

# BROWARD **Legacy**

volume 27 • number 1 • summer 2007

**Edward Fredrick Leitner  
Physician-Botanist**

**Hollywood Houses –  
The Work of Architect  
Charles Reed, Jr.**

**Book Report:  
A Guide To Historic Hollywood**



*On The Cover: Fakahatchee Storm, 2006, Photograph by Peter Nolan.  
On The Inside Front Cover: Everglades, 2006, Photograph by Peter Nolan.  
On The Back Cover: Sweetwater Strand, 2006 Photograph by Peter Nolan.*



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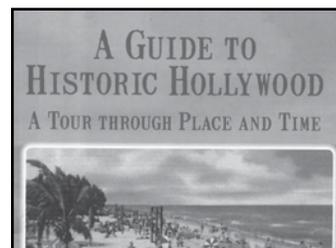
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**Note to subscribers to the Broward Legacy:**  
*There was no Broward Legacy volume 26 number 2 issued*

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## *Edward Fredrick Leitner (1812-1838) Physician-Botanist*

*Introduction By Denyse Cunningham, 2007*



*Fig. 1 - Memorial Tree, 2006  
[Photo by Peter Nolan]*

**T**his fascinating account of the life and work of the nineteenth-century physician-botanist Edward Frederick Leitner (1812 – 1838) by Dr. George Edmund Gifford, Jr. (1930 – 1981) was painstakingly researched by Gifford before the wide-spread use of the internet and e-mail which has made research so much easier for us today. The following article is a testament to Gifford's dogged pursuit of every scrap of information he could find regarding Leitner's career. Gifford, himself a physician and historian of science, often wrote about America's early scientists and naturalists. As a result of his efforts we have this early account of the natural world of South Florida experienced by Leitner in the 1830s.

The late Cooper Kirk, appointed as the first Broward County Historian, had been very interested in Leitner's story. While researching the early history of Broward County and the career of Major Lauderdale for his own book *William Lauderdale: General Andrew Jackson's Warrior*, Kirk had carefully transcribed any account of Leitner's work he found in contemporary newspapers such as the *Charleston Mercury* and the *Niles Register*. After Kirk contacted Gifford in November of 1977 Gifford gave the Broward County Historical Commission permission to reprint Leitner's harrowing story in the *Broward Legacy*.



Fig. 2 - Looking Up, 2006 [Photo by Peter Nolan]

*Leitner was associated with the early New River pioneer and Broward County legend William Cooley (1783 – 1863). Cooley and Leitner had both been employed by Lieutenant Levin Powell, U.S. Navy as guides along the coast of South Florida and into the Everglades. Cooley resided in the New River settlement in what is now Fort Lauderdale from 1823 through 1836 and knew the Everglades region well. The massacre of Cooley's wife, their three children and the family tutor on January 6, 1836 by Seminole warriors on New River is one of the most infamous events in South Florida history at the beginning of the Second Seminole Indian War (1835 – 1842). Cooley held many important offices on the South Florida frontier, including justice of the peace, appraiser, lighthouse keeper and later city councilman and territorial legislator. The Cooley massacre led to the removal of nearly all white settlers for decades.*

*Leitner's pioneering work is not widely known in contemporary literature. For example, he is not listed in Gail Fishman's 2000 book *Journeys Through Paradise: Pioneering Naturalists in the Southeast*, though, as Gifford pointed out, he was mentioned briefly in other works. Perhaps because he died young, in the wilderness of the present day Palm Beach County in 1838 and did not settle in the area as did the more better-known Charles Torrey Simpson in the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century, Leitner is often overlooked.*

*Both Kirk and Gifford tried in vain to find the research materials Leitner had compiled as he issued a prospectus publishing the results of his labors in South Florida. Kirk wrote in 1977 to the National Archives, the Caroliniana Library and the South Carolina Medical College attempting to discover their whereabouts. After Gifford was informed of these attempts, he wrote to Kirk, "As to the missing manuscripts – I could not locate them. I wish you good luck but I am afraid they are lost."*

*Dr. George Edmund Gifford was the author of numerous literary works. According to the dust cover of his book *Cecil County Maryland 1608-1850* Dr. Gifford held B.S. and M.D. degrees from the University of Maryland and a M. A. from Harvard. He was a practicing psychiatrist, an Associate Professor of Socio-Medical Sciences at Boston University; instructor in Psychiatry, Consultant to the Historical Collections, Countway Library, Harvard University; and Associate in Medicine (Psychiatry) at Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Boston. Gifford wrote his book on the history of Cecil County as a living memorial to his father, George Edmund Gifford, Sr.*



Fig. 3 - *Guzmania* Cluster, 2004 [Photo by Peter Nolan]

## *Illustrations*

**G**ifford's original manuscript was sparsely illustrated. Many of the sketches and photographs that accompany this reprint have been added to illustrate various points in the manuscript or give the impression of the remote Everglades landscape Leitner explored. The sources for these various images are included in the captions. Some of the most dramatic images included in this article are those of the photographer Peter Nolan of Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

A Floridian since early childhood, Peter J. Nolan has worked as a conservation photographer since 2001. Armed with a 4x5 wooden field camera, Nolan traverses the South Florida landscape capturing the interplay of water, land and sky. Both his shooting and printmaking style deftly blend traditional and modern photographic technique. His images, initially captured using film, are adjusted digitally and then printed as traditional "wet" darkroom prints. Nolan feels that, "The organic nature of using mechanical equipment in the field is very appealing to me. No batteries or beeps, just the whisper quiet sound of a mechanical shutter."

Nolan's work, primarily focused on South Florida, the Everglades, and Big Cypress National Preserve is largely motivated by ecological concerns. He hopes that, through his work, people will gain a greater appreciation for the natural landscape that surrounds them.

# *Edward Fredrick Leitner* (1812-1838)

## Physician-Botanist

By *George E. Gifford, Jr.*

*Bulletin of the History of Medicine*. VoL XLVI, No. 6, November-December, 1972

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Fig. 4 - Clamshell Orchid, 2004 [Photo by Peter Nolan]

The years from 1832 to 1838 were pivotal ones in American botany. In 1836 two important books were published, the *United States Dispensatory* and Asa Gray's *Elements of Botany*. These two books indicated the ever widening division of botany as a science distinct from medicobotany. This period, a part of the Torrey and Gray epoch, saw the 1838 Wilkes Expedition staffed with nine "scientific gentlemen," including a botanist, in the first government sponsored scientific expedition.<sup>1</sup> These years also mark the American experience of Edward Frederick Leitner (1812-1838), a young German botanist and physician.<sup>2</sup>

\* This paper was written during the course of a Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation Fellowship in the History of Medicine and Biological Sciences, 1969-70. It was presented in part at the 44th annual meeting of the American Association for the History of Medicine, Colorado Springs, Col., April 29, 1971.

<sup>1</sup> For background see Joseph Ewan, "Early History," in *A Short History of Botany in the United States*, edited by Joseph Ewan (New York: Hafner, 1969). In the same volume, Jerry Stannard's "Medical Botany." Also helpful are Jeanette H. Graustein, *Thomas Nuttall, Naturalist, Explorations in America, 1808-1841* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1967), and A. Hunter Dupree, *Asa Gray (1810-1888)* (Cambridge: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1959). See also David B. Tyler, *The Wilkes Expedition (Philadelphia: The American Philosophical Society, 1968)*. See Kenneth W. Hunt, "Plant Science in Charleston," pp. 671-674 in "The Charleston Woody Flora"; *American Midland Naturalist*, 1947, 37: 670-756; Jerry Stannard, "Early American Botany and Its Sources," reprinted from *Bibliography and Natural History* (Lawrence, Kan.: Univ. of Kansas Libraries, 1966).

<sup>2</sup> There has been no complete biographical account of Leitner. See John Hendley Barahart, *Biographical note: upon Botanists* (Boston: G. K. Hall & Co., 1965), vol. 2, p. 353. Leitner is mentioned in Stanley Clisby Arthur, *Audubon, An Intimate Life of the American Woodsman* (New Orleans, 1937), p. 410, but the account contains several errors, as does the book by Graustein, *op. cit.* There is brief mention of Leitner in Haskill and Catherine L. Bachman, *John Bachman, DD., L. L. V., Ph.D.* (Charleston, 1888), pp. 125, 132n, 138, and in Alice Ford, *John James Audubon* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1964), p. 311: "The fifty new birds found in the Everglades by the German botanist, Leitner, of Charleston, gave Audubon an excuse to try to interest Harris in helping to finance an expedition." Leitner is omitted in Pritzel and Nissen.



*Fig. 5 - Cypress Forest, 2006 [Photo by Peter Nolan]*

Born February 4, 1812, at Stuttgart, Frederick August Ludwig Leitner was the son of Johann Friedrich Leitner and Karoline Friedericke Bühler. His father was the Royal Court Gardener in the Botanic Garden of Stuttgart. His paternal grandfather, Johann Michael Leitner, was a barber-surgeon from Eckersdorf. Frederick Leitner's father died when he was four: then the mother and her four children moved to Schorndorf, her birthplace. Among Leitner's christening sponsors was Mr. David Heinrich Ammermüller, Court Gardener of the Royal Württemberg Domain, Einsiedel. Since Einsiedel is only 7 kilometers from the University of Tübingen it is possible that Leitner worked in these gardens as he attended lectures at the University of Tübingen by Professor Gustav Schübler. On Schübler's student lists, Leitner is mentioned as "GärtnerStudent." He was not registered at the University as a Student or Hospes and he was not required to pay for the lectures. He regularly attended and successfully passed the examinations in the following courses: 1828, Medical Botany; 1828-29, Agricultural Chemistry; 1829, Economic Botany; 1829-1830, Statistics of Württemberg (Natural History); 1830, Plant Physiology. Leitner received a subsidy from the Society for Natural Science of Württemberg and in 1831 sailed from Le Havre for the U. S.<sup>3</sup> After traveling in New York and Pennsylvania he went to Charleston, S.C., where he found a compatible German community with natural history interests. He became a student at the Medical College of South Carolina and a pupil of Dr. J. E. Holbrook.<sup>4</sup> Early in 1832, before the close of the medical college term in March, the *Charleston Courier* for May 24, 1832 carried the following advertisement:

### ***Instruction in Botany***

*The subscriber offers his services to the Ladies and Gentlemen of Charleston as an instructor in Botany. Should he receive sufficient encouragement he will commence his instructions in the Medical College on or about June next. Terms will be made known by either of the gentlemen who have kindly presented him with the following testimonials.*

