

HISTORIC DESIGNATION REPORT
for
THE BUTLER ROCK HOUSE
in
Charles Vollman Park, Sheridan Stationside Village



Source: Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc.

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BUTLER ROCK HOUSE

SUMMARY

The Butler Rock House built in 1925 is a 1-story, approximately 1900-2000 square-feet, Arts and Craft broad Bungaloid style with a modified rectangular plan, gable-in-hip roof, enclosed porch and an exterior prominent gable fireplace chimney. The walls and chimney are constructed or finished in oolitic limestone. The roof has composition shingles, and the house sits on a masonry pier foundation. It is located in a hardwood hammock that is part of the 40-acre Sheridan Stationside Village development. The Butler Rock House is in good condition. It does, however, require some restoration/upkeep to reinstate its architectural significant features.

SETTING

The Butler Rock House, a.k.a , “Okomo Rock House,” the “Coral Rock House” as well as the “Rock House,” hereafter is referred to as the “Butler Rock House,” unless otherwise determined. It is located in a shaded oak hammock that was prehistorically part of a remnant oak tree Island of the Atlantic Coastal Ridge. Today the oak hammock is included in 6.02-acre passive park known as Charles F. Vollman Park with a walking trail, benches and enhanced lighting.^{1, 2} The proposed park is located within the 40-acre Sheridan Stationside Village that is to be completed in 2016. The 40-acre mixed-use project adjacent to I-95 and the CSX railway (Tri-Rail) will result in South Florida’s first Transit Oriented Development, the site where the historically significant Mediterranean Revival Station designed by Gustav Maass of Harvey Clark Architects in West Palm Beach is located. This mixed-use project includes offices, commercial/retail and residential units, all with convenient access to multiple transportation alternatives³.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Exterior

The Butler Rock House is a one-story wood frame/masonry vernacular broad Bungaloid style with an exterior irregular plan and masonry pier foundation. It has a gable on hip and shed roof line covered with composition shingles. Its exterior wall fabric is oolitic limestone. Windows are of various sizes and configurations with wood and/or aluminum frames. Its cross-gable irregular plan, sunken window wells, heavy sills, prominent exterior gable fireplace, extended stringer and four-step stoop entries reflect a broad Bungaloid architectural style. The building is in good condition. Other than Ben Butler, who was a builder, moved the house in 1941 and built the additions in the early 1940s, no architect is associated with the Butler Rock House. The house served as a residence from 1925 to the mid1960s, and subsequently as offices.

¹ Resolution R-2015-290

² www.hollywoodfl.org/index.aspx. “Sheridan Station/Charles F. Vollman Community Park.

³ http://www.visithollywoodfl.org/press/economic_development. Accessed 03/30/2016

Roof - The roofline of the rock house is irregular in shape with a north and south clipped-gable on the north end, offset by pitched east and west gable near the south end where a low-pitched shed-style roof extends to cover the enclosed porch. The roof is covered with composition shingles. The West Façade presents a relief profile. Its north and south wings set back from the gable core emphasizing the exterior gable fireplace chimney (**Photos # 1 & 2, p 1**). The north wing of the west facade consists of double awning style windows (lower half of one window is boarded), a single 1/1 wood frame sash window, a double 1/1 sash window with an air conditioning unit in, what was the lower right window pane. The south wing of the west façade consists of a single half glazed/panel door flanked by a 1/1 aluminum sash windows. A four-step stoop, flanked by a curved extended stone stringer with a wrought iron railing on the left, accesses the entrance, which was once a screened-in porch. Narrow 1/1 sash windows flank the prominent gable fireplace chimney. South Façade - The west end sets back to accommodate the 4-step stoop entry to the enclosed porch. The enclosure has two sets of double awning style windows (**Photo # 3 p 2**). What was once the main entrance to the original house is now located on an interior wall of the enclosed area. East Façade –may have more than two sets of double 1/1 sash aluminum windows with utility infrastructure attached to the northeast corner. Due to the thick foliage and current construction site activity, a good view of the number of windows, types and placement was impaired. Two sets of double 1/1 sash style windows, however, were noted. (**Photo 4A p. 2**). The North Façade exhibits an original multi-pane casement style narrow window with a sunken well and heavy sill located left of the door and an aluminum awning style window flanks the wood panel door entrance on the west end. A four-step masonry stoop entry flanked with a simple concrete raised stringer accesses the building through a wood relief paneled door (**Photo 4B, p 2**).

Interiors

The interiors of the Butler Rock House exhibits some noted features. The floors are wood. Bead Board, a distinctive period paneling is noted on the ceiling and wall in one of the rooms exhibiting a traditional yet casual aesthetic to the interior space. Solid two-panel single wood doors, which appear to be original to the house are also noted. (**Photo # 5, p. 3**) Small and larger segmental arches demarcate the interior spaces. A fireplace with a masonry relief mantel and surround is located on the west wall of, what is believed to have been the original living room. The bathroom floor has black and white ceramic tile floor, which appears to be of a recent vintage as are all the bathroom fixtures. Until recently the interior spaces functioned as offices. File cabinets and other related furnishings remain.

ALTERATIONS

Exterior alterations

Reorientation - When Ben Butler moved the small one-story wood frame house from the 2500 block of Cleveland Avenue to its present location northwest of Taft Street in 1941, he reoriented the building to accommodate the Oak Hammock setting. He flipped it so that the original east exterior gable fireplace chimney is now on the west façade and the original north main entrance is now on the south façade. Additions/Finish – Ben Butler added a north wing and a screened-in porch on the south end. The additions were constructed of oolitic limestone. At that time he also encased, what may have been Dade County Pine wood structure with the same oolitic material. Over time the screened-in porch was enclosed and awning windows replaced the screens. The original entrance into the main house from the screened-in porch is now located on an interior wall. Windows - All the windows on the north facade, except the small multi-pane casement window near the north entrance appear to have been replaced with sash or awning types. Setting - The surroundings of the Butler Rock House have undergone considerable change since the house was relocated to the hardwood hammock in 1941. The Okomo Trailer Park that Butler developed literally in his front yard, ultimately grew to 182 mobile homes and continued to operate as such until the property was sold to Ram Development in 2007 (**Photo 6, p. 3**). At the present time the surrounding site, where the Butler Rock House sits is being transformed into the Sheridan Stationside Village. The expansion is a mixed use transit oriented development. The Oak Hammock and the Butler Rock house will be part of a 6.02 acre passive park within the 40-acre redevelopment project.

