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# FOUNDATION WINTER 2019 NEWS

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EARL E.T. SMITH PRESERVATION PARK



COURTESY JULY 2016

# Restoration of Earl E.T. Smith Preservation Park

In honor of the Preservation Foundation's upcoming 40th anniversary in 2020, Earl E. T. Smith Preservation Park will be restored and enhanced. The park is located directly west of Town Hall in the Town Hall Historic District at the corner of Chilean Avenue and South County Road.

Since its dedication in 1989, Earl E.T. Smith Preservation Park has been a noteworthy illustration of the Preservation Foundation's community-oriented goals. Earl E.T. Smith was a respected civic and political leader whose government career was distinguished by appointments from four presidents. He served his country and community as U.S. Ambassador to Cuba, Mayor of Palm Beach, and as the first Chairman of the Board of the Preservation Foundation.

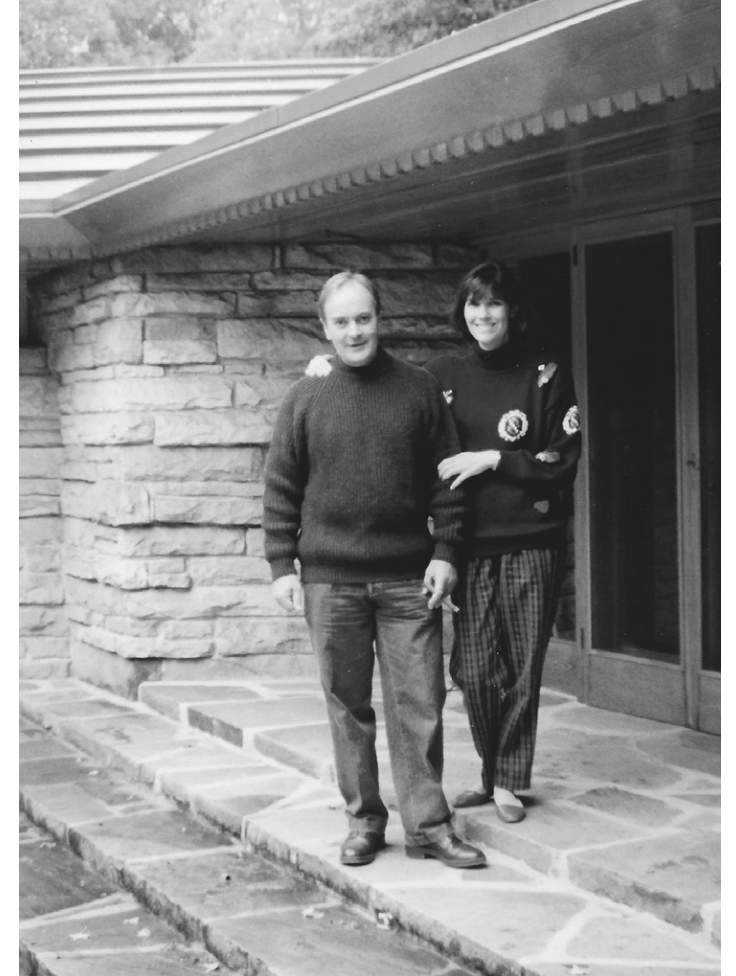
While maintaining and restoring the original design for the hardscape of the park, the most striking enhancement to the area will be a new carved limestone fountain and pool lined with custom tilework. Water troughs at the entrance to the park will be converted to working fountains with complementary tilework. The fountains will diminish the sound of passing vehicles and define the space as a place of calming respite. Enhanced plantings and the installation of ball finials on the pedestals connecting the benches in the park will complete the project.

Work will commence on the park at the beginning of 2019 in anticipation of a rededication ceremony to take place on January 15, 2020. The date marks the official incorporation of the Preservation Foundation in 1980.

Restoration and enhancement of this privately-owned, public space is made possible through the vision and generosity of Samuel Lehrman.



Barbara D. Hoffstot



Lord and Lady Peter Palumbo in front of Kentuck Knob, their Frank Lloyd Wright designed home in Pennsylvania.

## From the Beginning: Celebrating 40 Years of the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance

The exhibition on the early history of the preservation movement in Palm Beach, exploring the early triumphs and trials of the Landmarks Preservation Commission, will be on display at the Preservation Foundation's Headquarters until February 6th.

Brought to action by the demolitions of the grand estates that defined Palm Beach in the 1920s, civic leaders fought to preserve the unique scenic quality and built environment of Palm Beach through the creation of the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance in 1979. Barbara D. Hoffstot, a leader in preservation, conducted the first survey of historic properties in Palm Beach. Her seminal work, *Landmark Architecture of Palm Beach*, set the groundwork for the future of preservation in the Town of Palm Beach. The Foundation will publish the fourth edition in February 2019.

In honor of the opening of the exhibition, Lord Peter Palumbo, friend of the Hoffstot family, will be speaking in the Coral Ballroom at The Colony Hotel on Wednesday, January 16th at 2pm. As former chairman of the Pritzker Prize he will lecture on the importance of the arts in society and the history, development, and objectives of the Pritzker Prize.

