

PH0002135

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Florida	
COUNTY: Dade	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER NOV 9 1972	DATE

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Old Spanish Monastery (Monastery of St. Bernard of Clairvaux) 1952 A.D.

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
1141 A.D.  
Cistercian Monastery of Sacramenia, Province of Segovia, Spain

**2. LOCATION**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
16711 West Dixie Highway

CITY OR TOWN:  
North Miami Beach

STATE Florida	CODE 12	COUNTY: Dade	CODE 025
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

**4. OWNER OF PROPERTY**

OWNER'S NAME:  
The Diocese of Central Florida, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Post Office Box 790, 324 North Interlachen Avenue

CITY OR TOWN:  
Winter Park

STATE: Florida	CODE 12
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**5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Dade County Court House

STREET AND NUMBER:  
West Flagler Street and N. W. 1 Street

CITY OR TOWN:  
Miami

STATE: Florida	CODE 12
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**6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

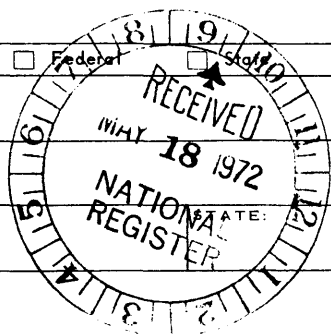
TITLE OF SURVEY:  
None

DATE OF SURVEY:  
 Federal  
 State  
 County  
 Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

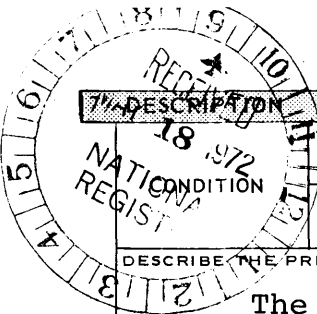
STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:



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FOR NPS USE ONLY



7-4 DESCRIPTION		(Check One)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins		<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed	
(Check One)		(Check One)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The monastery, facing in a northwesterly direction, is approached through a white stuccoed gateway, above which is inset an antique oval stone incised "HAEC SACRAMCENACISTERTA ANOD 1141." Through the gateway, a path leads through a formal garden to the Cloister portal in the north wall of the Cloister.

The square Cloister Walk, approximately 98'-0" on the side, surrounds a patio, approximately 65'-8" square. The Chapter House, 28'-6" x 36'-5", extends southward from the south walk. Near the southwest corner of the west walk is the high refectory and gallery, 42'-4" x 65'-8", approximate overall exterior dimensions.

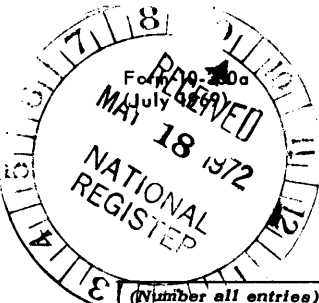
When it was reconstructed on the present site in 1952-53 under the supervision of Allan Carswell, master stone-mason who also built The Cloisters for the Metropolitan Museum in New York, the intrinsic character of the antique building was preserved. This is particularly true in all parts of the building intended to be seen by the public. Montgomery Atwater, the reconstruction architect, made no attempt to camouflage or "antique" any modern replacement of missing stones. Rather, he used Quarry Key stone, a native stone, whose warm color blends with the original stones without imitating.

A collection of photographs in the present Monastery files depicts many of the details as they appeared on the original site in 1925 when the Monastery was purchased for William Randolph Hearst by his agent, Arthur Byne. Although the structure was in extreme disrepair at that time, these photographs are useful in establishing the authenticity of the reconstruction.

The north facade (northwest), approximately 22'-0" high, is divided by eight rectangular antique coursed ashlar stone buttresses into seven bays. The buttresses terminate with large ovaloid stone finials below the top of the wall. Except for the bay at the northwest corner which contains the portal, the now vine-covered walls are for the most part Quarry Key stone incorporating random-spaced antique stones.

The entrance bay at the northwest corner is framed vertically by shallow rectangular antique stone pilasters from which typical buttresses extend at a lower level. Large-scaled stone dentils and a classical stone crown moulding terminate the wall between the pilasters. This bay is surmounted by a curved pedimented wall enclosing an arched opening for the bell which is antique, but not original. This pedimented wall is a combination of modern, smooth stucco accented by antique stones at the arch, the side cartouches and cornice.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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7. Description continued

The arched antique stone entrance portal and enclosing wall is original. Springing from a cluster of pilasters and engaged columns partially restored, is the slightly pointed arched opening receding in three major planes. The exterior archivolt is decorated with X-shaped petals in low relief. The intermediate archivolt consists of carved chevrons in high relief. The innermost archivolt consists of cusps, also in high relief. Set in the portal is a pair of modern arched hinged doors with iron strap hinges and nail head studdings. The early photograph depicts two sliding rectangular panelled wooden doors. Above the portal is a large carved heraldic corbel depicting the Virgin above a castle and flanked by lions.