*Having opportunities of becoming acquainted with Mr. Leitner's capacity as a botanist, we cheerfully recommend him as a person who is thoroughly acquainted with and well qualified to teach the science of botany. B. Geddings M.D.,<sup>5</sup> A. Hasell M.D.,<sup>6</sup> J. Edwards Holbrook, M.D.,<sup>7</sup> J. Bachman,<sup>8</sup> Henry R. Frost, M.D.,<sup>9</sup> Elias Horlbeck, M.D.,<sup>10</sup> J. A. Johnson, M.D.,<sup>11</sup> and B. D. Greene<sup>12</sup> "of Boston." The subscriber is also desirous of devoting some of his leisure hours in giving lessons in the German language and if required in Latin and Greek.*

*F. L. Leitner*

*Mr. Leitner has been regularly educated in the University of Tübingen (Germany). He is a good classical scholar and is particularly qualified to give instruction in Gennan it being his native language.*

*J. Bachman*

Another notice in the *Courier* stated that the lectures would begin June 8. The next evidence of Leitner's activities is found in a letter,<sup>13</sup> in German, to the Moravian mycologist Lewis David von Schweinitz<sup>14</sup> of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Charleston, 1st July 1832:

<sup>3</sup> For information about Leitner prior to coming to the United States I am totally indebted to Dr. Volker Schäfer, Universitätsarchivar, Universität Tübingen, who checked the church registers of Schorndorf and Eckersdorf, the city Archives of Schorndorf, the State Archive of Stuttgart, and the Archives of Ludwigsburg. The Evangelical Church registrar at Schorndorf, the Rev. H. Rieber, reported to Dr. Schäfer that Leitner was born January 18, 1812, and gave his parents' names. However the printed Stuttgart church register of 1812 lists Frederick Leitner's birth as February 4, and the christening on the 8th of February, at the Chateau church in Stuttgart. Items about the Leitner family in the State Archives of Ludwigsburg are under E 19 Busehel 193, 199, 204. Also located were Professor G. Schubler's student registration lists from 1828-1830 and two obituaries: (1) by N. H. Julius, Hamburg, signed May 1838, *Allgemeine Zeitung*, no. 334 and 335, June 26, 1838 from the *Blätter für literarische Unterhaltung* and (2) a very similar account which does not mention Mr. Kerst the pharmacist friend, *Schwäbischer Merkur*, Nr. 173, 28 June 1838. There is no mention of Mr. Kerst in the available record in Charleston. See John Hampton Hoch, *The History of Pharmacy in South Carolina* (Charleston, 1951).

In Leitner's *Botanical Chart*, Charleston, he is entered as a "Fellow of the Society of Natural History of Stuttgart." Perhaps Leitner did belong to the *Gesellschaft deutscher Naturforscher und Aerzte. The Verein für vaterländische Naturkunde in Stuttgart* was not formed until 1845. For an article on the early natural history societies in Stuttgart see "Zur Geschichte des Stuttgarter Schneekenkranzes," *Jahreshefte Verein für vaterländische Naturkunde in Württemberg*, 1934, 20: LX-LXI. This information was given by Siegmund Seybold, *Abteilung für Botanik, Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde in Stuttgart*.

<sup>4</sup> See letter to B. Silliman reprinted in *American Journal of Science and Arts*, January, 1833. 23: 45-46.

<sup>5</sup> Eli Geddings, M.D. (1799-1878). There is a biographical account in Joseph I. Waring, *A History of Medicine in South Carolina, 1825-1900* (Charleston: South Carolina Medical Association, 1967), pp. 235-238. For his natural history interests see G. E. Gifford, Jr., "John James Audubon's Baltimore physician patrons," *Bull., School of Medicine, University of Maryland*, 1964, 49: 14.

<sup>6</sup> A. Hasell, M.D. (1803-1866) was professor of materia medica in the Medical College of the State of South Carolina when it was reorganized in 1833. See Waring, *op. cit.*, p. 243.

<sup>7</sup> E. Edwards Holbrook (1794-1871) was first professor of anatomy in the Medical College of South Carolina. He also produced two works on comparative anatomy, *Herpetology of North America* (1836, 1838) and the *Ichthyology of South Carolina* (1855-57). See Waring, *op. cit.*, pp. 243-245, and Louis Agassiz, "Dr. John F. Holbrook of Charleston, S. C." *Proc. Bost. Soc. of Nat. Hist.* 1870-71 (1872). Theodore Gill, "Biographical Memoir of John Edwards Holbrook, 1794-1871," *Nat. Acad. Sci. Biogr. Memoirs*, 1905, 5: 49-77.

<sup>8</sup> John Bachman (1790-1874). The collaborator with J. J. Audubon on *The Viviparous Quadrupeds of North America*, 3 vols. (New York: 1846-53). For biographical accounts see DAB, vol. 1, pp. 466-467; Haskell and C. L. Bachman, *op. cit.* (n. 2 above), and the most recent account, Claude Henry Neuffer, *The Christopher Hoppoldt Journal* (Charleston: The Charleston Museum, 1960). In 1834 Bachman prepared *A Catalogue of the Phaenogamous Plants and Ferns Native and Naturalized, Found Growing in the Vicinity of Charleston, S.C.*

<sup>9</sup> Henry Rutledge Frost, M.D. (1790-1866). When the Medical College of South Carolina was opened, he was elected to the chair of *Materia Medica*, and in 1841 produced *Elements of the Materia Medica and Therapeutics*. See Waring, *op. cit.* (n. 5 above), pp. 230-232.

<sup>10</sup> Elias Horlbeck, H. V. (1804-1881), an eminent physician and an amateur botanist. See Waring, *op. cit.*, pp. 246-247.

<sup>11</sup> Dr. Joseph Johnson? See Waring, *op. cit.*, p. 93—or is the "J" a substituted "I" and consequently [Isaac] Amory Johnson (1798-1832), brother of the more noted Joseph. Isaac, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania in 1812 published one paper in the *Philadelphia J. of Med. & Phys. Sci.* 1823, 7: 306-310.

<sup>12</sup> B. D. Greene M.D. (1793-1862) was the first president of the Boston Society of Natural History. See *Proc. Post. Soc. of Nat. Hist.*, 1854, 9: 258-276. See also Graustein, *op. cit.* (n. 1 above), pp. 174, 210, 225, 254, 256, 261, 270, 274, 276, 288, 335, 349, 351 and Barnhart, *op. cit.* (n. 2 above), vol. 2, p. 81. George E. Gifford, Jr., "Proper Bostonian botanist." *Harvard Medical Alumni Bull.*, May-June, 1972, 46: 32-34.

<sup>13</sup> The letter of Leitner to Schweinitz is in the *Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia*. It is in German script and has been translated by Mrs. Hedwig Volkart Miller.

<sup>14</sup> Lewis David von Schweinitz (1790-1834). For biographical accounts see Barnhart, *op. cit.*, vol. 3, p. 250.

Sir,

Since it is after all not possible for me to have a talk with you, valued friend, and enjoy your kind company I'll take up the pen to enter into correspondence to hear more of you and your new discoveries in the Natural Sciences.

I hope you and your family are enjoying the best of health. When I visited you last I was in the belief that I was going on board a ship to learn more of Natural Science but the position Doct. Friendly offered me was so dangerous that nobody in my place would have accepted it. I left Philadelphia for Charleston hoping to learn more about the Flora of the Southern States and I have truly not been disappointed.

During the first week I made the acquaintance of the first gentlemen of Charleston and found that there were more men in Charleston who were favorably inclined towards natural sciences than in New York or Philadelphia. As soon as I had a better foundation in English I announced my lectures in Botany, in German, Latin and Greek. My efforts were so blessed that as of now 15 Gentlemen and 17 Ladies are my students in Botany, 5 Gentlemen in the German language, 1 Lady in Latin and 1 Gentleman in Latin and Greek language.

At the same time I can inform you that I study Medicine regularly. I took half a course in German and think a physician has the best chances of practicing the study of the Sciences. The environs of Charleston are pretty well explored, we found only a few new plants about which I will presently inform you; we go out about once a week.

The upper part of Carolina is, I imagine, little known and explored. I had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of Mr. Audubon, one of the greatest ornithologists. I found him a greatly talented and excellent man.

As soon as the lectures come to an end next Spring I intend to undertake a rather grandiose plan, that is, to explore Florida, Georgia, Tennessee and the Arkansas Territory. I believe I can find subscribers for it in this



Fig. 6 - Charleston Medical College, 1830s [Courtesy of the Waring Historical Library]

country, I hope to get approx. 20-25 in Charleston. I should have approx. 50-60 members, each to contribute \$20. I would reciprocate the money with dried plants, minerals, insects, reptiles, shells, stuffed birds. I would keep an eye open especially for botany, mineralogy, and entomology. There is a field of opportunity for conchology in the Florida Reefs.

I would leave Charleston the first of March and return there in September. My intended journey goes as follows: leave Charleston on the first of March for the Florida Reefs, from there I plan to go inland to the interior of Florida to Lake Mayaca, and on to Charlotte Harbour, Lake Simmons, Tampa Bay, Lake Eustis, then up the Johns River to Lake George, Orange Lake and St. Augustine; from there to Okefenokee Swamp and Georgia; then to Crow Harbour, Fort Barrington, west up the Altamaha river to Fort James, Jacksonville, Hartford, Fayetteville, Decatur; traverse the state line to Tennessee, hike over the Cumberland Mountains to Sparta, Williamsburg, and down the Cumberland River to Nashville, Clarksville, then up to Smithland where the Ohio joins the Mississippi; down the Miss. to where the Arkansas River joins in, then on the west shore of the Arkansas river to Pine Bluff, Akriopolis (Little Rock), cut across the Cherokee Boundary Line, explore part of the Ozark Mountains and return—if I am still in good health.

The Indians are rather rebellious and if they are not calmed down they might show their mettle. Still the Seminole Indians so far are peaceful, the ones in Georgia and Tennessee also. The only difficulties might develop in the Arkansas Territory. I believe this opportunity shouldn't be neglected because such an occasion might not repeat itself. Everybody who knows me in this country is convinced of my enthusiasm. Perhaps you will have the kindness to publicize the trip in a scientific journal and inform your friends about it, especially Dr. Torrey<sup>15</sup> in New York. Also I know that Rev. Seydel is a mineralogist and conchologist and I guess would not want to miss this opportunity.

I beg you to inform me of all expenses which you may incur as I will reimburse you with my best thanks. It will always be a pleasure for me to be of service to you.

