Park's Sunday opening to be festive

By MATTHEW CREELMAN Herald Staff Writer

Arch Creek Memorial Park, dubbed "an eightacre legend," will open to the public Sunday.

Dedication ceremonies will include a picnic, parade, music and tours of the park, which boasts a rich archeological, geological and botanical history.

Several streets near the park, at the corner of NE 135th Street and Biscayne Boulevard, will be closed for the occasion. Sections to be closed are NE 17th Avenue and 135th through 131st streets near the park.

The park's museum will be open.

Members of the First Church of North Miami Congregational will dress in the styles of the 1920s for the parade.

The '20s theme was chosen because at that time Arch Creek was a central location for political meetings, picnics and fish fries.

Expected at the 12:30 p.m. dedication ceremony are North Miami Mayor Howard Neu, Florida Department of Natural Resources Director Elton Gissendanner, Metro Commissioners Harvey Ruvin and Ruth Shack, Metro Park and Recreation Director Bill Bird and all the residents who have worked to open the park.

After the ceremony, the picnic will take place at North Miami's Enchanted Forest park, which is beside Arch Creek Park.

Everyone is invited to bring their families.