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## A PLACE IN THE SUNSHINE STATE: COMMUNITY, PRESERVATION, AND THE PARLIAMENT HOUSE

### by

## **ERIN MONTGOMERY**

B.A. University of New Mexico, 2010

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in the Department of History in the College of Arts and Humanities at the University of Central Florida Orlando, Florida

Summer Term

2017

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#### **ABSTRACT**

A Place in the Sunshine State, is a thesis project focused on the Parliament House Motor Inn in Orlando, Florida. This project nominated the Parliament House Motor Inn for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. This nomination was completed using both oral histories and more traditional historical source material. The Parliament House Motor Inn was evaluated using National Register Bulletins and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation. This nomination was presented to give voice to a long-underrepresented community within the national narrative of the United States, along with giving the Parliament House the recognition it deserves as an integral institution within the gay community. This nomination sheds new light onto early gay life in Orlando and concludes that Parliament House is a significant historic and cultural resource. This conclusion is vital to the preservation of LGBT history; it allows for a more complex interpretation of Orlando and central Florida history and helps to recognize LGBT history and the sites associated with them. This thesis also discusses Parliament House and its role as a site of the intersections between gay community and identity creation, place making, and the intricate history of the southern United States.

To C.S., without your tireless support this would not have been possible.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

I would like to thank the GLBT History Museum of Central Florida for generously allowing me access to their collections. Without their efforts, much of this valuable history would be lost, I am greatly indebted to them.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

**LGBT** Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender

**LGBTQ** Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer

NR National Register

#### INTRODUCTION

Since the Stonewall riots in New York in 1969, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) studies has become a growing field within history. The focus of LGBT history in the United States has predominately been on cities located on the western and northeastern coasts, leaving much of the country neglected. This lack of attention has created numerous opportunities for new research into the intricate and nuanced history of the gay and lesbian experience within the United States, particularly in the South. The southern United States has a rich and complicated history, and the interplay between race, class, gender, sexuality, and space has greatly impacted the creation of both individual and collective southern gay identities. One of the spaces that helped to foster and support both the gay community and its identity creation efforts was the Parliament House Resort, in Orlando, Florida. The Parliament House was established in 1975 as a gay resort and continues to be a fixture within the gay community of Orlando and central Florida. The original owners and founders of the Parliament House were pillars of the gay community and helped to create a safe space for gay men to be open about their sexuality, while simultaneously maintaining a sense of privacy and anonymity, which was crucial in the establishment and early years of the gay community.

Based on the Parliament House's contributions to Orlando, central Florida, and the gay community it is being nominated for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The Parliament House is one of the oldest and largest gay resorts in the country and is an integral part of the gay experience in Orlando. The resort showcases the unique history of gay men in central Florida and its creation is reflective of larger cultural trends throughout the United States. Nominating the Parliament House Motor Inn for inclusion on the National Register will help to

give voice to a group that has been marginalized in the national narrative of the United States, and it will give the Parliament House the recognition it deserves as a cultural institution in central Florida.

Chapter one contains the completed National Register (NR) nomination document. Included in this document are specific details of the site along with an architectural description of the entire motel complex. The architectural description discusses the site's appearance and its architectural integrity. The NR document contains a narrative statement of the site's significance. This narrative outlines some of the history of the Orlando area and the early history of the Parliament House. The statement of significance discusses Parliament House's historical and cultural significance and concludes that Parliament House should be included on the National Register of Historic Places. The NR document also contains maps and both historic and current photographs of the site.

Chapter two discusses the contribution that the NR nomination makes to the existing literature surrounding different aspects of Parliament House's history. The history of the Parliament House and its nomination for inclusion on the NR, contribute to numerous different existing historiographies within the fields of LGBT history, gay identity creation, gay tourism, gay bar history and culture, along with place making, historic preservation, and oral history. The NR nomination is used to connect these varied historiographies and adds a new lens through which the history of gay life and experiences in the southern United States can be viewed.

Chapter three delves into the methodology used to analyze Parliament House as a historical resource within the context of the NR. This methodology included approaches from the fields of historic preservation and oral history. The Parliament House was evaluated as a historic resource using the guidance of the National Register of Historic Places Criterion for Consideration as well

as the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation. These two documents provide the framework through which sites can be assessed as historically and culturally significant places. The basis for the conclusion that the Parliament House is both historically and culturally significant is based on newspaper documentation coupled with oral histories from patrons and former employees. The use of oral histories to support this conclusion necessitates a discussion of the methodologies used to create oral histories, along with some of the challenges that these types of sources can pose. Although there are challenges associated with the use of oral histories, they are necessary for the documentation of LGBT history, as much of the early history was not documented and thus in many cases only survives in the memories and recollections of early community members.

The establishment of the Parliament House as a gay resort in 1975 helped to foster the beginning of a more public presence for gay men and women in central Florida. The site became a crucial fixture in gay life in central Florida, allowing for the free expression of sexuality, while also maintaining a sense of privacy and anonymity. The Parliament House Motor Inn later became a place for the community to fundraise and hold events to help lessen the burden of those facing the challenges of HIV and AIDS. Bill Miller and Michael Hodge as the original owners and founders of Parliament House as a gay resort, became pillars within the early gay community in Orlando and central Florida and the place they created has become a historic and cultural icon.

## **CHAPTER ONE:**

## National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

NPS Form 10-900
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

## **National Register of Historic Places Registration Form**

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

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State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	
Signature of certifying official/Title:	Date
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Name of related multiple property listing:	
Historic name: Parliament House Motor Inn Other names/site number: Parliament House Resort	-

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4. National Park Service Certification	
I hereby certify that this property is:	
entered in the National Register	
determined eligible for the National Register	
determined not eligible for the National Register	
removed from the National Register	
other (explain:)	
Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
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(Check as many boxes as apply.) Private:	
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Public – State	
Public – Federal	
Category of Property	
(Check only <b>one</b> box.)	
Building(s) x	
District	
Site	
Structure	
Object	

Sections 1-6 page 2

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Sections 1-6 page 3

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Architectural Classification	
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Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)	
Principal exterior materials of the property: _Foundation: Concrete c	continuous
Walls: concrete block/stucco	
Roof: various	

#### **Narrative Description**

The Parliament House Resort, located at 401 N Orange Blossom Trail, is a complex that contains a 111-room motel, The Footlight performance theater, dance club, Rainbow café restaurant, pool, and outdoor stage. The site was constructed in 1961 as a Parliament House Motor Inn¹ and was converted into a gay resort in 1975, while owned and operated by William Miller and Michael Hodge. The motel portion of the complex is L-shaped in plan, while the club and theater are square in plan. The theater and club are located in the northeastern corner of the resort complex and are attached to the hotel by a concrete covered walkway. The complex is concrete block construction and each building is topped by a flat roof with minimal eaves. The entire site; including the motel, theater, club, and restaurant is situated on approximately 10.3 acres.

#### Façade (Eastern Elevation/Entrance to interior courtyard and motel)

Beginning at the SE corner

The façade of the site features a rectangular patterned concrete block wall that abuts the main office and entrance to the resort and club areas. The office and check in area of the club and hotel feature five large rectangular one over one fixed windows with metal framing. These windows extend the full height of the façade. There are also four smaller rectangular single pane fixed windows with metal framing on the southern side of the office and check in areas. The façade is topped by a flat roof with a large concrete fascia and minimal eaves. The resort and club area can be entered on either side of a large glass block privacy wall. This wall was completed in early

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> David Baine, "Parliament House Motor Inns", GLBT History Museum of Central Florida, accessed April 23, 2017, <a href="http://glbthistorymuseum.com/joomla25/index.php?option=com\_k2&view=item&id=234:parliament-house-motor-inns&Itemid=142&lang=en">http://glbthistorymuseum.com/joomla25/index.php?option=com\_k2&view=item&id=234:parliament-house-motor-inns&Itemid=142&lang=en</a>.

Parliament House Motor Inn

Orange, FL County and State

Name of Property

2000.<sup>2</sup> The wall features two large panels of glass block, each glass block panel is 10 blocks by 14 blocks and each panel is approximately 6 by 8 feet. These glass block panels are flanked on either side by large entryways each topped by a pyramidal canvas awning. Directly in front of this glass block privacy wall is the Parliament House Motor Inn landmark sign. The sign is mid-century modern in design and features a large oval with "Parliament House Resort" illuminated inside. The large oval is supported by four cylindrical metal beams. On the left portion of the sign are decorative rectangular lights that are each a different color of the rainbow. The original sign was restored in 2004.

Located to the right of the entryways into the resort is another large rectangular glass block privacy wall. On either side of this rectangular glass block wall are rectangular patterned concrete block columns similar in style to the rectangular concrete block patterns on the rest of the façade. This glass block wall is connected to the large one and a half story Footlight Theater. This main entryway also features a flat roof with large concrete fascia and minimal eaves.

#### Footlight Theater, Dance Club, and Rainbow Café

Southern Elevation (Main Entrance to Theater, Club, and Café)

The one and a half story theater and club complex is constructed of concrete block, square in plan, topped by a flat roof without eaves, and is located in the northeastern corner of the site. The Footlight Theater is one and a half stories, while the dance club and cafe is only one story. The main entrances of the theater and club are located on the southern elevation of the theater. The Rainbow Café is entered through the interior of the theater and club areas and has no external features. The theater is entered through a pair of glass and metal doors with two large square panes of glass. On either side of these entry doors is a large rectangular single pane fixed window. The theater is exited through a single glass and metal door located to the left of the entry doors. On the left of the exit door is a single large rectangular fixed window congruous with the other two windows located in the entryway. The entryway is located under a concrete roof that extends from the registration and check in area of the motel to the entry doors of the theater. This concrete roof is supported on the its eastern side by the large glass block windows of the façade of the complex and on the western side by large glass block windows that are offset from the glass block windows of the façade, creating a nearly continuous privacy screen when the interior courtyard of the resort is viewed from the street.

To the west of the Footlight Theater is the dance club. The club is entered through the interior of the waiting area of the Footlight Theater. The exterior wall of the club that makes up the rest of the southern elevation features two glass and metal doors located in the middle of the club's elevation. Located to the left of these doors are two single pane fixed windows with metal casings. To the right of the glass doors are two paired single pane fixed windows with small cloth awnings. The windows are evenly spaced around the centrally located glass doors.

#### Eastern Elevation of Theater and Club

The eastern elevation of the club features small square decorative concrete block columns spaced at even intervals. The theater is topped by a flat roof and has decorative concrete block accent

Parliament House Motor Inn

Orange, FL County and State

Name of Property

trim along the edge. Located in the middle of the elevation are two rectangular metal fire safety

#### Western Elevation

The western elevation of the dance club features a single glass and metal entry door located off center towards the south end of the building. The elevation has nine large single pane fixed windows, with one individual window and three paired windows located to the north of the entry door and one paired set to the south of the door. The windows and door are evenly massed and spaced along the elevation.

#### Northern Elevation of Site

The northern elevation of the site faces an alleyway that connects N. Orange Blossom Trail to the northeast corner of the motel parking lot, and includes the northern elevations of both the Footlight Theater and the dance club. The northern elevation of the theater features one large rectangular doorway that has been boarded up. The northern elevation of the club is constructed in the same manner as the rest of the building and does not include any external doors or windows. To the right of the theater and club is a pump-shed constructed in 1975 which houses the machinery for the pool. This shed is constructed of corrugated metal. The rest of the elevation is taken up by a large wooden privacy fence that extends from the shed to the northwestern corner of the motel.

#### Motel

The motel portion of the site was constructed in 1961 as a Parliament House Motor Inn, the twostory concrete block constructed hotel is L-shaped in plan and topped by a flat roof with minimal eaves. When entering the interior courtyard of the hotel through the main entrance on the eastern elevation (façade) there are blocks of rooms on the south and west sides of the site.

#### Eastern Elevation (Bear Den and Shop)

The first-floor of the eastern elevation features a hallway located in the southern corner of the elevation. This hallway leads to exterior rooms, the parking lot, and recreation area at Rock Lake. Located directly adjacent to this hallway are two small shops. The first shop features two large single pane fixed windows with metal casings followed by a single glass and metal entry door. The second shop, adjacent to the first is configured in the same way, with a single glass and metal entry door followed by two large rectangular single pane fixed windows with metal casings. Located next to these shops is the Bear Den Bar. The bar takes up the middle third of the first-floor of the elevation and is sheathed in wood siding. The bar features two glass paned, metal framed doors located near each end of the bar. Two small single pane fixed windows are located to the left of the southern door. Two sets of paired single pane fixed windows are located between the two entry doors, the window closest to the northern entry door has been boarded over. A pair of single pane fixed windows is located to the right of the northern entry door. The windows of the bar are evenly spaced. There are three evenly space wooden "Bear Den" signs located on the front of the bar.

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

Parliament House Motor Inn

Orange, FL

County and State Located to the north of the bar are three standard size rooms. These three rooms all have the same manner of fenestration detailing. Two large paired rectangular single pane fixed windows with metal casings, located to the left of the single door, which features a single transom window above. This is followed by two large paired single pane fixed windows with footlight divisions. The final room on this floor is a larger apartment style suite and is clad in decorative concrete block that is congruous to the decorative concrete block located on the façade of the site. This larger room in entered through a single door located on the southeast corner and features one centrally located large square single pane fixed window.

The second-floor of the eastern elevation has thirteen rooms. The concrete walkway located on this floor has metal railings with a square geometric pattern that evokes the mid-century design aesthetic of the complex. This geometric patterned railing is found on the entire second-story of the motel. There is a hallway in the southern corner of the elevation, congruous to the first-floor. The standard size rooms are grouped in a similar manner to the rooms on the first floor. Each room features a single-entry door topped with a single pane transom. The room located adjacent to the hallway features a large single pane fixed window to the left (south) of the door. To the right of the door are two large single pane fixed rectangular windows with footlight divisions. Each room on the rest of the floor, excluding the larger suite at the end features two large fixed windows followed by two adjacent entry doors to separate rooms, these adjacent doors are then followed by two pairs of two large single pane fixed windows with footlight divisions. The suite located at the north end of the floor is congruous to the first-floor suite and features decorative concrete block, along with a large centrally located square single pane fixed window. There is a metal staircase located in the northern corner that connects the second-floor to the ground level.

#### Northern Elevation

The northern elevation of the motel has twenty-six rooms, thirteen on each floor. Located adjacent to the check-in area and offices on the first-floor is a hallway that leads to exterior rooms and the parking lot. All the rooms on this floor feature the same fenestration detailing and are grouped in a similar manner to the eastern elevation of the hotel. The room adjacent to the hallway features a single door topped with a single transom, to the right (west) of the door are two large single pane fixed windows with footlight divisions. These two windows are followed by a second pair of congruous windows. Adjacent to these windows are two paired entry doors to separate rooms. Congruous to the other elevations of the motel, these two entry doors are followed by two pairs of two large fixed windows each with footlight divisions. A walkway to the exterior rooms and parking lot is located near the northwestern corner of the elevation.

The second-floor of the northern elevation has thirteen rooms that are organized in the same manner as the first-floor. The room in the northeast corner features two large single pane fixed windows located to the right of the door, each successive room features two pairs of two single pane fixed windows located on each side of paired entry doors. Similar to the first-floor, a hallway is located near the northwestern corner of the elevation. The concrete walkway features metal railings with square geometric patterns, congruous to the railings on the second floor of the eastern elevation.

Parliament House Motor Inn

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Name of Property

Southern Elevation

The southern elevation has twenty-six room in total, thirteen on each floor. The western corner of the first-floor features a large suite that has a different fenestration pattern than other rooms on this elevation. The suite features a long rectangular double hung one over one window, followed by two evenly spaced small rectangular double hung one over one windows and a long rectangular double hung one over one window, these windows are evenly spaced on the elevation. The rest of the fenestration detailing is congruent with the eastern and northern elevations of the hotel. The first-floor of the elevation features thirteen rooms. The first standard size room has a large rectangular single pane fixed window located to the left of the single-entry door with a glass transom. The rest of the rooms on this floor are grouped similarly to other rooms of the hotel, two large rectangular single pane fixed windows located to the left of the paired entry doors, directly adjacent to these doors are two pairs of two large rectangular single pane fixed windows. A hallway that connects the parking lot to the interior courtyard is located near the western corner of the elevation. The eastern most room on the first-floor has only one large rectangular single pane fixed window directly adjacent to the door, the second window is located on the southeastern corner of the room. A second hallway on the first-floor located in the eastern most corner leads behind the office and registration area and directly into the outdoor waiting area of the Footlight Theater.

The organization of both windows and entry doors on the second-floor is the same as the first-floor. There are two hallways located on the second-story that are congruous to the hallways on the first-floor and lead from the parking lot to the courtyard facing rooms. The second-floor concrete walkway metal railings have a square patterned design on them, congruous with the railings found on all the second-floor elevations of the hotel.

#### Western Elevation (Facing Rock Lake)

This elevation has 30 rooms, fifteen on each floor. There are two sets of concrete stairs with metal railings located at either end of the elevation. A concrete sidewalk runs the entire length of the first-floor. The first-floor features two large suite style rooms on either end. The suite in the northern corner features one large centrally located square single pane fixed window. The suite is entered though a single door located in the southwestern corner of the room. The rooms on the first-floor are similarly configured to the other rooms throughout the hotel. The first standard size room features two paired large rectangular single pane fixed windows to the left (north) of the single door that is topped with a transom. To the right of this entry door are two pairs of large rectangular single pane fixed windows. Each room on the rest of the floor, excluding the larger suite at the end features two large fixed windows followed by two adjacent entry doors to separate rooms, these adjacent doors are then followed by two pairs of two large single pane fixed windows with footlight divisions. A hallway connecting the parking lot to the interior courtyard is located near the southern corner of the elevation. The room located to the right (south) of this hallway is the only standard size room on the floor that does not follow the fenestration pattern of the other rooms. This room has a single door, located directly adjacent to the hallway and includes a pair of large rectangular single pane fixed windows on the right side of the room only. The large suite located on the southern corner of the first-floor is configured in much the same way as the one on the northern end. The room is entered through a single door

Parliament House Motor Inn

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County and State

located on the northwestern corner of the room. The room features a centrally located large square single pane fixed window.