Please remember me to your worthy wife and your sons, also Mr. Bishop Andreas,<sup>16</sup> the Rev. Seydel and L. Saynisch<sup>17</sup> if you see them. I imagine you will soon write to me and tell me what you think of it.

In the meantime I remain always your sincere friend and servant.

E. F. Leitner

Have you heard nothing of Volz?<sup>18</sup>

My address is: E. F. L. Leitner, care of M. M. Strobel,<sup>19</sup> Meeting St. Charleston.



Fig. 7 - Guzmania Bloom, 2006 [Photo by Peter Nolan]

<sup>15</sup> John Torrey (1796-1873), see Christine Chapman Robbins. "John Torrey (1796-1873), his life and times," *Bull. of the Torrey Botanical Club*, Nov. Dec., 1968, 95: 515-645. Barnhart, op. cit., vol. 3, p. 392.

<sup>16</sup> The letter from Leitner to Torrey is in the library of the New York Botanical Garden. See J. M. Levering, *A History of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania* (Bethlehem, Pa., 1903), John Taylor Hamilton and Kenneth G. Hamilton. *History of the Moravian Church* (Bethlehem, Pa., 1900).

<sup>17</sup> Lewis Saynish, M.D. New York physician mentioned generally by Schweinitz in letter to Torrey in 1832 (*Memorials of Torrey Botanical Club*, 1921, 16: 264-265).

<sup>18</sup> Friedrich Volz, Stuttgart pharmacist who came to the U. S. intending to botanize (*Bartonia*, 1934, 16: 35).

<sup>19</sup> Martin M. Strobel (b. April 28, 1786—d. June 10, 1838), a Charleston attorney and also engineer for the city. His nephew, Dr. Benjamin B. Strobel, a physician and naturalist, is remembered for his assistance to John J. Audubon and Dr. Bachman. Ex info Professor E. A. Hammond.

<sup>20</sup> The original letter is preserved in the Silliman family papers in the Historical Manuscript Room, Yale University Library.

<sup>21</sup> Benjamin Silliman (1779-1854), chemist and geologist, was editor from 1818-1838 of *The American Journal of Science and Arts*, often called "Silliman's Journal."

Although Leitner was not widely known at that time, the editor of the *American Journal of Science and Arts* saw fit to offer him the following tribute: "Perhaps we cannot, in any better manner, introduce a respectable young stranger to the American public, than by giving publicity to the following letter of Dr. Leitner to the Editor:<sup>20</sup> its frankness and integrity are not less observable than the intelligence and zeal which it indicates." The editor, Benjamin Silliman<sup>21</sup> then published Leitner's letter of July 14, 1832:

Dear Sir —

Since your *Journal* has fallen into my hands, I have felt a great desire to become better acquainted with you; I therefore take the liberty to address this letter to you. I hope you will excuse my inaccuracies in writing, particularly, as I have been but a short time in this country. From early youth, I have felt a great inclination for natural history, and when having arrived at a riper age, I saw my sphere in my native land (Germany) too narrow, then a thought arose in my mind to visit and explore this interesting country, in hope that I might, perhaps contribute, by and by something to the knowledge and science of natural history. After visiting the college in Tubingen and enlarging my knowledge, I left my native home, to bid it perhaps the last farewell, and embarking from Havre de Grace, I arrived in New York last year (1831). Having little knowledge of the language, I at first encountered a great many obstacles, which prevented me from visiting the circles of the learned and scientific. I came to South Carolina, after I had wandered through a great part of New York and Pennsylvania. I cannot sufficiently praise the hospitality of the people of Charleston: I am treated with the greatest kindness and benevolence, and they do everything in their power to extend my views. I shall finish, in Charleston, my studies of medicine, being with Dr. J. Edwards Holbrook, Professor of Anatomy in the Medical College; at the same time, I am delivering lectures on botany in that institution. I was indeed surprised and delighted to find more spirit here for natural history, than in any part of the United States which I have visited. About seventeen ladies and fifteen gentlemen attend my lectures; a considerable number in the summer season.

I have in view an expedition to Florida next March, (1833) the time at which the (medical) lectures terminate. I shall visit first the Florida Reefs, (perhaps accompanied by Mr. Audubon,) and penetrate from thence into the heart of the territory, to explore its great

treasures, and to lift the veil which now covers that part of the United States. I expect to stay there until the sickly season begins, and then return to Charleston, if God prospers my undertaking, to distribute the collections among the subscribers. The subscription is only \$10 for each member, and the money is returned in shells, minerals, plants, insects, reptiles, and some stuffed birds, and seeds. I hope to procure about thirty subscribers in this city. If I succeed next year in my expedition to Florida, and finish my studies in medicine, I shall very probably undertake an expedition on a larger scale, to the western states. I hope the gentlemen at the North will not overlook such an occasion to enlarge their museums and herbariunis.

I can take the liberty Sir, to offer a few observations only, for the pages of your Journal.

Very respectfully yours,

E. F. Leitner

The article he submitted was, "Observations on depriving Flowers of their anthers, to produce Double Flowers." In this paper Leitner mentions Dr. Messer of Cabo, Prof. Bauer,<sup>22</sup> Prof. Schuebter,<sup>23</sup> Mr. C. Orthman (inspector of the college Garden)<sup>24</sup> and Dr. Gaertner.<sup>25</sup>

Using this scientific journal to inform readers of his proposed trip he also wrote letters to attract subscribers. This is evident in the following letter to John Torrey:

<sup>22</sup> Prof. Gustav Heinrich Bauer, 1794-1888. See Barnhart, op. cit. (n. 2 above), vol. 2, p. 140.

<sup>23</sup> Gustav Schuebler (1787-1834). See Barnhart, op. cit., vol. 3, p. 243. He published (1830) a monograph *De antherartum excisione ad efficiendos flores plenos* (the effect of excising anthers in the production of double flowers). According to Geiser, it is to be feared that Leitner plagiarized the published and unpublished, work of Schuebler, of a fellow student Johann Gottlob Kurr (1798-1870), Barnhart, op. cit., vol. 2, p. 328, and Alfred Moquin-Tandon (1804-1863). *ibid.*, vol. 2, p. 510.

<sup>24</sup> Carl Ludwig Orthmann (1785-1865), Director of the Botanic Gardens at the University of Tübingen.

<sup>25</sup> Dr. Carl Friedrich von Gärtner, 1772-1850. Barnhart, op. cit., vol. 2, p. 22.

<sup>26</sup> Stephen Elliott (1771-1830). He published in parts, 1816-1824, *A Sketch of the Botany of South Carolina and Georgia*. See Waring, op. cit. (n. 4 above), vol. 1, pp. 211-12. Barnhart, op. cit., vol. 1, p. 504.

<sup>27</sup> This was an early designation for Lake Okeechobee. See Charles Vignoles, *Observations upon the Floridas* (New York, 1823).

<sup>28</sup> Hooker Correspondence, LXI, 125, is at Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, England.

<sup>29</sup> Letters of John James Audubon, 1826-1840, 2 vols., edited by Howard Corning (Boston: 1930), *The Club of Odd Volumes*, vol. 2, p. 125.

Charleston 12 September 1832

Sir

Although I have not the pleasure of your acquaintance, yet the importance of the subject on which I will address you will, I hope, sufficiently excuse for the liberty. The high standing, which you have in the scientific world, has induced me, to believe, that you will give every aid in your power, to foster all undertakings, that have in view the enlargements of science. I departed last year from Germany for this country with the intention to explore some part of it. Although Stephen Elliott,<sup>26</sup> the great Botanist, be no more, yet I perceive with pleasure, that botany is making rapid increases in Charleston, even among the fair sex. As my leisure hours I devote to the study of medicine, and to my favorite study, natural history. My object in addressing you, is to state to you the design, which I have in forming an expedition to the Floridas for the purpose of collecting specimens of natural history in the several departments of botany, mineral, entomol. etc. The variety of plants is certainly great especially in East Florida, where the flora, as I should suppose, has a similarity to that of Mexico and the West Indies, and the number of described plants will certainly be enriched with at least 100 new ones. The Tortugas offer a great field for conchology the streams in the interior country for Ichthyologie. Not having the present means enough to carry it through at my own expense, I will undertake it by subscription: the money is afterward returned in the collected subjects. The ticket is only \$10 a member. One Specimen or some times 2 of the smaller kind of every species of plants will be forwarded to every member, plants, which cannot be collected in so large a number, as 80-90 of the same species, are distributed after proportion. Persons taking 2 tickets will get of course the double number, especially of those which could not be collected in sufficient numbers as 70-80 of the same species. Persons can subscribe in any of the branches of minerals

entom. bot. etc. Subjects from Ornithologie and Zoologie will be collected in small numbers only, however I shall not neglect, to collect flower seeds, which will be very agreeable to many florists and amateurs of flowers. I shall leave Charleston about the middle of February next for St. Augustine, I shall go from there to Jacksonville, Talahassee, S. Marks, Orange Lake and Lake George, from whence we shall penetrate in the Interior or return to the Western coast of East Florida, examine the most remarkable places along the coast, especially Charlotte harbor and the environs of Lake Mayac,<sup>27</sup> and at last the Tortugas and Florida Reefs from whence I will return to Charleston, which will be about the middle of June, when then the distribution immediately begins. On my part no exertions shall be spared to add something to the natural history of this country. I beg leave to tender you my esteem, and solicit from you your kind endeavors in aiding me in the pursuit of an object, that may be important to the lovers of science. You will oblige sue very much indeed, if you would open a subscription in New York. under your praesidium, and you will be so good to observe, to subscribers that the amount is sent on in December; that I can prepare myself for the Journey. Should you wish any information in respect to my Qualification, I beg reference to the follow gentlemen: Dr. Schweintiz in Bethlehem, M. James Audubon, the naturalist, in Boston, Dr. Geddings in Baltimore, Dr. Greene in Boston and any respectable person of Charleston. I shall be happy to receive soon from you an answer. Should you have any demands, perhaps of European plants, of which I possess a good number I am always at your service.

With sentiments of the highest respect and esteem

Your obedt servt

Edward F. Leitner

My Address is:  
Edward F. Leitner, care of Dr.  
Edwards Holbrook, Charleston.

