

Location of Site (Specific):

Map Reference (incl. scale & date) USGS Opa-Locka 7.5 min. (P.R. 1969) 809 = =

Township	Range	Section	¼ Sec.	¼ ¼ Sec.	¼ ¼ ¼ Sec.	
T52S	R41W	S2	NW	SE	SE	812 = =

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A POLYGON LOCATING THE PROPERTY

Point	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
	°	'	"	°	'	"
	°	'	"	°	'	"
	°	'	"	°	'	"
	°	'	"	°	'	"
	°	'	"	°	'	"

OR

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES

°	'	"	°	'	"	800 = =
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UTM Perimeter:

Zone	Easting	Northing
		890 = =

UTM Coordinates: 17 891 = = 574810 892 = = 2865180 893 = =
zone easting northing

<p>Condition of Site:</p> <p>Check One</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Excellent 863 = =</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good 863 = =</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Fair 863 = =</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated 863 = =</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ruins 863 = =</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed 863 = =</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Redeposited 863 = =</p>	<p>Integrity of Site:</p> <p>Check One or More</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered 858 = =</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered 858 = =</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Destroyed 858 = =</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Restored (X Date: X) 858 = =</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Moved (X Date: X) 858 = =</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site 858 = =</p>
<p>Condition of Site (Remarks): (X)</p> <p>() 863 = =</p>	

Threats to Site:

Check One or More

<input type="checkbox"/> Zoning (X) 878 = =	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation (X) 878 = =
<input type="checkbox"/> Development (X) 878 = =	<input type="checkbox"/> Fill (X) 878 = =
<input type="checkbox"/> Deterioration (X) 878 = =	<input type="checkbox"/> Dredge (X) 878 = =
<input type="checkbox"/> Borrowing (X) 878 = =	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (See Remarks Below): 878 = =	

Threats to Site (Remarks): _____

879 = =

ARCHITECTURAL SITE DATA SUPPLEMENT

ARCHITECT Bernhardt E. Muller 872 = =

BUILDER _____ 874 = =

STYLE Moorish Revival 964 = =

PLAN TYPE irregular 966 = =

EXTERIOR FABRIC(S) Stucco, scored 854 = =

STRUCTURAL SYSTEM(S) Masonry 856 = =

FEATURE OF STRUCTURE (942):

PORCHES, VERANDAS, GALLERIES AND BALCONIES: South/second story balcony
with covered parapet railing, supported by 7 log-like braces. 942 = =

FOUNDATION: Concrete block 942 = =

ROOF TYPE: Flat, parapet with crenelation 942 = =

SECONDARY ROOF STRUCTURE(S): Parapet; tower, square; tower/
octagonal; dome; 3 minarets 942 = =

CHIMNEY LOCATION: _____ 942 = =

WINDOW TYPE: aluminum awning; bullseye 942 = =

MATERIALS (882):

CHIMNEY: _____ 882 = =

ROOF SURFACING: tar and gravel 882 = =

ORNAMENT EXTERIOR: Stucco; wood, tile, brick 882 = =

QUANTITATIVE DATA (950-960):

NO. OF STORIES 2; central portion 3 stories 950 = =

NO. OF CHIMNEYS _____ 952 = =

NO. OF DORMERS _____ 954 = =

Others: 1 free standing gateway with square towers at both ends.

OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING (FREE TEXT)

MAIN ENTRANCE: South/scored stucco; horseshoe arch with radiating
voussoirs leads through portal into building to wings on either side, or
to courtyard. 865 = =

WINDOW PLACEMENT: irregular 865 = =

WINDOW SURROUNDS AND DECORATION:

865 = =

EXTERIOR ORNAMENT AND COLOR: Escalloped block crenellations on roof. Large
rain spout and scuppers. Alternating voussoirs on central arch extend to from
horizontal rustication bands. Walls are battered at ends of facade. Minarets
have decorative conical pavilion or onion domes. Stucco is interrupted in
patches throughout facade to expose decorative rough brickwork. 865 = =
Octagonal tower has interior spiral staircase leading to balcony.

INTERIOR COMMENTS:

865 = =

OTHER (SPECIFY): Courtyard enclosed by an arcaded loggia and undulating
wall. Gatehouse south of main building has central horseshoe arch gateway
and crenelated square tower and dome. 865 = =

MAJOR ALTERATIONS (FREE TEXT): Awning windows have been added. Only one
dome of five remains.

857 = =

OUTBUILDINGS (FEATURES OF SITE): Well landscaped courtyard has benches,
fountain, exterior staircase leading to octagonal tower.

876 = =

SURROUNDINGS (CLASSIFICATION) Residential/Commercial 864 = =

RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDINGS (FREE TEXT): On Sharazad Boulevard opposite
termination of Opa-Locka Boulevard. Focal point and large landmark 859 = =
structure which terminates Opa-Locka Boulevard.

HISTORIC SITE DATA SUPPLEMENT**Page 2**

Present & Original Physical Appearance (use continuation sheet if necessary) (935 = =):

The Opa-Locka Company Administration Building, designed by architect Bernhardt E. Muller, is located at the north terminus of Opa-Locka Boulevard at its intersection with Sharazad Avenue in Opa-Locka. This location in the city plan makes the building highly visible. An unusual interpretation of Moorish architecture, the building, the largest designed by Muller for Opa-Locka, is the most elaborate and prominent structure in the City.

