Island November 12-18," <u>EarthShineInstitute Newsletter</u> (August 2005), 11; "Gift from the Sea 50th Anniversary Festival," http://www.charleslindbergh.com/pdf/GftS05 Scheduleofevents.pdf; http://www.earthshineinstitute.com/press_ release.htm.
¹⁵ Fort Myers News-Press, May 4 and 5, 1943, March 8, 1983.

¹⁶ John Attaway, <u>Hurricanes and Florida Agriculture</u> (Lake Alfred: Florida Science Source, Inc., 1999), 146-147, 155, 221, 226-227; Ralf Kircher, Editor, A Sanibel and Captiva Family Album: A Pictorial History of the Islands B.C.—Before the Causeway, Sanibel:

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About 1946, Grace Price developed a promotional brochure with photographs that depicted the entrance to 'Tween Waters Inn, a multiple cottage, individual cottage, and the private dock. The weekly rate for an individual cottage then was \$30.00 with meals. Her text described Captiva as:

...a small sub-tropical island which lies well down the Gulf Coast of Florida. One of its chief charms, aside from its simplicity and tropical atmosphere, is its remoteness from the beaten tourist path. The waters surrounding the island are renowned for their excellent fishing, and bathing in the Gulf is ideal. 'Tween Waters Inn attempts to furnish all the comforts without ostentation. Our facilities include individual cottages, with living room, bedroom and bath. Multiple room cottages (each room with private bath) and a central living room. Meals are served in the large attractive dining room in the main cottage. Our own fishing boats and competent guide are available at reasonable rates. Informal dress is the rule at all times. The Inn is open from November 15th to May 1st. As accommodations are limited, advance reservations are necessary.¹⁷

In 1946, the Wakefields acquired additional property on Captiva, purchasing lot 5 that adjoined 'Tween Waters Inn on the south, where they built a home (Photo 15) overlooking Pine Island Sound. In 1950, the Wakefields purchased lot 4 and in 1954 lot 3 of Dickey's subdivision. The acquisitions provided additional property to the south to expand the inn. As part of the 1950s expansion of 'Tween Waters Inn, John T. Wakefield supervised the relocation of four World War II officer's quarters (Photographs 7, 9, 10) from Buckingham Army Air Field to the island resort prior to 1958. A moving company placed them on a barge at Buckingham and plied the waters of the Caloosahatchee River and Pine Island Sound to 'Tween Waters Inn. Placing them south of the older buildings, Wakefield adapted them for use as cottages at the inn. ¹⁸

In 1953, Tropical Storm Hazel produced wind gusts of seventy miles per hour at Captiva, causing beach erosion and damaging trees and buildings. In September 1960, Hurricane Donna devastated Southwest Florida and Lee County. Donna contained sustained winds measured at ninety-two miles per hour with gusts of 121 mph in Fort Myers and Lee County's islands. The hurricane entered the mainland at Fort Myers, where winds blew a fully-loaded tractor trailer off the Edison Bridge into the Caloosahatchee River and eroded Lee County's beaches. At Captiva, the hurricane destroyed forty-seven pine trees at the Hayford's estate, forty-eight mature trees on the Croft lot, and several trees at 'Tween Waters Inn. Damage amounted to \$12,000,000. In November 1960, the

Island Reporter, 1996, p. 72; Voices from the Past, p. 223, 237, 242; Jay Barnes, Florida's Hurricane History (Chapel Hill and London: University of North Carolina Press, 1998), 164-166.

^{17 &#}x27;Tween Waters Inn Archives, Captiva, FL.

Deed Book 174, p. 485; Deed Book 202, p. 412; Deed Book 239, p. 42; Fort Myers News-Press, October 4, 1969, March 8, 1983; Bob Sabatino, Informant, 2010; Flint & Doyle Structural Movers, Ft. Myers, FL, Informant, 2010; United States Geological Survey, Captiva, Fla. (Washington, D.C.: USGS, 1958); United States Geological Survey, Captiva, Fla. (Washington, D.C.: USGS, 1958 PR 1972); Captiva Civic Association, True Tales of Captiva, p. 251, 252, 290.

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New York Times reported that Fort Myers and Lee County tourism was "business as usual," and reminded readers that Captiva and Sanibel offered "...the largest live shell beds in the western hemisphere."

In 1962, after Grace Price became ill and returned permanently to Bristol, Tennessee, John Wakefield took over management of 'Tween Waters Inn. Beyond his real estate and construction businesses and work at 'Tween Waters Inn, Wakefield served as president of the Captiva Civic Association, a commissioner of the Sanibel-Captiva Mosquito Control District, and on the Captiva Erosion District Board. In 1962, Grace Price, Dorothy Wakefield, and John Wakefield incorporated 'Tween Waters Inn, Inc., and in the process consolidated their holdings in lots 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and part of lot 8 in Dickey's subdivision. Dorothy Price Wakefield served as the first president. Subsequent owners in the late 1960s and 1970s included Jean S. Friedberg, James H. Thornton, Scott Hamilton, and Tony Lapi.