Interior alterations

In the early 1940s, Butler doubled the size of the house. Part of the added north interior wing became a dining room. Bedrooms may have also been added at that time. Over time the screened-in porch was enclosed with awning style windows to function as an interior space. After Butler sold the property in 1965, the house ceased to function as a residence and became offices for the Okomo Trailer Park. The north end offices served the Okomo Trailer Park and the south end became offices for lease. The walls have been refinished with paint, in some areas with a sponge-stamping design.

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Under the City of Hollywood Historic Preservation Board, Section 5.6, The Butler Rock House meets the following Criteria:

D.3.a – Integrity of location, design, setting, materials workmanship and association.

The Butler Rock House meets this criterion based on its location and setting in the Oak Hammock for the past 75 years. Also, its materials (possible Dade County Pine) for the original wood frame

construction, and the oolitic limestone construction of the additions, and encasement of the original wooden structure also retains its integrity. Additionally, it

meets this criterion through its association with the evolution of the site from dairy farm, trailer park and now the development of the Sheridan Stationside Village.

Narrative of its Historic Significance

In the late 1930s -1940, Ben Butler bought a small wooden house on Cleveland Avenue built in 1925.⁴ He moved it a few blocks northwest in 1941 to a hardwood Oak Hammock on five acres of land he had bought on Taft Street, where it crosses the Seaboard Air Line Railway.⁵ He then added a north wing and a screened-in-porch on the south end of the wood frame house that may be Dade County Pine. The additions were constructed of local oolitic limestone. At the same time, Butler encased the original wood frame structure with the same oolitic material. The limestone was quarried from his own property that may have been one of Joseph Young's original rock pits that used to create miles of paved streets and sidewalks in Hollywood.

By the 1940s, Butler had accumulated 300 acres of land where he raised dairy cattle and supplied fresh milk to Miami consumers. Butler's acreage had been platted for development prior to the real estate bust in the mid-1920s. He also opened and operated the Okomo Mobile Trailer Park literally in his front yard, using the shade of the great oak hammock to attract visitors to the Park. The name Okomo supposedly a name he encountered in his travels (*meaning a person that is beautiful inside and out, good taste in music, great writer, and a kind heart*).⁶ Butler tore down the barn he initially built and used its materials and foundation to build an open-air laundry room for the trailer park. He built a larger barn in 1950 just west of what is now Topeekeegee Yugnee Park, a.k.a (T.Y. Park). The 145-acre park, dedicated in 1971 is located on a portion of the former 300-acre Ben Butler dairy farm. It includes a rock quarry that Ben used to reconstruct his house and where he dug up and sold "coral rock" (oolitic limestone) to builders.⁷ The quarry then filled with fresh water and today the 30-acre lake is a swimming and boating recreational area in the T.Y. Park.⁸ **(Photo #7, p. 4)**

Rock Houses

According to a Rock House survey conducted by the Hollywood Historical Society in the Fall of 2009, nine Rock Houses were found in the Hollywood area, likely built before WWII.⁹ Some of the houses were identified as having a coquina or coral rock exterior finish. A number of rock

⁴ Carr, Robert, M.S.; Timothy A Harrington; Meryl Shriver-Rice. A Phase 1 Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the Sheridan Stationside Village Parcel, Broward County, Florida; AHC Technical Report No. 791; AHC Project No. 2007, 44. May 2007.

⁵ Ibid. p. 19.

⁶ www.kabalarians.com. Accessed 4/01/2016

⁷ Carr, Robert, M.S.; Timothy A Harrington; Meryl Shriver-Rice. A Phase 1 Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the Sheridan Stationside village Parcel, Broward County, Florida; AHC Technical Report No. 791; AHC Project . p.19

⁸ Mickelson, Joan, A Guide to Historic Hollywood. 2005. p. 56

⁹ Hollywood Historical Society, Hollywood Newsletter, Fall 2009. P. 1

houses in the Broward and Dade County area are also noted to have coquina or coral rock finish. The following information, however, indicate the buildings are more likely made of Oolitic Limestone. Research of the geology of South Florida, familiarity with the material, and empirical observation determines the Butler Rock House is constructed in and encased with Oolitic Limestone.

Research also revealed that many who live in South Florida believe the underlying rock, or the stone walls of buildings they see are “coral rock,” which originates from, what was once a live coral reef. The geology of South Florida and specifically Dade and Broward Counties indicates there are no coral rock reefs in the local surface formations that would allow reasonable access for mining. Coral reefs are found a few miles offshore of the mainland and several feet beneath the sea level.¹⁰ Additionally, cross sections of Coral Rock clearly exhibits the skeletons of the live corals that once made up the living coral reef, e.g. Brain Coral, Fan Coral, and Soft Coral, etc. are often visible **(Photos # 8, p. 4)**

Coquina is also often referred to as a material used to construct/encase buildings in the Broward and Dade County areas. Coquina ("cockle" and "shellfish.") is a liquefied accumulations of shells deposited on a developing beach and is prevalent along the present coastline and inland, from Jacksonville and to a lesser degree south to West Palm Beach. It is most prevalent in Brevard County and north. It is part of the Anastasia Formation that forms the Atlantic Coastal Ridge in those areas¹¹ **(Photo # 9A, 9B, p.5)**. Consequently, the mining of Coquina to construct or encase an exterior walls would have been costly, inconvenient and for most, inaccessible.

Oolite Limestone, on the other hand is comprised of calcareous spheres, known also as “ooids” and the resulting rock is known as an oolite, or oolitic. The oolites are deposited layers on the sea bottom. When the sea level lowered, the ooids became dry land and is prevalent throughout the Broward and Dade County area. The pitted or “pockmarks” noted in the oolitic limestone is caused when rainwater picks up the CO₂ in the air. This creates a diluted carbonic acid solution, which dissolves the calcium carbonate in the limestone creating the pitted or “pock marks” in the rock that forms the Atlantic Coastal Ridge in the Broward and Dade County area. **(Photo # 10A, 10B, p. 5).**¹²

Oolitic limestone is considered a very good building stone. Oolite was, and still is quarried and turned into concrete block. Most of the high-rise apartments/office buildings as well as thousands of residences that are made of concrete block come from oolitic limestone. The oolitic open pit mining quarries are numerous and the oolite is relatively easy to extract. It is typically mined within a short distance of the places where it is used, thus minimizing transportation costs. Oolitic limestone is also used in building roads. Joseph Young, the founder of Hollywood, would have taken advantage of this important and convenient road building material for the miles of

