



The City of Coral Gables

Historical Resources Department

January 12, 2009

Guilford and Associates, P.A.
c/o F. W. Zeke Guilford
2222 Ponce De Leon Blvd. 6th Floor
Coral Gables, Fl. 33134

Re: Certificate of Appropriateness, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

Dear Mr. Guilford:

The Historical Resources Department is in receipt of an application for a Special Certificate of Appropriateness for Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden located at 10901 Old Cutler Road. The application requests design approval for the demolition of a maintenance building and café and the construction of a new shade house, café and research offices. Variances from the Coral Gables Zoning Code have also been requested for the parking and setback requirements. This application was scheduled to be heard by the Historic Preservation Board at its upcoming January meeting.

While doing research for the above-mentioned application, this office consulted the local historic designation report for the Gatehouse at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. This report states clearly that the designation is specifically for the Gatehouse building and not the entire Garden. This means that the Certificate of Appropriateness application submitted to this office is void and that the new construction will not require design approval from the Historic Preservation Board. Additionally, the variances requested will need to be presented to the Board of Adjustment for approval. Your check for the variance application fee is being returned to you with this letter.

Enclosed, please find the letter of historic significance for the buildings to be demolished.

I apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you or your client.

Should you need any additional information or have questions please feel free to call the office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kara N. Kautz".

Kara N. Kautz
Historic Preservation Officer

cc: COA (SP) 2008-22 File
Bruce Greer, President, Board of Trustees, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, FL 33156
Dona Lubin, Assistant City Manager
Martha Salazar-Blanco, Zoning Official



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Re: The maintenance building, the café and the shade house at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Road, a lengthy legal description is on file at Historic Preservation Office

Dear Mr. Guilford:

Section 3-1107(g) of the Coral Gables Zoning Code states that "No permit for demolition of a non-designated building shall be issued to the owner thereof without prior notification by the Building Official to the Historical Resources Department. All demolition permits for non-designated buildings must be approved and signed by the Director of the Department of Historical Resources. Such signature is valid for six (6) months and shall thereafter expire and the approval deemed void unless the demolition permit has been issued by the Building and Zoning Department. The Historical Resources Department may require review by the Historic Preservation Board if the building to be demolished is considered eligible for designation as a local historic landmark or as a contributing building or property within an existing local historic landmark district. The public hearing shall be held at the next regularly scheduled meeting if the provided statutory notice is complied with at which time the provisions of this Division shall apply. The determination of historic significance and eligibility for designation as a local historic landmark by the Historic Preservation Board is a non-final and non-appealable decision."

Therefore, please be advised that after careful research and study of our records and the information you presented the following information has been determined:

The maintenance building, the café and the shade house at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, located at 10901 Old Cutler Road (a lengthy legal description is on file at Historic Preservation Office) do not meet the minimum eligibility criteria for designation as a local historic landmark. Therefore, the Historical Resources staff will not require review by the Historic Preservation Board if an application is made for a demolition permit.

Please note that, pursuant to Section 2-705(b)(15) of the Coral Gables Zoning Code, this determination does not constitute a development order and is valid for a period of six (6) months. In the case where the Historic Preservation Officer or designee determines that the property does

not meet the minimum eligibility criteria for designation, a permit for the demolition of the property must be issued within the six-month period.

Upon expiration of the six-month period, you will be required to file a new application. Any change from the foregoing may be made upon a demonstration of a change in the material facts upon which this determination was made.

If you have any further questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,



Kara Kautz
Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Bruce Greer, President, Board of Trustees, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901
Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, FL 33156
Dona Lubin, Assistant City Manager
Elizabeth Hernandez, City Attorney
Martha Salazar-Blanco, Zoning Official
Ed Weller, Interim Building and Zoning Director
Manny Lopez, Building Official
Historical Significance Request Property File