In 1971, Scott Hamilton converted the staff housing at 'Tween Waters Inn into a marina (Photo 9), which Bob Sabatino managed and from which he operated a fishing guide business. Since 1976, Tony Lapi and Rochester Resorts, Inc. has owned and operated 'Tween Waters Inn, Inc. In August 2004, the eye of Hurricane Charley hit the north tip of Captiva with winds that reached 150 miles per hour. The storm damaged approximately ninety percent of the buildings and structures on Captiva and Sanibel, and downed and twisted hundreds of trees. On Captiva, one of the last surviving Australian pines toppled onto and damaged the Ding Darling cottage. The storm surge and strong waves caused severe beach erosion at Captiva. A sailboat from a neighboring resort was pushed into the docks at 'Tween Waters Inn, which were twisted and damaged by the winds and surge. Nearby, South Seas Resort closed for a year to repair damages.²⁰

Significance of Jay Norwood "Ding" Darling

Undoubtedly 'Tween Waters Inn's most celebrated guest, Jay Norwood 'Ding' Darling began seasonal migrations to the Captiva resort in the winter of 1935-1936. One of the twentieth century's leading newspaper cartoonists, Darling also provided leadership in the nation's conservation movement at the highest levels. By 1935, Darling had won a Pulitzer Prize (1924) in the category of editorial cartooning in his work for the Des Moines Register and the New York Herald Tribune. Experts estimate that Darling created 15,000 editorial cartoons chronicling the government, history, politics, thought, and trends of the United States during the first half of the twentieth century.

Deed Book 163, p. 66, Official Record 156, p. 395; Fort Myers News-Press, October 4, 1969, March 8, 1983; Bob Sabatino, Every Day in Saturday (Sanibel: Bob Sabatino, 2008), 100-103; Bob Sabatino, Informant, 2010; Jim George, Summer of Fury: A Chronicle of Hurricane Charley (Sanibel: Pelican Wing Publications, 2005), 35, 38, 78.

¹⁹ Fort Myers News-Press, October 4, 1969, 8 March 1983; Bob Sabatino, Informant, 2010; New York Times, September 13 and November 6, 1960; Barnes, Florida's Hurricane History, p. 197-212; Attaway, Hurricanes and Florida Agriculture, 1999, p. 146-147, 155, 221, 226-227; True Tales of Captiva, p. 251, 252, 290.

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Darling was a talented and gifted newspaper cartoonist, but conservation was his passion. His interest in wildlife, especially migratory birds and fish, dates to his childhood in the American Midwest. Darling's ideas and practices on conservation came out of the traditions of Gifford Pinchot and President Theodore Roosevelt. Conservation crept into many of his editorial cartoons. His best conservation drawings and cartoonist were inspired by waterfowl. In 1928, Aldo Leopold, the renowned ecologist and forester at the University of Wisconsin, commented in his field notes that "J.N. 'Ding' Darling is an ideal citizen for conservation leadership." In January 1934, President Franklin D. Roosevelt appointed Darling, Tom Beck of Collier's, and John Merriam of the Smithsonian Institution to a special presidential committee for conservation and restoration of migratory waterfowl.

Darling's contribution led Roosevelt to appoint Darling as chief of the U.S. Biological Survey Bureau, the predecessor of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Darling served in the post between March 1934 and November 1935. The appointment surprised and perplexed some observers. One leading authority on Darling characterized the cartoonist as a "rock-ribbed conservative Republican." By then, Darling had gained fame from his Pulitzer Prize and served as an officer and stockholder in the Register, but was willing to forgo a six figure salary as an editorial cartoonist at the nadir of the Great Depression to become an \$8,000 member of the New Deal team. For his part, Darling perceived the appointment as an opportunity to effect positive change in America's conservation movement at the national level. Darling already possessed an extensive background accomplishing conservation goals at the state level in Iowa. 21

After Darling helped steer through the Congress and across Roosevelt's desk a \$6,000,000 appropriation for habitat restoration, Roosevelt commented that "This fellow Darling is the only man in history who got an appropriation through Congress, past the Budget and signed by the President without anybody realizing that the Treasury had been raided." Because of Darling's activism, Roosevelt by proclamation converted bird refuges, migratory waterfowl refuges, and reservations to national wildlife refuges. The system grew from sixty-three to 204 between 1934 and 1944. But, Darling harbored suspicions that Roosevelt had appointed him to the post, in part, to silence one of the nation's harshest New Deal critics. Darling's government service in the nation's capital confirmed his suspicions of Roosevelt's "bureaucratic maze" and Washington politics. For his part, Roosevelt found Darling "...a feisty protagonist, who was not likely to take no for an answer, and a cartoonist with a national, front-page showcase for his well-known anti-Roosevelt opinions." 22

Lendt, Darling, p. 60, 63-77, 97-104; "The Life of J. Norwood Darling," http://www.dingdarling.org/darling.pdf; New York Times, February 13, 1962; Fort Myers News-Press, February 13, 1962; Fischman, "National Wildlife Refuges," p.12.