¹⁰ Hoffmeister, John Edward. Land from the Sea, the Geologic story of South Florida. P. 29

¹¹ Randazzo F. Anthony F. and Jones, Douglas S. The Geology of Florida. University Press of Florida 1997. P. 66

¹² Hoffmeister, John Edward, Land from the Sea, The Geologic story fo South Florida, p. 32

roadways and sidewalks he built in his “Dream City.” The quarries that are left after the mining has ceased are often converted into attractive lakes instead of becoming eyesores on the landscape.¹³ The lake in T. Y. Park, for example, as already noted above was formed out of Ben Butler’s stone quarry on his 300-acre farm, from which he dug up and sold “coral rock” to builders.¹⁴ He also used the stone to construct his additions and encase the original wood frame construction. Venetian Pool in Coral Gables, listed in the National Register of Historic Places is another good example of turning an open-pit oolitic limestone quarry into beautiful landmark where hundreds of children swim every year **(Photo # 11A, 11B, p. 6)**. Villa Vizcaya, the Mediterranean Villa located in southern part of Miami near Coconut Grove, and designated as a National Landmark in 1994 is mostly built of oolitic limestone¹⁵ **(Photo# 12A, 12B, p. 6)**.

D.3.b.1 – Association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history

Community Planning and Development- In the early 20s, the Hollywood area was primarily an undeveloped tract of pine forests, hardwood hammocks, palmetto, and dense undergrowth interspersed with citrus groves, tomato farms and grassy marshes.¹⁶ At that time Joseph W. Young came to the South Florida to build his “Dream City in Florida” we know today as Hollywood. He created miles of roads and sidewalks, and built commercial and residential developments. Ben Butler came to Hollywood at that time as a builder to work on the Young Company Hollywood Beach Hotel. He also bought a small wood frame house on Cleveland Avenue that was built in 1925.

Between 1922- 1925 people were flocking to the Sunshine State as never before. Real estate transactions and get-rich-quick schemes flourished. Countless new homes were built along with hotels, apartments, & commercial buildings¹⁷ until: a) the FEC Railroad freight embargo, the largest railroad freight embargo in the nation’s history took place; b) a ship sunk in Government Cut in Biscayne Bay eliminating access for transporting materials up the Intracoastal Waterway; c) the real estate boom went bust in 1925; d) the 1926 Hurricane had a devastating impact on Hollywood’s new development and; e) the Depression ultimately halted all development activity. Hollywood’s population plummeted from 18,000 to 2,500.^{18, 19}

In 1926 the Sea Board Airline Railway came to Hollywood. The depot was designed in the prevalent Mediterranean Revival style by Gustav Maass of the West Palm Beach architectural

¹³ Ibid. pp 33-34.

¹⁴ Carr, Robert, M.S.; Timothy A Harrington; Meryl Shriver-Rice. A Phase 1 Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the Sheridan Stationside village Parcel, Broward County, Florida; AHC Technical Report No. 791; AHC Project No. 2007, 44. May 2007.

¹⁵ Ibid. 32-33

¹⁶ Mickelson, Joan, A Guide to Historic Hollywood, A Tour Through Place and Time, p. 18.

¹⁷ Turner, Gregg, Florida Railroads in the 1920s. p. 7s

¹⁸ www.hollywoodfl.org/History of Hollywood, Accessed 3/28/16

¹⁹ TenEick, Virginia Elliot. A History of Hollywood Florida. 143-144

firm Harvey & Clarke.^[3] Although the first Seaboard passenger train arrived in January 1927, the station did not open until 1928, in what was then a remote part of Hollywood²⁰

Ben Butler bought five acres of land, moved his small wood frame house from Cleveland Avenue to the present site in 1941. He then built additions constructed of oolitic limestone encasing the original wood frame portion of the house. He also became a dairy farmer. In 1965 he sold his 300-acre parcel to B. L. David for \$4,500.²¹ At that time Ben Butler and his wife Queenie moved into the house on Park Street owned by his son Robert and his wife Mildred. Robert was given the dairy cattle and moved to Okeechobee where he established a dairy farm in Lorida, Highlands County, FL where it was less crowded and he could pursue his farming interest.²²

Archaeology - In 2007 the entire 40-acre site was sold to Ram Development to develop Sheridan Stationside Village. At that time the Broward County Historic Commission requested an archeological survey of the site prior to its development. Archaeological site models of the area had indicated that the parcel had a moderate to high probability of containing archaeological sites because of its location on a remnant oak tree island that was adjacent to a transverse glade (open space in forest). The Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc. conducted the cultural resource assessment survey of the Sheridan Stationside Village parcel in 2007 to locate any sites of archaeological and/or structures of historical significance.

Historical Geological Setting/Findings

The Survey found that the 40-acre Sheridan Stationside parcel encompasses much of a remnant oak tree island, which was one of a variety of large islands that were part of the Atlantic Coastal Ridge. Prior to the drainage of the Everglades, the parcel was surrounded by wetlands that drained westward into the Everglades and eastward towards the coast (**Photo # 13, p. 7**). The parcel is located approximately three miles north of Snake Creek, which was an important canoe route for the Tequesta and Seminoles. The southern portion of the parcel, where the Butler House is located contains Oak Trees that appear to be close to 100 years old. Elevations across the parcel is approximately 10 feet above sea level.²³ All test holes from the survey were negative for archaeological materials.²⁴ Findings, however, did determine that one historic structure was located on the survey parcel known as the Butler Rock House. The archaeological survey concluded that the structure was locally historically significant and possibly eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.²⁵ The Butler Rock House and the Milking Barn (demolished) sits on the remnant Oak tree island that was once adjacent to a transverse glade

²⁰ Mickelson, Joan, A Guide to Historic Hollywood, a Tour Through Place and Time, The History Press. P. 156

²¹ Greater Hollywood Bicentennial Oral History Project,: Narrator: B. L. David, Interviewer: Don Cuddy. 1976.

²² Butler, Mildred, Telephone interview, June 27, 2016.

²³ Carr, Robert, M.S.; Timothy A Harrington; Meryl Shriver-Rice. A Phase 1 Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the Sheridan Stationside village Parcel, Broward County, Florida; AHC Technical Report No. 791; AHC Project No. 2007, 44. May 2007.