The second-story of the western elevation is configured in nearly the same way as the first. The large suite located in the northern corner features a centrally located group of three rectangular single pane fixed windows. The fenestration details and entry doors of the other standard size rooms are configured in the same way as the first-floor. The large suite located in the southern corner features one centrally located large single pane fixed square window congruous with the window on the first-floor. The second-floor walkway is concrete and features square patterned metal railings that are congruous to the railings found throughout the hotel.

#### Courtyard (Pool and Stage)

The outdoor courtyard of the resort was originally the parking lot of the motel. The courtyard was blocked off in early 2000 with the addition of the glass block privacy wall located on the eastern elevation of the site. The courtyard was covered with concrete to create a continuous patio style surface throughout. The courtyard features numerous trees and greenery throughout, along with sitting areas near the pool and bear bar. The pool is located in the middle of the courtyard near the disco/dance club. The pool is rectangular in shape, trimmed with brick and is surrounded by a brick patio and small metal fence, originally the pool was surrounded by a simple concrete patio and metal chain-link fence.

Directly to the north of the pool is the outdoor stage. This stage is constructed of wood and has two wooden staircases located on either end. The stage is covered with a canvas awning. The awning is supported by metal beams, along with these metal beams, there are metal structures on either end of the stage used to support large speakers. The stage is used for outdoor performances.

#### Integrity

#### Historic Appearance of the Site

The Parliament House Motor Inn was originally constructed in 1961 and was converted into a gay resort in 1975. The buildings within the resort complex maintain much of their historic material and workmanship and retain the appearance and feeling of the motel during its period of significance. The motel complex today still evokes the midcentury modern feeling of its original construction. The intact fenestration detailing and the geometric patterning still extant throughout the motel are indicative of midcentury modern hotel design and strongly convey the setting, appearance, and feeling of the motel complex during its period of significance. There have been some changes and updates made to the complex throughout its tenure as a gay resort. Historically the motel was accessed via Orange Blossom Trail and visitors could park in the inner courtyard of the motel. In early 2000 the courtyard was covered over with concrete and a glass block privacy wall was installed on the façade of the site. This wall was deemed necessary by the owners, to give their patrons and guests more privacy and a greater sense of security. Originally the pool and patio were very simple in design and were enclosed by a simple chain-link fence. The pool, patio, and fence were changed during the period of significance, to include brick trim on the pool, a brick patio, and a larger metal fence, an appearance they currently retain. Given that the exterior of the motel and club complex have not been significantly altered and the historic appearance and feel of the site remains intact, the Parliament House Motor Inn retains a

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 Parliament House Motor Inn Orange, FL County and State Name of Property high degree of integrity and offers a glimpse into the early years of the gay community and gay tourism in Orlando. 8. Statement of Significance **Applicable National Register Criteria** (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.) A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the X broad patterns of our history. B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past. C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction. D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. Criteria Considerations (Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.) A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes B. Removed from its original location C. A birthplace or grave D. A cemetery

Section 7 page 10

G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure

F. A commemorative property

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 Parliament House Motor Inn Name of Property Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions.) Entertainment and Recreation Social History: LGBT Period of Significance 1975-1992 **Significant Dates** 1975 1987 1992 **Significant Person** (Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.) **Cultural Affiliation** Architect/Builder Alan Berman

Arthur Beck

Hodes & Cumming Construction

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#### Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph

The Parliament House Motor Inn is being proposed for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and the state level in the areas of Entertainment and Recreation, and Social History: LGBT. The motel complex originally built in 1961, but became a gay resort in 1975 when ownership was transferred to William Miller and Michael Hodge. The Parliament House is one of the oldest gay clubs within Florida still in operation at its original site. The resort served as a meeting place for the early gay community in the Orlando area and as a site of community and identity creation. In later years became one of the foremost locations for fundraising and charity benefits during the beginning of the AIDS crisis in the late 1980s and early 1990s.<sup>3</sup>

#### **Narrative Statement of Significance**

#### Orlando Community

Orlando's history dates back to the 1830s during the height of the Seminole Wars, the US Army built Fort Gatlin just south of present day Orlando. During the 19th century, Orlando was a hub for the region's citrus industry. The Parliament House is located on Orange Blossom Trail to the southeast of Rock Lake on land that was originally an orange grove. Orange Blossom Trail was touted as "Central Florida's Scenic Route" and used by many as a way to visit inland attractions that were near US Highway 441. In the 1930s the property adjacent to the Parliament House was purchased by a Jonathan Moon, who built one of the first tourist camps in the area, 'Moon's Tourist Camp', which operated in the area until the 1960s when the Parliament House Motel was constructed next door. Orange Blossom Trail remained a highly-trafficked tourist area until the early 1970s when Disney announced the opening of Disney World. With the opening of Walt Disney World, many attractions that had once been staples of the tourist industry were unable to compete and shut their doors, these closures helped shift tourist attention away from Orange Blossom Trail. When William Miller and Michael Hodge took over ownership, the Parliament House was somewhat in disrepair, but the transformation of the site breathed new life into the area.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Vicky Bebout, Interview by David Bain, 2015, in collection of author. Ron Studdard, interview with David Bain, 2015, in collection of author. Jeter Walker, conversation with author, May 21, 2017. Delthia Ricks, "AIDS Clinic Comes to Life in Motel Room." *Orlando Sentinel*. January 8, 1990, sec. B. accessed June 9, 2018, Orlando Sentinel Archives. <a href="http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/">http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/</a>. Sentinel Star. "Gay Social Services Offers Hotline Help." *Orlando Sentinel*. April 5, 1979, sec. B. accessed June 9, 2017, Orlando Sentinel Archives. <a href="http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/">http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> City of Orlando, "Orlando History," Accessed May 4, 2017. http://www.cityoforlando.net/about/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Steve Herring, "The Colorful Tale of the Carolina Moon Trailer Camp." *Orlando Retro Blog*, December 21, 2013, accessed June 5, 2017. <a href="https://orlandoretro.com/2013/12/21/the-colorful-tale-of-the-carolina-moon-trailer-camp/">https://orlandoretro.com/2013/12/21/the-colorful-tale-of-the-carolina-moon-trailer-camp/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Joy Wallace Dickinson. "Tourist Trail Blossomed in Era of Postwar Roadside Adventure." *Orlando Sentinel*, April 27, 2014, accessed June 5 2017. <a href="http://articles.orlandosentinel.com/2014-04-27/features/os-joy-wallace-dickinson-0427-20140427">http://articles.orlandosentinel.com/2014-04-27/features/os-joy-wallace-dickinson-0427-20140427</a> 1 tourist-trail-scenic-route-roadside.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Steve Herring, "The Colorful Tale of the Carolina Moon Trailer Camp." James C. Clark, *A Concise History of Florida*, (Charleston, South Carolina: The History Press, 2014), 200-201.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Steve Herring, "The Colorful Tale of the Carolina Moon Trailer Camp."

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#### Roadside Motels

With the invention of the automobile, in the 1900s the landscape of the United States began to change. As more people were able to purchase and use automobiles they brought about a • restructuring of American geography, that changed both the roadways and the adjacent land uses. Many Americans began to venture out in their automobiles and to make camp beside the roads in the evenings, from this practice the first semblances of motels and hotels were born; the tourist and municipal camp. 10 From these early camps evolved early motels in the form of cabin courts and cottages. Many of these cottages and cabins were established in the interwar years.11 WWII halted much of the construction of roadside attractions, after the war ended there was a boom in tourism and many of the early cottage courts began to fall by the wayside to newer motor courts. By the 1950s, motel design had become more standardized and many of the new motels fit into two themes, bungalow and modern. 12 Many of these new motor courts and motels were configured around a central courtyard that often included a pool. The construction of motels boomed in the 1950s and 1960s and by 1964 there were over 60,000 motels in the country. 13 As the motor courts flourished, motor inns also began appearing. These motor inns were usually located near airports or peripheral highways. Motor inns were larger and most often made up of multiple story buildings surrounding a courtyard with a pool, along with full dining rooms and cocktail lounges, and in some locations, banquet and meeting rooms. 14 The Parliament House was constructed during this phase and reflects many of the trends in architecture and overall plan of typical motor inn construction. The Parliament House still maintains this historic appearance, which given the ever-changing nature of roadside attractions is uncommon.

#### Gay Bars and Clubs in Central Florida

Prior to 1969 there were few gay run establishments in the central Florida area. The clandestine nature of the early gay community meant that there were few public spaces that catered specifically to gays and lesbians. Prior to the establishment of these clubs and bars many gays and lesbians chose to meet in private residences. Some of the first clubs in the central Florida area that may have catered to gay and lesbian patrons were established in Tampa. Both the Brass Rail and Knotty Pine featured early drag shows and were rumored to be more friendly to gay patrons. Unfortunately, the clandestine and silent nature of the gay and lesbian communities in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Jakle, John A., and Keith A. Sculle. *Remembering Roadside America: Preserving the Recent Past as Landscape and Place*, (Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 2011), xvi, xvii.

Warren James Belasco, Americans on the Road: From Autocamp to Motel, 1910-1945, (Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press, 1979), 41, 71. Jakle, John A., Keith A Sculle, and Jefferson S Rogers, The Motel in America, (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996), 31.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Belasco, 134-148. Herring, "The Colorful Tale of the Carolina Moon Trailer Camp." Jakle et. all, *The Motel in America*, 36-43.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Mary Anne Beecher. "The Motel in Builders Literature and Architectural Publications: An Analysis of Design." In *Roadside America: The Automobile in Design and Culture*, edited by Jan Jennings, 115–24, (Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University, 1990), 117.

<sup>13</sup> Jakle et. all, The Motel in America, 43-45.

<sup>14</sup> Jakle et. all, The Motel in America, 49.

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the 1940s and 1950s means that while these bars are rumored to have been gay friendly, that assertion cannot be verified with a high degree of certainty. 15 Bars and clubs that were opened in the 1960s and 1970s, while still very secretive in nature have more documentation, especially the clubs opened in the Orlando area. The Palace Club on Edgewater Drive in Orlando opened by Bill Miller and Michael Hodge in 1969 and became one of the first gay owned and operated clubs in the area. 16 This site on Edgewater Drive became home to numerous clubs and bars over the years and eventually became Face to Face, later Faces, the first lesbian owned bar for lesbians in the area. 17 All the bars located in this area have since closed.

In 1970, five years prior to the opening of Parliament House, the Marlin Beach Resort in Ft. Lauderdale began to cater to gay clientele. The site was one of the premier destinations for gay tourist up until the 1980s. During this time the Marlin started experiencing hard times and by 1992 the building was in such disrepair that the hotel was torn down. 18 Prior to opening the Parliament House, Bill Miller and Michael Hodge opened the Diamond Head Club on Magnolia Ave in Orlando. This is widely to be considered the first 'real' gay club, in the area as it served both food and alcohol and had a show bar on the second story of the club. 19 In 1975 shortly before purchasing the Parliament House, Bill Miller purchased the Las Novedades restaurant in Ybor City and converted it to the El Goya lounge that catered to the gay community and supported the drag scene in Ybor and Tampa. Unfortunately, in 1977 El Goya was damaged in a fire and shut its doors.<sup>20</sup> After purchasing the Parliament House Motor Inn in 1975, Bill Miller and Michael Hodge converted it into a gay resort and club and it quickly became one of the largest and most popular gay resorts in the area.<sup>21</sup>

#### Historic Significance

#### The Parliament House Motor Inn

The motor inn that would become the Parliament House Motor Inn was originally constructed in 1961, and was the first in a chain of motor inns owned by Ned Eddy and his sons Ned Jr. and James. The Eddy's were originally based out of Kansas City, Missouri, and hoped to have a nine-state wide chain of motels by 1964. The Parliament House in Orlando opened in 1962. It was designed by architect Alan Berman and was constructed by Hodes and Cumming Construction. The Parliament House was popular for many years and was used by the nearby

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Mark and Carrie, "Bars That Were," Dishing with Mark and Carrie, December 28, 2011, accessed April 2, 2017. http://www.mcfilm.co/bars-that-were-new/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> GLBT History Museum of Central Florida, "Central Florida Timeline", Accessed January 5, 2017.  $\underline{\text{http://glbthistorymuseum.com/joomla25/index.php?option=com\_chronoconnectivity\&view=connection\&Itemid=40}$ 1&lang=en.

17 Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Bob LaMendola, "Landmarks' End Beach Hotel Was Destination of Gay Tourists Worldwide," Sun Sentinel, April 19, 1992, accessed June 18, 2017. http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/1992-04-19/news/9202030816 1 gay-tourists-gay-business-association-gay-hotel

<sup>19</sup> GLBT History Museum of Central Florida, "Central Florida Timeline"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Susan Thurston, "El Goya Reunion Show Drags Ybor back to the '80s." Tampa Bay Times. March 8, 2009, accessed July 12, 2017. http://www.tampabay.com/features/events/el-goya-reunion-show-drags-ybor-back-tothe-80s/982087.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Red Huber, "Orlando and the Gay Issue," Sentinel Star. June 7, 1977, sec. B. Orlando Sentinel Archives. http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/.

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Tupperware headquarters for meetings. It was also used as a meeting location for the Florida Voters League. In 1972, with the opening of Disney World, the Parliament House expected influx of visitors. However, with the construction of motels and hotels on International Drive and in nearby Kissimmee, hotels and attraction along Orange Blossom Trail and other historic tourist districts began to lose business. With this loss of tourists and their business the Parliament House began to fall into disrepair. Between 1972 and 1975 the Parliament House began to attract a less desirable clientele that came with the shift in the Orange Blossom Trail area. In 1975 the Parliament House Motor Inn was near bankruptcy and the site was purchased by William Miller and Michael Hodge.

William Miller and Michael Hodge acquired the Parliament House in 1975 and shortly thereafter changed the site into a type of gay establishment that was previously unheard of in central Florida. Miller and Hodge had opened other clubs prior to the Parliament House, but nothing on this scale. Shortly after its conversion to a gay resort, Parliament House was called the "glittering tip of the largely invisible iceberg known as gay Orlando."25 One aspect of Parliament House's uniqueness was longtime emcee of the Footlight Theater, and the most famous drag queen in the southeast, Miss. P. Miss P. was played by Paul Wegman and she first appeared at the Palace Club owned by Bill Miller and Michael Hodge in the early 1970s, from there she traveled to Parliament House in 1975 and was a fixture there until her retirement in late 2000.26 Miss P. perfected the art of improvisation and was a master at putting audience members down. During her tenure at Parliament House some of P's routines became audience favorites, including the audience shouting roll until she would summersault across the stage and the infamous "Here's Pussy" routine in which P would stuff the microphone up her skirt and let her genitals entertain the audience with its renditions of popular songs. Paul Wegman was not only Miss P., but also a beloved actor and director in the Orlando theater scene, he and Miss P. left an indelible mark on Orlando theater and she is said to have inspired a generation of drag queens.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> David Baine, "Parliament House Motor Inns," September 24, 2015, accessed July 12, 2017. http://glbthistorymuseum.com/joomla25/index.php?option=com\_k2&view=item&id=234:parliament-house-motor-inns&Itemid=142&lang=en. Rhodes Conklin, "Parliament House Expands," *Orlando Evening Star*. September 10, 1962, sec. A. Orlando Sentinel Archives. <a href="http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/">http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> James C. Clark, A Concise History of Florida, (Charleston, South Carolina: The History Press, 2014), 200-201.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> David Baine, "Parliament House Motor Inns," GLBT History Museum of Central Florida, accessed January 15, 2017,

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Red Huber, "Orlando and the Gay Issue," Sentinel Star. June 7, 1977, sec. B. Orlando Sentinel Archives. <a href="http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/">http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Elizabeth Maupin, "Beloved Local Actor, Director, Paul Wegman Dies and 60; 1944-2004," Orlando Sentinel. August 25, 2004,

http://search.proquest.com.ezproxy.net.ucf.edu/docview/280098912/abstract/1CE47875B7E84CB3PQ/82.

27 Seth Kubersky, "10th Anniversary Screening of Paul Wegman Doc Both Sad and Satisfying," Orlando

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<sup>2017.</sup> http://www.watermarkonline.com/2014/08/13/10-years-after-aids-complications-took-paul-wegman-central-florida-reflects-on-his-loss-his-influence-and-the-invincibility-of-his-character/.

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Parliament House was also unique in that it catered to many different subcultures within the gay community. Many early patrons such as Ron Studdard, fondly reminisce about being able to walk from the Bear Den and leather bar into the disco that was full of 'twinks' (a gay slang term used to describe gay men that are usually young, attractive, and usually slender or very physically fit); Ron remembers that there was nowhere else in the city or central Florida that this kind of maneuverability within gay spaces was possible.<sup>28</sup>

During the 1950s and 1960s, there was great risk associated with coming out fully as gay or lesbian. In doing so, individuals could be fired from their jobs or lose their housing. Patrons and employees of the Parliament House such as Ron Studdard, Bill Lape, and Vicky Bebout, a long-time bartender, state that the resort and club provided a place where people could be out and maintain a sense of community and camaraderie that was not found in other locations.<sup>29</sup> Playwright and local gay activist Michael Wanzie calls Parliament House a "constant", and links the sites longevity to the feeling of home it cultivated in its patrons. As Michael Wanzie states in the Parliament House 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Documentary, Parliament House is "steeped in history, emotional attachments, lifelong friendships, and memories that could not have been made anywhere else."<sup>30</sup> Bill Miller and Michael Hodge also used the Parliament House as a setting for charity fundraisers, community events, and outreach groups, such as legal awareness seminars dealing with issues of job and housing discrimination.<sup>31</sup> This sense of partnership cultivated by the Parliament House was essential to the fostering of the early gay community and the coming out movements of the 1980s and 1990s.