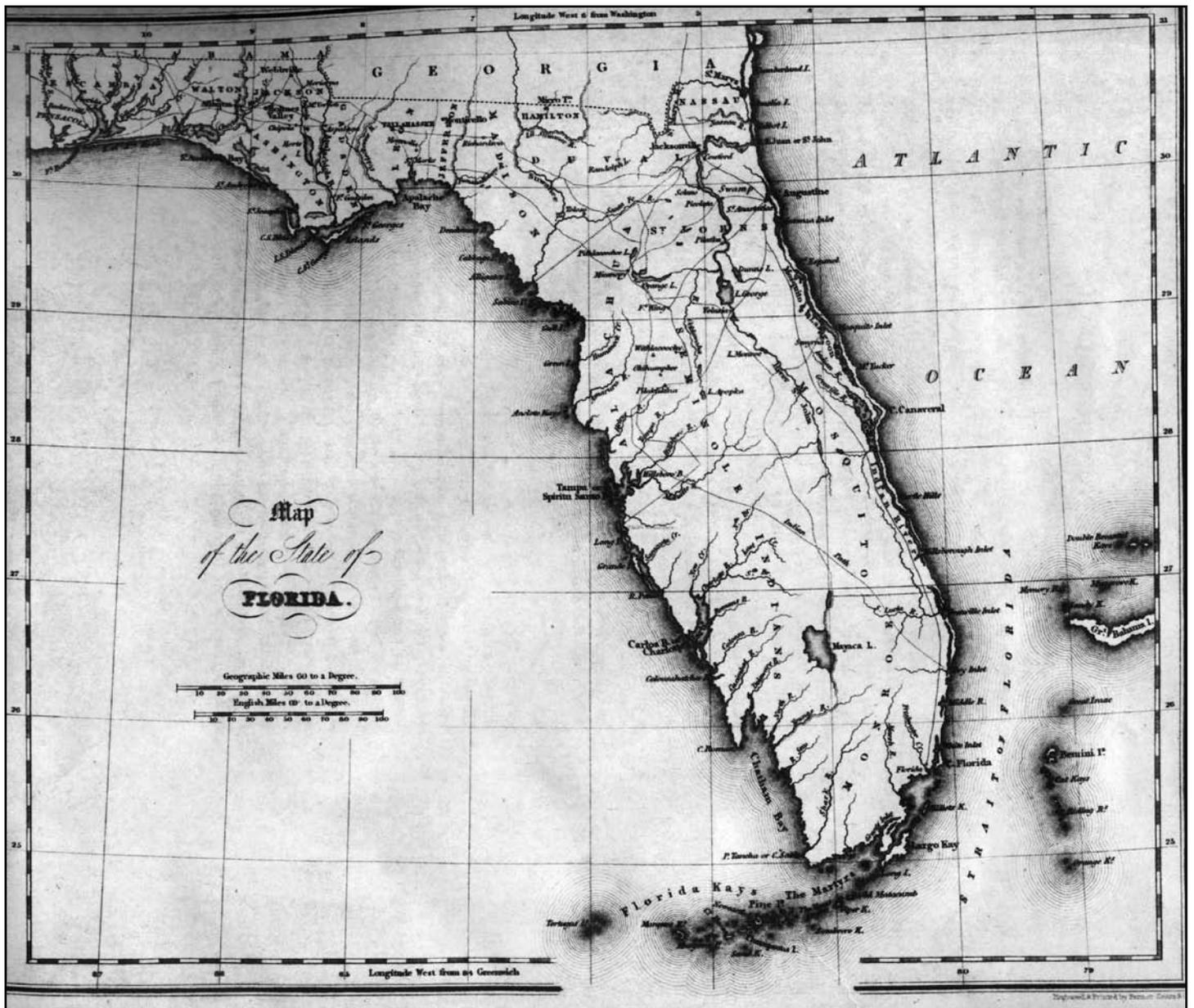


Fig. 8 - Hinton, Simpson and Marshall, Map of Florida, 1832

In Boston B. D. Greene wrote to W. J. Hooker on September 30, 1832, "A young German of the name of Leitner, a very respectable botanist proposes to start in February and to spend about 4 months in exploring the Floridas. Should he carry his plans into execution I shall have the pleasure next summer in providing you with a set of his plants which I think will be quite interesting, those of East Florida especially."<sup>28</sup> On January 20th, 1833, John Bachmart, the Charleston Lutheran minister and collaborator of Audubon, wrote to Audubon, "Leitner the Botanist, leaves here on an expedition to Florida. Many of us have subscribed in shares, to receive the amount of our subscriptions in any collections in natural history we may desire."<sup>29</sup>

*The Charleston Courier* (Feb. 26, 1833) carried a more extensive report beaded, "Scientific Expedition."

*We understand that Mr. E. F. Leitner, a graduate of the University of Topingen (Tübingen) in Germany is now in East Florida engaged in a scientific expedition. The liberality of several individuals, principally resident in Charleston, who have subscribed in shares, the amount of which they are to receive in such specimens of natural history as they may prefer, has enabled the gentleman to engage in this expedition. There are very few individuals better qualified for such an under taking than Mr. Leitner. He is not only thoroughly acquainted with Botany (of which he gave abundant evidence in the two courses of lectures*

*he delivered in the city last summer), but possesses a general knowledge of all the branches of Natural History and little doubt is entertained that in our New Territory which he designs exploring will be added, not only to the Flora of our country but to our Zoology, Ornithology, Conchology and Entymology. From our last accounts up to the 15th instant, he was exploring Thomson's Island on Key West from whence he expects to pursue his course in a Northern direction through the interior to St. John's River and Lake George and afterwards to be governed by circumstances. Mr. Leitner has gone on an expedition in which he is accompanied by the best wishes of every lover of Science for his health and success.*

Leitner's expedition was also known in Paris. J. G. F. Wurdemann<sup>30</sup> wrote to Dr. Edmund Ravenel in 1833 that he had spoken to Baron de Ferussac<sup>31</sup> about exchanging conchological species, and added: "As a matter of course I extended your correspondence to all states of the Union, and informing him of Leitner's intended excursion told him you would probably receive many shells from there next spring."

The next evidence of Leitner is found in a letter of B. D. Greene to Hooker, July 20, 1833<sup>32</sup> "I lately heard indirectly from Leitner, the German who was exploring E. Florida, that he had been lost in — woods & nearly killed by the bite of a mo[ccasin?]. He had however recovered & found his way out and has written to Charleston that he had added as many as 200 species to the North Am. Flora but that the principal part of these had been described as South Am. or West Indian plants."<sup>33</sup>

An entry in the *Charleston Courier* for September 3, 1833, tells in most detail of the Florida expedition.

#### Communications

##### Mr. Leitner the Naturalist

*It is generaty known in this community that a number of individuals, principally residents in this city, engaged the above gentleman in the arduous duty of exploring those portions of East Florida, which have hitherto been but little known. He went as a Naturalist, well qualified to investigate minutely every branch of natural history.*

*In the early part of the spring, he examined most of the Islands around Key West. and from the valuable collections which he sent to this place, in a very short time, his employers were made sensible of his industry, zeal and capacity. He subsequently resolved to cross*

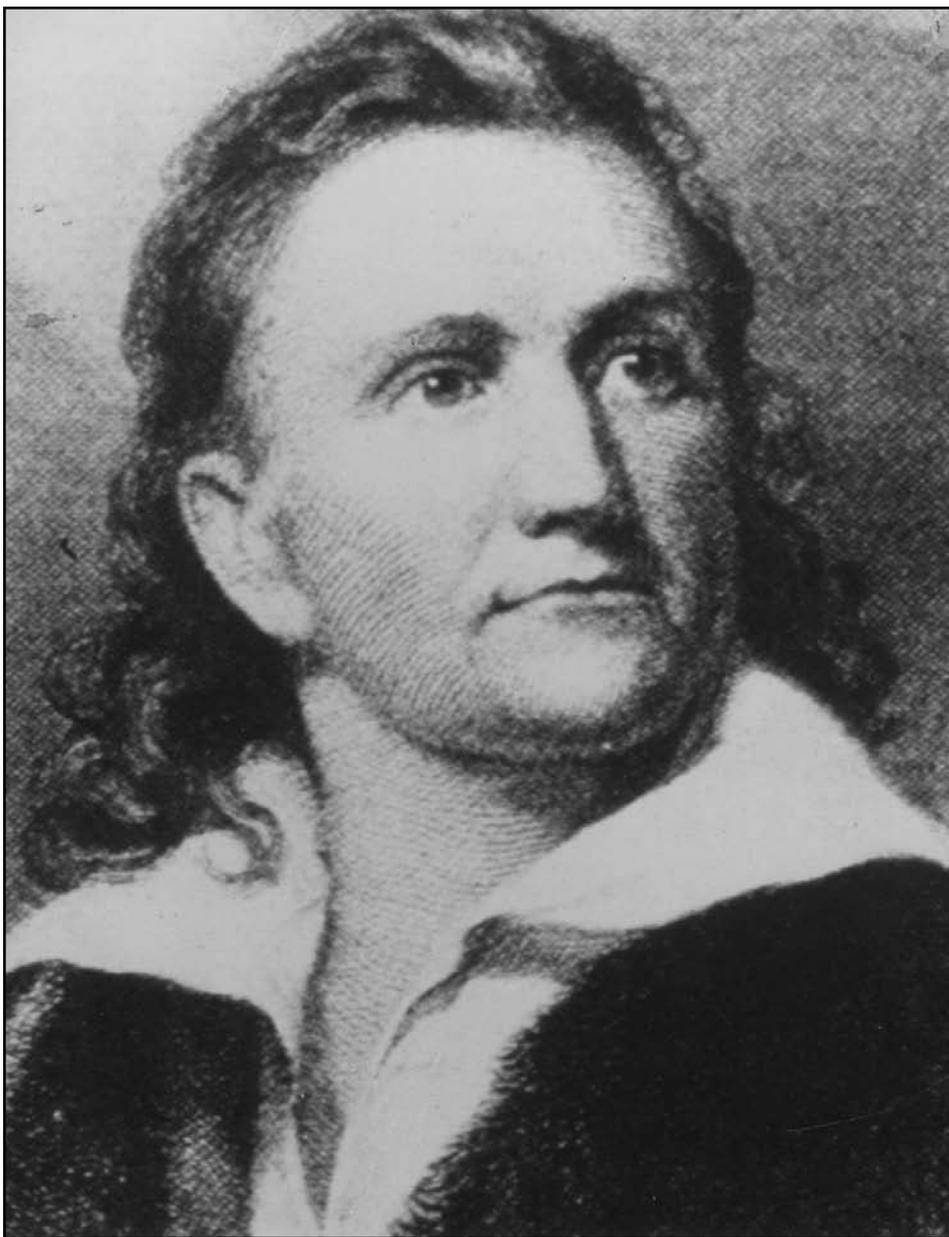


Fig. 9 - John James Audubon [Courtesy of the Audubon House, Key West, Florida]

*the Peninsula of Florida to the south of St Augustine, and after reaching the sea on the western coast, to explore the country in a Southern direction, till he once more arrived at Key West.*

*During nearly four months no intelligence was received of him, and it was feared that he might have fallen a victim to the climate, or to other dangers attendant on such an expedition.*

*Yesterday, however, the cheering intelligence was received, that he has just arrived at Key West, was in good health, and expected in a very short time, to present us with the fruits of his industry.*

*Mr. Leitner succeeded in crossing what are called the everglades of Florida. and he is under an impression that he is the first white man that has ever accomplished this undertaking. He writes that after surmounting many difficulties, he arrived at Cape Sable, on the western coast of East Florida; that for three months afterwards he was cruising on the Maine; examined the coast from Cape Sable, as far as Tampa Bay — ran up all the rivers to their very heads — sounded them — took their courses with the compass, and examined their banks, not only with regard to natural productions, but also to agriculture.*

*At a place called Pavillion Key, he was so unfortunate as to have the*

<sup>30</sup> See G. E. Gifford, Jr., "J. G. F. Wurdeman, a forgotten Southern physician-naturalist," *J. Hist. Med. & Allied Sci.*, 1969, 24: 44-64.