The essence of the historic art and architecture is to be found within the Cloister Walk and the Chapter House. The floor of the former is paved with glazed Cuban quarry tiles in reddish tints, while the latter, as well as the refectory, is paved in beige-colored tiles. All exterior walls of the Cloister Walk, except on the east side, are faced with coursed ashlar antique stone. The east wall which was common to the original Monastery Church was not purchased by Hearst. Here architect Atwater used cut and coursed Quarry Key which differs from the antique.

Opposite, the arcaded garden wall enclosing the patio consists of a low antique stone wall, approximately 3'-0" high, supporting the colonnade between rectangular antique stone piers. The wall continues approximately 6'-0" above the colonnade up to a classical crown moulding and the red Cuban barrel tile roof. The piers define five major bays on each side except on the south, which is divided into six bays.

Subdivision of the bays is not homogeneous. On the north and east walks, they are subdivided into three arched openings supported by doubled engaged columns at the piers and double intermediate free-standing columns. The columns have a common cornice block above finely carved capitals. These arcades are said to date from the late 12th century. The arcades on the south and west walks are entirely different. The two arched openings in each bay are supported by single engaged Tuscan columns at the piers and a similar free-standing intermediate column. It should be noted that the piers on the west walk are wider than those on the south walk to adjust to the equal width of all arches. The unadorned capitals and wide cornice blocks, together with the pronounced entasis of the shafts are in austere contrast to the other two arcades.

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7. (b) Description continued

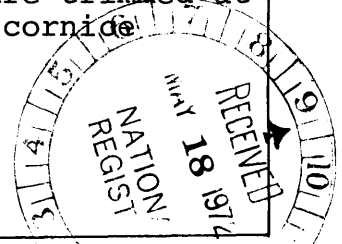
The ribbed stone vaulting of the Cloister is said to be from the 14th century. The twelve-part vaults in each of the corners are identical. Vaulting in the remaining bays are quadripartite except in the center bays of the north, east and west walks. Here, eight-part vaulting is used. Carved antique corbels support the vault ribs on the walls opposite the piers.

The portal of the Chapter House appears in the fourth bay from the east on the south walk. It consists of a high arched opening, undecorated except for one band of carved petals and clustered, small globular mutules. Since the opening is not centered in the bay, there is a consequent crowding of the ribs in the east vault.

The bays on each side of the portal contain two arched window openings, each approximately 3'-0" above the floor. Each arch is compound. The undecorated voussoirs of the wider arch are supported by a pair of intermediate columns, transversely placed. The narrower arch engaged to the soffit of the first arch is supported by engaged columns at the wall and by longitudinally placed intermediate columns. The resultant pattern of the freestanding columns is cross-shaped.

Beyond the portal is the rectangular Chapter House. Four interior columns divide the room into three bays lengthwise, and two and one-half bays transversely. The integrity of this room seems to be intact. Wide antique stone semi-circular arches spring from the columns in both directions and from antique stone corbels on the walls opposite. The vaulted bays are antique stone quadripartite vaults with large-scaled stone ribs. The latter terminate in conical tapers at the external angles of the lowest voussoirs. Noteworthy is the fine carved decoration on the plinths, capitals and cornice blocks of the columns.

On the south wall, opposite the portal is an altar niche containing a stone altar. The head of the niche is a flattened arch. Flanking the niche on each side are two high stained glass windows set in deep arched reveals. The openings are trimmed at the jambs with inset columns below a richly carved cornice moulding in an intricate billet design.



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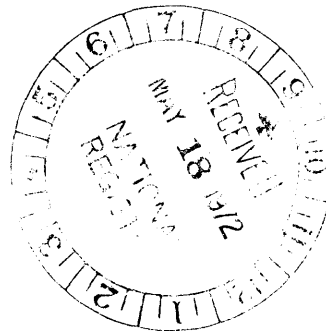
STATE	Florida	
COUNTY	Dade	
FOR NPS USE ONLY		
ENTRY NUMBER	NOV 9	1972
DATE		

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7.(c) Description continued

The refectory is chiefly a modern reconstruction which is presently used for services by the St. Bernard de Clairvaux Episcopal Church. The original ancient rubble walls have been replaced by Quarry Key and the slightly pointed barrel vaults are finished in modern smooth plaster. It appears that only the stones of the transverse ribs and the antique stone corbels are from the original refectory. It is possible that the trim around the openings is also from the original. On the south wall are two lancet windows set in arched openings with deep slanted reveals. They are glazed with yellow glass. On the west wall are a pair of richly colored circular stained glass windows. The frames telescope in four concentric rings of antique stone. The windows are said to be mid-18th century. On the north wall, a double wooden door leads to a stone arcaded gallery.