²⁴ Ibid. p. 1.

²⁵ Ibid.

identified in the archaeological study. **(Photo #14, p 7)** The Butler House is included in the Florida data base, identified as Florida Master Site File, 8BD4388.

Present Setting

The overall 40+ acre parcel where the Butler Rock House sits is bordered on the south by Taft Street, on the west by the Sea Board Airline Railway (CSX) , on the north by Sheridan Street and on the east by I-95. Until recently the parcel consisted of an 18-acre parking lot area to the north (now the Tri-Rail Park & Ride parking lot) and a 22-acre Okomo Trailer Home Park where 182 mobile homes were located. The Butler Rock House is located in the south end of the 40-acre parcel within a hardwood hammock that is part of Sheridan Stationside Village. The Rock House is now owned by the City of Hollywood and will remain in the Oak Hammock as part of a 6.02-acre passive park known as Charles F. Vollman Park. Hollywood's original one square mile of farmland has since grown to over 30 square miles with an estimated population today of over 146,000 people.

The Butler Rock house sits on a significant prehistoric oak tree island from which the majestic Oak Hammock originated. In more recent times, it has endured the real estate boom and bust, it has accommodated uses as a residence, offices, and will soon be part of the first Transit oriented development in the south Florida area while still maintaining its Oak Hammock setting. The Butler Rock House has contributed and continues to contribute in the broad patterns of our history, in the areas of architecture, landscape, domestic, agriculture, transportation as well as archeology.

D.3.b.(2) – Association with the lives of persons significant in our past.

Joseph W. Young, the founder of Hollywood came to the area in 1920-21 from Indianapolis, Indiana to pursue his quest to build his "Dream City in Florida. He created The Young Company. Influenced by the "City Beautiful" movement, Joseph Young bought one-square mile of land bounded by Dixie Highway (west) Johnson Street (north, Fourteenth Avenue (east), and Washington Street (south).²⁶ He paved miles of streets and sidewalks; made round-about circles to create symmetry, prevent east and west thoroughfares, and to provide centrally located space for parks and public buildings²⁷ Ben Butler came to Hollywood as a builder to help construct the Young Company's seven-story, 500-bed Hollywood Beach Hotel. His interests turned to farming and became a successful dairy farmer on his 300-acre parcel supplying milk to Miami residents, thus contributing to the local agricultural community. His also opened and operated the Okomo Trailer Park that eventually held up to 182 trailers, which contributed to local population growth and tourism. After Ben Butler moved away to pursue a quieter setting for his farm interest, the Okomo Trailer Park continued to operate. The Butler House changed from functioning as a residence to become offices for the Trailer Park until 2007

²⁶ Ibid. p. 14.

²⁷ TenEick Virginia Elliott, History of Hollywood, Florida, p.xix.

when the Ram Development Company bought the property for redevelopment. The Butler Rock House remains in the Oak Hammock as part of Charles Vollman Park **(Photo 15, p. 8)** just west of I-95 off Taft Street within the Sheridan Stationside Village development. **(Photo 16, p. 8)**. The Butler Rock House is associated with the Joseph W. Young, the founder and developer of Hollywood, and Ben Butler, who reconstructed the Butler Rock House, opened/operated the Okomo Trailer Park and was a successful dairy farmer. These persons are significant in the early history of the City of Hollywood.

D.3.b.(3) – Embodiment of distinctive characteristic of a type, period, or method of construction.

Architecture - The Butler Rock House architectural style is a broad example of the late 19th and early 20th Century American Movement of the Bungalow style in that it expresses a one-story masonry/wood vernacular construction, has deep window wells and heavy sills and prominent exterior gable fireplace chimney.²⁸ The original Butler Rock house was made of wood frame construction built in 1925, possibly of Dade County Pine). When the additions were constructed manually in the early 1940s, it was constructed of oolitic limestone and the original the wood frame structure was also finished in the same oolitic material. The Butler House is one of only nine Rock Houses remaining in the Hollywood area.²⁹ Its type of material of oolitic limestone and possibly Dade County Pine, its period of construction 1925 and additions in 1941, its useful and flexible functions and endurance contribute to its embodiment of distinctive characteristics of type, period and methods of construction.

D.3.(4) – Possession of high artistic value.

The building's additions of natural oolitic limestone and encasement of the original wood frame of possibly Dade County Pine construction, prominent exterior gable fireplace chimney, and bead board wall and ceiling as part of the interiors indicate its value of use of materials in the artistic platform of architecture.

D.3.(5) – Representation of the work of a master. N/A.

D.3.(6) – Representation of a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction – N/A

D.3.(7) – Yield, or the likelihood of yielding information important in the prehistory or history.

While the archaeological survey conducted by the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc in 2007 indicated that all test holes were negative for archaeological materials, the study did

²⁸ McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. P. 414

²⁹ Hollywood Historical Society Newsletter, Fall 2009. p.1.

identify the Butler Rock House as a historically significant property and its setting has prehistoric significance in archaeological history .³⁰

ADDENDUM: Telephone Interview with Mildred Butler

Ben Butler accumulated up to 300 acres in the Hollywood area mostly through tax certificates as did Hollywood Inc. owned by Joseph Young. He bought raw acres, which he cleared, and planted and it took 3-4 years to get in condition for dairy. He bought tomato farms and cows fed on the left over tomato plants. Butler Dairy initially leased a barn from Hollywood Inc. and then built his own barn in 1950 near Topeekeegee Yugnee Park (TY Park) and was able to have more cows to milk, which he delivered to customers in Miami area.

Ben and Queenie married in 1925 and had 3 girls and one boy Robert Butler. They lived at 2525 Garfield Street, Hollywood (The Florida Master Site File, BD4388 has the house located on the 2500 block of Cleveland Street in Hollywood.)³¹ in a 2-bedroom woodframe house. The House was moved in 1941 from its location in Hollywood to what is now part of the Sheridan Stationside Village. At that time Ben doubled the size of the house. The Rock House addition included a screened in porch at the main entrance, an unfinished bathroom and a 3rd bedroom and a small screened-in porch in the back. Mildred recalled the original windows were 1/1 sash type. Mildred recalled that the dining room had large window (clustered 2/2 or 1/1 sash type). The thick wall between the Living Room and Dining room is where the wood house connects to the Rock house.

Mildred said that during a hurricane a lot of people came to the house seeking shelter because it was made of rock. The Oak trees helped to carry the strong winds over the house.