<sup>31</sup> A. E. J. P. J. François d'Audebard, Baron de Ferrusac (1786-1836), French conchologist. He coauthored with Deshayes, *Histoire naturelle générale et particulière des mollusques*, 3 vols. (Paris, 1819-1851). See S. Peter Dance, *Shell Collecting* (London: Faber, 1966), p. 123.

<sup>32</sup> The letter is in the Charleston Museum.

<sup>33</sup> Hooker correspondence LXI, 125, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.



Fig. 10 - Morning Fog [Photo by Peter Nolan]

*mast of his boat carried away in a squall. By this accident, in which his boat filled with water, his collection, consisting of 1,000 plants, 50 skins of rare, and some of them undescribed birds, together with many other specimens in natural history were totally destroyed. Although this was very discouraging, yet he again resorted his re-researches and endeavored as far as he was able, to replace the collection of which the winds and the waves had robbed him.*

*At Tampa he was attacked by a violent bilious rheumatic fever, which lasted him 7 days. He was without medical assistance, and without any human aid. He however, recovered and resumed his labors. His*

*collection, which has safely reached Key West, now amounts to 700 species of plants — a number of skins of animals and birds — the skeleton of Manati (*Manatus America-anus*) an animal now nearly extinct, specimens of shells, insects, &c.*

*Mr. Leitner is expected here in the John Dennison, and the information he has been enabled to collect will, no doubt, be valuable not only to the naturalist, but will afford the agriculturist an opportunity of judging how far the Southern coast of Florida is adapted to the cultivation of the productions of tropical climates.<sup>34</sup>*

*August 31*

<sup>34</sup> This entry, written on August 31 and published on September 3, just eight days before Leitner returned to Charleston, was conceivably written by John Bachman. He may have contacted the master of the Schooner Fair American, Captain Sully, upon its arrival from Key West on August 28 to enquire of news from Leitner. There is little doubt that Leitner had given the information contained in the item, telling that he would be along a few days later on the John Dennison, scheduled to leave Key West on the 1st of September.

*It is not possible to determine the precise direction of his crossing the Everglades, but if he emerged at Cape Sable, it seems likely that he crossed somewhere near a line which would extend southwestward from the Fort Lauderdale-Miami area. Pavillion Key does not show on modern maps, but on early 19th-century maps it is located some twenty-five miles north of Cape Sable and approximately fifty-five miles south of present-day Naples. The date of Leitner's arrival in Charleston from his first Florida trip is established by the following: Charleston Courier, 12 Sept. 1833. Ship news: U. S. Mail Schooner, John Dennison, [Capt.] Cold, [from] Key West via Indian Key, 3 days. Passengers: Dr. Leightner. [et. al]. arrived yesterday. [11 Sept.].*

<sup>35</sup> Corning, *op. cit.* (n. 29 above). vol. 1, p. 252.

<sup>36</sup> Mary Eliza Bachman, daughter of John Bachman, was the first wife of J. J. Audubon's son, Victor Gifford. See Alice Ford, *op. cit.* (n. 2 above), pp. 363, et seq.

<sup>37</sup> The memory book is in the Henry Francis duPont Winterthur Museum, Winterthur, Delaware. This Leitner reference was given to me by Edward Dwight, Director of Munson and William Proctor Museum, Utica, N. Y.

The only other fragmentary information about his expedition is derived from the newspaper article by N. H. Julius (see above n. 3) who reported that Leitner wrote a dictionary of the Indian language, had read to him from a diary of this trip, and who, when abandoned, desperately ill, by his Indian guide, had only one medicine— “Wondertree oil,” or castor oil!

On September 20, 1833, Audubon wrote to his son Victor: “A young German, a good Botanist with whom I am well acquainted, has lately, returned to Charleston from the Everglades spent a summer there and discovered about 50 new Birds, a great number of Plants, etc. The new birds John Bachman will secure for me and I will derive some knowledge from Lightner.”<sup>35</sup>

Not only was Leitner a scientist, he was also a fine artist. One example is a sensitive sketch of a landscape found in the memory book of Miss Mary Eliza Bachman, dated 23 October, 1833.<sup>36</sup>

Leitner returned to the medical school and his studies in 1834. According to a catalogue for that year, he is listed as a graduate. His doctoral thesis was on a botanical subject, *De Hippomane Mancinella*. The regulations for the M.D. degree were listed as follows:

Each candidate for a diploma should have attained the age of twenty one years — studied there with some respectable Practitioners, — attended two full courses of Lectures, one of which must be in this institution, and one of demonstrations in a dissecting room, — be of a good moral character, — and offer an acceptable thesis on some medical subject in the Greek, Latin, or any of the modern languages, for the best in each of which a suitable testimonial will be awarded.<sup>38</sup>

One of the subscribers to the 1833 expedition was anxious for the promised specimens. Dr. Amos Binney<sup>39</sup> wrote to Ravenel, May 17, 1834:

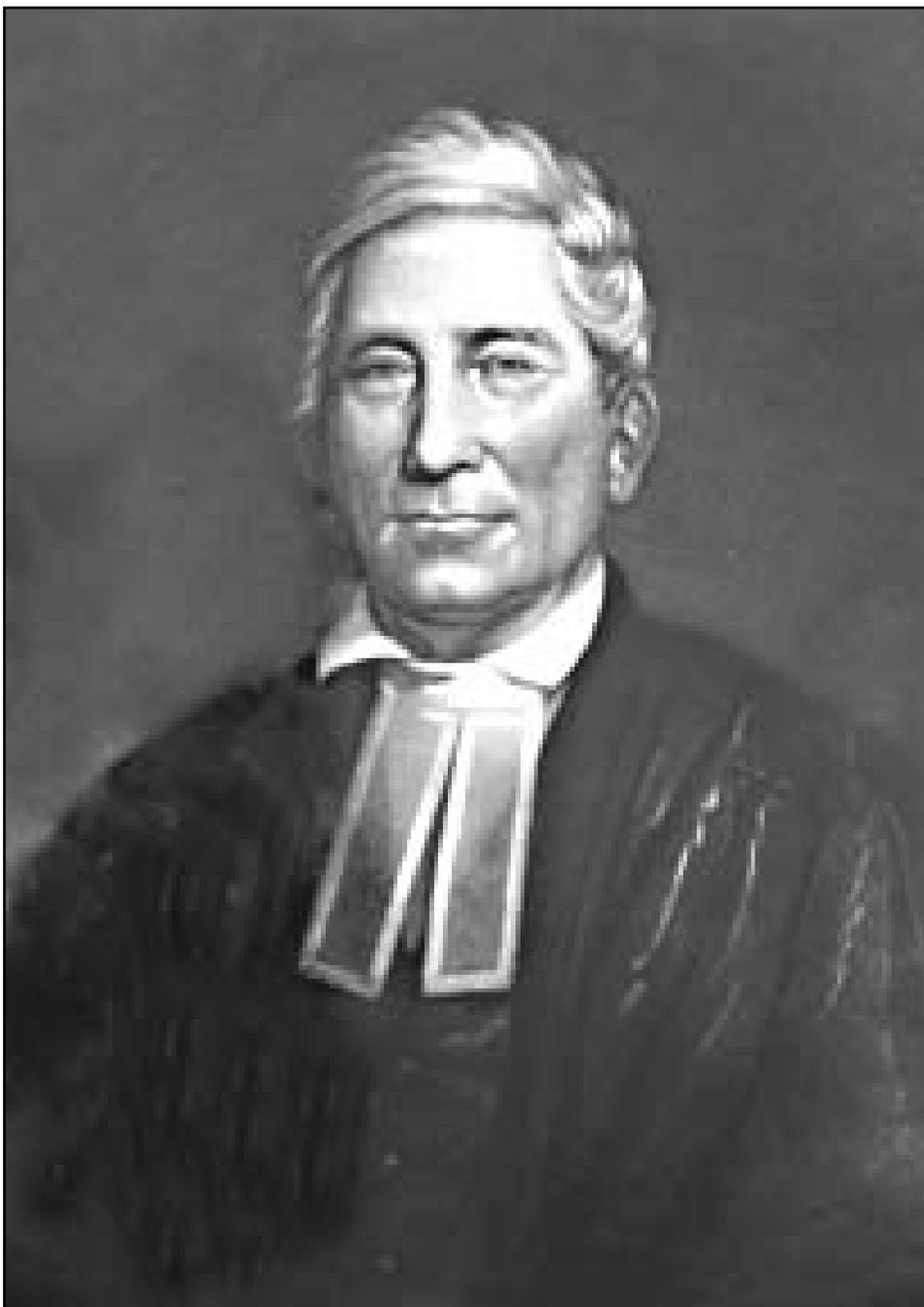


Fig. 11 - Reverend John Bachman [Courtesy of the St. John's Lutheran Church, Charlestown, S.C.]

<sup>38</sup> *Catalog of the Trustees, Faculty and Students of the Medical College of the State of South Carolina (Charleston, 1834)*, printed by J. S. Burgess, 183 King Street. Faculty included J. Edwards Holbrook, Edmund Ravenel and James Moultrie, Jr. Edward F. Leitner is listed “of Wurtemberg Germany.” Leitner’s thesis is missing from the volume of theses of the class of 1834 in the Library of the Medical University of South Carolina.