²¹ David Lendt, "Ding": The Life of Jay Norwood Darling (Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1989), 60, 63-77, 97-104; New York Times, February 13, 1962; Fort Myers News-Press, February 13, 1962; Robert Fischman, "The Significance of National Wildlife Refuges in the Development of U.S. Conservation Policy," <u>Journal of Land Use</u> 21 (2005), 12.

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During his twenty months in the Biological Survey, Darling developed the Federal Duck Stamp Program and designed its first stamp, founded and served as president of the National Wildlife Federation (NWF), created the Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit Program, and laid the groundwork for the system of today's National Wildlife Refuges (NWR). Darling also created the signature symbol of the NWR system—the flying goose. Insisting on the use of the scientific method to preserve America's wildlife and compiling and distributing facts about the nation's wildlife, Darling became known as "the best friends ducks ever had." Darling also developed a close, if difficult, working relationship with Harold Ickes, the secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, head of the New Deal's Public Works Administration (PWA), and one of FDR's most trusted advisors. Darling departed Washington, D.C. wiser to politics and devoted to conservation. 23

Darling traveled to Captiva following his resignation from the government job and his return to editorial cartooning. For seven winters extending between 1935-1936 and 1941-1942, Darling executed numerous cartoons at 'Tween Waters Inn with business, conservation, government, labor, and New Deal political overtones. He drew some cartoons in his travel trailer which he called the "Bouncing Betsy" (1936-1937 season), but most were executed in a small studio next to his cottage (Photo 13).²⁴

Most seasons, the Darlings vacationed at 'Tween Waters Inn for four months, arriving in mid December and remaining through April, but sometimes arrived in January and remained into May. During his first visit in November 1935, Darling suggested the name 'Tween Waters Inn to the Prices because of the property's gulf-to-bay exposure. The resulting advertisement that Grace Price placed in the Fort Myers News-Press that year reflected Darling's suggestion. Beyond the dozens of editorial cartoons drawn by Darling at 'Tween Waters Inn, he sketched cartoons personalized for Grace Price in the guest register. With a keen sense of humor, timing, and posterity, Darling dated most of his cartoons. For the 1936-1937 season, Darling drew a cartoon in the guest register captioned "Penny & Jay Darling & the Bouncing Betsy." At the close of the 1937-1938 season, Darling drew a cartoon at 'Tween Waters Inn in registration book, depicting himself and Penny warding off hordes of mosquitoes as they drove madly off the island with the caption of "Last Guests of 1938." 25

In 1939, Darling drew another cartoon depicting 'Tween Waters Inn's guests sunbathing behind a wind break built on the gulf front by another guest who he characterized as "Commander Frederick A. Jostes." A surgeon at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Jostes gained a reputation as an excellent teacher, published several articles in medical journals, organized a statewide crippled children's program, and contributed to the understanding of manipulative therapy in the treatment of internal derangements of the

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ "Who Was Ding Darling,," http://digital.lib.uiowa.edu/ding/who.html; "The Editorial Cartoons of J.N. 'Ding' Darling," http://www.lib.drake.edu/heritage/ding-darling/search.html.

²⁵ Fort Myers News-Press, 28 November 1935; "Frederick A. Jostes, 1895-1952," <u>Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery</u> 34 (July 1952):745; 'Tween Waters Inn Archives, Captiva, Florida.