In 1965 when Ben sold his dairy farm land for \$4,600, “Daddy” Ben and his wife Queenie stayed in Hollywood and moved into Robert and Mildred’s house located on a curve at 3303 Park Road. They lived there for about 5 years before “Daddy Ben “passed away.

Robert and Mildred had bought Ben’s business and moved to Okeechobee. When moving to Okeechobee, they moved the cows working in shifts. The workers milked a group of cows and once milked, the cows were loaded on to a truck and moved to Okeechobee. The worker and his family were also moved. Another worker milked another group of cows and loaded on a truck and moved to Okeechobee. The process continued until the last cow was milked, the exact number unknown. The next time the cows were milked they would be milked in Okeechobee. Mildred said there was an article in the *Hollywood Sun-Tattler* newspaper about them moving the cows in shifts to Okeechobee. Bob’s sister’s middle daughter inherited Okomo Trailer Park.

Mildred and Robert Butler built a house in Okeechobee. She recalled how surprised the movers were because they knew exactly where to place the furniture, until she told them that the floor plan was a replica of their house in Hollywood. Originally the street in Okeechobee where they built their house was called Eagle Bay Drive, now it is 477 SW 24th Avenue. Built of concrete block, it is the third house on the block.

³⁰ Carr, Robert, M.S.; Timothy A Harrington; Meryl Shriver-Rice. A Phase 1 Cultural Resource Assessment Survey of the Sheridan Stationside Village Parcel, Broward County, Florida; AHC Technical Report No. 791; AHC Project No. 2007, 44. May 2007.

³¹ Florida Master Site File Site #8 BD4388, June 7, 1907

A few years ago the grandsons of “Daddy Ben” visited the house at 3303 Park Street, where Ben’s son Robert and wife Mildred had lived and where their grandfather, Ben and his wife Queenie later lived, but no one was home so they left a card. The owners got home found the card and called. The owners had just returned from Europe and was looking for what to name their property as they do in Europe. After a conversation with the grandchildren, the owners decided to call it “Butler Oaks.”

Mildred Butler, the daughter-in-law of “Daddy Ben” Butler is 87 years old and lives in that same house at 477 SW 24th Avenue in Okeechobee, 34974. ³² (Telephone interview 06/08/2016).

Additional Information: Partners bought shares in the Butler Dairy when it was moved to Kissimmee River near Lorida where it is today. The Butler Dairy farm enterprise has approximately 3,600+ acres is in Lorida and is located along St Rd Hwy in the middle of 9-mile grade now SR 721. The estate is comprised of two dairies and a ranch and is divided among 3 sons (grandchildren of Ben Butler). The Ranch has 1200 acres and the two dairies are 1200 acres each for a total of 3,600 acres. ³³

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The 40+-acre parcel is located within Section 9 of Township 51S, Range 42E as noted on the *USGS Fort Lauderdale South Quadrangle Map* (1962, revised 1983). The Tax Parcel Number is 5142 09 00 0030. The address is 2301 N. 29th Street (property appraiser) or 3001 Taft Street (post office) located between Northwest corner of I-95 and Taft Street.

³² Telephone Interview with Mildred Butler by Bonnie Dearborn. June, 09, 2016

³³ www.floridamilk.com; www.highlandstoday.com

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Photo #1 - Butler Rock House West Façade, Prominent Exterior Gable Fireplace, Entrance to enclosed porch, Oolitic Limestone finish, looking east

Source: Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc.



Photo # 2 – Butler Rock House, West and South Facades, looking northeast. Building profile, prominent gable chimney and entrance to the enclosed screened-in porch and 4-step platform entry, looking northeast.

Source: Archaeological and Historical Conservancy



Photo 3 – Butler Rock House, West and South Facades, looking northeast. Building profile, prominent gable chimney and entrance to the enclosed screened-in porch and 4-step platform entry, looking northeast.

Source: Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc.



Photo 4B – Butler Rock House partial North Façade with Clipped gable roof, 4-step platform entry, masonry stringer, single wood panel door, looking southeast. Original multi-pane casement window on east side of entry.

Photo 4A – Butler Rock House partial view of east and north facades, looking

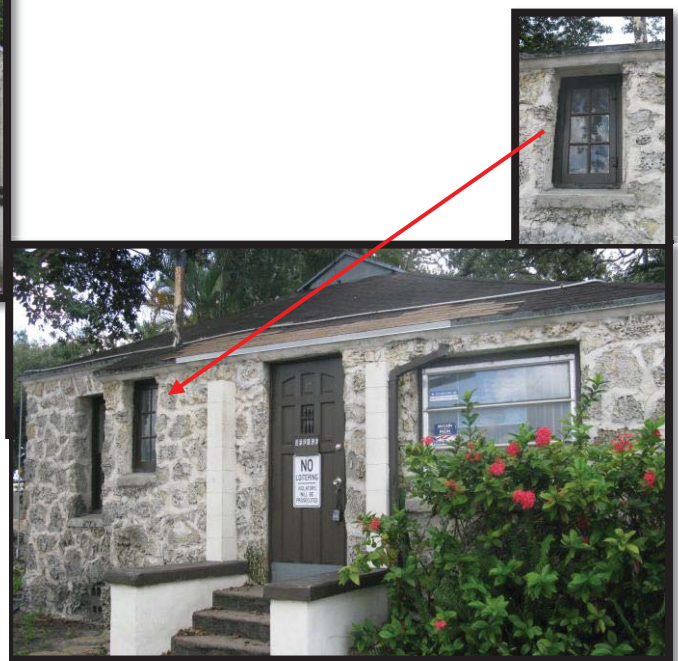
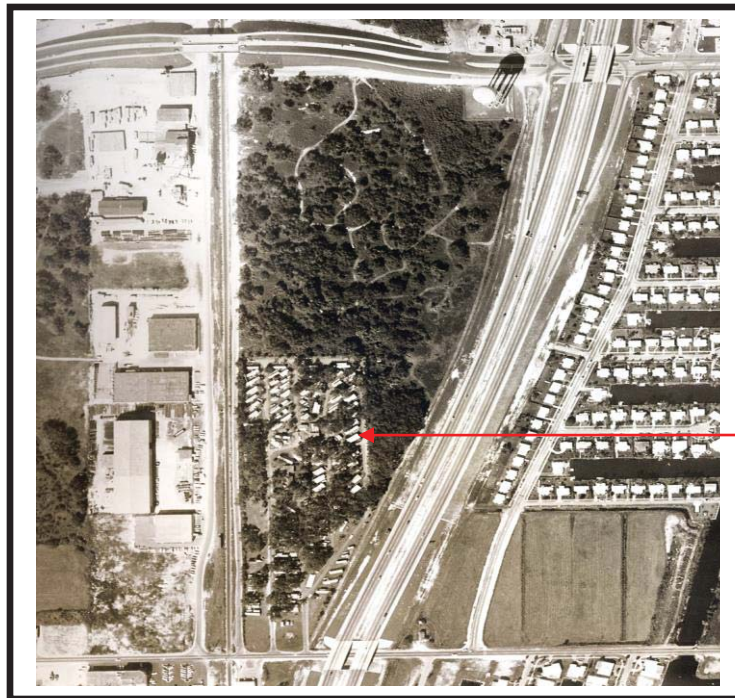