This sense of community was also vital when the AIDS crisis stuck central Florida. The Parliament House became a site for numerous charity drives and fundraisers during the 1980s and 1990s. Ron Studdard remembers that Bill and Michael would do anything for the community, that they would continually support causes that benefitted the community. Studdard credits the success of fundraising for AID Orlando and other causes to Bill and Michael for their pressure on other bars to support these causes. Michael Hodge in particular has been called one of the gay communities most generous supporters; he not only helped financially, but rooms were set aside in the Parliament House and neighboring Carolina Moon Motor Court as spaces for AIDS support and treatment. In an excerpt from Triangle Magazine, quoted in "Under the Rainbow by the Carolina Moon", Michael is called "one of the greatest supporters of gay and lesbian life that Orlando has ever had. His aid to groups like Hope and Help, CENTAUR, Act-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Ron Studdard, interview with David Bain. Red Huber, "Orlando and the Gay Issue," *Sentinel Star*. June 7, 1977, Orlando Sentinel Archives. http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Studdard interview with David Bain, Bill Lape interview with David Bain, Vicky Bebout, interview with David Bain.

 $<sup>^{30}</sup>$  40 Years of Parliament House, directed by David Bain, (2015), accessed July 12, 2017.  $\underline{\text{https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pV7jKjWtZuA}}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Kelly Brewington and Jeff Kunerth, "As Gay Community Prospers, So Does Parliament House; The Once-seedy Motel Now Attracts a Broad Cross-section of the Local Gay Community", Series: Being Gay in Central Florida," *Orlando Sentinel*. April 15, 2002, sec. A, accessed July 12, 2017. <a href="http://search.proquest.com.ezproxy.net.ucf.edu/docview/279746633/abstract/54E5A08AB71249E7PQ/5">http://search.proquest.com.ezproxy.net.ucf.edu/docview/279746633/abstract/54E5A08AB71249E7PQ/5</a>. Sentinel Star. "Gay Social Services Offers Hotline Help." *Orlando Sentinel*. April 5, 1979, sec. B. Orlando Sentinel Archives, accessed July 12, 2017. <a href="http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/">http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/</a>

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out Theater, and all of the other our institutions is legendary...He was always reaching into his deep pockets to help people." 32

Bill Miller and Michael Hodge through their creation and maintenance of Parliament House as a space for gays and lesbians became pillars within the Orlando gay community. They were considered trail blazers and pioneers who moved the gay community to where it is now.<sup>33</sup>. The fact that Parliament House maintains its historic character and is still operated as a gay resort and club, gives it exceptional importance to the Orlando and central Florida communities. The Parliament House is Bill Miller and Michael Hodge's enduring legacy and it has become a cultural institution in central Florida.

<sup>32</sup> Ron Studdard, interview with David Bain. Bill Lape, interview with David Bain. Vicky Bebout, interview with David Bain. Andrew Beierle, "Local Gays Find Hope in Loss." Sentinel Star. June 9, 1977, sec. C, accessed June 9, 2017, Orlando Sentinel Archives. http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/. Lindy T. Shepard "Under the Rainbow by the Carolina Moon," 2003, accessed July 10, 2017. http://www.parliamenthouse.com/underthe-rainbow-by-the-carolina-moon/.

33 Ron Studdard interview with David Bain, Bill Lape, interview with David Bain, Vicky Bebout, interview

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Sections 9-end page 20

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Use either the UTM sy	stem or latitude/	longitude coor	dinates		
Latitude/Longitude ( Datum if other than W (enter coordinates to 6 1. Latitude:	GS84:	imal degrees)  Longitude:			
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1. Zone: 17R	Easting:	461093	Northing: 3	157976	
2. Zone:	Easting:		Northing:		
3. Zone:	Easting:		Northing:		
4. Zone:	Easting:		Northing:		

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service / National Register of Historic Places Registration Form
NPS Form 10-900
OMB No. 1024-0018

Parliament House Motor Inn	Orange, FL		
Name of Property	County and State		
The property is bounded on the east by Orange Blossom T	Trail. On the west side, the property		
abuts the shore of Rock Lake. To the north of the site is w	that is left of the Carolina Moon		
Motor Court. To the south of the site is a large parking lot site.	t that is used as overflow for the		
Site.			
Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were	re selected )		
These boundaries were selected because the historic property encompassed this area.			
11. Form Prepared By			
11. Form Trepared by			
name/title: Erin Montgomery, Masters Candidate			
	a auton ant		
organization: <u>University of Central Florida History Dep</u>	Dartment		
street & number: 4000 Central Florida Blvd.	. 1 22016		
city or town: Orlando state: FL	zip code: <u>32816</u>		
e-mail_erin.montgomery@knights.ucf.edu			
telephone:(505) 514-4069			
date: June 16, 2017			

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# **Additional Documentation**

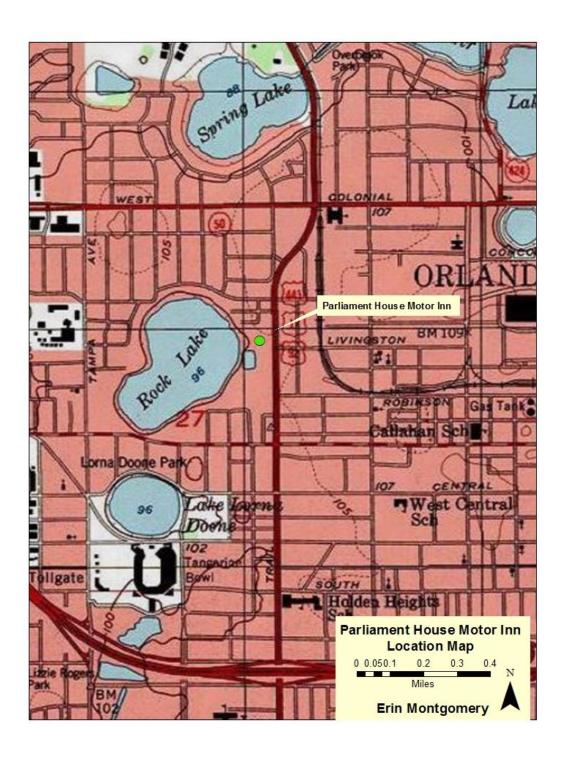


Figure 1 Parliament House Location Map



Figure 2 Parliament House Site Map



Figure 3 Parliament House Illustration, courtesy of GLBT History Museum of Central Florida



Figure 4 Parliament House Postcard, courtesy of GLBT History Museum of Central Florida



Figure 5 Parliament House 1968, courtesy of GLBT History Museum of Central Florida



Figure 6 Parliament House 1969, courtesy of GLBT History Museum of Central Florida

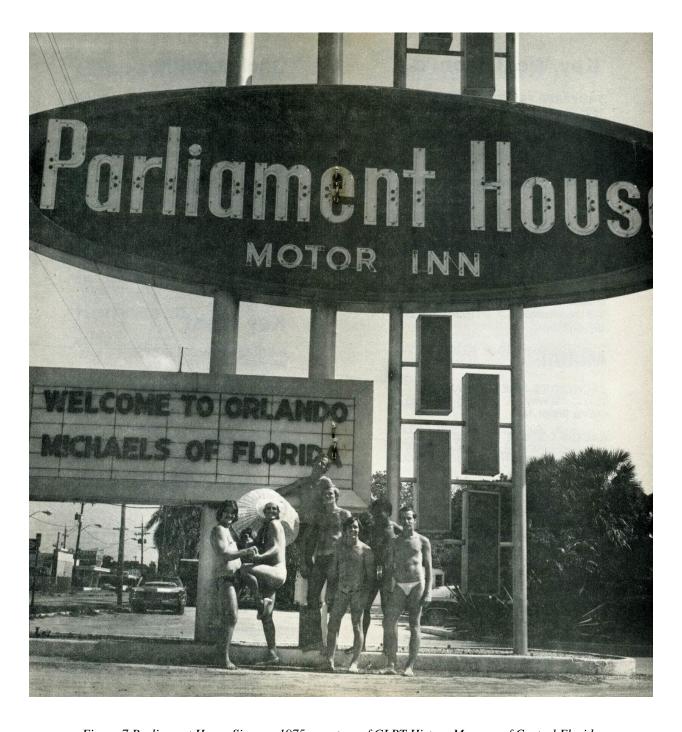


Figure 7 Parliament House Sign ca. 1975, courtesy of GLBT History Museum of Central Florida



Figure 8 Parliament House Sign, 2015 photo by author



Figure 9 Parliament House façade, 2017 photo by author



Figure 10 Parliament House Facade, 2017 photo by author



Figure 11 Parliament House Courtyard, northern elevation, 2017 photo by author



Figure 12 Parliament House northern elevation, 2017 photo by author



Figure 13 Parliament House Bear Den, eastern elevation, 2017 photo by author



Figure 14 Parliament House eastern elevation, 2017 photo by author



Figure 15 Parliament House northeast corner, 2017 photo by author





Figure 17 Parliament House western elevation, 2017 photo by author



Figure 18 Parliament House southwest corner, 2017 photo by author



Figure 19 Parliament House southern elevation, 2017 photo by author



Figure 20 Footlight Theater, Club entrance, southern elevation, 2017 photo by author



Figure 21 Footlight Theater, Club, southwest corner, 2017 photo by author



Figure 22 Footlight Theater, Club, eastern elevation, 2017 photo by author



Figure 23 Footlight Theater, Club, northeast corner, 2017 photo by author



Figure 24 Parliament House Pool and Stage, 2017 photo by author



Figure 25 Rock Lake beach area, 2017 photo by author

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement**: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management. U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

### **CHAPTER TWO**

This thesis project and my research into the history of the Parliament House Motor Inn in Orlando, Florida contributes to an intricate and nuanced historiography. My work is in conversation with the scholarship of gay community and identity creation, place making, architectural history, and roadside America. Research into the Parliament House as a gay resort adds a new dimension to the conversation in these fields as few authors have considered the creation of gay resorts in the southern United States and the impact that these spaces had on the gay and queer communities within the region. My research into the history of Parliament House concludes that the site influenced gay life and experiences in Orlando and helped foster the groups early sense of identity. This conclusion is shown through oral history interviews and is vital in understanding the trajectory of the gay community in Orlando and central Florida.

By focusing on the establishment of the Parliament House as a gay enclave, tourist destination, and site of gay identity creation, this research acts as micro-history and gives voice to people that have been neglected by other more traditional historical sources. By focusing on this micro level of history my research adds new dimension to the growing field of LGBT studies. Many works within the field focus on broader historical trends or larger geographical areas, my enquiry and its focus on a single gay space thus is able to link Parliament House to these larger narratives surrounding gay bars and clubs and their roles in facilitating and articulating more public gay identities, providing scholars a way to view localized events and spaces as a means to interpret and explore gay and lesbian bar culture in the United States. This connection to larger historical narratives within LGBT history, also allows for narratives such as the coming out movement and responses to the AIDS crisis to be understood at a more localized level.

My exploration of Parliament House as a motel that was converted into a gay destination is also able to provide new insights into the effects of increased mobility and roadside expansion on gay tourism and travel. Automobility and gay tourism intersect at the Parliament House and my research is able to build upon previous works, linking increased automobility to the expansion of queer sites that facilitated spaces of queer desire, sexual encounters, and community creation.

Parliament House is uncommon among the gay sites that are discussed within the historiography of gay tourism, authors in this field tend to focus on large areas coupled with long time periods, this is necessary because many of these clubs and resorts are no longer in operation. My research is unique in this field as it is focused on a gay space that is in its original location and still in operation as a gay resort. The fact that my work is able to focus on a club that is still in existence is critical to my conclusions that Parliament House is significant to LGBT history in Orlando and central Florida. Gay and lesbian bar culture was vital to the beginning of many lesbian and gay communities and my research into the Parliament House builds upon this conclusion. In both oral histories and articles written about Parliament House it is stated that the gay community in central Florida would not be where it is today without Parliament House.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ron Studdard, Interview with David Bain, 2015. Kelly, Brewington, "Coming Out, Blending In; Gays' Economic Clout Leaves Stamp on City: Gays and Lesbians Have Revitalized Neighborhoods and Gay Visitors Give a Boost to the Tourism Industry." Series: Being Gay in Central Florida, 2nd in a 3-Part Series." *Orlando Sentinel*. April 15, 2002, accessed December, 11 2016

https://login.ezproxy.net.ucf.edu/login?url=http://search.proquest.com.ezproxy.net.ucf.edu/docview/279794820?accountid=10003. Kelly Brewington and Jeff Kunerth, Sentinel Staff Writers. "As Gay Community Prospers, So Does Parliament House; The Once-seedy Motel Now Attracts a Broad Cross-section of the Local Gay Community." Series: Being Gay in Central Florida. *Orlando Sentinel*. April 15, 2002, Accessed December 11, 2016. https://login.ezproxy.net.ucf.edu/login?url=http://search.proquest.com.ezproxy.net.ucf.edu/docview/279746633?accountid=10003.

### Gay Community and Identity Creation

The historiography of gay community and identity creation has many different facets; within the boundaries of this research it is necessary to focus on the subsections of queer and LGBT history in the United States, along with sexual and gay identity creation, ideas and works relating to the gay south, and the historiography of bars, clubs, gay spaces, and gay tourism and travel. My research intersects with these overlapping aspects of the historiography of gay community and identity creation. Exploration into the history of Parliament House led me to conclude that the site is both culturally and historically significant, this research, both connects with and highlights different subsets within the historiographies of LGBT history, southern history, gay spaces, and the creation of gay identity.

## Queer and LBGT History

One of the foremost authors within the historiography of LGBT history is John D'Emilio. One of his seminal works entitled *Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities: The Making of a Homosexual Minority in the United States 1940-1970*, informs much of the way sexual communities are discussed in queer and LGBT history. In this work, D'Emilio situates the growth of gay politics within the larger setting of the evolution of gay sexual identity and urban subculture. Throughout *Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities*, D'Emilio links gay political growth with the spread and growth of gay bars throughout the United States. D'Emilio argues that these bars had the greatest potential for reshaping homosexual identity. D'Emilio highlights how the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> John D'Emilio, *Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities: The Making of a Homosexual Minority in the United States*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1983/1998), 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> D'Emilio, 32.

second Word War facilitated the spread of people across the nation and allowed for more gays and lesbians to meet thereby spreading the emerging LGBT bar culture.<sup>4</sup>

Numerous authors within the field of LBGT studies have linked World War II and its impacts on the nation to the spread of gay and lesbian bar culture. One of the first works is *Toward Stonewall: Homosexuality and Society in the Modern Western World*, by Nicholas Edsall. The main argument made by Edsall is that the interwar years were critical to the creation of a more modern gay subculture. This modern gay subculture was then spread by the movement of people within the Unites States during World War II, and thus people within disparate places were more aware that there was a 'gay scene' and subculture.<sup>5</sup>

Michael Bronski outlines much of the history of LGBT groups in the United States in his work *A Queer History of the United States*. One argument in particular links to arguments made by both D'Emilio and Edsall. Bronski states that in the post-World War II era, ideas about space and community changed, leading to smaller living space and larger communal areas. Bronski argues that lesbian and gay bars were central pillars in these newly created larger communal areas. Like the authors mentioned above, Craig Loftin links the second World War and its aftermath to the spread of lesbian and gay bars that often were "the most important social spaces." Loftin states that these bars and the increased contact between lesbians and gays in the post-World War II era led to both a clarification and a heightening of collective and individual senses of sexual identity.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>4</sup> D'Emilio, 24, 32.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Nicholas C. Edsall, *Toward Stonewall: Homosexuality and Society in the Modern Western World*, (Charlottesville Virginia: University of Virginia Press, 2003),197, 309.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Michael Bronski, *A Queer History of the United States*, (Boston, Massachusetts: Beacon Press, 2011), 131, 170-173.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Craig M. Loftin, "Community and Civil Rights in the Kinsey Era" in *Understanding and Teaching U.S. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History*, edited by Leila J. Rupp and Susan K Freeman, 213-223, (Madison, Wisconsin: The University of Wisconsin Press, 2014), 214-218.

## Sexual and Gay Identity Creation

In one of the earlier works dealing with gay identity creation; *The Construction of Homosexuality* (1988) David Greenberg takes a sociological, historical, and anthropological approach to understanding how homosexuality has been understood and constructed throughout human history. Greenberg spends a great deal of his work discussing preindustrial societies, and moves in an almost evolutionary pattern to industrial societies. In these industrial societies, Greenberg concludes that homosexuality is constructed and defined through distinct gender roles and the separation of public and private spheres of life.<sup>8</sup>

Public gay identity creation is the subject of Elizabeth Armstrong's work, *Forging Gay Identities: Organizing Sexuality in San Francisco*, 1950-1994. In this work, Armstrong traces the development of gay and lesbian organizations in the San Francisco area and their impact on gay life and gay identity. Armstrong argues that the homosexual and homophile organizations of the 1950s and 1960s began the process of transforming gay and lesbian identity from individual and private group identity into a more public and collective identity. Like many other authors within the field, Armstrong focuses on San Francisco. She argues that this is because San Francisco is seen as the progenitor of the gay and lesbian movement within the United States. By focusing on a single location, Armstrong makes compelling arguments about the impact of gay spaces such as bars and clubs on early gay organizations and movements. She points to how activists sought to preserve bars and clubs as gay spaces and that this protection then allowed for more gay sites to become clustered together to create a larger gay space. The example she mentions is the Castro

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> David F. Greenberg, *The Construction of Homosexuality*, (Chicago, University of Chicago Press: 1988), 370.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Elizabeth Armstrong, *Forging Gay Identities: Organizing Sexuality in San Francisco*, 1950-1994, (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2002), 1-3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Armstrong, 3-4.

district within San Francisco, and how the protection of this space and gay bars within it became integral to the gay electoral politics of the city. <sup>11</sup> By identifying bars and clubs as sites imperative to the development of a more collective and public gay identity, Armstrong has opened a large avenue within the historiography of early gay communities that can be expanded upon by new research into previously overlooked spaces. My investigation of Parliament House and its history is part of this expansion of the historiography that was opened by authors such as Armstrong and D'Emilio.