<sup>39</sup> Amos Binney, M.D. (1803-1847), was a physician and zoologist. He was one of the founders of the Boston Society for Natural History and its president from 1843-1847. See H. A. Pilsbry, “Amos Binney,” *DAB*, vol. 2, pp. 279-280. Also T. T. Bouve, *Historical sketch of the Boston Society of Natural History*, Anniversary Memoirs of the Boston Society of Natural History, 1830-1880 (Boston: Published by the Society, 1880), p. 46.

<sup>40</sup> The letter is in the Charleston Museum.

<sup>41</sup> Bachman letter to L. R. Gibbes is in the Charleston Museum.

<sup>42</sup> *Leitner’s Botanical Chart*, copyright Charleston, printed by A. E. Miller, undated. A copy is in the Charleston Library Society Library. Since Leitner mentions Rattray’s 1835 Chart, Leitner’s chart must have been published after 1835.

<sup>43</sup> Mr. Rattray of Glasgow, James Rattray, a surgeon and Lecturer in Botany at Glasgow published a “Botanical Chart,” 1835. Barnhart, *op. cit.* (n. 2 above), vol. 3, p. 130. James Britten and George S. Boulger, *Biographical Index of Deceased British and Irish Botanists* (London: Taylor and Francis, 1931), p. 140.

<sup>44</sup> *Corning, op. cit.* (n. 29 above), vol. 2, p. 32.

<sup>45</sup> *Waring, op. cit.* (n. 5 above), p. 95.

<sup>46</sup> Letter from John Bachman defending Audubon’s articles on the rattlesnakes and vultures, *Boston Society of Natural History, Papers and Communications, 1834-1837*, vol. 1, p. 25.

*Some eighteen months since more or less I subscribed twenty dollars (through Dr. B. D. Greene) towards defraying the expenses of an exploring expedition by Mr. Leitner on the condition of recovering a proportionate part of the collections made by that gentleman in shells. Dr. Greene informed me that he had forwarded the money. Since that time I have heard nothing more on the subject. When Dr. Greene left this place for Europe he authorized me to receive any package intended for him. I have thought that from your situation you may have some information on the subject and should be obliged to you if you can put me in the way of receiving any objects intended for Dr. Greene or myself.<sup>40</sup>*

Leitner was apparently one of the first to popularize the study of botany. J. Bachman wrote to L. R. Gibbes on May 27, 1834: “The study of Botany is becoming a little more fashionable in this City than formerly, Leitner has a tolerable class of ladies. I do not think they have made much progress beyond the first principles, but some of them begin to look wise and I find the flowers and shrubs along the sides of our roads looking as if a flock of sheep had cropped off their heads.”<sup>41</sup>

It was certainly for such a course that Leitner prepared his *Botanical Chart*, a small undated booklet of two large folded papers.<sup>42</sup> In this Leitner is described as “Lecturer on Botany, Charleston and Fellow of the Society of Natural History Stuttgart.” The preface reads:

*To obviate the necessity of referring to a variety of sources for the significance of terms employed in the description of plants, the author has been induced to publish in tabular form, a compendious work of reference for the use of those who are prosecuting the study of the science of Botany. In the compilation of this the author has deviated from the plan by Mr. Rattray<sup>43</sup> of Glasgow, in his Botanic Chart. He has enlarged the Botanical nomenclature by the introduction of important technical terms, concisely explained and arranged in systematical order and has illustrated the key to the modified system of Linnaeus by references to indigenous plants of North America,  
“E. F. L”*



Fig. 12 - Turkey Vulture [Courtesy of the Central Broward Water Control District]

There follows a description of botanical terms on page 1. On page 2 he adds the key to the Linnaean Sexual System of Botany and a section devoted to the method of preparing an Herbarium.

*Thus I have endeavored to bring together and present to the eye in one view, in a more narrow compass, than has hitherto been done, nearly all that is essential to be known towards the prosecuting with success the study of practical botany; and should this breviate happen to excite in anyone, a desire to cultivate an acquaintance with this most delightful science it may become the source of much pleasure to the individual as the exercise necessary to the pursuit will confirm the health and strengthen the body.*

In August 1834, Audubon wrote Bachman: “What are Ravenell and Lightner doing. Maria sent us word that the former had gone to the Floridas — and that the latter was delivering lectures.”<sup>44</sup> In the same year the Medical Society of the State of South Carolina was founded and Dr. Leitner was appointed Librarian.<sup>45</sup> And Bachman was conducting experiments on vultures to test whether they perceived carrion by sight or smell. Bachman’s experiments commenced at Audubon’s request, were authenticated by a group of Charleston’s physicians, one of whom was E. F. Leitner, Lecturer on Botany and Natural History, South Carolina.<sup>46</sup>



Fig. 12 - Fakahatchee Storm [Photo by Peter Nolan]

Audubon, ever anxious for material, wrote to Bachman, Dec. 3, 1834: "I regret very much that Doctr. Leitner did not give us in writing his curious experiments in the Buzzards it would have come so well in my article on this species. Could you not get this from him and take care of it for us thereafter, for I doubt that he will publish himself."<sup>47</sup> Later (Dec. 10, 1834) Audubon again urged Bachman, "Procure if you can the experiments made on the Buzzard by Doctor Leitner on paper of the poisonous drugs."<sup>48</sup> J. Bachman wrote a letter to the *Journal of the Boston Society of Natural History*, defending Audubon's articles on the rattlesnake and vultures: "Dr. Leitner, A German Botanist now residing in this city Charleston and on whose veracity the fullest reliance can be placed, authorizes me to state, that in exploring the Floridas during the last summer he met with a rattlesnake crossing Tampa Bay, on the Western Coast, this was also witnessed by

Dr. Randolph and Mr. Hackley<sup>49</sup> who were in company."<sup>50</sup>

On Feb. 7, 1835, Greene wrote to W. J. Hooker: "Leitner's collection as I am informed by the Gentlemen here who contributed to his expenses all lost. I have not since my return heard from him personally. I will propose to him what you suggest with regard to his visiting the rocky mountains to the south of Drummond's<sup>52</sup> route."

Leitner was listed in the Charleston Directory for 1835 and 1836 as living at 137 Meeting St. and we know that he read an essay at the meeting of the Medical Society of the State of South Carolina on July 15th on "Poisonous Effects of the different species of Poison Sumac, Poison Oak, and Poison Vine, of the Hippomane Mancinella Excoecaria Agallocha." This account, which was signed by a "Georgian," commented: "We regard this essay as a scientific production, highly creditable to the author."<sup>53</sup> It was obviously a continuation of his doctoral thesis.

<sup>47</sup> Corning, *op. cit.*, vol. 2, p. 53.

<sup>48</sup> *ibid.*, p. 57.

<sup>49</sup> Dr. James Henry Randolph of Tallahassee. The U. S. Census, 1850, lists him as Virginia-born and age 40. Randolph was related to William Randolph Hackley who was busily engaged in exploring the lower west coast of Florida. See, E. A. Hammond, "Sanibel Island and its vicinity, 1833, a document," *Florida Historical Quarterly*, April 1970, 48: p. 393. The account was written by B. B. Strobel, M. D., an acquaintance of J. J. Audubon and John Bachman (see above, footnote 19). See also E. A. Hammond, "Dr. Strobel reports on Southeast Florida," 1836, *Tequesta The Journal of the Historical Association of Southern Florida*, 1961, No. 21: pp. 65-75. In the *Territorial Papers of the United States*, XXII, 56 read: Letter of 23 May 1821, Pres. James Monroe to Gen. Andrew Jackson, in re, appointment of a surveyor in the Florida territory. "Mr. Hackley of Virginia, surveyor at Pensacola. . . . [Mr. Hackley you may have heard of in Spain. His wife is a sister of Governor [Thomas M.] Randolph of Virginia, and Mr. Madison and others our friends have strongly recommended him to me.]"

<sup>50</sup> J. Bachman, in *Boston Society of Natural History*, *op. cit.* (n. 46 above) p. 18.

<sup>51</sup> The letter from B. D. Greene to W. J. Hooker, is listed by Graustein as Hooker Corresp., LXII, 90, Kew.

<sup>52</sup> Thomas Drummond (about 1780-1835) was curator of the Belfast Botanical Gardens and Assistant on the second Franklin expedition. His botanical explorations followed a route from St. Louis in the winter of 1830 down to New Orleans, 1831-1832, where he explored as far as Missouri. In 1833 he moved to Texas, 1834 back to New Orleans, then to Appalachicola. In February 1835 he went to Havana, Cuba, where he died. Samuel Wood Geiser, *Naturalists of the Frontier* (Dallas: Southern Methodist University, 1948), pp. 55-78; Joseph Ewan, *Rocky Mountain Naturalists* (Denver: University of Denver Press, 1950), pp. 10, 198, 256; Barnhart, *op. cit.* (n. 2 above), vol. 1, p. 473.

Leitner made a second trip to the Keys. Bachman wrote Audubon (Sept. 14, 1836): “Dr. Leitner is among the Keys. I gave him my own gin and whiskey for specimens.”<sup>54</sup> In the same letter Bachman wrote:

*With regard to Florida nothing will be done by naturalists for at least two years. Your Indian friends, the cutthroats, have scalped almost every woman and child south of St. Augustine, save those of Key West. They have burnt and plundered every plantation; and although they will probably be in great measure, put down next winter; yet there will, undoubtedly remain many small predatory bands that would make no bones of scalping an ornithologist, SECUNDUM ARTEM; and would ask no questions whether he was the friend or enemy of William Penn.*

At Key West, on October 12, 1836, Leitner accompanied a military party assembled there by Lt. Levin M. Powell<sup>55</sup> to explore the coast of East Florida and the “Everglades.” Powell wrote that this expedition consisted of 50 seaman and 95 marines, seven officers, in six boats and two schooner boats, and the revenue cutter Washington. Powell also noted that “Dr. Leitner, (the latter, a physician and naturalist of distinction) volunteered to serve in a military capacity... At Owl Key, at the Mouth

of Santa Maria River, we anchored to make a descent upon a village said to be up the river. Dr. Leitner was our guide, he had been to the village several years before... On the 2nd day December we made sail for the South. After a cruise of more than a thousand miles upon the east of Florida arrived safely at Key West on the 8th of Dec.”

Powell concluded his report: “To Doctor Leitner and Mr. Mallory<sup>56</sup> (gentlemen mentioned—above as volunteers) I am under many obligations. They not only volunteered but rendered valuable services.”<sup>57</sup>

Sometime in 1837, Leitner again joined Powell as a guide and surgeon in order to pursue his natural history researches, On Jan. 15, 1838, Leitner was killed near Jupiter Inlet, Florida. There are a number of accounts of his death.<sup>58</sup> The most reliable is certainly that by James Rhett Motte who was there.