The gallery was reconstructed from the second-story Renaissance gallery which was added over the original Cloister. It is one bay deep and seven bays long, opening at the center bay to the entrance garden. Supported by Tuscan columns, the voussoirs are plain stone, some of which are concave in section as they appear in the photograph. A wrought iron railing is inserted in each bay between a fragment of the low stone wall engaged to the columns.



**6. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |                                       |                                       |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century             | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1141 A. D.**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art          | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  |  |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

↙ This antique Cistercian Monastery, reconstructed according to the original plan and chiefly from original stones, would be of primary architectural and artistic significance today wherever it might have been relocated, whether in Spain or in Florida. Coincidentally, it serves as a cultural link to Florida's Spanish heritage. ↘

↙ Architecturally, the Cloister and the Chapter House, particularly, maintain the integrity of a transitional architectural period between late Spanish Romanesque and Early Spanish Gothic in plan, construction and decorative detail. Much can be said for some of the finest work of the stone-cutters' art displayed here in the undecorated vaulting, structural ribs and arches to the sculptural embellishment of corbels, capitals, mouldings and heraldic crests. In addition, the monastery houses other valuable historic works of art which, though not original to the structure, are in keeping with its over-all character.

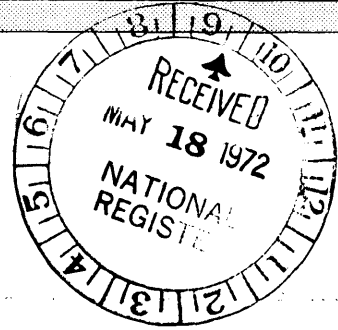
Surroundings of dense tropical vegetation, contrasted with the formal gardens, enhance the serenity to be found here in the monastery.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached sheet



10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		N25° 55' 48"	W80° 09' 17"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **6.44 acres**

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A		N/A	
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:  
**Woodrow W. Wilkins, Architect A.I.A.**

ORGANIZATION: **Department of Architecture** DATE: **April 10, 1972**

STREET AND NUMBER:  
**University of Miami**

CITY OR TOWN: **Coral Gables** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12**

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National  State  Local

Name: *Woodrow W. Wilkins*  
 Title: State Liaison Officer  
 Date: May 10, 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

*Robert H. Wiley*  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 11/9/72

ATTEST:  
*J. Bradford*  
 Keeper of The National Register  
 Date: Nov. 6, 1972

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STATE Florida	
COUNTY Dade	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER NOV 9 1972	DATE

(Number all entries)

Old Spanish Monastery

9. Bibliography

Cartographic Records (Re: miscellaneous survey maps)  
Old Spanish Monastery Files, North Miami Beach,  
Florida.

Dade County Records, Dade County Courthouse, Miami,  
Florida. Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court.  
(Subgroups: Deeds.)

Letters between A. Byne and Miss Julia Morgan (Re:  
Description of original on site) Correspondence,  
1925, Old Spanish Monastery Files, North Miami  
Beach, Florida.

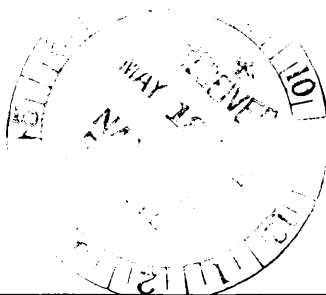
Letters between A. Byne and W. Randolph Hearst (Re:  
Purchase and Shipment) Correspondence, 1925-26,  
Old Spanish Monastery Files, North Miami Beach,  
Florida.

Letters between E. R. Moss and W. S. Edgeman (Re:  
Purchase from Hearst Corporation) Correspondence,  
1951-52, Old Spanish Monastery Files, North Miami  
Beach, Florida.

Letters between M. Atwater and E. R. Moss (Re:  
Architectural decisions) Correspondence, 1952-53,  
Old Spanish Monastery Files, North Miami Beach,  
Florida.

Miscellaneous Correspondence and packing lists (Re:  
Shipment to Florida) Correspondence, 1952, Old  
Spanish Monastery Files, North Miami Beach, Florida.

Photographic Records (Re: Original on site; under  
construction; after construction) Old Spanish  
Monastery Files, North Miami Beach, Florida.





