



Front view of one of the renovated cabins.

PROJECT OF THE QUARTER

Greynolds Cabin Renovation

Greynolds Park, a 265-acre park, is located on the banks of the Oleta River in North Miami-Dade County. The park has a campsite, golf course, historic structures, trails and natural areas including coastal wetlands, rockland hammock and pine rocklands. The Greynolds campsite and newly renovated cabins are situated on the northeastern corner of the park, which encompasses 4.5 acres. The campsite received its historic designation on October 24, 1983, in accordance with Miami-Dade County's Historic Preservation Ordinance (Ord. 81-13; Sec 16A-11).

Funding:

The \$1.2-million project was made possible through the Safe Neighborhood Parks program and the Capital Outlay Reserve Fund.

Project Background and Site Description:

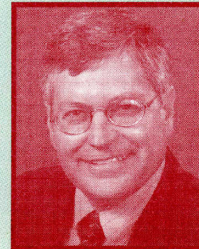
Greynolds Park was created in 1933 as a

Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) project, one of President Roosevelt's New Deal programs. The land, which the park occupies, was obtained through the efforts of C.H. Crandon, chairman of the park committee of the Dade County Board of Commissioners, who is credited as being the founder of the County Parks System. A.O. Greynolds, owner of the Ojus Rock Company, deeded 105.94 acres of land to the County.

The park was developed between 1933 and 1936, with additional structures added in 1938 and 1939. In 1938, a camping facility was built which included camp cabins constructed of wood and rock, and a mess hall, with a 75-person capacity, equipped with an icebox, coal ovens, and a stone fireplace. The camp complex was reserved for use by clubs and organizations. Frequently, Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops made use of these facilities.

In the past years, the buildings at the site fell into a state of disrepair and severe deterioration. The purpose of the project was to redevelop by restoring and preserving deteriorated and damaged historic portions of the site and its facilities.

See *Cutler Boardwalk* on pg 2



Assistant Director's Message

W. Howard Gregg
Assistant Director for
Planning and Development

Sixty-seven years have passed since the March 29, 1936, dedication of Greynolds Park, a 157-acre park built by the depression era Civil Conservation Corps - and the first fully planned park developed in the Miami-Dade County Park system.

Through the vision of A.D. "Doug" Barnes, our first Department Director, Mr. Fletcher of the National Park Service and landscape architect William Lyman Phillips, barren land was planted with native vegetation, rock pits were transformed into lakes, and facilities were constructed. Despite being located in the "boon-docks" of northeast Dade County at that time, the popularity of Greynolds Park was instant** and has remained "uniquely special" for all these years.

Parks such as Greynolds are our heritage. Our legacy to future visitors depends on the wise and careful stewardship of these outstanding resources today. This is why the restoration of the Greynolds Park Campground, featured as this newsletter's Project of the Quarter, is so important. Restoring the campground is part of our ongoing, painstaking efforts to update the park, beginning with a redevelopment plan completed by park planner Maureen Gregg and adopted by the County Commission in 1988. Other projects currently in design and construction include sewer connections, ADA upgrades, and the restoration of the boathouse. We may not be fast, but we are persistent!!

**Excerpt from "The Parks Spotlight", September/October 1990, by Maureen Gregg.



Cabins under renovation at Greynolds.

Design:

The project involves the preservation, restoration and rehabilitation of nine cabins, one washroom building and a dining hall with adjoining kitchen and toilet areas. The cabins were dismantled by hand in order to salvage any usable material for the restoration of these historic buildings. The timber framing members, wall cladding and roof framing for cabins two through nine were removed, leaving only concrete super structure as a base for reconstruction. All reusable materials recovered from dismantling the cabins was stored for reuse on cabin number one. The camp supervisor's cabin, cabin one, has been preserved as an historic record of the original character and construction of the cabins.



Side view of cabin.

A new washroom building has been constructed which will replace the existing washroom structure and toilet area adjoining the dining hall. The existing washroom building will be renovated for use as a storage area and the existing toilet facility will be demolished with a new kitchen area built in its place.

New parking bays are being provided on natural terrain as well as concrete accessible parking bays and an accessible route. All

buildings and activity areas are being made accessible by means of a new composite chert pathway around campgrounds and wood ramps accessing cabins. Upon completion, the campground will be used to hold summer, spring and winter break camps and after-school programs for children with disabilities. It will also provide teacher workday camps for adults with disabilities.

All efforts have been made to preserve the natural forest community and restore the buildings to their original character due to the site's historic classification.

Construction Schedule:

Renovation of the cabins began on March 11, 2002 and is scheduled for completion in August 2003.

Project Team:

Design and Engineering

Allen & Associates P.A., Jimmie Allen, R.A.

Archeologist

Gary Beiter, Historic Preservation Division, Miami-Dade County

General Contractor

Miami Skyline Construction Corporation, Claudio Rodriguez

Miami-Dade Park and Recreation Department

Alan R.M. Velez, Project Manager
Alicia Bendana, Project Manager

Watch for the Next Project of the Quarter
Metrozoo Aviary

Moving Forward

We're making progress in our efforts to enhance your park experience. The following Capital Improvement projects were recently completed.

November 2002

- Charles Deering Estate: *Boardwalk Trash Cans*
- Miami-Dade County Auditorium: *Balcony Seat Prototype*
- Miami Lakes Park: *Access Control*
- Redland Fruit and Spice Park Bauer House: *A/C*

December 2002

- Amelia Earhart Skate Park: *Trailers*
- Chapman Field Park: *Irrigation Upgrade*
- Country Lake Park: *Site Furniture*
- Doral Meadow Park: *Irrigation Installation*
- Miami Lakes Recreation Center: *Renovation*
- Millers Pond Park: *Irrigation*
- Millers Pond Park Soccer Field: *Sodding*
- Redland Fruit and Spice Park: *Herb Garden*
- Tropical Park: *Ballfield Lighting*

January 2003

- Chapman Field Park: *Irrigation Upgrade*
- Haulover Park: *Concession Building Demolition*
- Miami West Park: *Furniture*
- Miami West Park: *Vita Course*
- Miami Lakes Park: *Batting Cages*
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Park: *Walkway Root Removal Resurface*
- McMillan Park: *Phase II Drainage*

February 2003

- Arvida Park: *Walkway Construction, Phase 2*
- Crandon Marina: *Sewer Connection*
- Doral Meadow Park: *Chain Link Access Control*
- International Gardens: *Walkway Resurfacing*
- Little River Park: *Recreation Center Asbestos Removal*
- Miami West: *Entrance Sign*
- Pool Shade Structure, 6 pools*
- Tropical Equestrian Center: *Access Control*

March 2003

- Charles Deering Estate: *Environmental Ctr. Parking Lights*
- Charles Deering Estate: *Mangrove Recognition Sign*
- Crandon Park: *Concession #1 Patio Renovation*
- Kings Grant Park: *Sign*
- Miami West Park: *Roadway Lighting*