*At the time Dr. Leitner was shot down, his hospital steward hastened to his assistance; and immediately shared a similar fate. It was said that Leitner was not quite dead when last seen; but requested those who came to bear him off, to look at their own safety, and not to regard him, declaring that he was mortally wounded, and could not live long; and that it would therefore be unnecessary for his friends to encumber themselves with him. Poor Leitner! He was my friend and fellow student, we having pursued our professional studies together in the same office in Charleston, under the auspices of Dr. J. E. Holbrook. A German by birth, he had made Charleston his place of residence for the previous seven years. He was a man of rare ability, and singular modesty; excelling in the characteristics of the German scholar, and enthusiastically devoted to the sciences; of which botany was his favorite branch. Zealous in acquiring knowledge pertaining to natural science, he had devoted, himself for the last three or four years of his life to exploring the unknown regions in the southern portions of Florida; which he found to be fertile in objects of interest to the naturalist. Anxious to pursue his researches, and denied the privilege of doing so alone, by the hostility of the natives, he had attached himself to one expedition in the capacity of acting*

*surgeon, as he had done to a similar one under Lt. Powell the year previous, in which he proved himself very useful as a guide through this terra incognita.” He had but a short time before issued a prospectus for publishing the results of his labours in that section of Florida; of which he alone of all scientific individuals was capable, when death thus suddenly terminated his career of usefulness: depriving science of one of her most indefatigable votaries; and mankind of the benefits of his laborious researches.*

*At a later period to this when we were encamped near the scene of Leitner’s death, I spared no pains, and missed no opportunity of ascertaining everything relative to his probable fate. The Indians who were engaged in the conflict which proved fatal to him having become our prisoners, I sought all occasions to learn from them what had become of my friend for his body could never be found, nor any trace of it. They always attempted to evade the inquiry by giving some absurd answer, and generally contradictory at different times. At first they informed us that he was captured alive tho severely wounded by the Indians, who ascertained that he was a surgeon, determined to save his life that they might profit by his professional services. That with this intention, they endeavored to make his situation as comfortable as possible; and had carried him many miles into the interior on a litter; when one day an Indian warrior who had lost his brother in one of the battles, rushed upon him with a yell, and plunged his knife into his heart.*

*Some of the Indians told a different story. They said that six days after the fight, a couple of Indians met him walking upon the bank of the river in the vicinity of the battle-field and shot him dead on the spot. Alas! What a fate, if this story be true; but what a relief must death have been to him, in his abandoned situation, suffering from wounds and starvation, and no prospect of relief in any other way but from death.*

*Which of these accounts deserves most credit if either does, is problematical. The Indians being such proverbial liars, I doubt if the real ultimate fate of poor Leitner will ever become known to the whites authentically.<sup>59</sup>*

<sup>53</sup> *Charleston Courier*, July 24, 1935.

<sup>54</sup> Corning, *op. cit.* (n. 29 above), vol. 2, p. 138.

<sup>55</sup> George E. Baker, “Lt. L. M. Powell, USN, pioneer of riverine warfare,” *Florida Historical Quarterly*, Jan. 1969. For an overall view see John K. Mahon, *History of the Second Seminole War, 1835-1842* (Gainesville: University of Florida Press, 1967).

<sup>56</sup> Stephen Russell Mallory (1811-1873), *Secretary of the Navy in Jefferson Davis’ cabinet. He was born in Demerara, British Guiana, and brought to Key West with his family in 1823. See DAB, vol 12, 224-226.*

<sup>57</sup> Letter, Lt. Levin M. Powell to Thomas Crabb, *The Army and Navy Chronicle*, n. s. 1836, 4: 298-299. There are 6 letters in the *New York Botanical Society* from Dr. Gilbert White Hulse (1808-1883) written in 1836 to John Torrey from Florida. These letters contain much about the Seminole Wars and Florida botany but there is no mention of Leitner. For more of Hulse see Andrew Denny Rogers, III, *John Torrey* (Princeton University Press, 1942), p. 172, and Barnhart, *op. cit.* (n. 2 above), vol. 2, p. 217.

<sup>58</sup> See below, footnotes 59, 61, 62; also Maj. Henry Whiting, U. S. Army, “Cursory remarks upon East Florida in 1838,” *Am. J. Sci.*, 1839, 35: 47 and 56; and letter from L. M. Powell to Maj. Gen. Thomas S. Jesup, Jan. 16, 1838. This letter is in the *National Archives and Records Service*, Washington, D. C.

<sup>59</sup> Jacob R. Motte, *Journey into Wilderness*, ed. by James F. Sunderman (Gainesville: University of Florida Press, 1963), pp. 168, 182-185, 201, 299 (This is also a master’s thesis by Sunderman, “Life in Camp and Field, the Journal of an Army Surgeon, 1836-38 by Jacob Rhett Motte,” *University of Florida*, September, 1949), pp. 277-279. For Jacob Rhett Motte (1811-1867) see Waring, *op. cit.* (n. 5 above), pp. 271-272.



Fig. 13 - Bitterns [Courtesy of the Broward County Parks Department]

In an account of his death in the *Army and Navy (A. N.) Chronicle*, the following is written about his scientific work:

*He nearly prepared for the press a work embracing all these topics; not omitting the topography of that hitherto terra incognita, when it has pleased a mysterious Providence to deprive mankind and the cause of science of the further benefit of his labors. He had we believe, also collected, a large and choice herbarium. We trust the materials for his work are still in the hands of some of his scientific friends in Charleston, who will not fail to give them to the world in some form. We believe that the present accomplished head of the War Department (Joel R. Poinsett)<sup>60</sup> had intended, some years since, to have assisted in the publication of the work.<sup>61</sup>*

Another account reported: “Very many of the specimens of plants and other materials for his work collected by him, are lost and have never yet been found. But we believe it is understood that the Rev. Mr. Bachman, of Charleston, (so often mentioned in Audubon’s great works) is engaged in the task of preparing for publication, what remains of the labors of this very modest, enthusiastic and much lamented student of Nature.”<sup>62</sup>

Two obituaries of Leitner were published in German newspapers. One signed by a N. H. Julius of Hamburg, reported that; “his almost finished work on Florida would be finished by his friend living in Charleston. the pharmacist Mr. Kerst from Weissenfeld.”<sup>63</sup>

Audubon credited Leitner for observations on birds and animals in his *Ornithological Biography*,

the text which accompanied his plates. In discussing the least bittern Audubon wrote, “In the Floridas and Carolinas they have been known to breed in small communities of four or five pairs. One instance of this was observed by my friend Dr. Horlbeck<sup>64</sup> of Charleston, and Dr. Leitner, another friend of mine, found them quite abundant in certain portions of the Florida marshes.”<sup>65</sup> Later, Audubon noted under his section on flamingoes:

<sup>60</sup> Joel R. Poinsett (1779-1851) of Charleston, South Carolina, became Secretary of War under Van Buren in 1837. Poinsett had an early interest in natural history and attended medical school in Edinburgh. He was interested in the Wilkes Expedition and was instrumental in the founding of the National Institute for Promotion of Science and Useful Arts in 1840. He developed the Poinsettia from a Mexican flower.

<sup>61</sup> “From the New York American “—by “O.” *Army and Navy Chronicle*, n. s. 1838, 6: 181; also pp. 108, 173.

<sup>62</sup> Lt. Benj. Alvord, *Address before the Dialectic Society of the Corps of Cadets in Commemoration of the Gallant Conduct of the Nine Graduates of the Military Academy in Florida, 1839*, pp. 32-33, 58-59.

<sup>63</sup> See above, footnote 3.

<sup>64</sup> See above, footnote 1.

<sup>65</sup> J. J. Audubon, *Ornithological Biography*, 5 vols. (Edinburgh, 1831-39), vol. 3, p. 78.



Fig. 14 - Lake Istokpoga 2006 [Photo by Peter Nolan]

“Dr. Leitner also procured some in the course of his botanical excursions along the western coast of Florida, where he was at last murdered by some party of Seminole Indians at the time of our last disastrous war with those children of the desert.”<sup>66</sup> There are several references to Leitner in the octavo edition of *Quadrupeds of North America*. Audubon wrote of the Rice Meadow Mouse, “Dr. Leitner brought us a specimen obtained in the Everglades of Florida.”<sup>67</sup> And again in the section on the common American Deer, the late Dr. Leitner informed us that the Florida Indians seldom shot at a deer beyond twenty-five or thirty yards, exercising great patience and caution before they ventured on firing, the result however under these favorable circumstances was unusually successful.”<sup>68</sup> In his description of the White-Footed Mouse, he wrote

that “ Dr. Leitner, an eminent botanist who, whilst acting as surgeon in the Florida war, was unfortunately killed in the Florida war, informed us that whilst on a botanizing tour through Florida a few years ago he was frequently kept awake during a portion of the night by the White-footed Mice which had taken possession of the huts of the Indians and the log cabins of the early white settlers.”<sup>69</sup>

Leitner’s herbarium path follows as romantic and sad a fate as did Leitner himself. When the German zoologist Jean Louis Cabanis<sup>70</sup> visited South Carolina in 1839-41 he obtained about 800 Leitner specimens from a druggist, Charles H. Panknin.<sup>71</sup> Cabanis brought the specimens to Berlin,<sup>72</sup> but they were destroyed by bombs in 1943.<sup>73</sup> Some Leitner specimens were obtained by

<sup>66</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 5, p. 256.

<sup>67</sup> *The octavo or miniature edition of The Quadrupeds of North America (1851.54) in three volumes of text. Vol. 3, p. 216.*

<sup>68</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2, p. 231.

<sup>69</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1, p. 304.

<sup>70</sup> Jean Louis Cabanis (1816-1906). German ornithologist, Barnhart. *op. cit.* (n. 2 above), vol. 1, p. 294: “... visited South Carolina, 1839-41, but made only zoological collections. The botanical collections credited to him from ‘Florida Key West’ were secured by him from a druggist named Panknin, and had been collected by a German botanist who had died a short time before. I have no doubt that this was Leitner.” See *Auk*, 1966, 23: 247.

<sup>71</sup> Charles H. Panknin (1808?-1860), born in Germany. He studied chemistry under Gmelin, pharmacy with P. G. Geiger, botany and materia medica with J. H. Dierbach, and came to Charleston in the 1830s and in 1835 was licensed to practice pharmacy by the Medical Society of South Carolina. This information is from Professor J. Hahpton Hoch, Department of Biology and Pharmacognosy, School of Pharmacy, Medical University of South Carolina.