### The Gay South

One of the most prolific scholars of gay and lesbian history and experience in the south is John Howard. In the introduction to his edited collection, *Carryin' On in the Lesbian and Gay South* (1997), Howard argues that the theoretical framework that LGBT studies is founded on discounts and marginalizes southerners and their experiences. He argues that to understand the experience of gay southerners, we must address place along with race, religion, rurality, class, and gender. This argument is reminiscent to ones made by James Sears in his work *Lonely Hunters:* An Oral History of Lesbian and Gay Southern Life, 1948-1968 (1997). In this work, Sears theorizes that the bicoastally based scholarship of LGBT studies leads to the assumption that the south is irrelevant and thus gays and lesbians in the south are marginalized based on both their sexuality and geography. Sears concludes that in the 1970s southern activists helped to transform the emerging homophile movement into a gay rights and power movement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Armstrong, 34, 90, 116, 122.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Howard, John. "Introduction." In *Carryin' On in the Lesbian and Gay South*, edited by John Howard, 1–12, (New York: New York University Press, 1997), 4-5, 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Sears, James T. *Lonely Hunters: An Oral History of Lesbian and Gay Southern Life, 1948-1968*, (Boulder Colorado: Westview-Press, 1997), 1-3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Sears, Lonely Hunters, 8-9.

In his other contribution to *Carryin' On*, "The Library, the Porch, and the Pervert: Public Space and Homosexual Encounter in Post-World War II Atlanta," Howard discusses the contestation over public space and changing notions of courtship within both heterosexual and homosexual communities. To this end, Howard discusses perversion cases at the Atlanta Public Library and the efforts to 'clean up' Piedmont Park and how gay men used what was considered public space for more private acts. Howard argues that the emergence of the car as a place of courtship for heterosexual couples helped to expose homosexual courtship spaces that had previously been on the fringes. This conclusion is reiterated in his work "Place and Movement in Gay American History: A Case from the Post-World War II South," where Howard posits that because the sense of space is different in the south, cars became more critical to early gay and lesbian communities, and thus cruising became a dominant practice while gay and lesbian urban enclaves developed the practice more slowly. The process of the Post-World War II South is gay and lesbian urban enclaves developed the practice more slowly.

In *Men Like That: A Southern Queer History*, one of John Howard's later works, he synthesizes many of his ideas from previous works and discusses ideas of queer desire and its relationship with the spaces in which it occurs. Howard focuses on bars and clubs as one of the main spaces in which this queer desire occurs. Howard states that these bars helped to create balance of both invisibility and accessibility by occupying the marginal and periphery spaces of cities. <sup>19</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Howard, John. "The Library, the Porch, and the Pervert: Public Space and Homosexual Encounter in Post-WWII Atlanta." In *Carryin' On in the Lesbian and Gay South*, edited by John Howard, 107–31, (New York: New York University Press, 1997), 109, 119, 124.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Howard, "The Library, the Porch, and the Pervert", 121-122.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Howard, John. "Place and Movement in Gay American History: A Case from the Post-World War II South." In *Creating a Place for Ourselves: Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Community Histories*, edited by Brett Beemyn, 211–25, (New York: Routledge, 1997), 214, 220, 221.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Howard, John. *Men Like That: A Southern Queer History*, (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1999), xi, xiv.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Howard, Men Like That, 94-95.

In Sweet Tea: Blacky Gay Men of the South, an Oral History, one of the sole works on the experiences of black gay men, E. Patrick Johnson delves into the history of southern black gay men and fills a large gap in the historiography. In this work, he calls into question the notion that the south is inhospitable to black gay men and seeks to account for the ways in which these men negotiated both their sexual and racial identities and how these coupled with their southern cultural and religious identities.<sup>20</sup> In this way, Johnson's work relates back to early works like those of Howard, who also sought to understand the relationships between gay identity, southern cultural identity, and religious identity. <sup>21</sup> However, because of Johnson's focus on black gay men, his work stands apart from other works within the field that only acknowledge differing racial experiences, but do not necessarily delve into them in great detail. By using oral histories Johnson attempts to debunk the myth that it is harder to be a black gay man in the south, while also highlighting the vastly different narratives and entangled relationships of southern gay men and the south. This work is critical to understanding the ways in which race shapes the relationship between gay spaces and identity, Johnson argues that race and geography complicate the dominant gay narrative that gay subcultures only flourished in the urban secular north.<sup>22</sup>

### Bars, Clubs, and Gay Spaces

Many of the above authors have touched on the relationship between space and identity creation within the gay community, one work that focuses more specifically on what the author calls 'sexual topography', is *Gay New York: Gender, Urban Culture, and the Making of the Gay Male World*, by George Chauncey. This notion of 'sexual topography' addresses the intersections

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Johnson, E. Patrick. *Sweet Tea: Black Gay Men of the South, an Oral History*, (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2008), 2, 3-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Howard, "The Library, the Porch, and the Pervert,"110.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Johnson, 3.

of gender, sex, and the spatial and social world. <sup>23</sup> According to Chauncey, the spatial world intersects with the gay community through what he describes as a 'bricolage' or the manipulation and reevaluation of practices that have been made available by the dominant heterosexual culture; such as bath houses, and later, gay bars and clubs. <sup>24</sup> These spaces were manipulated and reshaped by gay culture to become meeting places and places where men found sexual partners. <sup>25</sup> This manipulation by gay culture can also be viewed as a struggle over the control of space, which as Chauncey argues in his work "Privacy Could Only Be Had in Public: Gay Uses of the Streets," is central to gay culture and politics. <sup>26</sup>

The intersections of space and sexuality are discussed at length in *Creating a Place for Ourselves: Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Community Histories,* edited by Brett Beemyn. In the introduction to this volume, Beemyn argues that place is necessary to the structuring and specificity of gay experience in the United States.<sup>27</sup> Within this work numerous authors discuss bars as essential places for the creation of gay and lesbian identity. Two such authors are Elizabeth Kennedy and Madeline Davis in their work "'I Could Hardly Wait to Get Back to That Bar': Lesbian Bar Culture in Buffalo in the 1930s and 1940s". In this work the authors conclude that bars were central institutions in early gay and lesbian communities that helped foster lesbian and

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> George Chauncey, Gay New York: Gender, Urban Culture, and the Makings of the Gay Male World 1890-1940, (LGBT Thought and Culture, Basic Books, 1995), 21, 23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Chauncey, *Gay New York*, 25.

<sup>25</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> George Chauncey, "Privacy Could Only Be Had in Public: Gay Uses of the Streets." In *Stud: Architectures of Masculinity*, edited by Joel Sanders, 224–67, (New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 1996), 224.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Brett Beemyn, "Introduction," in *Creating a Place for Ourselves: Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Community Histories*, edited by Brett Beemyn, 1–7, (New York: Routledge, 1997), 2.

gay culture in the United States.<sup>28</sup> In line with this argument, Kennedy and Davis state that bars were used as a refuge and safe space for lesbians and gay men.<sup>29</sup>

Gay bar culture is discussed at length by Tim Retzloff, in "Cars and Bars: Assembling Gay Men in Postwar Flint, Michigan." Retzloff discusses the connections between cars and mobility and access to gay spaces. He concludes, like Howard in "The Library, the Porch, and the Pervert", that cars became mobile sites for sexual activity while simultaneously interacting with fixed spaces. This interaction meant that cars gave men access to gay spaces both locally and more distant, thus the car became both a transportation to gay spaces and a gay space itself. This transportation and travel then helped to shape stationary gay spaces.<sup>30</sup>. Retzloff and Chauncey both argue that cruising behavior transformed sites and became a place where gay men could lay claim to public spaces and use them for more private activities.<sup>31</sup>

#### Gay Tourism and Travel

Further understanding of gay tourism is gained by linking it to identity creation as the authors in *Gay Tourism: Culture, Identity, and Sex* do. In the introduction to this work, Michael Luongo, Carry Callister, and Stephen Clift describe early gay tourism and travel as an almost chosen and necessary segregation.<sup>32</sup> Within this volume, author Mark Graham expands upon that notion in "Challenges from the Margins: Gay Tourism as Cultural Critique." Graham argues that

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Elizabeth L. Kennedy and Madeline D Davis, "'I Could Hardly Wait to Get Back to That Bar': Lesbian Bar Culture in Buffalo in the 1930s and 1940s," in *Creating a Place for Ourselves: Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Community Histories*, ed. Brett Beemyn, 27–72, (New York: Routledge, 1997), 28.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Kennedy and Davis, 45.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Tim Retzloff, "Cars and Bars: Assembling Gay Men in Postwar Flint, Michigan," in *Creating a Place for Ourselves: Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Community Histories*, ed. Brett Beemyn, 227-52, (New York: Routledge, 1997), 231, 236, 243. Howard, "The Library, the Porch, and the Pervert", 121-122.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Retzloff, 244. Chauncey, "Privacy Could Only Be Had in Public: Gay Uses of the Streets," 224.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Michael Luongo, Carry Callister, and Stephen Clift. "Introduction," in *Gay Tourism: Culture, Identity and Sex*, ed. Michael Luongo, Carry Callister, and Stephen Clift, 1–16, (London: Continuum, 2002), 1-3.

early homosexual travel can be understood as a flight away from heteronormative regimes and their defined spaces.<sup>33</sup> This flight away from heteronormative spaces is also referenced by Martin Cox and Stephen Clift in their work, "The Long-Haul Out of the Closet: The Journey from Small-Town to Boys-Town." The authors discuss how this flight plays a role in the cultural construction of gay identities and how this construction assists in the gradual coming out process with the emergence of a more public gay identity.<sup>34</sup>

In *Gay Tourism: Culture and Context*, Gordon Waitt and Kevin Markwell expand on the ideas presented in *Gay Tourism: Culture, Identity, and Sex*. Waitt and Markwell state that after the end of World War II, gay men began to redefine their gender identity and this redefinition led them to become more interested in finding partners within their own group as opposed to people outside it. Per Waitt and Markwell, this change necessitated the creation of exclusively gay spaces, and thus resorts and resort towns such as Fire Island, Cherry Grove, the Pines, Provincetown, Key West, and Palm Springs were developed further. <sup>35</sup> These exclusively gay spaces have become essential to tourism, which the authors argue is essential to the construction of modern gay identity, in other words, gay tourism relies on yet simultaneously creates modern gay identities. <sup>36</sup>

## Space and Place

The historiography of space and place is vast and focuses on numerous different avenues of scholarship. Inquiry into the Parliament House, its history and significance to the Orlando area

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Mark Graham, "Challenges from the Margins: Gay Tourism as Cultural Critique," in *Gay Tourism: Culture, Identity and Sex*, ed. Michael Luongo, Carry Callister, and Stephen Clift, 17–41, (London: Continuum, 2002), 18-19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Martin Cox and Stephen Clift. "The Long-Haul Out of the Closet: The Journey from Small-Town to Boys-Town," in *Gay Tourism: Culture, Identity and Sex*, ed. by Michael Luongo, Carry Callister, and Stephen Clift, 151–73, (London: Continuum, 2002), 151-152, 154.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Gordon Waitt and Kevin Markwell. *Gay Tourism: Culture and Context*, (New York: Haworth Hospitality Press, 2006), 57, 61, 62, 65.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Waitt and Markwell, 247-249.

is in conversation with two distinct areas this field, place making, and motels and the American roadside. The significance of Parliament House as a site of gay identity creation and community hinges on the scholarship of place making, while its evaluation as a cultural and historical resource draws on the history of motels and roadside America.

#### Place Making

One concept that is touched on by almost every author in this field is the idea of place making. Nearly every author detailed above refers to ideas of space and place and how these two intertwined concepts impact gay and lesbian communities within the United States. The authors that focus on gay bars, clubs, and other spaces often focus on ideas of place making and creation of space. This notion of place making is integral to the above arguments made by Chauncey, Kennedy and Davis, and Beemyn. Some of the first ideas around place making were discussed by Tim Cresswell in his works In Place/Out of Place: Geography, Ideology, and Transgression, and Place: A Short Introduction. In In Place/Out of Place, Cresswell discusses the notion of being out of place. Within this work, Cresswell concludes that place is the easiest way to be either included or excluded.<sup>37</sup> Two of the most compelling arguments made by Cresswell are that place meanings are set up through discourses that promote the process of differentiation between 'us and them' and that themes of us and them are linked to themes of deviant sexual behaviors that are seen as being out of place.<sup>38</sup> He discusses this idea of belonging to place in his later work, *Place: A Short Introduction*, where he unpacks the notions of belonging to a place and the connections with being viewed as morally worthy; meaning that those who are seen as out of place are often times viewed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Tim Cresswell, *In Place/Out of Place: Geography, Ideology, and Transgression*, (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1996), 3, 15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Cresswell, *In Place/Out of Place*, 14, 47, 60, 115.

as morally wrong and subversive.<sup>39</sup> Cresswell concludes that interpretations of space are linked to class, race, gender, and sexuality.<sup>40</sup>

#### Motels, and Roadside America

Two early authors, Warren Belasco in *Americans on the Road: From Autocamp to Motel* 1910-1945, and Chester Leibs in *Main Street to Miracle Mile: American Roadside Architecture*, trace the roots of motels and other roadside attractions and argue that they evolved along with the road and the increased mobility of the American public. <sup>41</sup> These two authors, especially Belasco, form the basis for much of the later scholarship on roads and roadside attractions in the United States. Some of the most prolific authors to expand on the ideas of Belasco are John A. Jakle and Keith A. Sculle. These authors have written numerous works on the roadside and motels within the United States. One of their earliest works written along with Jefferson Rodgers, is *The Motel in America*. In this work the authors expanded on the work of Belasco and bring his ideas of the evolution of American motels up to the 1970s. <sup>42</sup> In this work, the authors conclude that motels have become essential agents for the rapid change of landscapes within the United States. <sup>43</sup> This conclusion helps to situate Parliament House within the narrative surrounding motel expansion in the United States during the 1950s and 1960s, thus supporting my analysis of Parliament House as a significant historic and cultural resource in central Florida.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Tim Cresswell, *Place: A Short Introduction*, Short Introductions to Geography, (Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing, 2004), 25-26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Cresswell, *Place: A Short Introduction*, 42.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Warren James Belasco, *Americans on the Road: From Autocamp to Motel, 1910-1945*, (Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press, 1979) ix. Chester H. Leibs, *Main Street to Miracle Mile: American Roadside Architecture*, (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1985) 169.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> John A. Jakle, Keith A Sculle, and Jefferson S Rogers, *The Motel in America*, (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996), 15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Jakle, Sculle, Rogers, *The Motel in America*, 337.

Another work by Jakle and Sculle is *Remembering Roadside America: Preserving the Recent Past as Landscape and Place*. In this work, the authors argue that the roadside and its development deserve careful attention and stress the roadside's importance within American history. <sup>44</sup> One of the conclusions drawn by Jakle and Sculle is that geography is fully incorporated into social behavior and that the roadside in America is structured to promote certain behaviors, such as the fostering of social fluidity through the intermingling of disparate groups of people. <sup>45</sup> In this work, the authors also state that the roadside is constantly changing and that little survives long enough to be historic, and what does survive is often times not viewed as a historical resource. <sup>46</sup>

#### Conclusion

This project contributes to the historiography by filling in the history of Parliament House and allowing for its role as site of community and identity creation within the Orlando and central Florida to be better and more fully understood. The history of the Parliament House contributes to the historiography by both building upon existing research into gay bars and clubs, while simultaneously adding a new avenue and place for exploration into gay bar culture in the southern United States. This understanding of Parliament House and its place within the life and experiences of gay men in Orlando gives voice to a long-maligned group and helps to preserve that voice and the experiences of the community members. This project has also served to highlight areas within the historiography that have yet to be explored. The clientele at Parliament House was and still does skew predominately older and whiter than other gay clubs in the Orlando area, such as

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Jakle, John A., and Keith A. Sculle. *Remembering Roadside America: Preserving the Recent Past as Landscape and Place*, (Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 2011), xviii, 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Jakle and Sculle, *Remembering Roadside America*, 9, 26-27.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Jakle and Sculle, *Remembering Roadside America*, 96, 218.

Southern Nights, or Savoy Orlando, thus by only looking at Parliament House only a portion of the gay community's history is being told. Further investigation into the Parliament House could be conducted through the lenses of race, gender, and different sexual orientations. This further study would greatly contribute to the history of the LGBT community in central Florida.

My examination of Parliament House advances the historiography by focusing on a specific gay club and linking it to larger narratives within LGBT history. Many of the scholars in this field focus on 'bars that were', whereas I was fortunate enough to research and write about a bar that 'is'. By focusing on a bar that is still in operation, my work is able to connect Parliament House to both the early and present day gay communities and support the argument for its continued historical and cultural significance. The focus on a single site in the southern United States also provides a more nuanced picture of LGBT history within the United States outside of the major metropoles and more traditional gay enclaves discussed by previous scholars. This nuance is achieved through the use of a smaller scale historical investigation. This smaller scale allows for individual histories to be connected to larger historical arcs and narratives like the coming out movement of the 1980s and 1990s.

Much of the early scholarship within the field of LGBT history is focused bi-coastally, leaving the middle of the country woefully underrepresented. Authors such as Howard, Johnson, and Sears have begun to fill in the historiography with the history and experiences of gays and lesbians in the south. My research also fills in this gap within the historiography; focusing not only on the south but central Florida as well, highlights an often-overlooked area. Much of the research done into the history of the gay community in Florida on areas in the southern portion of the state, like Ft. Lauderdale and Miami. My research, through the addition of Orlando to the conversation

about gay bars and identity creation adds new sites to be explored and a new more localized level of history to the national LGBT history narratives.