Photo 5 - Butler Rock House Interior showing solid double-panel wood door, bead board wall and one of many segmental arched opening.



Okomo Trailer Park

Photo 6 – Aerial View of Okomo Trailer Park (1969) 182 mobile homes on south end of 42-acre parcel of what will become the Sheridan Stationside Village development

Source: Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc.



Photo 7 - Topeekeegee Yugnee Park, a.k.a (T.Y. Park) is a 146 acre park.

The lake is a result of a quarry mined for oolitic limestone.

Source: <http://www.broward.org/parks/topeekeegeeeyugneepark>

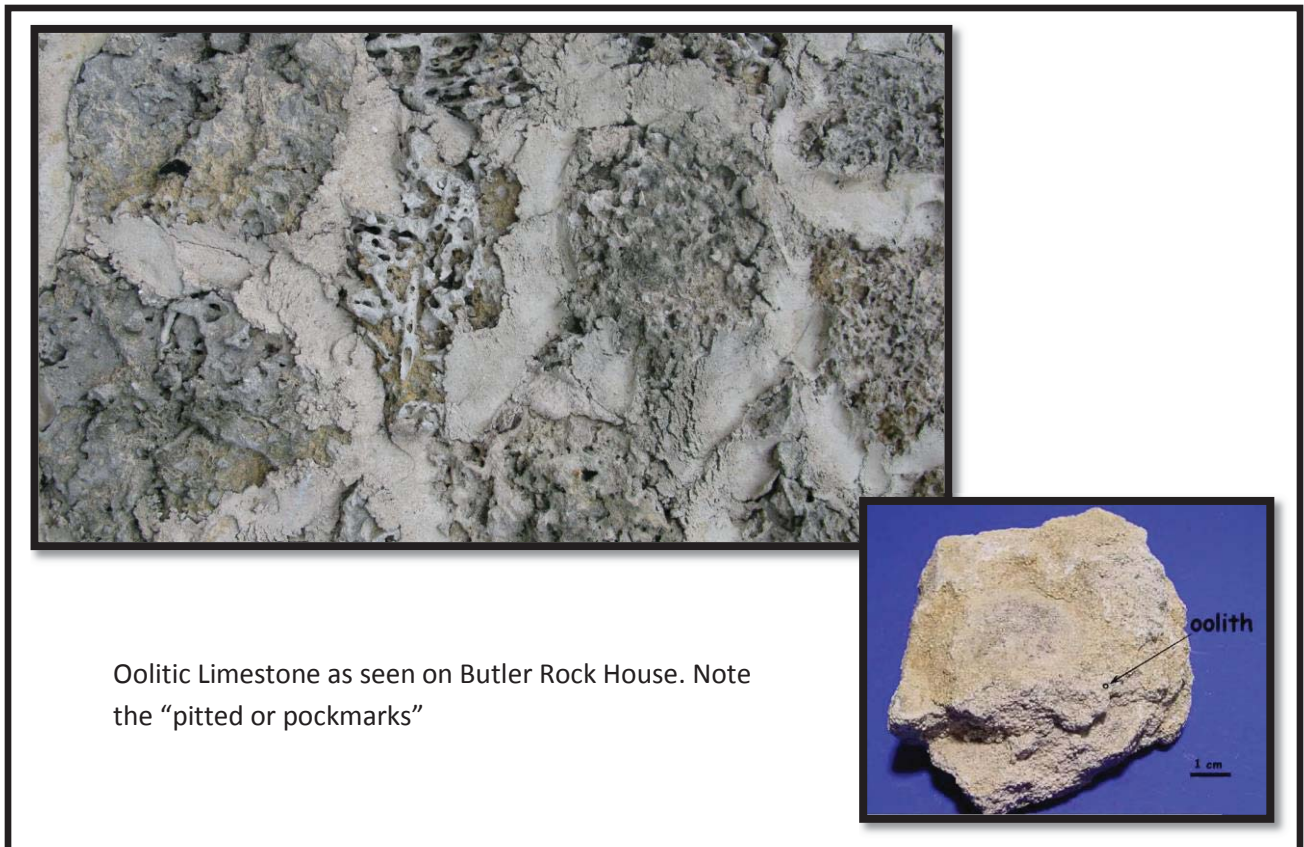


Photo 8 – Coral Rock – View of Skeletons of Fan Coral, Brain Coral, Soft Coral



Coquina Rock

Photo 9A, 9B – Coquina Rock – Note that the numerous shells, an important feature that makes up of Coquina are very visible. (Source: www4.uwm.edu.org.)