For the exhibition opening and cocktail reception on Thursday, January 17th, exclusive to Foundation members, Lord Peter Palumbo will remark on the difference between the preservation movements that have developed in the United States and the United Kingdom. The presentation will begin promptly at 6:15pm.

## 2018 Robert I. Ballinger Awarded to Ivor House

In celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of the Robert I. Ballinger Award, a luncheon was held at The Breakers on December 10th. The award has been presented each year since 1988 to one or more individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to Palm Beach's architectural heritage through the restoration or rehabilitation of a landmarked estate or public space.

Prior to the presentation of the award, Mary-Randolph Ballinger and Lady Henrietta Spencer-Churchill were featured as guest speakers. Ms. Ballinger shared insight into the life and work of her late brother-in-law Robert I. Ballinger, including his restoration of a condemned Mizner-designed estate and founding role in the Palm Beach Landmarks Preservation Commission. Lady Spencer-Churchill, who penned the foreword to *Palm Beach: An Architectural Heritage*, discussed the importance of historic preservation and the work of the Preservation Foundation.

The 2018 Ballinger Award was presented to Jordan and Thomas Saunders, owners of Ivor House. The estate was completed in 1937 by the architectural firm of Wyeth & King and is designed in the Georgian Revival style with Caribbean influences. Although built during the Great Depression, the residence was noted at the time as eschewing the prevailing trend towards building "smaller, simpler homes." The design is representative of the more conservative architectural styles of the time period.



Staying true to the history of the home, the current owners of Ivor House have restored two character-defining features of the property that had been lost over time: the formal gardens and chinoiserie decor. Taking inspiration from the gardens of Thomas Jefferson and the gates he designed for the University of Virginia, chinoiserie and Chippendale designs were incorporated into the terraces, paving, and gates leading to the extensive gardens on either side of the motor court. Breathtaking murals in the halls of the home were painted by English muralist Graham Rust and depict scenes of a romanticized Ancient China punctuated by life-size, colorful birds native to Florida and Virginia.

The team of design professionals that brought the Saunders' visions for the property to fruition included: Kirchhoff & Associates Architects, Nievera Williams Landscape Design, Hamptons House Design, and Davis General Contracting.

West Palm Beach City Historic Preservation Planner Friederike Mittner received the John D. Mashek Volunteer of the Year award for her invaluable guidance and mentorship of the Anthony K. Baker interns each year.

## 2019 Garden Talks

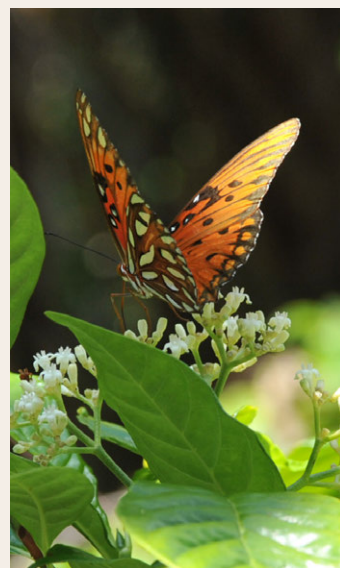
Remember a time, not so many years ago, when there was an assortment of birds visiting our towns, parks, and backyards? There were cardinals, owls, warblers, woodpeckers, as well as abundant butterflies and bumblebees. Remember when the windshield of your car was covered with insects on long highway drives? Sadly, the rich variety of beautiful wildlife that once delighted adults and children is nearly gone. The river of wildlife we once knew has dwindled to a trickle.

The 2019 Garden Talks series will address some causes of wildlife decline and how to increase their presence through a series of three lectures on Mondays, once a month, beginning in February in the Preservation Foundation's lecture hall. All participants are welcome to visit Pan's Garden following the presentation.

In "Reconciliation Ecology: No Garden Is Too Small," Michael Rosenzweig, Ph.D. will remind us that we have taken land and ecosystems from wildlife in order to establish our homes and communities. In Reconciliation Ecology, it's our responsibility to provide garden space and the right plants for the establishment of new ecosystems.

Jaret Daniels, Ph.D. will present, "The Impact of Butterfly and Pollinator Gardens," addressing the ecological effect of planting a landscape for these beneficial insects. Native butterfly gardens are much more than a mass of pretty flowers!

In "The Importance of Native Plants," Craig Huegel, Ph.D., will inspire and guide us to renew our landscapes with the Florida native plants that are needed by butterflies and birds and other important insects.



Mural details from the Ivor House, Graham Rust, 2018.

## Graham Rust: Designs and Illustrations

On February 19th, the Preservation Foundation will host an exhibition on the works of Graham Rust. The muralist, most recently known in Palm Beach for his work in the Ballinger Award winning property Ivor House, will showcase many of his original pieces at the Foundation's Headquarters.