### **CHAPTER THREE**

Over the past twenty-five years the field of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) history has grown immensely. Much of this scholarship has focused on larger cities on the east and west coasts of the United States, such as New York and San Francisco. 47 Within these works authors discuss the importance of social spaces such as bars and nightclubs in the creation and support of more public gay identities. These bars became the epicenter of much of early gay and lesbian history. 48 The Parliament House Motor Inn is a long established gay bar and club. It is being considered for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, to give a voice to a long-dismissed group within the United States and to better understand the history of the gay community within Orlando and its relationship with the nation as a whole. The Parliament House offers a unique opportunity to better understand the labyrinthine history of the gay experience in the south and how this history interacts with and is anchored by a sense of place. My research highlights the importance of the Parliament House Resort, which touts itself as one of the oldest and largest gay resorts in the southern United States. 49 By showcasing the historic and cultural

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> George Chauncey, *Gay New York: Gender, Urban Culture, and the Makings of the Gay Male World 1890-1940*, LGBT Thought and Culture, Basic Books, 1995. Esther Newton, *Cherry Grove, Fire Island: Sixty Years in America's First Gay and Lesbian Town*, Duke, 2014. John D'Emilio, *Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities: The Making of the Homosexual Minority in the United States, 1940-1970*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1998. Nicholas C. Edsall, *Towards Stonewall: Homosexuality and Society in the Modern World*, Charlottesville Virginia: University of Virginia Press, 2003. Horacio N. Roque Ramirez, and Nan Alamilla Boyd, *Bodies of Evidence: The Practice of Oueer Oral History*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Elizabeth L. Kennedy and Madeline D Davis. "I Could Hardly Wait to Get Back to That Bar': Lesbian Bar Culture in Buffalo in the 1930s and 1940s," in *Creating a Place for Ourselves: Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Community Histories*, ed. Brett Beemyn, 27–72, (New York: Routledge, 1997), 28. Craig M. Loftin, "Community and Civil Rights in the Kinsey Era," in *Understanding and Teaching U.S. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History*, eds. Leila J. Rupp and Susan K. Freeman, 213-23, (Madison, Wisconsin: The University of Wisconsin Press, 2014), 213.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> John Howard, *Men Like That: A Southern Queer History*, Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1999. Donna Jo Smith, "Queering the South: Constructions of Southern/Queer Identity," in *Carryin' On in the Lesbian and Gay South*, ed. John Howard, New York: New York University Press, 1997. James T. Sears, *Lonely Hunters: An Oral History of Lesbian and Gay Southern Life, 1948-1968*, Boulder Colorado: Westview-Press, 1997. James T. Sears, *Rebels, Rubyfruit, and Rhinestones: Queering Space in the Stonewall South*, New Brunswick, New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 2001. Red Huber, "Orlando and the Gay Issue." *Sentinel Star.* June 7, 1977, accessed June 9, 2017 Orlando Sentinel Archives. <a href="http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/">http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/</a>. Steve Herring, "#5 Parliament House-

significance of the Parliament House, my research adds to the variegated and rich narrative of LGBT history not only within central Florida and the south, but the United States as a whole.

In order to preserve the cultural and historical significance of the Parliament House Resort, it is being nominated for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register (NR) is the official federal list of districts, sites, buildings and objects that are significant to American architecture, archaeology, history, and culture. In order for a site, district, or building to be included on the NR it must possess both architectural integrity and historic significance. I conclude that the Parliament House Motor Inn should be included on the National Register of Historic Places, based on both its architectural integrity and its historic significance to not only the gay community in Orlando and central Florida, but to the nation as a whole. The primary resources that support this argument are the architecture of the Parliament House Resort, built environment as historical record, and oral histories that convey the rich history of the site.

#### Evaluating Parliament House as a Historic Resource

#### Historic Preservation and The National Register

The National Register of Historic Places is the federal list of historically significant sites within the United States. The register includes archaeological sites, buildings, districts, and objects. To ascertain the significance of these sites they are evaluated under four criteria. These four criteria help researchers and readers to understand the significance of these sites. Under the National Register criteria, a property can be considered if it A: is associated with events that have

<sup>10</sup> Historic Places in Orlando to Get a Drink," *Orlando Retro Blog*, May 2, 2014, accessed December 11, 2016, <a href="https://orlandoretro.com/2014/05/02/5-parliament-house-10-historic-places-in-orlando-to-get-a-drink/">https://orlandoretro.com/2014/05/02/5-parliament-house-10-historic-places-in-orlando-to-get-a-drink/</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, "National Register Bulletin 16a: How to Complete the National Register Form," accessed January 11, 2016, <a href="https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb16a/">https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb16a/</a>.

made significant contributions to the broad patterns of our history; B: associated with the lives of significant persons of our past; C: embodies the distinctive characteristics, of a type, period, or method of construction, or D: has yielded or may be likely to yield, important information in history or prehistory.<sup>51</sup> Along with these criteria, the district, site, building, structure, or object must also possess integrity of location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling, and association.<sup>52</sup> Under these standards, the architecture of the site is treated as a primary source and evaluated based on the integrity it possesses. The integrity that a site or building possesses is based on the evaluation of its location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling, and association. The integrity of a building's location is judged based on whether the structure has been moved from its original settings, such as houses that have been moved into historic districts or museum sites. Other aspects of a building's integrity may be evaluated on a more sliding scale. Integrity determinations of design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling, and association of building are made by consulting building records, historic documents (especially historic photos) and then documenting the changes, additions, or subtractions that may have been made to the site. To document these changes an architectural description of the site is created.

An architectural description begins with a survey of the property, which includes photographs of the site. The survey and the photographs are then used to craft the description, which for National Register nominations only details the exterior of the structure. The exterior is evaluated based on the national register criteria mentioned above. Unlike the National Historic Landmark nomination process, the National Register has a binary idea of integrity, either a site

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<sup>52</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, "Criteria for Consideration," accessed December 11, 2016, <a href="https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/nrb15">https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/nrb15</a> 2.htm

has it or it doesn't, a site is eligible for inclusion on the NR only if it is determined to have architectural integrity.<sup>53</sup>

The architectural integrity of the Parliament House Motor Inn was evaluated under the aforementioned national register criteria along with the Secretary of the Interior Standards for Historic Preservation. These standards are a series of concepts used to offer four distinct approaches to the treatment of historic properties; preservation, rehabilitation, restoration, and reconstruction. These standards are used in conjunction with the Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Properties. The Standards for Historic Preservation are used by federal, state, and local agencies in carrying out their historic preservation duties, the Guidelines are advisory and not regulatory in nature. The Standards for Preservation state that a property must be used as it was historically or used in such a way as to maximize the retention of its distinctive materials. The Standards also state that each building will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. These Standards guided the assessment of the Parliament House's integrity and direct the preservation efforts on the property.

The style and workmanship of the Parliament House was evaluated based on historical trends of roadside inns and motels from the 1950s and 1960s. Parliament House was constructed in 1961 and was called "most modern in concept and design" by the Orlando Sentinel. <sup>56</sup> The Eddys, who owned the Parliament House Motor Inn, were planning to franchise it and branch out into the

<sup>53</sup> John H. Sprinkle Jr, Crafting Preservation Criteria: The National Register of Historic Places and American Historic Preservation, (New York: New York, Routledge, 2014), 61.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, "The Secretary of the Interior's Standards," Accessed December 11, 2016, <a href="https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards.htm">https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards.htm</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, "Preservation as a Treatment," Accessed December 11, 2016, <a href="https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/four-treatments/treatment-preservation.htm">https://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/four-treatments/treatment-preservation.htm</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup>"New 120 Room Parliament House Opens." *Orlando Sentinel*. February 11, 1962, accessed June 8, 2017 Orlando Sentinel Archives. <a href="http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/">http://orlandosentinel.newspapers.com/</a>. Mary Anne Beecher. "The Motel in Builders Literature and Architectural Publications: An Analysis of Design." In *Roadside America: The Automobile in Design and Culture*, edited by Jan Jennings, 115–24, (Ames, Iowa: Iowa State University, 1990)117.

rest of the country. During the 1950s and 1960s motels and hotels were rapidly expanding throughout the United States. This boom in hotels and motels was based both on the expansion of the highway system throughout the country and the increased availability of newer cars that were meant for longer distance traveling.<sup>57</sup> The Eddys hoped to be at the forefront of motel expansion in the United States.

The architectural integrity of the Parliament House was assessed based on historic photographs of the site along with early descriptions of the site found in the personal papers of the contractor, oral histories with former and current employees, and the GLBT History Museum of Central Florida archives.<sup>58</sup> These historic photographs and descriptions were used to make comparisons between the historic appearance of the building and its appearance today. Orange County and City of Orlando building records and permits were also consulted to establish when any renovations or remodels to the exterior of the site were completed. Based on these sources, and the National Register standards, the Parliament House retains its architectural integrity, especially in its location, design, setting, feeling, and association. The site still conveys the same feeling as its period of construction and period of significance. The building and site have not been altered in significant ways that disrupt its location, design, material, workmanship, setting, feeling, or association, thus the site retains its integrity.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> William Kaszynski, *The American Highway: The History and Culture of Roads in the United States*, (Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland and Company, Inc., 2000), 137, 152-156. John A. Jakle, Keith A Sculle, and Jefferson S Rogers, *The Motel in America*, (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996), 45.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> GLBT History Museum of Central Florida, "Parliament House Photos," <a href="http://glbthistorymuseum.com/gallery/main.php?g2">http://glbthistorymuseum.com/gallery/main.php?g2</a> itemId=427. Ron Studdard, interview with David Bain, 2015. Willy Tillman, interview with David Bain, 2015. Bill Lape, interview with David Bain, 2015. Vicky Bebout, interview with David Bain, 2015. Hodes and Cumming Construction Co. Promotional Booklets, 2014.05.0001 AFCC FF1, "Parliament House Promotional Booklet", Orange County Regional History Center.

As part of the NR nomination process, buildings and sites that are less than 50 years old are not eligible for inclusion unless they are of exceptional importance.<sup>59</sup> This rule is in place because early preservationists were concerned about the possibility of politics shaping and unfairly influencing the historic preservation process. <sup>60</sup> This presents a unique challenge for the nomination of the Parliament House Resort, as its period of significance ranges from 1975 to 1992, and thus is only 42 years old. Based on its prominence and role in shaping the gay community in Orlando, the resort should be eligible for inclusion on the NR. This site also fits in the National Park Service's 2016 Theme Study, LGBTQ America. Many of the sites that are associated with LGBTQ history within the United States have achieved significance before they have met the 50-year threshold, most notably the designation of the Stonewall Inn as a national monument early in 2016.61 The theme study outlines that many of the sites nominated for inclusion on the NR were nominated using Criterion Consideration G, which allows for sites that are less than 50 years old to be nominated. 62 Criterion Consideration G was used in the nomination of Parliament House to argue that while the site has yet to reach the 50-year threshold, it is of exceptional importance to the Orlando and central Florida communities. The fact that Parliament House is still operating as a gay resort, in its original location, makes it unique among early gay clubs as many of them moved locations or simply shut down. The designation of these LGBT sites that are less than 50 years old is meaningful, because these sites help to showcase and highlight the history of LGBT individuals

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Sprinkle, Crafting Preservation Criteria, 61.

<sup>60</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> Eli Rosenberg, "Stonewall Inn Named National Monument, a First for the Gay Rights Movement," *New York Times*, June 24, 2016, accessed May 25, 2017, <a href="http://www.nytimes.com/2016/06/25/nyregion/stonewall-inn-named-national-monument-a-first-for-gay-rights-movement.html">http://www.nytimes.com/2016/06/25/nyregion/stonewall-inn-named-national-monument-a-first-for-gay-rights-movement.html</a>? r=0

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> Megan E. Springate and Caridad de la Vega, "Nominating LGBTQ Places to The National Register of Historic Places and as National Historic Landmarks: An Introduction," in LGBTQ America: A Theme Study of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer History. Edited by Megan E. Springate. National Park Service Foundation, 2016, accessed June 18, 2017, 13, <a href="https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lgbtqheritage/upload/lgbtqtheme-nominating.pdf">https://www.nps.gov/subjects/lgbtqheritage/upload/lgbtqtheme-nominating.pdf</a>.

and groups in the United States, which in turn can help to broaden and reshape how Americans view their own history.

The historic and cultural significance of the Parliament House Motor Inn is being evaluated in relation to writings within the field of historic preservation. To ascertain both the architectural and historic significance of the site, it is necessary to frame the site within the existing literature on historic preservation. One such writing that clarifies the discourse on historic preservation especially as it relates to NR listings is Assessing Site Significance, by Donald Hardesty and Barbara Little. In this work the authors argue that listing a site on the NR authenticates the worth of the historic place and can influence societal attitudes towards heritage. These attitudes can then go a long way to helping influence public policy and perceptions of a site. 63 This idea of authentication and heritage influence is vital in thinking about the Parliament House and its role within the gay community and how that role has been perceived by outside entities. The idea of authentication is also important in relation to concepts of place and place creation, by validating and authenticating the experiences of the men and women who created a shared history at the Parliament House. The NR nomination will highlight the Parliament House's role in the creation of a more public gay identity in Orlando; while also showcasing the clubs' role as a sanctuary and safe space for gay men and women. When discussing the Parliament House, it is necessary to look at the discourse surrounding the concepts of place and place creation. Because I argue that Parliament House was an integral part of the creation and articulation of a more public gay identity, it is essential to understand how ideas of place relate to identity creation.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> Donald Hardesty and Barbara Little, *Assessing Site Significance: A Guide for Archaeologists and Historians*, (Second edition, Heritage Resource Management, Lanham, Maryland: AltaMira Press, 2009), 7.

One of the ways Parliament House has been evaluated in relation to its role in identity creation is through the arguments made by Tim Cresswell in Place: An Introduction. Cresswell argues that place is central to forms of struggle and resistance and that there are concepts of ownership attached to place.<sup>64</sup> Cresswell also argues that class, gender, race, and even sexuality happen in place and space and that by analyzing place it can provide another tool with which the forces that effect and manipulate our everyday lives can be better understood.<sup>65</sup> These arguments are central to understanding the role of Parliament House in the articulation of a more public gay identity. It is within these ideas that I have situated Parliament House and argue that through conscious and unconscious efforts at place making, the men who frequented the Parliament House were engaged in the creation of a more public gay identity. <sup>66</sup> While they were creating this more public identity, they were also working to remain somewhat private. Some of the ways that the Parliament House helped balance the pulls of both public and private identity were by banning photography at the club for many years and by employing individuals that understood the necessity for anonymity in the early years of the club. This balance is reflected in interviews with former and current employees of Parliament House, Vicky Bebout, a long-time bartender remembers the no photography rule that is technically still enforced today, she also recalls how they used to station security guards at the entrances that would keep out higher ranked officers from the nearby Navy base, to allow the young enlisted men who frequented the bar to maintain the boundaries between their personal and professional lives.<sup>67</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> Tim Cresswell, *Place: An Introduction*, (Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing Ltd, 2015), 3, 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> Cresswell, *Place an Introduction*, 42.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> Cresswell, *Place an Introduction*, 43. In this section Cresswell cites Forest 1995 and discusses the geographical focus of gay identity and how this allows for a construction of identity that is based on more than just sex acts, it can also be based on place. This place based identity acts to then normalize and naturalize gay identity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> Vicky Bebout, interview with David Bain, 2015, in collection of the author.

#### Historic and Cultural Significance

I evaluated the historic and cultural significance of the Parliament House under criterion A of the NR, which relates to a property's association with historic events, activities, and broad cultural trends. To understand the historic and cultural significance of the Parliament House Resort, the site is situated alongside literature related to the history of LGBT individuals and groups within the United States along with sources related to the creation of roadside America, specifically motels and motor lodges. To understand the historic significance of the Parliament House, one must look at the construction and creation of roadside America and the changes that automobility brought. The construction of Parliament House as a roadside motel was evaluated in relation to discourses of roadside America, and tourism and travel. Works within these discourses include, Jakle, Sculle, and Rodger's *The Motel in America*, Jakle and Sculle's *Remembering* Roadside America, America's Main Street Motels, and Jakle's Motoring: The Highway Experience, along with James Flink's "Three Stages of American Automobile Consciousness", and Chester Leibs Main Street to Miracle Mile. <sup>68</sup> These works and others were used to situate Parliament House within larger national trends and narratives surrounding travel, tourism, and the roadside, all of which were instrumental in the creation of the Parliament House. Parliament House was constructed during the 1960s boom in the construction of motels. This expansion of motels is linked to the expansion of the highway system within the country along with newer automobile

<sup>68</sup> John A. Jakle, Keith A Sculle, and Jefferson S Rogers. *The Motel in America*, (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996). John A. Jakle and Keith A. Sculle *Remembering Roadside America: Preserving the Recent Past as Landscape and Place*, (Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 2011). John A. Jakle and Keith A. Sculle. *America's Main Street Hotels: Transiency and Community in the Early Auto Age*, (Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 2009). John A. Jakle, Motoring: *The Highway Experience in America*, (Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Press, 2008). James J. Flink, "Three Stages of American Automobile Consciousness." *American Quarterly* 24, no. 4 (1972): 451–73, accessed January 15, 2016. <a href="http://www.jstor.org.ezproxy.net.ucf.edu/stable/2711684">http://www.jstor.org.ezproxy.net.ucf.edu/stable/2711684</a>. Chester H. Leibs, *Main Street to Miracle Mile: American Roadside Architecture*, (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1985).

technology that made longer driving times possible.<sup>69</sup> This idea of mobility is crucial to understanding the Parliament House both before and after its transition to a gay club and resort. The concept of mobility, especially automobility, is vital in understanding the nature of the early years of the Parliament House. Automobility and the car brought freedom and innovation to both sexual and romantic privacy. The car and automobility then simultaneously became both a site where gay sexual encounters and desires occurred and a method for transporting gay men to sites where there was the potential for gay sexual encounters and desires to occur. This can be seen through gay men's use of cars and the concept of cruising to meet potential partners. Up until the early 2000s, the Parliament House's interior courtyard was accessible by car and many patrons and employees remember how robust the cruising scene was in the early years of the resort. Bill Lape, Ron Studdard, and Doug Ba'aser all describe Parliament House as one of the best cruising destinations in Orlando, and fondly recall the practice that was deemed 'balcony bingo'.<sup>70</sup>

The cultural and historic significance of the Parliament House was determined by oral histories conducted with both current and former patrons, employees, and performers. These narratives were used to construct and illuminate the early history of the site and helped to identify the Parliament House's place within the gay community of Orlando. These interviews highlighted the role that Parliament House had in the creation and articulation of a more public gay identity in Orlando. The oral histories were analyzed in conjunction with secondary literature dealing with LGBTQ history as well as arguments relating to gay and lesbian bars as sanctuaries and places of gay identity creation and articulation, like those made by Susan Ferentinos in *Interpreting LGBT History at Museums and Historic Sites*. In this work, Ferentinos states that it is common when

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> William Kaszynski, *The American Highway: The History and Culture of Roads in the United States*, (Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland and Company, Inc., 2000), 45.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> Bill Lape interview with David Bain. Ron Studdard interview with David Bain. Doug Ba'aser interview with David Bain, 2015, in 40 Years of Parliament House, directed by David Bain.

interpreting LGBT history to use oral histories in conjunction with archival materials.<sup>71</sup> The commonality of utilizing oral history sources within this field is linked to the clandestine nature of the early gay and lesbian communities. For many years in the United States, being outed as a homosexual could cause a person to lose their job, their house, and they could be met with ostracization and discrimination. This led many members of the early gay and lesbian community to be very cautious about documenting their lives and history, thus some of the only ways to recover this history is through oral histories and interviews. The oral histories in conjunction with secondary literature places Parliament House firmly within the narrative of southern LGBT experience and links the site to national trends within LGBT history. This link to national trends is critical in arguing for Parliament House's inclusion on the National Register.