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lumbosacral spine. Jostes' status as a naval reserve officer prompted Darling to use the term, commander, in his caption for the 'Tween Waters Inn scene, which included Jay and Penny Darling, Frederick Jostes, Christopher "Kip" Koss and Mary Darling Koss, Joseph M. O'Reilly, and approximately ten other persons whose signatures have faded over time. 26

On May 1, 1939, at the close of the 1938-1939 season, Darling produced another cartoon in the 'Tween Waters Inn guest register, depicting his car overstuffed with suitcases and other belongings scattered nearby and the caption "The year we left most of our stuff at Captiva so we wouldn't have to bring so much down with us next year." By then, the cottage and studio had become the private domain of the Darlings. Indeed, most seasons the Darlings were the last guests to leave 'Tween Waters Inn, which is well-documented in Darling's cartoon. Another guest register cartoon from 1943 depicted B-24 Liberators on "Target Practice and Observation Training at Captiva" with flight crews flying low over the beach focusing their attention on bathing beauties, rather than bombing runs at Bowman Beach.²⁷

For seven years, 'Tween Waters Inn served as Darling's seasonal retreat and workplace far from Iowa's harsh winters. Darling enjoyed the fishing, wildlife, and social life at 'Tween Waters Inn, but also worked hard to maintain a steady flow of correspondence, even though there were sometimes considerable delays in his responses. He sent his editorial cartoons and letters aboard the mail boat that daily docked at Captiva. From his base at 'Tween Waters Inn, he often traveled to meetings elsewhere in the country. In the spring of 1937, he departed from the resort for St. Louis, Missouri, where a conference of the American Wildlife Federation elected him as their president. In the spring of 1938, the conference officially changed its name to the National Wildlife Federation, and again elected Darling as its president. Darling's January-April 1939 stay was interrupted by trips to Guatemala; Rochester, New York; and a meeting of the National Wildlife Federation in Detroit, Michigan.²⁸

'Tween Waters Inn was the foundation place from where Darling drew inspiration for his most renowned conservation cartoon (1938), earned a second Pulitzer Prize (1943), and re-focused his conservation efforts to preserve Lee County's barrier island wildlife. Darling's political cartoons often cast an eye toward conservation, including one in June 1938 that depicted an excavated North America with the caption —"How Rich Will We Be When We Have Converted All Our Forests, All Our Soil, All Our Water Resources and Our Minerals Into Cash?" Drafted by Darling just after departing 'Tween Waters Inn in mid-1938, the cartoon best illustrates both Darling's conservation ethic and remarkable ability to convey complex thoughts by way of an editorial cartoon.

²⁶ Ibid.

²⁷ Ibid.

²⁸ Lendt, Darling, 68, 69.

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The sketch depicted an excavated North America with the exception of his beloved South Florida and the site of Captiva and Sanibel where he focused his conservation efforts in the late-1930s and 1940s.²⁹

In the winter of 1936-1937, Darling traveled from Des Moines, Iowa, to 'Tween Waters Inn in seven days towing the Bouncing Betsy, a "newfangled house trailer," which he also referred to as a "tax dodger's domicile." The adventure inspired his <u>Cruise of the Bouncing Betsy: A Trailer Travelogue</u>, published in 1937. Darling compiled the outline, composed some of the narrative, and drew most of the cartoons appearing in the publication at 'Tween Waters Inn in time for its release in June 1937. Witty with a genial humor, Darling opened his travelogue with a cartoon and humorous aphorism: "Most trailer trips begin with a family argument." In Florida, the Darlings traveled through Tallahassee, Ocala, Lakeland, Winter Haven, Sarasota, Punta Gorda, and Fort Myers. Ding described Captiva, 'Tween Waters Inn, and the inn keepers in the closing chapter entitled "The Last Lap":

Here ends the cruise of the Bouncing Betsy. She is drawn up on the small picturesque island of Captiva with the windows on one side looking out on the blue waters of the Gulf of Mexico, and the view from the other side is through tropical vegetation fifty yards to the calm waters of the bay which separates us by a couple of miles from the mainland. There are no telephones and the mail boat comes once a day when it runs and drops us the four-day-old newspapers from New York and home. Who cares? This is no ordinary tourist resort. There is not a dance floor on the island and no raucous jazz music drowns out the soft singing of the breezes through the cocoanut palms at night. Fifteen miles from the ferry landing at Sanibel Island, over a one-way bridge and down a winding white shell road stands 'Tween Waters Inn. It is a modest little establishment with dining-room and five cottages, clean as a pin and pretty as a morning in June. We are pulled up inconspicuously near by where we can run in for the very excellent meals—just like you would have at home, without the occasionally bad coffee and tough lamb chops. 'Tween Waters is owned and managed by a Prince and his Charming Consort who has a rare genius for fine flavoring of hospitality as well as food. We do not dress for dinner and the fishing is marvelous. I hope no one else ever finds it-least of all the trailer multitude. To invade this sanctuary of nature with a trailer colony would be as out of place as taking a hurdy-gurdy to prayer meeting. Every day the pelicans and porpoises come over to play with us along a mile-long sandy beach. Pretty soft for porpoises and pelicans—all they have to do all day is just roll in the blue waters of the Gulf and dive for fish. Gee, I wish I didn't have to work. 30

Published by Frederick A. Stokes Company of New York, Darling's book sold for \$1.00 and found favorable reviews in Booklist, Book, Saturday Review of Literature, and Springfield Republican. Writing in the Saturday

²⁹ "Norwood 'Ding' Darling," http://www.nwf.org/About/History-and-Heritage/Conservation-Hall-of-Fame/Darling.aspx.

