

Miami Beach had a hotel a year before the community was incorporated. The first hotel was built in 1914, owned and operated by W. J. Brown. It stood between First and Second Streets.

At present, 46 years later, the city has 379 hotels with approximately 31,000 rooms.

Many of the early, and famous, hotel landmarks are gone. The Pancoast, a glamor oceanfront resort of the '20s and '30s, has been replaced by a modern structure.

Of the famed Fisher hotels, the Flamingo now is under the wrecker's hammer, to be replaced by an apartment building. The Nautilus is no more. The Deauville was wrecked a few years ago for the New Deauville. The Fleetwood, from which Radio Station WIOD (Wonderful Isle of Dreams) broadcast dance music in the boom days of 1925, is a club residence for retired persons.

The second hotel in Miami Beach still exists. It is the Wofford, at 24th Street and the ocean. Just north of it was the old Collins home. Just south of it is another glamor queen of the '20s, the Roney Plaza, which still reigns in dignity with gardens, tennis courts, pool and cabanas.