# **Oral History**

Within the field of LGBT history, much of the primary source material is drawn from oral histories of community members. This reliance on oral histories stems from the fact that for much of their history, LGBT individuals and groups were private in nature. The social and cultural stigmas that were attached to not only the community, but also to the study their study, means that there is little contemporary primary source documentation. To discuss and analyze the history of the LGBT individuals and social spaces like clubs and bars, it is necessary to conduct oral histories with members of the LGBT community. Nearly every source used within this paper that deals with the LGBT community or their history contains numerous oral histories. This project fits within that trend by utilizing oral histories from patrons and former and current bartenders and performers

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> Susan Ferentinos, *Interpreting LGBT History and Museums and Historic Sites*, (Lanham, Maryland: Rowman and Littlefield, 2015), 112, 123.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Ferentinos, *Interpreting LGBT History and Museums and Historic Sites*, 112.

associated with the Parliament House. The oral histories utilized in this project were collected by David Bain, the president of the GLBT History Museum of Central Florida, and excerpts of them were used in his documentary film 40 Years of the Parliament House. Oral history participants were asked a series of broad questions relating to their own personal histories and their history with Parliament House. They were asked not only about their relation to the Parliament House but also how the Parliament House relates to the larger community. Participants were also asked about the challenges faced by themselves and the Parliament House along with being asked to describe their fondest memories of the site. By asking these more open ended questions, oral histories can lead to the conveying of broader points of view, and narratives that highlight how different individuals perceive and remember varied aspects of their collective histories.

The narratives collected were used to establish the Parliament House's historical and cultural significance within the Orlando area along with the nation as a whole. The national aspect of Parliament House's significance is corroborated by secondary literature pertaining to the history of the LGBT community and the bar and club scenes in other locations throughout the United States. These oral histories shed light on the Parliament House's role in the creation and articulation of a more public gay identity along with establishing the site's significant contribution to the gay community of Orlando as a space of sanctuary and kinship building and outreach.

The use of oral histories within the field of history has raised questions about authorship and authority, especially through oral histories capacity to redefine and redistribute notions of intellectual authority.<sup>73</sup> In the 1990s oral historians were struggling with the notion that oral histories were viewed as 'counter-historical' or as less reliable than other sources because of their

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> Michael Frisch, *A Shared Authority: Essays on the Craft and Meaning of Oral and Public History*, SUNY Series in Oral and Public History, (Albany, New York: State University of New York Press, 1990), xx, 2, 7.

reliance on experiences and memory. This has meant that for many years, scholars, particularly public historians, that utilized oral histories had to defend the legitimacy of their work. This led to numerous academic works which discussed the intersection of shared authority and the legitimacy, veracity, and authenticity of oral history use. 74 Oral histories were perceived as less truthful than other written records, because they were someone's recollections. These memories can be flawed, or can have changed over time, however this does not mean that they contain any less authenticity. Michael Frisch in his work A Shared Authority: Essays on the Craft and Meaning of Oral and Public History, argues that oral histories not only have the capacity to redefine intellectual authority, but that they also can help to turn history into a more biographical memory, where it can be seen how people analyzed, internalized, and understood historic events.<sup>75</sup> The notion that larger historic themes and trends can be studied and understood through the individuals memories and oral histories, forms the basis for research into the Parliament House as a historic and culturally significant site. This notion is supported by other authors such as Nan Alamilla Boyd in her work "Who is the Subject? Queer Theory Meets Oral History", who argues that oral histories with the gay and lesbian communities rely on individuals to narrate their sexual identities in relation to larger historical forces.<sup>76</sup>

In *Bodies of Evidence: The Practice of Queer Oral History*, numerous authors delve into the complexities surrounding oral history and the queer community. Within the introduction to the work, Horatio Ramirez and Nan Alamilla Boyd discuss the four broad themes that have begun to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup>Frisch, 10, 12, 17, 22, 81, 178.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> Frisch, xx, 2, 7, 12, 13, 59.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> Nan Alamilla Boyd, "'Who Is the Subject? Queer Theory Meets Oral History'." *Journal of the History of Sexuality University of Texas Press* 17 (2) (2008): 177–89, accessed April 5, 2017, http://www.jstor.org/stable/30114216, 179, 189.

emerge within the field of queer oral histories; silence, sex, friendship, and politics.<sup>77</sup> The authors argue that each of these themes fits within the notion that queer oral histories have both a political function and liberating quality while also being able to acknowledge the exclusion and stratification that is present within LGBT groups. 78 These notions of exclusion and stratification are evident in the oral histories relating to Parliament House, as all but one of the participants were gay men, only one of whom was a person of color. The conclusions of Ramirez and Boyd help to better contextualize and analyze these sources. Karen Krahulik argues that oral histories have the ability to reconstruct the past while simultaneously unpacking how these past events relate to present thoughts. Given this notion, oral histories may reveal less about details surrounding events and more about the meaning surrounding these events.<sup>79</sup> This argument is especially relevant to understanding the oral histories of the Parliament House and how they support the conclusion that the site is both historically and culturally significant. The oral history participants were not necessarily clear on many of the factual details surrounding the site and its history, however what was very evident in their interviews was the deeply felt emotional and meaningful connections to this site and events that occurred there.

The oral histories utilized for this research help to both understand the Parliament House as its own significant site, while also connecting it to larger themes within gay and lesbian history. When used in conjunction with other source materials, oral histories can provide a much deeper and more nuanced picture of past events and trends, they can also offer a more regionally and

<sup>77</sup> Horacio N. Roque Ramirez, and Nan Alamilla Boyd. "Introduction: Close Encounters, The Body and Knowledge in Queer Oral History," in *Bodies of Evidence: The Practice of Queer Oral History*, edited by Horacio N. Roque Ramirez and Nan Alamilla Boyd, 1–20. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012), 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> Horatio Ramirez and Nan Alamilla Boyd, "Introduction", 11, 13, 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> Karen Krahulik, "Remembering Provincetown: Oral History and Narrativity at Land's End," in *Bodies of Evidence: The Practice of Queer Oral History*, edited by Horacio N. Roque Ramirez and Nan Alamilla Boyd, 41–56. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2012), 47.

individually focused interpretation and analysis of larger events and trends. This nuanced and regional analysis is an extremely significant tool for understanding the creation of gay resorts and clubs and their role in the community. Without the regional and individual aspects of oral histories, it would be very difficult to understand how spaces within each network were created and how these spaces went on to facilitate the creation and articulation of more public identities. The use of these individualized local narratives also helps to highlight the historic and cultural significance of these sites for this community.

One of the challenges faced in this project's use of oral histories is the demographics of the patrons and clientele of the Parliament House. Individuals who attended shows at the Parliament House are from varying demographics, but for the most part the men who have been frequenting Parliament House for years skew older and whiter than other bars and clubs in the area. This means that the concept of whiteness and the privileges that that can bring are addressed in the narrations collected. The overall whiteness of the narrators is not indicative of the resorts clientele now, but does reflect the historical trends within the space. These historical trends are crucial to address, especially in relation to identity creation within the gay community in Orlando. Johnson's discussion of race in *Sweet Tea: Black Gay Men of the South*, is supported anecdotally in my research and highlights the lack of racial diversity present in many early gay bars and clubs.<sup>80</sup>

## Conclusion

For the early LGBT community, bars and clubs were safe spaces where people could openly be themselves and behave in much the way "normal" Americans did daily. Parliament House was instrumental in the early gay community in creating a safe space, an enclave for gay

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> Thalia Ainsley, interview by author, Orlando, December 17, 2016.

men to escape what some scholars have termed "straight domination." By nominating the Parliament House for inclusion on the National Register, this project helps highlight the essential role of the site in the gay community in Orlando and how this space fits within larger national trends of gay identity creation and the coming out movement. As John Sprinkle states, "the National Register is a list that presents a consensus view of American history and it's an often-stated truth that what we chose to preserve says as much about our generation as it does about what really happened in the past." By nominating the Parliament House for inclusion on the NR, this project helps to preserve a meaningful part of our city and our nation's history. 82

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> Esther Newton, *Cherry Grove, Fire Island: 60 Years in America's First Gay and Lesbian Town*, Duke Edition (Beacon Press, Duke, 2014), 2.

<sup>82</sup> Sprinkle, Crafting Preservation Criteria, 209.

# **CONCLUSION**

The Parliament House Motor Inn was constructed in 1961 as what was to be the beginning of a multi-state motel chain. With the construction of Walt Disney World in the 1970s the tourism business in Florida began to change and many of the attractions and motels that had become staples of the industry found themselves completely unable to compete.<sup>83</sup> When Bill Miller and Michael Hodge took over the Parliament House Motor Inn and recreated it as a gay resort and tourist destination, they helped to change the trajectory of gay community in Orlando. Since 1975, the Parliament House has been a vital cultural, social, and historical institution in Orlando. The nomination of Parliament House for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places sheds new light on the early history of the gay community in Orlando and is crucial in helping preserve LGBT history. Treating the Parliament House as historic resource and nominating it for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places necessitates discussing the National Register and its relationship with the field of historic preservation. To understand where the nomination of the Parliament House fits within the framework of historic preservation, it is necessary to look at the fields of cultural resource management, historic preservation and its relationship with the NR, and interpretation of gay and lesbian history at historic sites.

Cultural Resource Management (CRM) has been written about extensively by Thomas F. King. In his work, *Thinking about Cultural Resource Management: Essays from the Edge*, he states that CRM is how we hold onto what people value about their cultural past and present.<sup>84</sup> King advocates for a much broader interpretation of the role CRM, that encompasses a wide array of

<sup>83</sup> Clark, A Concise History of Florida, 194, 200-201.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>84</sup> Thomas F. King *Thinking about Cultural Resource Management: Essays from the Edge*, (Walnut Creek, Lanham: AltaMira Press, 2002), xiv.

things that human use to interpret the universe and deal with their environments, instead of the normal relegation to things only pertaining to archaeologists. Research into the Parliament House fits with King's advocacy for a broader interpretation of CRM and its role in preserving and managing cultural and historical environments. The idea to preserve the Parliament House and its history was reached through consultation with stakeholders within the community and the historic preservation field, thus highlighting how CRM can be used as a tool for communities to identify significant sites and act as a mediator between the past and present.

The National Register of Historic Places stems from a long tradition of heritage and historical preservation in the United States. The NR and the historic preservation movement of the United States are discussed by John H. Sprinkle in his work, *Crafting Preservation Criteria: The National Register of Historic Places and American Historic Preservation*. In this work, Sprinkle discusses the evolution and choices of preservation leadership up to the enactment of the Historic Preservation Act of 1966, he concludes that early preservation practice in the US was driven primarily by senses of nostalgia and heritage and the desire to preserve great men narratives. <sup>86</sup> The NR has broadened since the 1970s to include more sites pertaining to architecture and minority representations. This broadening has been supported by numerous theme study presented by the National Park Service, the most recent dealing with the inclusion and interpretation of LGBT sites. Per this most recent theme study, less than .0005% of sites on the National Register of Historic Places were nominated under or include LGBT history and interpretation. This means that the history and experiences of LGBT Americans is woefully inadequate in federally recognized historic places. Recognition and preservation of LGBT sites is important because it not only

<sup>85</sup> King, Think about Cultural Resource Management, 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>86</sup> John H. Sprinkle, Crafting Preservation Criteria, 6, 79.

preserves and helps illuminate other aspects of our shared history, but it also helps to combat the years of oppression and denial of LGBT existence and history. The National Register of Historic Places is the official federal list of districts, sites, buildings and objects that are significant to American architecture, archaeology, history, and culture, without the inclusion of LGBT sites on the NR, our country is missing a large part of our collective history. The nomination of the Parliament House fits within this historic trend and is informed by the LGBT theme study and the nomination of other LGBT sites such as the Stonewall Inn in New York.

In *Why Preservation Matters*, Max Page links preservation to public spaces and argues for a somewhat different approach for why preservation is necessary. Throughout the work he focuses heavily on memory a its uses in preserving difficult history. Page states that mainstream preservation still focuses heavily on architecture, what is beautiful, and often the homes of wealthy individuals while the built environment of the working class is demolished and in his words, "wiping away the layers of history that make places meaningful." Yi-Fu Tuan, like Max Page argues, that preservation matters and the passion for it comes from a need for tangible objects that support senses of identity. The idea of preserving the built environment along with the community and its sense of identity is integral to understanding and maintaining the role of the Parliament House within the gay community of Orlando. The arguments discussed by Page and Tuan support the idea of nominating the Parliament House for inclusion on the NR. Parliament House is not necessarily beautiful, in fact, many people see it as just another mid-century hotel,

<sup>87</sup> United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, "National Register Bulletin 16a: How to Complete the National Register Form," accessed January 11, 2016, https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb16a/.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>88</sup> Max Page, Why Preservation Matters. Why X Matters, (Connecticut: Yale University Press, 2016), 2, 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> Tuan, Yi-Fu. *Space and Place: The Perspective of Experience*, (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1977), 197.

but this place and the kinship and community it supports and fosters are significant. Parliament House is steeped in history, emotion, and memory, and as Michael Wanzie and others have said, Parliament House and its longevity are due to the fact that this place, this less than beautiful motel, is home.

# **EPILOUGE**

I began this project in 2015 as Parliament House was celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This project began, filled with joy and anticipation, little did I know that within the next year this project would be overtaken by a sense of urgency and loss. On June 12, 2016, 49 people lost their lives in one of the worst mass shootings in modern United States history. The attack on the Pulse nightclub here in Orlando shook everyone to their cores. The night after this horrific tragedy, many members of the Orlando community, both gay and straight gathered at Parliament House to mourn the loss of these 49-innocent people. In continuing my research, I was confronted with both loss and grief, but also shown the resiliency and the strength of this community and city in the face of tragedy. Bars and clubs have long been sites of sanctuary and safety in the LGBT community, a place to escape from the heteronormative oppression of everyday life, a place to be open and unafraid. The attack on Pulse shows how far we still need to come and highlights the urgency and importance of the preservation and maintenance of spaces such a Parliament House as sites of sanctuary, inclusion, and gay community creation.

# APPENDIX A: SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR STANDARDS FOR PERSERVATION

Preservation as a Treatment and Standards for Preservation—Technical Preservation Services,

#### National Park Service

#### Preservation as a Treatment

Preservation is defined as the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity, and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction. New exterior additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems and other code required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project.

- 1. A property will be used as it was historically, or be given a new use that maximizes the retention of distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships. Where a treatment and use have not been identified, a property will be protected and, if necessary, stabilized until additional work may be undertaken.
- 2. The historic character of a property will be retained and preserved. The replacement of intact or repairable historic materials or alteration of features, spaces, and spatial relationships that characterize a property will be avoided.
- 3. Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Work needed to stabilize, consolidate, and conserve existing historic materials and features will be physically and visually compatible, identifiable upon close inspection, and properly documented for future research.
- 4. Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.
- 5. Distinctive materials, features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.
- 6. The existing condition of historic features will be evaluated to determine the appropriate level of intervention needed. Where the severity of deterioration requires repair or limited replacement of a distinctive feature, the new material will match the old in composition, design, color, and texture.
- 7. Chemical or physical treatments, if appropriate, will be undertaken using the gentlest means possible. Treatments that cause damage to historic materials will not be used.
- 8. Archeological resources will be protected and preserved in place. If such resources must be disturbed, mitigation measures will be undertaken.

When the property's distinctive materials, features, and spaces are essentially intact and thus convey the historic significance without extensive repair or replacement; when depiction at a

particular period of time is not appropriate; and when a continuing or new use does not require additions or extensive alterations, Preservation may be considered as a treatment.

The Guidelines for the Treatment of Historic Properties illustrate the practical application of these treatment standards to historic properties. These Guidelines are also available in PDF format.

The Guidelines for the Treatment of Cultural Landscapes apply these treatment standards to historic cultural landscapes.

http://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/four-treatments/treatment-preservation.htm

http://www.nps.gov/tps/standards/four-treatments/standguide/index.htm

# APPENDIX B: SECTIONS II, V, VII, & VIII OF NATIONAL REGISTER BULLETIN 15

### II. NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

#### **Criteria for Evaluation**

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- **A.** That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- **B.** That are associated with the lives of significant persons in our past; or
- **C.** That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- **D.** That have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

#### **Criteria Considerations**

Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, graves of historical figures, properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes, structures that have been moved from their original locations, reconstructed historic buildings, properties primarily commemorative in nature, and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties *will qualify* if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- **a.** A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
- **b.** A building or structure removed from its original location but which is primarily significant for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
- **c.** A birthplace or grave of a historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building associated with his or her productive life; or
- **d.** A cemetery that derives its primary importance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, from distinctive design features, or from association with historic events; or
- **e.** A reconstructed building when accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or

- **f.** A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance; or
- **g.** A property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.