The exhibition encapsulates Rust's body of work over his lifetime into four categories: Flora and Fauna; Murals; Trompe L'Oeil; and Illustrations. There will be familiar imagery such as the original watercolor illustrations from *The Secret Garden* and *The Little Princess*. As well as some never before seen mural-design pieces completed for private residences.

To celebrate the opening of the exhibit, Graham Rust will be in town for a series of events. On Wednesday, February 20th from 6pm to 8pm at the Foundation's Headquarters, Rust will be available to converse with members during the exhibition opening and cocktail reception. On Thursday, February 21st at 2pm, Rust will lecture in the Coral Ballroom at the Colony Hotel about his work as a muralist.

*Graham Rust: Designs and Illustrations* will run until April 18th, and the artwork will be available for purchase.

The exhibition is generously underwritten by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Saunders.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All events located at 311 Peruvian Avenue unless otherwise noted.  
Space is limited for all events. Reservations are required.

All events are subject to change and exhibition dates may vary based on hours and holidays.

### JANUARY 2019

Thursday, January 3, 2pm  
*Lecture*  
**Saving Olana: An American Preservation Triumph by Sean Sawyer**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Wednesday, January 9, 11am  
**Trustees Meeting and Polly Earl Award**  
Invitation Only

Thursday, January 10, 2pm  
*Lecture/Book Signing*  
**The Water Will Come by Jeff Goodell**  
The Colony Hotel  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Wednesday, January 16, 2pm  
*Lecture*  
**Lord Peter Palumbo on the Award-Winning Architecture of the Pritzker Prize**  
The Colony Hotel  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Thursday, January 17, 6pm  
*Exhibition Opening and Cocktail Reception*  
**From the Beginning: Celebrating Forty Years of the Landmarks Preservation Ordinance featuring Lord Peter Palumbo**  
Members Only

Thursday, January 24, 2pm  
*Lecture/Book Signing*  
**The Art of Elegance by Marshall Watson**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Friday, January 25, 2pm  
*Walking Tour*  
**Bethesda-by-the-Sea**  
Members Only

Thursday, January 31, 2pm  
*Lecture/Book Signing*  
**Timeless: Classic American Architecture for Contemporary Living by Patrick Ahearn**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

### FEBRUARY 2019

Wednesday, February 6, 7pm  
**Preservationist Dinner featuring Nina Campbell**  
Invitation only

Thursday, February 7, 2pm  
*Lecture*  
**Impacts of a Changing Ocean on South Florida by Sandra Whitehouse**  
The Colony Hotel  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Thursday, February 14, 2pm  
*Lecture/Book Signing*  
**Dream Spaces by Victoria Hagan**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Tuesday, February 19 to Thursday, April 18  
Monday to Saturday | 10am to 4pm |  
*Exhibition*  
**Graham Rust: Designs and Illustrations**  
Free to Public

Wednesday, February 20, 6pm  
*Exhibition Opening and Cocktail Reception*  
**Graham Rust: Designs and Illustrations**  
Members Only

Thursday, February 21, 2pm  
*Lecture*  
**The Painted House by Graham Rust**  
The Colony Hotel  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Monday, February 25, 2pm  
*Garden Class*  
**Reconciliation Ecology: No Garden is Too Small by Michael Rosenzweig, Ph.D.**  
Free to Public

### MARCH 2019

Friday, March 1, 7:30pm  
**Annual Dinner Dance**  
The Breakers  
Invitation Only

Thursday, March 7, 2pm  
*Lecture*  
**The Waters of Rome by Katherine Rinne**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Wednesday, March 13, Noon  
**Elizabeth L. and John H. Schuler Award Presentation and Luncheon**  
Free to members | \$50 non-members

Thursday, March 14, 2pm  
*Lecture/Book Signing*  
**Havana Living Today by Hermes Mallea**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Monday, March 18, 2pm  
*Garden Class*  
**The Impact of Butterfly and Pollinator Gardens by Jaret C. Daniels, Ph.D.**  
Free to Public

Thursday, March 21, 2pm  
*Lecture*  
**The Eclectic Interior: Living Today with Historical Design by Charlie Ferrer**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Thursday, March 28, 2pm  
*Lecture*  
**Why Resilience Matters: Preserving Property and Community Values in Palm Beach by Lisa Craig**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Friday, March 29, 4pm  
*Musical*  
**Yale Whiffenpoofs**  
Pan's Garden  
Free to Public

### APRIL 2019

Thursday, April 4, 6pm  
**Lesly S. Smith Landscape Award Presentation and Reception**  
Free to members | \$50 non-members

Monday, April 8, 2pm  
*Garden Class*  
**The Importance of Native Plants by Craig Huegel, Ph.D.**  
Free to Public

Thursday, April 11, 2pm  
*Lecture*  
**Armor and Adapt: The Search for Flood Solutions at Farnsworth House by Ashley Wilson, AIA**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members

Thursday, April 18, 2pm  
*Lecture/Book Signing*  
**Mizner v Mizner: A Dialogue between James Caughman and Stephen Perkins**  
Free to members | \$30 non-members