

STRUCTURES OF HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE IN HIGHLANDS COUNTY



North Elevation



West Elevation

THE CHAPMAN HOME

The Chapman (Sachsenmaier) (Hill) (Crews) Home, located at 1731 Hollyhurst Drive outside of Avon Park, was selected by the Highlands County Historic Preservation Commission for local historic designation.

The architectural style of the home is Mediterranean Revival, an eclectic style containing architectural elements with Spanish, Moorish, Turkish, and Byzantine influences that was popular in the Southwest and Florida during the early twentieth century. This home is a classic example of the kind of architecture made popular during the 1920's Florida land boom. This building reveals its stylistic influence in a square tower with arched openings, slight hipped roof, arched windows and door openings, with a stucco exterior. Inside are plastered walls and hardwood flooring.

The residence was built on Lot 1 of the Pinecrest Lake subdivision at the same time as with the hotel and golf course. The architect and contractor are unknown. Existing records are not currently available for this residence prior to 1941, when Wilbur and Barbara Sachsenmaier owned it. Their daughter Eileen was born there. During World War II, the family entertained military troops at various times. A Dr. Cunningham lived nearby.

Sometime later in the war years, they conveyed the property to Frederick and Muriel Fiske who in turn conveyed it to John and Lena Wright in 1957. The Wrights lived there with their daughter, Sammie, whose many classmate friends enlivened the home with parties from time to time. The Wrights are now deceased, but their daughter lives in Wauchula. Apparently, during that time Hurricane Donna caused some damage. Vandals as well as later hurricanes destroyed some of the original windows. Then, in 1970, Lowell and Ruth Hill acquired the property. Subsequent to the 1995 historical structure survey by Dr. William R. Adams, William and Sharon Chapman acquired the property. In 2008, the property was conveyed to the C. Elton Crews Family Limited Partnership LLLP. The home has 4 bedrooms, 2 ½ bathrooms and a pool, built in 1951. In 1972, a shed was added and in 1999, walks and a patio were built.

The property is in somewhat disrepair and vacant. If maintained, it qualifies for nomination to the National Register of Historic Place.