Form 10-301  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

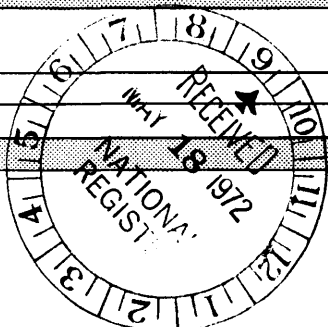
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
**PROPERTY MAP FORM**

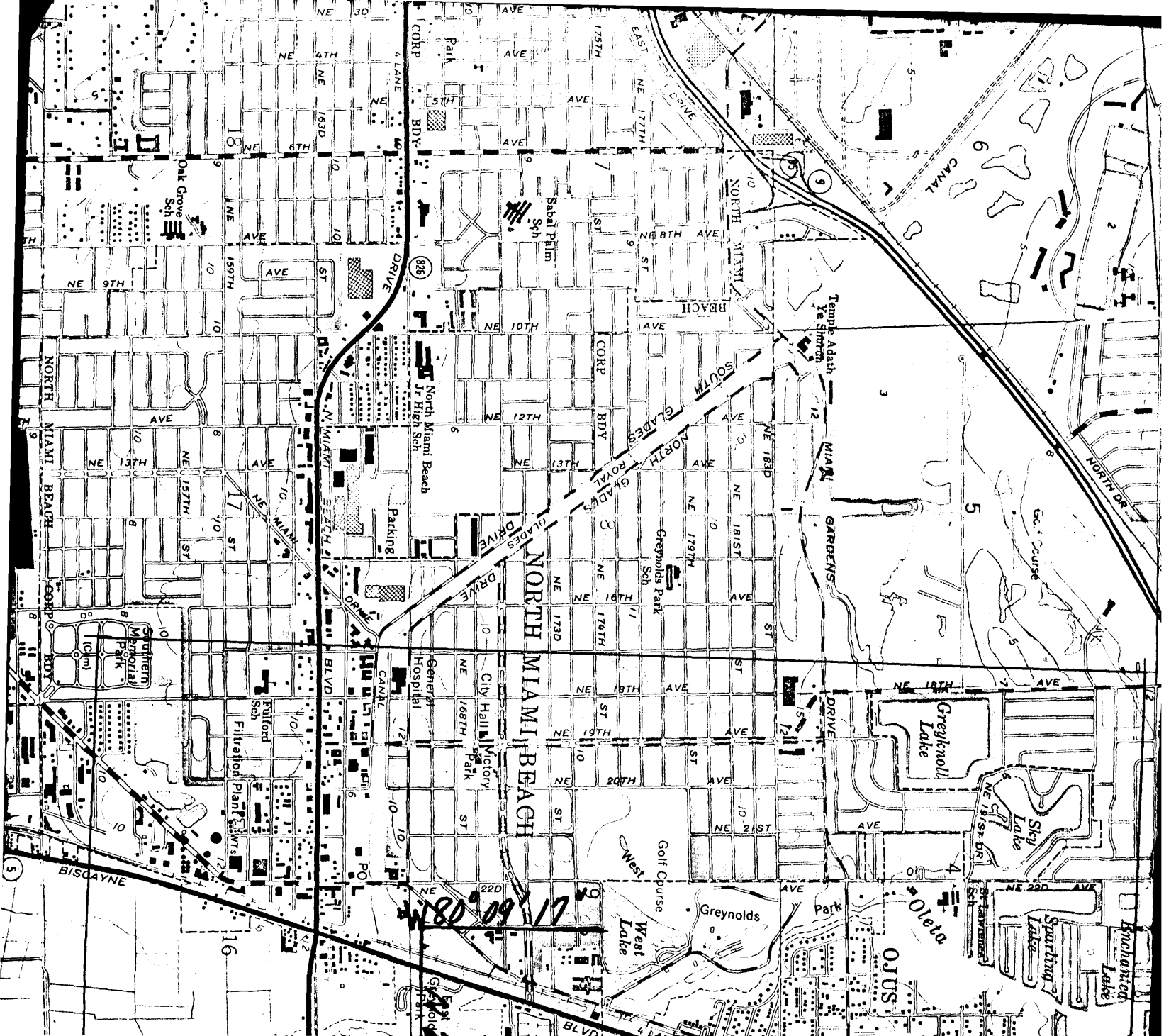
*(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)*

STATE Florida	
COUNTY Dade	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER NOV 9 1972	DATE

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<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: Old Spanish Monastery (Monastery of St. Bernard of Clairvaux)			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Cistercian Monastery of Sacramenia, Province 1952 A.D.			
<b>2. LOCATION</b> of Segovia, Spain 1141 A.D.			
STREET AND NUMBER: 16711 West Dixie Highway			
CITY OR TOWN: North Miami Beach			
STATE: Florida	CODE 12	COUNTY: Dade	CODE 025
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE: North Miami Quadrangle			
SCALE: 7.5 Minute series - 1:24,000			
DATE: 1962, photorevised, 1969			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			





W80 09 17