J.N. "Ding" Darling, <u>The Cruise of the Bouncing Betsy: A Trailer Travelogue</u> (New York: Frederick Stokes Company, 1937), 93-95.

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Review of Literature, Theodore Pratt provided the context for Darling's Bouncing Betsy by combining in his review six books published in 1937 on trailer life in America. Achieving acclaim as a writer with novels set in Florida, including Mercy Island that was released as a movie in 1941, Pratt found Darling's book cast "...in a spirit of joyous sophistry" and easily the most hilarious book published in the emergent canon of America's "Infancy of Trailer Literature." Although the entertaining travelogue earned Darling a good advance, the book never achieved the level of best seller. In May 1943, George Stevens of the Stokes Company informed Darling that if the publisher sold the remaining stock of Bouncing Betsy, the amount would not even repay Darling's advance.

The book enjoyed modest sales and was distributed to thirty-four libraries across the United States and one copy in the British Library in London, England. Despite its light distribution and lethargic sales, the Prices were grateful for the exposure. It has been suggested that Darling's book prompted several changes at 'Tween Waters Inn. First, beginning in the 1937-1938 season, Grace Price reserved the same beachfront cottage for Darling each year so that he would never again have to haul the Bouncing Betsy to obtain a beachfront location and the privacy that he preferred at the resort. In addition, Bowman Price built the adjacent studio, providing Darling with a private place to draft cartoons while Penny entertained guests in the cottage. This was one of the last buildings constructed by Bowman Price before his death. In addition, Darling's reference to four-day-old newspapers prompted Grace Price to initiate air mail service at 'Tween Waters Inn in 1939. And, of course, she made sure that her hospitality included "...very excellent meals...without the occasionally bad coffee and tough lamb chops." ³¹

During several tourist seasons, the editors of the Fort Myers News-Press took notice of the Darlings' arrival and departure, and published notices of their appearance at Captiva in local chatterbox columns. Eventually, Darling executed a cartoon captioned "The Way to 'Tween Waters," which depicted Fort Myers, Punta Rassa Ferry, and Sanibel Island in the distance with Captiva and 'Tween Waters Inn in the fore-ground; the drawing serves as the inspiration for a table mat used on a daily basis in the Old Captiva House Restaurant at 'Tween Waters Inn. Darling ended his migrations to 'Tween Waters Inn in 1942, when he completed the "Darling Fish House," a seasonal home farther north on Captiva Island. The new home provided Darling with a level of privacy not available in the club-like atmosphere at 'Tween Waters Inn. Upon his final departure, Darling again created a cartoon in the 'Tween Waters Inn guest register, this time depicting the "Fish House" and signaling his exodus with the terse caption "Moving Day" dated May 1, 1942. Several months later, Darling's September 1942 editorial cartoon in the Register and Herald-Tribune with the caption "What a Place for a Waste Paper Salvage Campaign," earned him a second Pulitzer Prize, which was awarded in 1943.

Mertice James and Dorothy Brown, Editors, <u>Book Review Digest</u>, 1937 (New York: H.W. Wilson Company, 1938), 250; Theodore Pratt, "The Infancy of Trailer Literature," <u>Saturday Review in Literature</u> 16 (August 1937), 10.

³² Fort Myers News-Press, December 21, 1938; "J.N.'Ding' Darling NWR," http://www.fws.gov/dingdarling/About/about.html; 'Tween Waters Inn Archives, Captiva, FL; Lendt, Darling, 111.

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				SIGNIFICANCE

On the heels of that prize, Darling was named the winner of the Roosevelt Medal for his conservation work. Darling made use of his renewed acclaim to accomplish one of his greatest achievements: the creation of a wildlife refuge on Sanibel. He put to use political lessons he had learned in Washington, D.C., first by corresponding with Spessard Holland, Florida's governor, who twice postponed pending sales of remaining public lands on Sanibel. Darling then applied political pressure at the highest levels, and helped persuade President Harry Truman to declare those public lands a national wildlife refuge in 1945. The National Audubon Society awarded Darling its Audubon Medal in 1960, two years before his death. Initially known as Sanibel National Wildlife Refuge, it was renamed J.N. "Ding" Darling National Wildlife Refuge in 1967. The refuge consists of over 6,400 acres of mangrove forest, submerged sea grass beds, cord grass marshes, and West Indian hardwood hammocks. Approximately 2,800 acres of the refuge were subsequently designated by the United States Congress as a Wilderness Area. Each November, "Ding Darling Days" celebrates the achievements and educates the public about the pioneer conservationist and the rich ecosystem of the National Wildlife Refuges.³³