Oolitic Limestone as seen on Butler Rock House. Note the “pitted or pockmarks”

Photo 10A, 10B – Oolitic Limestone close-up as used on exterior of Butler Rock House
(Lower Right) – Oolitic Limestone rock in natural state (Source: www4.uwm.edu.org)



Photo 11A, 11B – (Above) Venetian Pool, result of abandon oolitic limestone Rock quarry. Buildings also made of same material. (Below) Perspective inside oolitic Limestone cave

Source: Coral Gables.com; Commons.wikimedia.com

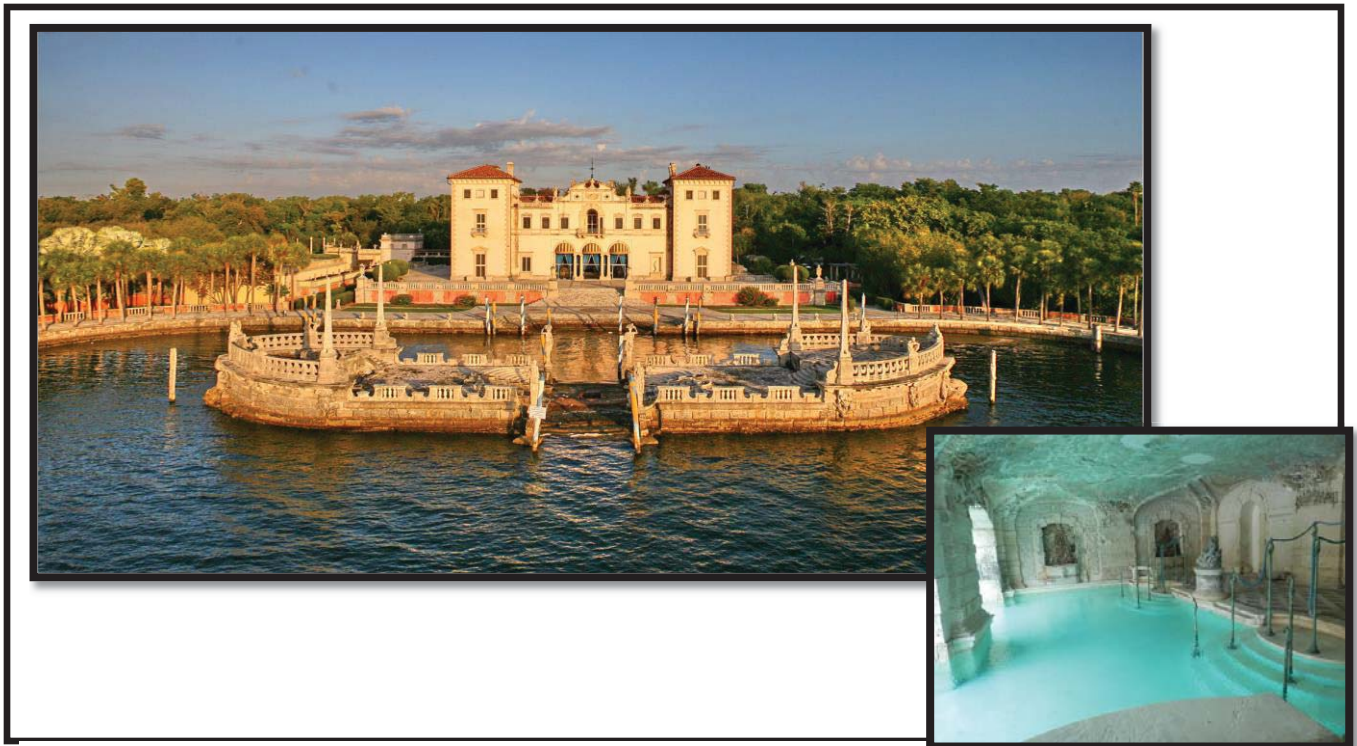


Photo #12A, 12B – Vizcaya, a National Historic Landmark is mostly made of oolitic limestone
Close-up of Vizcaya pool beneath house.

Source: [www. Vizcaya.org](http://www.vizcaya.org)

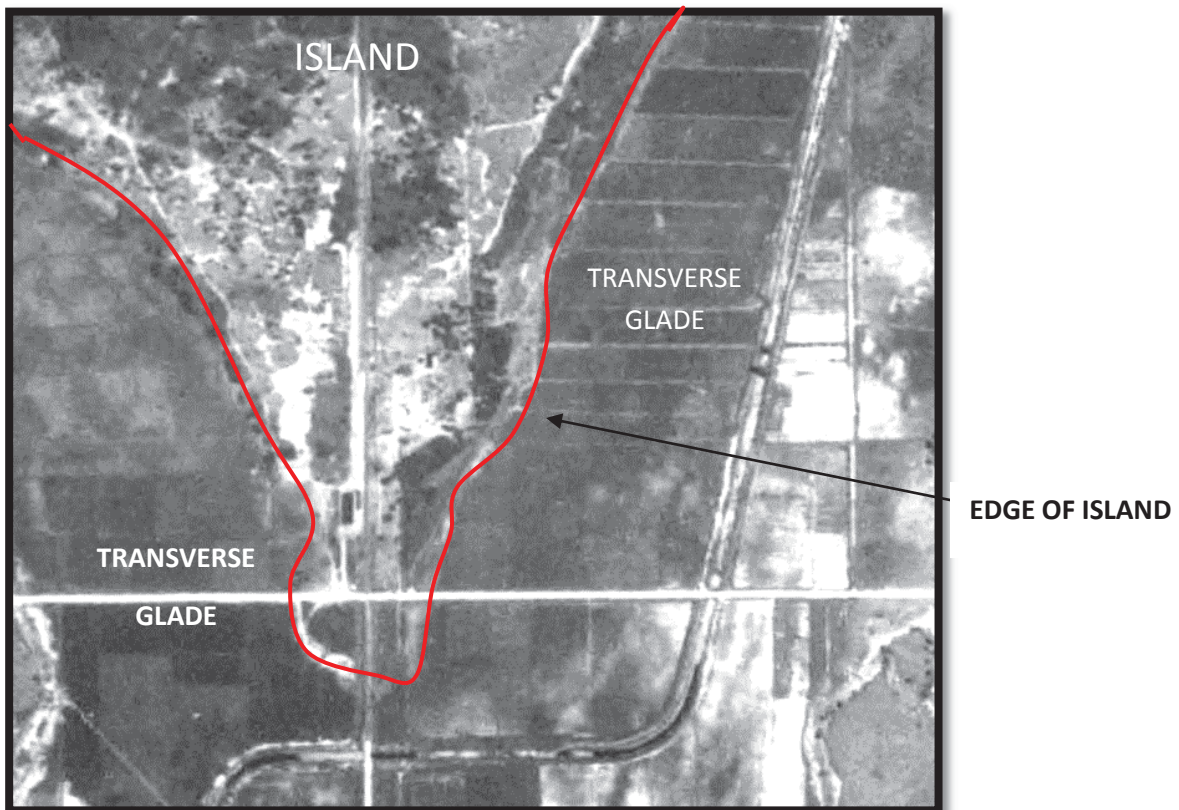


Photo #13 – 1940 Aerial Photograph showing Tree Island configuration.
 Source: Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc.