#### V. HOW TO EVALUATE A PROPERTY WITHIN ITS HISTORIC CONTEXT

- 1. <u>Understanding Historic Contexts</u>
- 2. How to Evaluate a Property Within its Historic Context
- 3. Local, State, and National Historic Contexts

#### UNDERSTANDING HISTORIC CONTEXTS

To qualify for the National Register, a property must be significant; that is, it must represent a significant part of the history, architecture, archeology, engineering, or culture of an area, and it must have the characteristics that make it a good representative of properties associated with that aspect of the past. This section explains how to evaluate a property within its historic context. (For a complete discussion of historic contexts, see National Register Bulletin: Guidelines for Completing National Register of Historic Places Registration Forms).

The significance of a historic property can be judged and explained only when it is evaluated within its historic context. Historic contexts are those patterns or trends in history by which a specific occurrence, property, or site is understood and its meaning (and ultimately its significance) within history or prehistory is made clear. Historians, architectural historians, folklorists, archeologists, and anthropologists use different words to describe this phenomena such as trend, pattern, theme, or cultural affiliation, but ultimately the concept is the same.

The concept of historic context is not a new one; it has been fundamental to the study of history since the 18th century and, arguably, earlier than that. Its core premise is that resources, properties, or happenings in history do not occur in a vacuum but rather are part of larger trends or patterns.

In order to decide whether a property is significant within its historic context, the following five things must be determined:

- The facet of prehistory or history of the local area, State, or the nation that the property represents;
- Whether that facet of prehistory or history is significant;
- Whether it is a type of property that has relevance and importance in illustrating the historic context:
- How the property illustrates that history; and finally
- Whether the property possesses the physical features necessary to convey the aspect of prehistory or history with which it is associated.

These five steps are discussed in detail below. If the property being evaluated does represent an important aspect of the area's history or prehistory *and* possesses the requisite quality of integrity, then it qualifies for the National Register.

#### HOW TO EVALUATE A PROPERTY WITHIN ITS HISTORIC CONTEXT

Identify what the property represents: the theme(s), geographical limits, and chronological period that provide a perspective from which to evaluate the property's significance.

Historic contexts are historical patterns that can be identified through consideration of the history of the property and the history of the surrounding area. Historic contexts may have already been defined in your area by the State historic preservation office, Federal agencies, or local governments. In accordance with the National Register Criteria, the historic context may relate to one of the following:

- An event, a series of events or activities, or patterns of an area's development (Criterion A);
- Association with the life of an important person (Criterion B);
- A building form, architectural style, engineering technique, or artistic values, based on a stage of physical development, or the use of a material or method of construction that shaped the historic identity of an area (Criterion C); or
- A research topic (Criterion D).

# Determine how the theme of the context is significant in the history of the local area, the State, or the nation.

A theme is a means of organizing properties into coherent patterns based on elements such as environment, social/ethnic groups, transportation networks, technology, or political developments that have influenced the development of an area during one or more periods of prehistory or history. A theme is considered significant if it can be demonstrated, through scholarly research, to be important in American history. Many significant themes can be found in the following list of Areas of Significance used by the National Register.

#### AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Agriculture	Engineering	Landscape Architecture
Architecture	Entertainment/Recreation	Law
Archeology	Ethnic Heritage	Literature
Prehistoric	Asian	Maritime History
HistoricAboriginal	Black	Military
HistoricNon-Aboriginal	European	Performing Arts
Art	Hispanic	Philosophy
Commerce	Native American	Politics/Government
Communications	Pacific Islander	Religion
Community Planning and	Other	Science

DevelopmentExploration/SettlementSocial HistoryConservationHealth/MedicineTransportation

Economics Industry Other

Education Invention

# Determine what the property type is and whether it is important in illustrating the historic context.

A context may be represented by a variety of important property types. For example, the context of "Civil War Military Activity in Northern Virginia" might be represented by such properties as: a group of mid-19th century fortification structures; an open field where a battle occurred; a knoll from which a general directed troop movements; a sunken transport ship; the residences or public buildings that served as company headquarters; a railroad bridge that served as a focal point for a battle; and earthworks exhibiting particular construction techniques.

Because a historic context for a community can be based on a distinct period of development, it might include numerous property types. For example, the context "Era of Industrialization in Grand Bay, Michigan, 1875 - 1900" could be represented by important property types as diverse as sawmills, paper mill sites, salt refining plants, flour mills, grain elevators, furniture factories, workers housing, commercial buildings, social halls, schools, churches, and transportation facilities.

A historic context can also be based on a single important type of property. The context "Development of County Government in Georgia, 1777-1861" might be represented solely by courthouses. Similarly, "Bridge Construction in Pittsburgh, 1870-1920" would probably only have one property type.

# Determine how the property represents the context through specific historic associations, architectural or engineering values, or information potential (the Criteria for Evaluation).

For example, the context of county government expansion is represented under Criterion A by historic districts or buildings that reflect population growth, development patterns, the role of government in that society, and political events in the history of the State, as well as the impact of county government on the physical development of county seats. Under Criterion C, the context is represented by properties whose architectural treatments reflect their governmental functions, both practically and symbolically. (See <a href="Part VI">Part VI</a>: How to Identify the Type of Significance of a Property.)

# Determine what physical features the property must possess in order for it to reflect the significance of the historic context.

These physical features can be determined after identifying the following:

- Which types of properties are associated with the historic context,
- The ways in which properties can represent the theme, and
- The applicable aspects of integrity.

Properties that have the defined characteristics are eligible for listing. (See <u>Part VIII</u>: *How to Evaluate the Integrity of a Property*.)

### Properties Significant within More than One Historic Context

A specific property can be significant within one or more historic contexts, and, if possible, all of these should be identified. For example, a public building constructed in the 1830s that is related to the historic context of Civil War campaigns in the area might also be related to the theme of political developments in the community during the 1880s. A property is only required, however, to be documented as significant in one context.

## **Comparing Related Properties**

Properties listed in the National Register must possess significance when evaluated in the perspective of their historic context. Once the historic context is established and the property type is determined, it is not necessary to evaluate the property in question against other properties if:

- It is the sole example of a property type that is important in illustrating the historic context or
- It clearly possesses the defined characteristics required to be strongly representative of the context.

If these two conditions do not apply, then the property will have to be evaluated against other examples of the property type to determine its eligibility. The geographic level (local, State, or national) at which this evaluation is made is the same as the level of the historic context.

#### LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL HISTORIC CONTEXTS

Historic contexts are found at a variety of geographical levels or scales. The geographic scale selected may relate to a pattern of historical development, a political division, or a cultural area. Regardless of the scale, the historic context establishes the framework from which decisions about the significance of related properties can be made.

#### Local Historic Contexts

A local historic context represents an aspect of the history of a town, city, county, cultural area, or region, or any portions thereof. It is defined by the importance of the property, not necessarily the physical location of the property. For instance, if a property is of a type found throughout a State, or its boundaries extend over two States, but its importance relates only to a particular county, the property would be considered of local significance.

The level of context of archeological sites significant for their information potential depends on the scope of the applicable research design. For example, a Late Mississippian village site may yield information in a research design concerning one settlement system on a regional scale, while in another research design it may reveal information of local importance concerning a single group's stone tool manufacturing techniques or house forms. It is a question of how the available information potential is likely to be used.

#### State Historic Contexts

Properties are evaluated in a State context when they represent an aspect of the history of the State as a whole (or American Samoa, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Puerto Rico, or the Virgin Islands). These properties do not necessarily have to belong to property types found throughout the entire State: they can be located in only a portion of the State's present political boundary. It is the property's historic context that must be important statewide. For example, the "cotton belt" extends through only a portion of Georgia, yet its historical development in the antebellum period affected the entire State. These State historic contexts may have associated properties that are statewide or locally significant representations. A cotton gin in a small town might be a locally significant representation of this context, while one of the largest cotton producing plantations might be of State significance.

A property whose historic associations or information potential appears to extend beyond a single local area might be significant at the State level. A property can be significant to more than one community or local area, however, without having achieved State significance.

A property that overlaps several State boundaries can possibly be significant to the State or local history of each of the States. Such a property is not necessarily of national significance, however, nor is it necessarily significant to all of the States in which it is located.

Prehistoric sites are not often considered to have "State" significance, per se, largely because States are relatively recent political entities and usually do not correspond closely to Native American political territories or cultural areas. Numerous sites, however, may be of significance to a large region that might geographically encompass parts of one, or usually several, States. Prehistoric resources that might be of State significance include regional sites that provide a diagnostic assemblage of artifacts for a particular cultural group or time period or that provide chronological control (specific dates or relative order in time) for a series of cultural groups.

#### National Historic Contexts

Properties are evaluated in a national context when they represent an aspect of the history of the United States and its territories as a whole. These national historic contexts may have associated properties that are locally or statewide significant representations, as well as those of national significance.

Properties designated as nationally significant and listed in the National Register are the prehistoric and historic units of the National Park System and those properties that have been designated National Historic Landmarks. The National Historic Landmark criteria are the standards for nationally significant properties; they are found in the *Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Part 65* and are summarized in this bulletin in <a href="Part IX">Part IX</a>: Summary of National Historic Landmarks Criteria for Evaluation.

A property with national significance helps us understand the history of the nation by illustrating the nationwide impact of events or persons associated with the property, its architectural type or

style, or information potential. It must be of exceptional value in representing or illustrating an important theme in the history of the nation.

Nationally significant properties do not necessarily have to belong to a property type found throughout the entire country: they can be located in only a portion of the present political boundaries. It is their historic context that must be important nationwide. For example, the American Civil War was fought in only a portion of the United States, yet its impact was nationwide. The site of a small military skirmish might be a locally significant representation of this national context, while the capture of the State's largest city might be a statewide significant representation of the national context.

When evaluating properties at the national level for designation as a National Historic Landmark, please refer to the National Historic Landmarks outline, History and Prehistory in the National Park System and the National Historic Landmarks Program 1987. (For more information about the National Historic Landmarks program, please write to the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, History Division, 1849 C St. NW, #2280, Washington, DC 20240.)

#### VII. HOW TO APPLY THE CRITERIA CONSIDERATIONS

#### INTRODUCTION

Certain kinds of properties are not usually considered for listing in the National Register: religious properties, moved properties, birthplaces or graves, cemeteries, reconstructed properties, commemorative properties, and properties achieving significance within the past fifty years. These properties can be eligible for listing, however, if they meet special requirements, called Criteria Considerations, in addition to meeting the regular requirements (that is, being eligible under one or more of the four Criteria and possessing integrity). Part VII provides guidelines for determining which properties must meet these special requirements and for applying each Criteria Consideration.

The Criteria Considerations need to be applied only to *individual* properties. Components of eligible districts do not have to meet the special requirements unless they make up the majority of the district or are the focal point of the district. These are the general steps to follow when applying the Criteria Considerations to your property:

- Before looking at the Criteria Considerations, make sure your property meets one or more of the four Criteria for Evaluation and possesses integrity.
- If it does, check the Criteria Considerations (below) to see if the property is of a type that is usually excluded from the National Register. The sections that follow also list specific examples of properties of each type. If your property clearly does not fit one of these types, then it does not need to meet any special requirements.
- If your property *does* fit one of these types, then it must meet the special requirements stipulated for that type in the Criteria Considerations.

# 1. Criteria Considerations

- 2. Criteria Consideration A: Religious Properties
- 3. Criteria Consideration B: Moved Properties
- 4. Criteria Consideration C: Birthplaces or Graves
- 5. Criteria Consideration D: Cemeteries
- 6. Criteria Consideration E: Reconstructed Properties
- 7. Criteria Consideration F: Commemorative Properties
- 8. <u>Criteria Consideration G: Properties that Have Achieved Significance Within the Past Fifty Years</u>

## VIII. HOW TO EVALUATE THE INTEGRITY OF A PROPERTY

**Integrity is the ability of a property to convey its significance.** To be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, a property must not only be shown to be significant under the National Register criteria, but it also must have integrity. The evaluation of integrity is sometimes a subjective judgment, but it must always be grounded in an understanding of a property's physical features and how they relate to its significance.

Historic properties either retain integrity (this is, convey their significance) or they do not. Within the concept of integrity, the National Register criteria recognizes seven aspects or qualities that, in various combinations, define integrity.

To retain historic integrity a property will always possess several, and usually most, of the aspects. The retention of specific aspects of integrity is paramount for a property to convey its significance. Determining which of these aspects are most important to a particular property requires knowing why, where, and when the property is significant. The following sections define the seven aspects and explain how they combine to produce integrity.

- 1. Seven Aspects of Integrity
- 2. Assessing Integrity in Properties
- Defining the Essential Physical Features
- Visibility of the Physical Features
- Comparing Similar Properties
- Determining the Relevant Aspects of Integrity

#### SEVEN ASPECTS OF INTEGRITY

- Location
- Design

- Setting
- Materials
- Workmanship
- Feeling
- Association

# Understanding the Aspects of Integrity

#### Location

Location is the place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred. The relationship between the property and its location is often important to understanding why the property was created or why something happened. The actual location of a historic property, complemented by its setting, is particularly important in recapturing the sense of historic events and persons. Except in rare cases, the relationship between a property and its historic associations is destroyed if the property is moved. (See Criteria Consideration B in Part VII: How to Apply the Criteria Considerations, for the conditions under which a moved property can be eligible.)

# Design

**Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property.** It results from conscious decisions made during the original conception and planning of a property (or its significant alteration) and applies to activities as diverse as community planning, engineering, architecture, and landscape architecture. Design includes such elements as organization of space, proportion, scale, technology, ornamentation, and materials.

A property's design reflects historic functions and technologies as well as aesthetics. It includes such considerations as the structural system; massing; arrangement of spaces; pattern of fenestration; textures and colors of surface materials; type, amount, and style of ornamental detailing; and arrangement and type of plantings in a designed landscape.

Design can also apply to districts, whether they are important primarily for historic association, architectural value, information potential, or a combination thereof. For districts significant primarily for historic association or architectural value, design concerns more than just the individual buildings or structures located within the boundaries. It also applies to the way in which buildings, sites, or structures are related: for example, spatial relationships between major features; visual rhythms in a streetscape or landscape plantings; the layout and materials of walkways and roads; and the relationship of other features, such as statues, water fountains, and archeological sites.

#### **Setting**

**Setting is the physical environment of a historic property.** Whereas location refers to the specific place where a property was built or an event occurred, setting refers to the *character* of

the place in which the property played its historical role. It involves *how*, not just where, the property is situated and its relationship to surrounding features and open space.

Setting often reflects the basic physical conditions under which a property was built and the functions it was intended to serve. In addition, the way in which a property is positioned in its environment can reflect the designer's concept of nature and aesthetic preferences.

The physical features that constitute the setting of a historic property can be either natural or manmade, including such elements as:

- Topographic features (a gorge or the crest of a hill);
- Vegetation;
- Simple manmade features (paths or fences); and
- Relationships between buildings and other features or open space.

These features and their relationships should be examined not only within the exact boundaries of the property, but also between the property and its *surroundings*. This is particularly important for districts.

#### **Materials**

Materials are the physical elements that were combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property. The choice and combination of materials reveal the preferences of those who created the property and indicate the availability of particular types of materials and technologies. Indigenous materials are often the focus of regional building traditions and thereby help define an area's sense of time and place.

A property must retain the key exterior materials dating from the period of its historic significance. If the property has been rehabilitated, the historic materials and significant features must have been preserved. The property must also be an actual historic resource, not a recreation; a recent structure fabricated to look historic is not eligible. Likewise, a property whose historic features and materials have been lost and then reconstructed is usually not eligible. (See Criteria Consideration E in <a href="Part VII">Part VII</a>: How to Apply the Criteria Considerations for the conditions under which a reconstructed property can be eligible.)

### Workmanship

Workmanship is the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular culture or people during any given period in history or prehistory. It is the evidence of artisans' labor and skill in constructing or altering a building, structure, object, or site. Workmanship can apply to the property as a whole or to its individual components. It can be expressed in vernacular methods of construction and plain finishes or in highly sophisticated configurations and ornamental detailing. It can be based on common traditions or innovative period techniques.

Workmanship is important because it can furnish evidence of the technology of a craft, illustrate the aesthetic principles of a historic or prehistoric period, and reveal individual, local, regional, or national applications of both technological practices and aesthetic principles. Examples of workmanship in historic buildings include tooling, carving, painting, graining, turning, and joinery. Examples of workmanship in prehistoric contexts include Paleo-Indian Clovis projectile points; Archaic period beveled adzes; Hopewellian birdstone pipes; copper earspools and worked bone pendants; and Iroquoian effigy pipes.

# **Feeling**

Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time. It results from the presence of physical features that, taken together, convey the property's historic character. For example, a rural historic district retaining original design, materials, workmanship, and setting will relate the feeling of agricultural life in the 19th century. A grouping of prehistoric petroglyphs, unmarred by graffiti and intrusions and located on its original isolated bluff, can evoke a sense of tribal spiritual life.

#### **Association**

Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. A property retains association if it is the place where the event or activity occurred and is sufficiently intact to convey that relationship to an observer. Like feeling, association requires the presence of physical features that convey a property's historic character. For example, a Revolutionary War battlefield whose natural and manmade elements have remained intact since the 18th century will retain its quality of association with the battle.

Because feeling and association depend on individual perceptions, their retention *alone* is never sufficient to support eligibility of a property for the National Register.

# ASSESSING INTEGRITY IN PROPERTIES

Integrity is based on significance: why, where, and when a property is important. Only after significance is fully established can you proceed to the issue of integrity.

The steps in assessing integrity are:

- Define the **essential physical features** that must be present for a property to represent its significance.
- Determine whether the **essential physical features are visible** enough to convey their significance.
- Determine whether the property needs to be **compared with similar properties**. And,
- Determine, based on the significance and essential physical features, which aspects of integrity are particularly vital to the property being nominated and if they are present.