^{33 &}quot;J.N. 'Ding' Darling NWR;" Lendt, <u>Darling</u>, p. 111; 'Tween Waters Inn Archives.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

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Miscellaneous

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Name of Property	County and State
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of Property 3 apprx	
UTM References (Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)	
1 1 7 3 8 1 4 6 0 2 9 3 2 4 4 0 Northing 2	Zone Easting Northing 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 Sidney Johnston/W. Carl Shiver, Historic Preservationis	t .
organization Florida Bureau of Historic Preservation	date November 2011
street & number 500 South Bronough Street	telephone (850) 245-6333
city or town <u>Tallahassee</u>	state Florida zip code 32399-0250
Additional Documentation Submit the following items with the completed form:	
Continuation Sheets	
Maps	
A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the p	property's location.
A Sketch map for historic districts and properties havi	
Photographs	
Representative black and white photographs of the	property
Additional items	property.
(check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)	
Property Owner	
(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)	
name Tony Lapi, Rochester Resorts, Inc.	
street & number 15951 Captiva Drive	telephone <u>800-233-5865</u>
city or town Captiva	state Florida zip code 33924

TWEEN WATERS BIN HISTORIC DISTRICT

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and amend listings. Response to this required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number	10	Page	1	TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT	
-			_	CAPTIVA, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA	
				GEOGRAPHICAL DATA	

Verbal Boundary Description

Tax Parcel: 35-45-21-04-00002.0000; 35-45-21-04-00002.00A0, Township 45S, Section 35, Range 21E DICKEY'S JOHN R SUBD, PB 4 PG 6 PT LTS 2 THRU 8 AS DESC OR 1978 PG 239 & 240

Boundary Justification

The boundary line shown on the enclosed historic district map encompasses all of the historic resources contained in the above described parcels.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section number	Page	1	TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT	
			CAPTIVA, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA	
			LIST OF PHOTOTRAPHS	

List of Photographs

- 1. Captiva Drive
- 2. 'Tween Waters Historic District, Captiva (Lee County), Florida
- 3. Sidney Johnston
- 4. 2010
- 5. Sidney Johnston
- 6. View Looking North
- 7. Photo 1 of 26

Numbers 2-5 are the same for the remaining photographs.

- 1. Captiva Drive
- 6. View Looking North
- 7. Photo 2 of 26
- 1. Old Captiva School House
- 3. Unknown
- 4. c. 1910
- 5. State Library of Florida Photo Archives
- 6. Unknown
- 7. Photo 3 of 26
- 1. Old Captiva House
- 3. Unknown
- 4. c. 1931
- 5. 'Tween Waters Inn
- 6. Main (West) Facade, Looking East
- 7. Photo 4 of 26
- 1. Old Captiva House
- 6. Main (West) Facade, Looking East
- 7. Photo 5 of 26
- 1. Old Captiva House
- 6. Main (West) Facade, Looking South
- 7. Photo 6 of 26

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			CAPTIVA, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA	
			LIST OF PHOTOTRAPHS	

- 1. Old Captiva House
- 6. Main (West) Facade, Looking Northeast
- 7. Photo 7 of 26
- 1. Old Captiva House
- 6. Terrace, Looking North
- 7. Photo 8 of 26
- 1. Old Captiva House
- 6. Terrace, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 9 of 26
- 1. Old Captiva House
- 6. Main (West) Facade and North Elevation, Looking Southeast
- 7. Photo 10 of 26
- 1. Old Captiva House
- 6. East Elevation, Looking West
- 7. Photo 11 of 26
- 1. Marina
- 3. Unknown
- 4. c. 2009
- 5. 'Tween Waters Inn
- 6. East Elevation, Looking West
- 7. Photo 12 of 26
- 1. Marina
- 6. East and South Elevations, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 13 of 26
- Ann Lindbergh Cottage 104
- 6. Main (West) Facade, Looking East
- 7. Photo 14 of 26
- 1. Charles Lindbergh Cottage 105
- 6. Main (West) Facade, Looking East
- 7. Photo 15 of 26

Section number	Page	3	TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT
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			LIST OF PHOTOTRAPHS