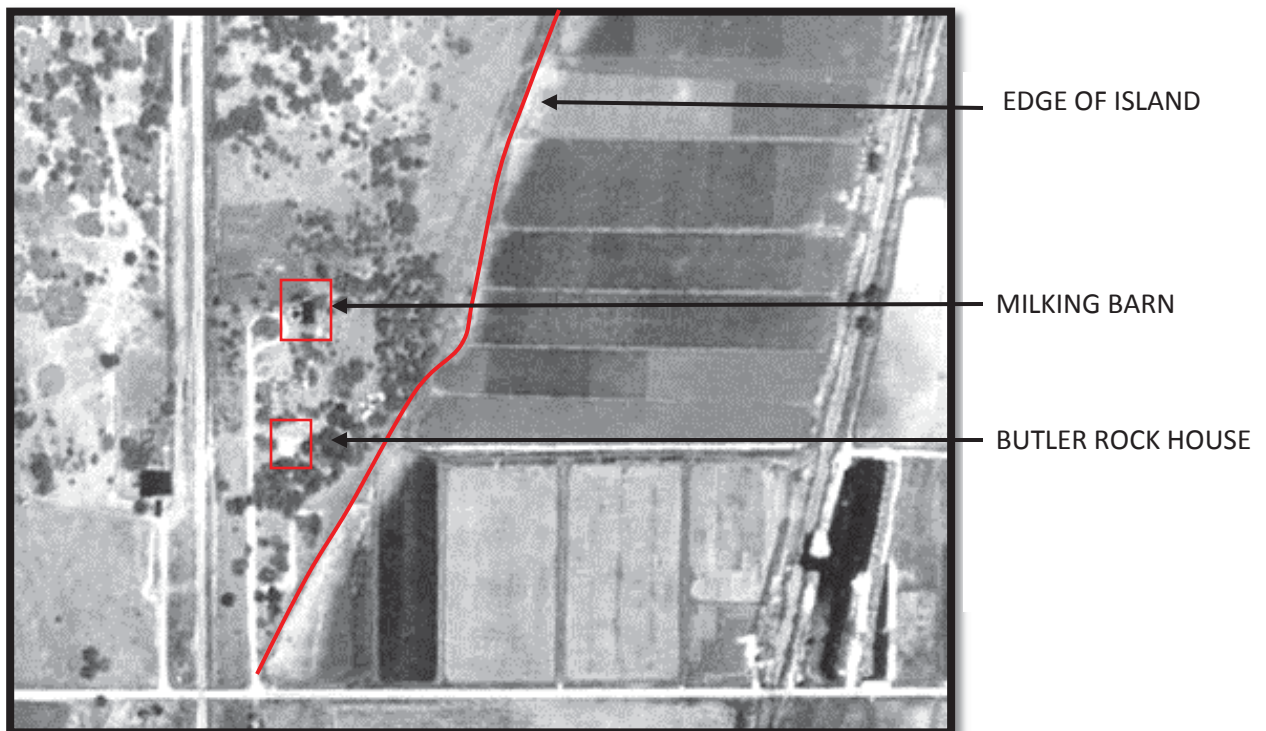


Photo #14 – 1947 Aerial Photograph detail showing Butler Rock House and milking barn (demolish)
 Source: Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc.



Photo # 15 – Site Plan & Park Site in 6.02 acre Charles Vollman Park
 Source: www.hollywoodfl.org

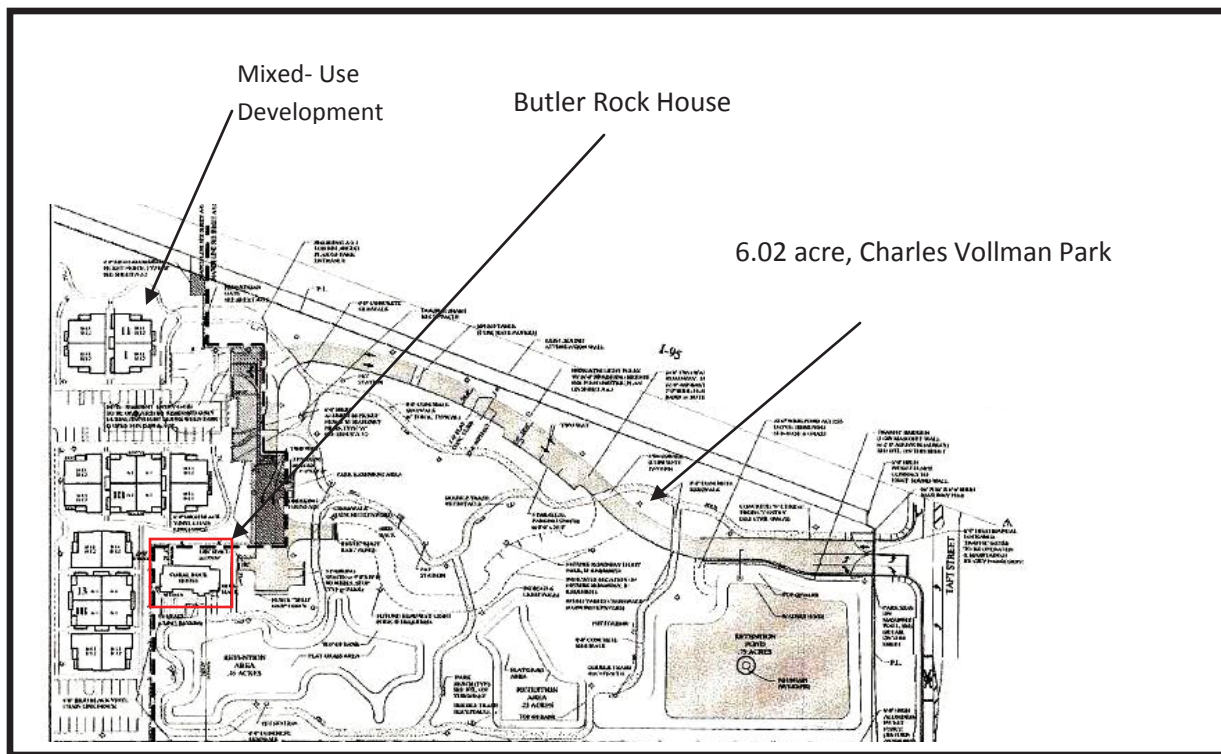


Photo 16 – Site Plan with Mixed-Use Development and Butler House location
 Source: City of Hollywood Planning Department