The Administration complex is composed of a free-standing gatehouse, the administration building, and a courtyard. The two-story gatehouse is located south of the main building and remains substantially unaltered. It has a central pointed arch entranceway located between a square tower (west) and smaller tower with dome (east). The square tower has a parapet with stepped crenelation and at one time had a cupola. A parapet with stepped crenelation also frames the entranceway. A small room is located in the eastern tower and is presently used by the local Chamber of Commerce.

The gatehouse entrance is aligned with a horseshoe shaped, 2 story portal in the south facade of the Administration building. The portal has considerable depth with an open bridge connecting the two wings of the main building at the second story level. The portal leads to a rear courtyard enclosed on 2 sides by the Administration building's wings and an undulating rear wall. A fountain is located at the rear of the courtyard. The courtyard also has an arcaded loggia with barrel tile roof along both wings of the building.

The main building has three stories. Three minarets with conical pavilion and onion domes rise from the building. A large octagonal tower located at the west side of the building has an interior spiral staircase which leads to an observation balcony at the top. The tower has a wooden roof and tall spire. The building is enriched with porches, verandahs, galleries, wood balustrades, domes (one of five remains), and battered walls on the main facade. West of the main portal, a large balcony projects at the third floor with timber supports and has a clay barrel tile roof.

Originally the exterior stucco was scored, painted rose-toned and ivory and interrupted in patches to expose decorative rough brickwork. Horizontal raised stucco bands on either side of the portal were painted pastel shades, while domes were painted amethyst or turquoise. Presently the City Hall is painted ivory with rose accents. Original fenestration has been infilled and replaced with aluminum awning windows and, in some instances, projecting air-conditioning units.

The interior of the Great Hall to the left (west) featured murals depicting scenes from Tales of Arabian Knights. It is presently wood paneled. Most original ceilings are now concealed by suspended ceilings, and resilient flooring covers original floor finishes in most areas. All original clay tile, wood beams and trim that are visible appear to be in good condition.

Verbal Boundary Description

Tracts 59 and 60 Opa-Locka No. 2, 21 52 41
Code 40, Municipal extracts, PB 28-72

Site Size (Approx. Acreage of Property) Approximately 1 acre. 833 = =

Major Bibliographic References

Statement of Significance (use continuation sheet if necessary)

The Opa-Locka Company Administration Building was constructed in 1926 according to the design of architect Bernhardt E. Muller. The building was the first major structure erected in Opa-Locka using the "Arabian Knights" theme of architecture. Of the buildings constructed in Opa-Locka, the Administration building was the most extravagant interpretation of the Arabian Knights architectural fantasy to be built.

Inspiration for the design of the Administration building came from the Arabian Knights tale, "The Talking Bird." The building was fashioned after the palace of Emperor Kosroushah and, in keeping with the story, contained the Garden of the Princess Periezade.¹ The building was a fanciful collection of domes, minarets, and arches which combined to form a striking contrast to the flat and undeveloped landscape.

The Administration building became the advertising focus of the new town and was the scene of many social and promotional events. The most elaborate event was an Arabian Knights pageant staged to celebrate the first stop of the Orange Blossom Special in Opa-Locka on January 7, 1927. The railroad was viewed to be very important in Opa-Locka's development as an Industrial and agricultural shipping and receiving station for Miami, so Opa-Lockians pulled out all the stops to welcome the arrival of the train?

The Opa-Locka Company dream began to fade with the economic decline after 1926 and with the death of Glenn Curtiss in 1930. In 1939, the building was sold to the City of Opa-Locka and became the City Hall.

FOOTNOTES

¹H. Sayre Wheeler, "Opa-Locka, Created from the Arabian Knights" in Journal of the American Institute of Architects (April, 1928) p. 157, 158.

²Opa-Locka Times (Opa-Locka, Florida), January 12, 1927.

Building

HISTORIC SITE DATA SUPPLEMENT

Present Use (Check one or more as appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural 850 == | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government 850 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Park 850 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation 850 == |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial 850 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial 850 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence 850 == | Other (specify): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational 850 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Military 850 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious 850 == | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ 850 == |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment 850 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum 850 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific 850 == | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ 850 == |

Original Use (check one or more as appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural 838 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Government 838 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Park 838 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation 838 == |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial 838 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial 838 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence 838 == | Other (specify): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational 838 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Military 838 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Religious 838 == | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ 838 == |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment 838 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum 838 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific 838 == | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ 838 == |

Cultural Classification: _____ Specific Dates: Beginning 1926 844 ==

Culture/Phase American 840 ==

Period (check one or more as appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian 845 == | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century 845 == | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century 845 == | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century 845 == |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century 845 == | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century 845 == | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century 845 == | |

Areas of Significance (check one or more as appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal 910 == | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Planning 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture 910 == |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archaeology 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian 910 == |
| Prehistoric 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Economics 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Law 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater 910 == |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archaeology Historic 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Education 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation 910 == |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Military 910 == | Other (specify): |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Exploration & Settlement 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Music 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ 910 == |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ 910 == |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> Politics/Govt. 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ 910 == |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications 910 == | | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ 910 == |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Science 910 == | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ 910 == |

Remarks & Recommendations:

835 ==

Accessible: yes: restricted yes: unrestricted no

Status: occupied unoccupied work in progress