- 1. Roosevelt Cottage 107
- 6. Main (West) Facade, Looking East
- 7. Photo 16 of 26
- 1. Ding Darling Cottage 106, Ding Darling Studio 108, and Petersen Cottage 109
- 6. Main (North) Facades, Looking South
- 7. Photo 17 of 26
- 1. Orchid Cottage 111
- 6. Main (Northwest) Facade and Northwest Elevation, Looking Southeast
- 7. Photo 18 of 26
- 1. Hibiscus Cottage 112
- 6. Main (Northwest) Facade and Southeast Elevation, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 19 of 26
- 1. Alley between Bougainvillea Cottage 113 and Frangipangi Cottage 114
- 6. View Looking South
- 7. Photo 20 of 26
- 1. Frangipangi Cottage 114
- 6. Main (Southwest) Facade, Looking Northeast
- 7. Photo 21 of 26
- 1. Tarpon Cottage 115-116
- 6. South Elevation, Looking North
- 7. Photo 22 of 26
- 1. Jasmine Cottage 117
- 6. Main (South) Facade, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 23 of 26
- 1. Coconut Hotel
- 6. East Facade, Looking Southwest
- 7. Photo 24 of 26

Section number	Page	4	TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT
			CAPTIVA, LEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
			LIST OF PHOTOTRAPHS

- 1. Coconut Hotel and Marina
- 6. Looking West from Pier
- 7. Photo 25 of 26
- 1. Jasmine Cottage 117 and Coconut Hotel
- 6. Looking West
- 7. Photo 26 of 26

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION	
PROPERTY Tween Waters Inn Histoname:	oric District
MULTIPLE Lee County MPS NAME:	
STATE & COUNTY: FLORIDA, Lee	
DATE RECEIVED: 11/04/11 DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/14/11 DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:	DATE OF PENDING LIST: 11/29/11 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/20/11
REFERENCE NUMBER: 11000904	
REASONS FOR REVIEW:	
OTHER: / N PDIL: N PERI	DSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N LOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N
COMMENT WAIVER: N	730.2.7
ACCEPT RETURN REJE	ECT 12.15.11 DATE
The Nat	ntered in tional Register of oric Places
RECOM./CRITERIA	
REVIEWER	DISCIPLINE
TELEPHONE	DATE
DOCUMENTATION see attached commer If a nomination is returned to the nomination is no longer under cor	ne nominating authority, the



TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT
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TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORICDISTRICT LEE COGFL 2/26



ITWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT LEE CO., FL



ITWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT

126



TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT LEE CO, FL



TWEEN WATERS WINHISTORIC DISTRICT
LEE COUFL
6/26



TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT
LEE CON FL
7/24



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TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT LEE COSFL



TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC PISTRICT LEE CO, FL 10/26