Ultimately, the question of integrity is answered by whether or not the property retains the **identity** for which it is significant.

https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/

# APPENDIX C: SECTIONS I & II OF NATIONAL REGISTER BULLETIN 16A

#### I. INTRODUCTION

#### WHAT IS THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES?

The National Register is the official Federal list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture. National Register properties have significance to the prehistory or history of their community, State, or the Nation. The register is administered by the National Park Service. Nominations for listing historic properties come from <a href="State Historic Preservation">State Historic Preservation</a>
<a href="Officers">Officers</a> (SHPOs) and, for properties owned or controlled by the United States</a>
<a href="Government">Government</a>, <a href="Federal Preservation Officers">Federal Preservation Officers</a> (FPOs). Properties are also determined eligible for listing at the request of SHPOs and Federal agencies. While SHPOs and FPOs nominate properties for National Register listing, private individuals and organizations, local governments, and American Indian tribes often initiate the process and prepare the necessary documentation. A professional review board in each State considers each property proposed for listing and makes a recommendation on its eligibility. Communities having a certified local historic preservation program, called Certified Local Governments (CLGs), also make recommendations to the SHPO on the eligibility of properties within their community.

# WHAT QUALIFIES A PROPERTY FOR LISTING?

Properties listed in the National Register of Historic Places possess **historic significance** and **integrity**. Significance may be found in four aspects of American history recognized by the National Register Criteria:

- Association with historic events or activities,
- Association with important persons,
- Distinctive design or physical characteristics, or
- Potential to provide important information about prehistory or history.

A property must meet at least one of the criteria for listing. Integrity must also be evident through historic qualities including location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Generally properties must be fifty years of age or more to be considered historic places. They must also be significant when evaluated in relationship to major trends of history in their community, State, or the nation. Information about historic properties and trends is organized, by theme, place, and time, into **historic contexts** that can be used to weigh the historic significance and integrity of a property.

#### WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS BULLETIN?

This bulletin contains instructions for completing the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (NPS 10-900). Registration forms and continuation sheets (NPS 10-900-

a) are available from State historic preservation offices, Federal preservation offices, and the National Park Service.

The National Register Registration Form is used to document historic properties for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. It is also used to document properties for determinations of eligibility for listing.

One registration form is completed for each entry in the National Register. The entry may be a single property, such as a historic house or bridge, or it may be a historic district containing many buildings, structures, sites, and objects. Registration forms may be submitted separately or may be grouped within multiple property submissions.

Information on the National Register form has several purposes:

- Identifies and locates the historic property,
- Explains how it meets one or more of the National Register criteria, and
- Makes the case for historic significance and integrity.

The registration form must show that the property meets one of the four criteria. Even if a property appears to qualify under several criteria, only one needs to be documented for listing.

National Register documentation assists in preserving historic properties by documenting their significance and by identifying the historic characteristics that give a property historic significance and integrity. This information can be used in educating the public about significant historic properties and their preservation.

Once a property has been listed in the National Register, documentation, in the form of written records and a computerized data base called the <u>National Register Information</u>

<u>System</u> (NRIS), becomes part of a national archive of information about significant historic properties in the United States.

# WHO MAY PREPARE A NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATION?

Any person or organization may prepare a National Register nomination. This includes property owners, public agencies, private institutions, local historical societies, local preservation commissions, local planning offices, social or merchant organizations, professional consultants, college professors and their students, special interest groups, or interested members of the general public.

Applicants submit completed forms to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in the State where the property is located. Forms for properties owned by the Federal government are submitted to the Federal Preservation Officer (FPO) of the agency responsible for the property.

Anyone interested in having a property nominated to the National Register should contact the SHPO or FPO to learn how nominations are processed and how to get started. The SHPO can also inform applicants if their community is a Certified Local Government (CLG), which also has a role in nominating properties to the National Register.

Persons researching a historic property for the first time may wish to consult <u>National</u> <u>Register Bulletin 39: Researching a Historic Property</u>, which provides helpful hints and sources for documenting historic houses, commercial buildings, churches, and public buildings. Guidance on deciding whether a property has historic significance and integrity can be found in <u>National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation</u>. A sample of a completed registration form is included in this bulletin.

Additional National Register bulletins, which provide guidance on nominating specific types of properties, are listed in *Appendix X* and are available from the SHPO, FPO, or the National Register of Historic Places, National Park Service, Interagency Resources Division, U.S. Department of the Interior, Post Office Box 37127, Washington, DC 20240.

#### II. GETTING STARTED

#### WHERE TO START

Before applicants begin to prepare a nomination, they should become familiar with the registration process and be aware of what information has already been gathered about the property or its community. Applicants should first contact the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) for the State where the property is located (see Appendix IX for a list of these officials). Members of the SHPO's staff have professional expertise and a strong knowledge of the history of their State. They are willing to provide assistance throughout the nomination process. If the property is owned by the U.S. government, applicants should contact the Federal Preservation Officer (FPO) for the agency responsible for the property.

SHPOs and FPOs can help applicants:

- Obtain National Register forms and Bulletins.
- Understand the process and requirements for nominating properties in their state or agency.
- Learn if the property is already protected by a local or State ordinance and whether it is listed in the State or National Register, either individually or as part of a district.
- Obtain a copy of the survey form if the property has been documented in the statewide survey.
- Learn how the property relates to themes and historic contexts identified as important in history, and obtain information about these that may be used in documenting the property.
- Determine the most likely ways the property may meet the National Register criteria, the information needed to support eligibility, and sources appropriate for further research.
- Obtain guidance for registering special kinds of properties, for example, moved buildings and structures, altered or deteriorated properties, archeological sites, historic landscapes, traditional

cultural properties, properties associated with important persons, and maritime resources. (See *Appendix X* for a list of available

Bulletins.)

• Complete more complex items of the National Register form, such as counts of contributing resources and UTM references. SHPOs can also inform applicants if the community where the property is located is a *Certified Local Government* (CLG) and has a preservation officer who also can provide information and assistance. SHPOs have an important role in the nomination process. They review all documentation on the property, schedule the property for consideration by the State review board, and notify property owners and public officials of the meeting and proposed nomination. The SHPO makes a case for or against eligibility at the board's meeting, and, considering the board's opinion makes the final decision to nominate the property for National Register listing. The SHPO also comments on nominations and determinations of eligibility requested by Federal agencies.

# UNDERSTANDING THE BASICS

Three key concepts—historic significance, historic integrity, and historic context—are used by the National Register program to decide whether a property qualifies for listing. An understanding of what these concepts mean and how they relate to a historic property can help those completing National Register forms. These concepts are briefly explained below. The National Register Bulletin entitled *How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation* contains a more detailed explanation. A glossary in *Appendix IV* defines other terms used in this bulletin and the National Register program.

# **DEFINITION OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE**

**Historic significance** is the importance of a property to the history, architecture, archeology, engineering, or culture of a community, State, or the nation. It is achieved in several ways:

- Association with events, activities, or patterns
- Association with important persons
- Distinctive physical characteristics of design, construction, or form
- Potential to yield important information.

The complete National Register criteria, including the criteria considerations for special kinds of properties, are listed on page 37. In addition to the above criteria, significance is defined by the **area** of history in which the property made important contributions and by the **period** of time when these contributions were made.

# **DEFINITION OF HISTORIC CONTEXT**

Properties are significant within the context of prehistory or history.

Historic context is information about historic trends and properties grouped by an important theme in the prehistory or history of a community, State, or the nation during a particular period of time. Because historic contexts are organized by theme, place, and time, they link historic properties to important historic trends. In this way they provide a framework for determining the significance of a property and its eligibility for National Register listing. Acknowledge of historic contexts allows applicants to understand a historic property as a product of its time and as an illustration of aspects of heritage that may be unique, representative, or pivotal. Themes often relate to the historic development of a community, such as commercial or industrial activities. They may relate to the occupation of a prehistoric group, the rise of an architectural movement, the work of a master architect, specific events or activities, or a pattern of physical development that influenced the character of a place at a particular time in history. It is within the larger picture of a community's history that local significance becomes apparent. Similarly, State and national

significance become clear only when the property is seen in relationship to trends and patterns of prehistory or history statewide or nationally.

# **DEFINITION OF HISTORIC INTEGRITY**

**Historic integrity** is the authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the property's prehistoric or historic period.

- Historic integrity is the composite of seven qualities:
- Location
- Design
- Setting
- Materials
- Workmanship
- Feeling
- Association

Historic integrity enables a property to illustrate significant aspects of its past. For this reason, it is an important qualification for National Register listing. Not only must a property resemble its historic appearance, but it must also retain physical materials, design features, and aspects of construction dating from the period when it attained significance. The integrity of archeological resources is generally based on the degree to which remaining evidence can provide important information. All seven qualities do not need to be present for eligibility as long as the overall sense of past time and place is evident.

# **GATHERING THE FACTS**

# A person wishing to prepare a nomination needs a thorough knowledge of the property.

By physically inspecting the property and conducting historical research, applicants can gather facts such as the physical characteristics of the property, date of construction, changes to the property over time, historic functions and activities, association with events and persons, and the role of the property in the history of the community, State, or the nation. When gathering information, keep in mind how it will fit into the final form. The form, first of all, is a record of the property at the time of listing: giving its location, defining its boundaries, identifying its historic characteristics, and describing its current condition. Second, it is a statement of how the property qualifies for National Register listing. Claims for historic significance and integrity are supported in the form by facts about the property. These facts link the property to one or more of the four National Register criteria, on one hand, and to the history of its community, State, or the nation, on the other. Early ideas about how a property meets the National Register criteria can lead applicants to particular sources and types of information that may be more useful than others. For example, historic photographs provide valuable documentary evidence of the stylistic character and architectural form of a property at a given time in history. Newspapers and city directories may prove valuable for learning how many and what kinds of businesses existed at a particular time in a town's history and the role of a particular store, hotel, or supplier. First, consult reliable secondary sources, such as published histories and biographies, theses and dissertations, theme studies, and survey forms. If these sources do not provide basic facts about the property, consult primary sources such as wills, deeds, census records, newspapers, maps and atlases, city directories, diaries, and correspondence. Persons documenting archeological sites should also become familiar with related studies and literature concerning the cultural group and period of occupation reflected by the site. Sources of contextual information include published histories, studies of historic resources of a particular region or topic, and statements of historic context developed for preservation planning at the local, regional, or State level. These contain information

about the chronological development of a community or region where the property is located or national trends that the property may be related to. For example, a study on the work of well-known architect may be useful in determining the significant features of a public building done late in his career. The National Register bulletin entitled *Researching A Historic Property* has additional guidance and a detailed list of sources for research.

# MAKING THECASE FOR SIGNIFICANCE

Facts, such as date of construction, early owners or occupants, functions, and activities, not only verify the property's history, but also place the property in a particular time, place, and course of events. With this information, applicants can relate the property to patterns of history that extend beyond the doorstep or immediate neighborhood. From this perspective, applicants can begin to sort out the facts that give the property its historic identity and significance. Certain events, associations, or physical characteristics of the property will take on greater or lesser importance. Properties of the same time and place can be compared to determine whether their character and associations are unique, representative, or pivotal in illustrating the history of a community, State, or the nation. It is easier to make the case for significance when a property is associated with historic themes or trends that have been widely recognized and fully studied, such as a "textbook" example of an architectural style or the railroad depot that fostered the suburbanization of many American cities. For help in assessing significance and integrity, consult the SHPO, or the National Register bulletin on How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. The complete National Register criteria, including the criteria considerations for special kinds of properties, are listed on page 37. In addition to the above criteria, significance is defined by the area of history in which the property made important contributions and by the **period** of time when these contributions were made.

https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb16a/

# APPENDIX D: SECTION I & IX OF NATIONAL REGISTER BULLETIN 22

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years may be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, according to the National Register Criteria for Evaluation, only if they are of "exceptional importance," or if they are integral parts of districts that are eligible for listing in the National Register. This principle safeguards against listing properties which are of only contemporary, faddish value and ensures that the National Register is a register of **historic** places.

The Criteria for Evaluation are not designed to prohibit the consideration of properties whose unusual contribution to the development of American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture can clearly be demonstrated. The Criteria for Evaluation provide general guidance on National Register eligibility. However, the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act did not assume that significance could be a matter of rigid, objective measurement. It specifically encourages the recognition of locally significant historic resources that, by appearance or association with persons or events, provide communities with a sense of past and place. The historical value of these resources will always be a combined matter of public sentiment and rigorous, yet necessarily subjective, professional assessment. Hence the Criteria for Evaluation, including their discussion of properties of recent significance, were written to offer broad guidance based on the practical and philosophical intent of the 1966 Act.

As a general rule, properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years are not eligible for National Register listing because the National Register is intrinsically a compilation of the Nation's **historic** resources that are worthy of preservation. The National Register does not include properties important solely for their contemporary impact and visibility, and it rarely is possible to evaluate historical impact, role, or relative value immediately after an event occurs or a building is constructed. The passage of time is necessary in order to apply the adjective "historic" and to ensure adequate perspective. To be a useful tool for public administration, the National Register cannot include properties of only transient value or interest. The passage of time allows our perceptions to be influenced by education, the judgment of previous decades, and the dispassion of distance. In nominating properties to the National Register, we should be settled in our belief that they will possess enduring value for their historical associations, appearance, or information potential.

Fifty years is obviously not the only length of time that defines "historic" or makes an informed, dispassionate judgment possible. It was chosen as a reasonable, perhaps popularly understood span that makes professional evaluation of historical value feasible. The National Register Criteria for Evaluation encourage nomination of recently significant properties if they are of exceptional importance to a community, a State, a region, or the Nation. The criteria do not describe "exceptional," nor should they. Exceptional, by its own definition, cannot be fully catalogued or anticipated. It may reflect the extraordinary impact of a political or social event. It may apply to an entire category of resources so fragile that survivors of any age are unusual. It may be the function of the relative age of a community and its perceptions of old and new. It may be represented by a building or structure whose developmental or design value is quickly recognized as historically significant by the architectural or engineering profession. It may be reflected in a range of resources for which a community has an unusually strong associative attachment. Thus a

complete list of exceptionally significant resources cannot be prepared or precise indicators of exceptional value prescribed. The following discussion offers guidance for the reasoning and evaluation applicable to properties that have achieved significance in the past 50 years. It also offers direction on preparing Statements of Significance for National Register nominations (Section 8 of the National Register registration form, NPS Form 10-900)

# IX. JUSTIFYING THE IMPORTANCE OF PROPERTIES THAT HAVE ACHIEVED

#### SIGNIFICANCE IN THE PAST FIFTY YEARS

The National Register nomination documentation for properties of recent significance must contain deliberate, distinct justification for the "exceptional" importance of the resource. The clarity and persuasiveness of the justification is critical for registering properties that have gained importance in the past 50 years.

The rationale or justification for exceptional importance should be an explicit part of the statement of significance. It should not be treated as self-explanatory. Nominations must make a persuasive, direct case that the grounds—the historic context—for evaluating a property's exceptional importance exist and that the property being nominated is, within that context, exceptional. This justification must address two issues at the beginning of a nomination's Statement of Significance. The first section should contain, as described in the National Register Bulletin entitled How to Complete the National Register Registration Form, a straightforward description of why the property is historically significant—with direct reference to the specific relevant National Register Criteria. Detailed guidance on this topic is contained in the National Register Bulletin entitled Guidelines for Applying the National Register Criteria for Evaluation. The second section should contain the justification as to why the property can be determined to be of exceptional importance. It must discuss the context used for evaluating the property. It must demonstrate that the context and the resources associated with it can be judged to be "historic." It must document the existence of sufficient research or evidence to permit a dispassionate evaluation of the resource. Finally, it must use the background just presented to summarize the way in which the resource is **important**.

https://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb22/

# APPENDIX E: IRB APPROVAL FORM



University of Central Florida Institutional Review Board Office of Research & Commercialization 12201 Research Parkway, Suite 501 Orlando, Florida 32826-3246 Telephone: 407-823-2901, 407-882-2012 or 407-882-2276 www.research.ucf.edu/compliance/irb.html

From:

UCF Institutional Review Board #1

FWA00000351, IRB00001138

To . Erin R. Montgomery

Date:

July 15, 2016

Dear Researcher:

On 07/15/2016 the IRB determined that the following proposed activity is not human research as defined by DHHS regulations at 45 CFR 46 or FDA regulations at 21 CFR 50/56:

Type of Review: Not Human Research Determination

Project Title:

Preserving the History of the Parliament House Resort

Investigator:

Erin R Montgomery SBE-16-12386

IRB ID: Funding Agency:

Grant Title:

Research ID: N/A

University of Central Florida IRB review and approval is not required. This determination applies only to the activities described in the IRB submission and does not apply should any changes be made. If changes are to be made and there are questions about whether these activities are research involving human subjects, please contact the IRB office to discuss the proposed changes.

On behalf of Sophia Dziegielewski, Ph.D., L.C.S.W., UCF IRB Chair, this letter is signed by:

Signature applied by Joanne Muratori on 07/15/2016 03:14:06 PM EDT

IRB Manager

# APPENDIX F: PHOTOGRAPH PERMISSION LETTER

Erin Montgomery. 200 Saint Andrews Blvd. Winter Park, Florida 32792

June 25, 2017

GLBT History Museum of Central Florida P.O. Box 533376 Orlando Florida 32853-3376

Dear GLBT Museum of Central Florida Board:

This letter will confirm our recent email conversation. I am completing a master's degree at the University of Central Florida entitled

"A Place in the Sunshine State: Community, Preservation, and the Parliament House."

I would like your permission to reprint in my thesis excerpts from the following:

The Parliament House Photo Album on the GLBT History Museum of Central Florida's website. http://glbthistorymuseum.com/gallery/main.php?g2\_itemId=427

The excerpts to be reproduced are: "Parliament House Postcard", "Parliament House Motor Inn Exterior 1968", "Parliament House Motor Inn Lakeside, 1969", "Phouse Michaels Ad 096", and "Phouse Postcard, very old."

The requested permission extends to any future revisions and editions of my thesis/dissertation, including non-exclusive world rights in all languages. These rights will in no way restrict republication of the material in any other form by you or by others authorized by you. Your signing of this letter will also confirm that you own or your company owns the copyright to the above-described material. If these arrangements meet with your approval, please sign this letter where indicated. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

PERMISSION GRANTED FOR THE USE REQUESTED ABOVE:

Typed name of addressee below signature line

Date: 6/25/2017

## REFERENCES

#### **Archival Sources**

- GLBT History Museum of Central Florida Archive
- Orange County Regional History Museum. Hodes Family Collection, Hodes and Cummings Construction Co. Promotional Booklets.

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