LEE CO, FL
1/26



'TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT LEE COUFL 12/26



TWEEN WATERS OWN HISTORIC DISTRICT



TWEEN WATERS WIN HISTORICAISTRICT



TWEEN WATERS IND HISTORIC DISTRICT LEE CO, FL



ITWEEN WATERS IN HISTORICDISTRICT LEE COUFL 16/26



TWEEN WATERS UN HISTORIC DISTRICT LEE COD FL



"TWEEN WATERS WN HISTORIC DISTRICT HEE CO, FL



TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT LEE CO, FL 19/20



TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT LEE COUFL 20/26



TWEENWATERS INN HISTORIC PISTRICT

LEE CO, FL

21/20



TWEENWATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT
NEE CO, FL
22/26



· TWEEN WATERS (NOHISTORIC DISTRICT LEE COUFL 23/26



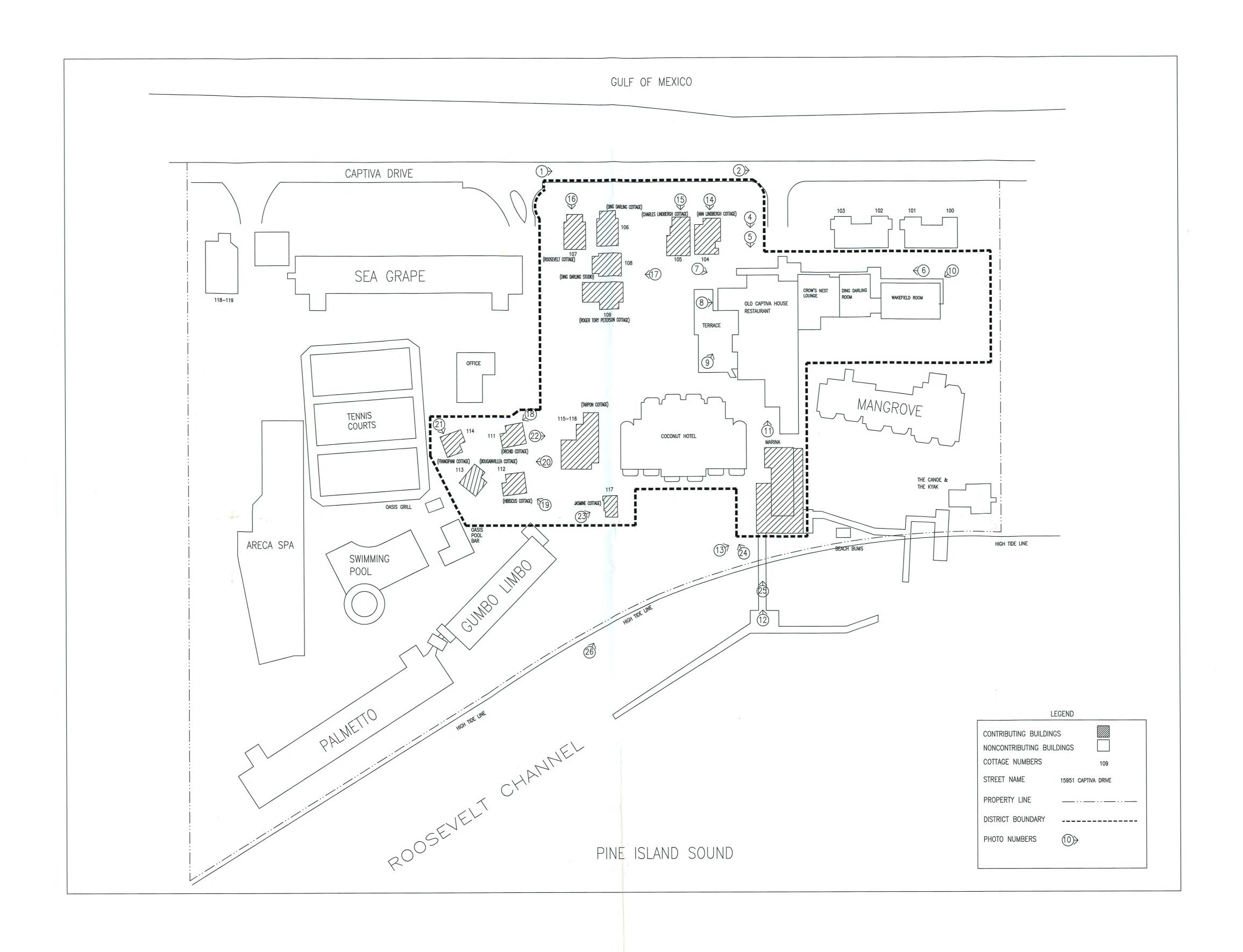
TWEEN WATERS WN HISTORIC DISTRICT LEE COSEL 24/26



TWEEN WATERS ENNIHISTORIL DISTRICT LEE COUFL



TWEEN WATER UN HISTORIC DISTRICT



'TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT 15951 CAPTIVA DRIVE CAPTIVA (LEE COUNTY), FLORIDA

NOT TO SCALE



SIDNEY JOHNSTON

535 CLARA AVENUE DELAND, FLORIDA, 32720-3405 TEL (386) 822-2406

sidneypjohnston@aol.com

DRAWN BY: SIDNEY JOHNSTON DRAWING DATE: MARCH-APRIL 2011

THE 'TWEEN WATERS INN HISTORIC DISTRICT MAP WAS DRAWN DRAWN IN 2011 AND USING CURRENT AERIAL AND HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS AND ON-SITE VIEWS. THE SITE PLANS HAVE BEEN DRAWN TO APPROXIMATE SCALE BUT VARIATIONS WERE ALLOWED FOR THE PURPOSE FOR THE PURPOSE OF CLARITY. THE MAP WAS PREPARED BY HAND AND REDRAWN USING THE AUTOCAD COMPUTER DRAWING PROGRAM.

MAP REVIEWED BY: CARL SHIVER DRAWING NUMBER

FLORIDA BUREAU OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
R.A. GRAY BUILDING
500 SOUTH BRONOUGH STREET
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0250
PHONE NUMBER (850) 245-6333
TOLL FREE NUMBER 1-800-7278
FAX NUMBER (850) 245-6437
TOLL FREE NUMBER 1-800-7278
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0250
PHONE NUMBER (850) 245-6333
TOLL FREE NUMBER 1-800-7278
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0250
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PHONE NUMBER (850) 245-6333 FAX NUMBER (850) 245-6437

SHEET NO. _ 1 OF _ 1 MAP REVISED: MAY 2011

15951 CAPTIVA DRIVE CAPTIVA, FLORIDA 33924 TOLL FREE NUMBER 1-800 233-5865

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Kurt S. Browning

Secretary of State
DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES



November 3, 2011

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

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed are the nomination and additional materials for the

'Tween Waters Inn Historic District, Captiva, Lee County, Florida

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

Sincerely,

Barbara E. Mattick, Ph.D.

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

Bankora C. Mattick

for Survey & Registration

Enclosures