<sup>72</sup> Ignaz Urban, *Geschichte des Königlichen botanischen Museums zu Berlin-Dahlem, 1815-1913* (Dresden: C. Henrich, 1916), p. 335. s.v. Cabanis; p. 368 s.v. E. [T.] Leitner.

<sup>73</sup> Communication of Director, Professor T. Eckardt.



Fig. 15 - Everglades [Photo by Peter Nolan]

the Carolina botanist Hardy Bryan Croom.<sup>74</sup> Croom's herbarium is in the New York Botanical Garden and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden;<sup>75</sup> however no Leitner specimens can be located there.<sup>76</sup> It was hoped that some of Leitner's specimens might have been sent to B. D. Greene, one of his sponsors. B. D. Greene's herbarium (which was given to the Boston Society of Natural History at his death) is now divided between Boston University and Harvard University.<sup>77</sup> Neither can locate any Leitner specimens.

One of the plant specimens which Leitner collected has been presented in a unique way. Bachman wrote to Audubon, Oct. 2, 1837,<sup>78</sup> that he was sending the drawing of the Marsh Hen which Audubon had suggested, and added, "Maria<sup>79</sup> sends it, together with the drawing of a new plant by Dr. Leitner in Florida to Mr. J. Berthoud." J. Audubon wrote to

J. Bachman (April 14? 1838), "Has Leitner published the New Plants he discovered in the Floridas? I ask this latter question because on the 83 number of my Work Plate 411, I have represented a new *Nymphaea*, which if unpublished by him, I should like in my letter press to name after Dr. Leitner's name, '*Nymphaea Leitneria*'."<sup>80</sup> In spite of this statement Audubon's plate 411 bears the legend in the elephant folio edition: "Common American Swan. *Cygnus Americanus*, Sharpless. *Nymphaea flava*-Leitner." Since this lily was then quite unknown to botanists, it was ignored and treated as a fable, or as an extravagant vagary of the naturalist's imagination."<sup>81</sup>

Mrs. Mary Treat in 1876 sent both fresh and dried specimens of the yellow water lily to Harvard and announced her discovery in a literary journal: she also proposed a new name, *Nymphaea lutea*. The fresh

<sup>74</sup> Hardy Bryan Croom (1797-1837) was an enthusiastic amateur botanist. See Barnhart, *op. cit.* (n. 2 above), vol. 1, p. 398. Also Graustein, *op. cit.* (n. 1 above), pp. 262, 334, 353, 377. That Croom received Leitner specimens see Torrey and Gray, *Flora of North America*, vol. 1, 1838-40, p. 242, "...we have seen in the herbarium of the late Mr. Croom, a capsule of the mahogany from a collection made in southern Florida by the late Dr. Leitner, who considered the tree to which it belonged to be the true mahogany." Also *ibid.*, vol. 2, p. 35, under *Erithalis fruticosa*, "Southern Florida—Dr. Leitner."

<sup>75</sup> Landjou and Stafleu, *Index Herboriorum, Part II, Collections 1954*, s. v. "Croom."

<sup>76</sup> Communication from Patricia K. Holmgren at the New York Botanical Garden and Frederick McGourty, Jr. of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. Dr. Henry Svenson also searched without success at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden.

<sup>77</sup> Communication of the late Professor Stuart H. Harris, Boston University.

<sup>78</sup> The letter to Audubon from Bachman, Oct. 2, 1837 is in the Charleston Museum.

<sup>79</sup> Maria Martin — sister of Mrs. J. Bachman and second wife of J. Bachman — did many of the plant backgrounds for the Audubon plates. See Alice Ford, *op. cit.* (n. 2 above), pp. 284-85, 298, 301, 308, 313, 315, 325, 333. See also Annie Roulhac Coffin, "Maria Martin," *Notable American Women, 1607-1950*, ed. W. T. James (Cambridge: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1971) vol. 2, pp. 505-506. See also "Audubon's Friend — Maria Martin," *The New York Historical Society Quarterly*, Vol. XLIX, pp. 29-51, 1965. Annie Roulhac Coffin, "Maria Martin (1796-1863)" *The Art Quarterly*, Autumn, 1960, pp. 281-300.

<sup>80</sup> Corning, 1930, *op. cit.* (n. 29 above), vol. 2, p. 201.

<sup>81</sup> Francis Hobart Herrick, *Audubon the Naturalist* (New York: D. Appleton, 1917), vol. 2, p. 81. It was not mentioned in John Darby, *Botany of the Southern States*, 1960; Or in A. W. Chapman's *Flora of the Southern States* (New York 1860). However, Ferdinand Rugel had collected it at Ft. Alachua, Florida, July 1848 (Herbarium, Brit. Museum, unpublished) and Dr. Edward Palmer sent a dried specimen to Harvard in 1874 with a statement of its yellow color. See Henry S. Conard, *The Waterlilies, a Monograph of the Genus Nymphaea* (Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1905), pp. 163-167.



*Fig. 16 - Everglades [Photo by Peter Nolan]*

specimens were propagated and sent to Kew Gardens. Then followed a description of the plant in the Curtis' *Botanical Magazine*, 1887, by Joseph Dalton Hooker.

*This is a very rare plant, having been comparatively recently made known to Botanists by the researches of Dr. Leitner in Florida, though it was much earlier recognized by a Naturalist; for, according to Chapman's "Flora" it is figured in Audubon's great work on the ornithology of the United States, published upwards of half a century ago. As a species it is quite unlike any other, though belonging to the northern section Castalia, and not very far removed from the American N. odorata from which the colour of its flowers at once distinguishes it.*

*N. flava is a very elegant plant, it was flowered in the Water Lily House of the Royal Gardens in July of this year. The Kew plants were received from Prof. Sargent, of Brookline, Boston, in 1877, and again in 1880 from N. Sturtevant. The plant flowered for a first time in the Water Lily House at Kew in July, 1882.<sup>83</sup>*

Asa Gray hastened to correct Hooker:

*My dear Hooker, — glad to see the "Botanical Magazine" figure of Nymphaea flava 6917. There is something not quite right in the history as you give it. Leitner was the botanist who showed the plant to Audubon, and gave it the name which Audubon cites, and he died — was killed by the Florida Indians — half a century ago. He was the "a naturalist" you refer to.<sup>84</sup>*

Chapman<sup>85</sup> honored Leitner by naming a genus of plants for him in 1860, which has only one species. *Leitneria floridana* (corkwood). Bentham later (1880) defined a separate family, the Leitneriaceae, based on Chapman's genus.

*Leitneria* remains a unique and rather enigmatic plant, for in spite of much study its real relationships still are problematical. The family Leitneriaceae is the only family of flowering plants known only from the central and southern United States.<sup>86</sup>



Fig. 17 - Guzmania Cluster, 2004 [Photo by Peter Nolan]

The yellow water lily, however, is now regarded by most botanists as conspecific with the yellow water lily of southern Louisiana, Texas, and Mexico. This was described from Mexican plants and named by Zuccarini in 1832 as *Nymphaea mexicana*, and this appears to be the correct name of the plant found by Leitner and illustrated by Audubon.

Most recently Leitner has been mentioned in connection with the yellow water lily portrayed in the Audubon swan plate.<sup>87</sup>

E. F. Leitner fills an almost inconsequential part in the history of botany, because he failed to maintain associations with leading botanists in the Northeast and Europe who might have described and publicized what must have been notable discoveries that for one reason or another never reached them. His assassination ended his potential legacy to American botany. However his career reveals the state of botany in the southeastern United States at the time; the means of financing natural history exploration, the continuing support of botany by physicians, paths of botanic specimens transferred from America to Britain, and the opportunities for botanical instruction. His activities also suggest the relationship

of American natural history to European, the role of the German scientific community in South Carolina, and an early example of the use of military expeditions for natural history collecting. The subsequent verification of a mysterious plant discovered by Leitner is also revealing of the process of botanical nomenclature in the 19th and 20th centuries.

<sup>82</sup> Mary Treat, "Home observations in Florida," *Harpers Monthly Magazine*, 1877, 55: 365-368. For biographical data on Mrs. Treat see Barnhart, op. cit. (n. 2 above), vol. 3, p. 399. See also Professor Samuel Lockwood, "Audubon's lily rediscovered." *Popular Science Monthly*, 1877, 10: 675-678.

<sup>83</sup> J. D. Hooker in Curtis *Botanical Magazine*, 1887, 113, third series, tab. 6917, *Nymphaea flava*.

<sup>84</sup> Letters of Asa Gray, edited by Jane Loring Gray (Boston, 1893), vol. 2, p. 790. Letter to J. D. Hooker. January 18, 1887.

<sup>85</sup> Alva Wentworth Chapman (1809-1899), a physician and botanist. See Barnhart, op. cit., vol. 1, p. 332. For the original description of the genus *Leitneria* see A. W. Chapman, *Flora of Southern United States*, 1860, pp. 427-28. It is curious that he does not mention Leitner. Neither do G. Bentham and J. D. Hooker; *Genera Plantarum* (London, 1883), vol. 3, p. 397. According to Charles Sprague Sargent. *The Silva of North America* (Boston, 1895), vol. 7, p. 110, "Leitneria was discovered by Thomas Drummond; it was found by Dr. A. W. Chapman in 1847 growing on the muddy shores of a cove washed by high tides five miles west of the town of Apalachicola in Florida. The generic name commemorates that of a German naturalist killed in Florida during the Seminole War."

<sup>86</sup> R. B. Channell and Carroll E. Wood, Jr. "The Leitneriaceae in the Southeastern United States," *Journal of the Arnold Arboretum*, Oct. 1962, 43(4): 435-438. Merritt Lyndon Fernald, *Gray's Manual of Botany*, 8th ed. (American Book Co. 1950), p. 525

<sup>87</sup> Thomas Meehan, *The Native Flowers and Ferns of the United States* (Boston, 1878), pp. 121-124. Chapman, op. cit., p. 604. Susan Delano McKelvey, *Botanical Exploration of the Trans-Mississippi West, 1790-1850* (Jamaica Plain, Mass.: Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, 1955), pp. 831-32. Janice J. Beaty, *Plants in His Pack, a Life of Edward Palmer, Adventurous Botanist and Collector* (New York: Pantheon Books, 1964), pp. 119-120. Harold William Rickett, *Wild Flowers of the United States, The Southeastern States* (New York: McGraw Hill, 1967), vol. 2, pt. 1, p. 156.



*Fig. 18 - Memorial Tree, 2006 [Photo by Peter Nolan]*

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

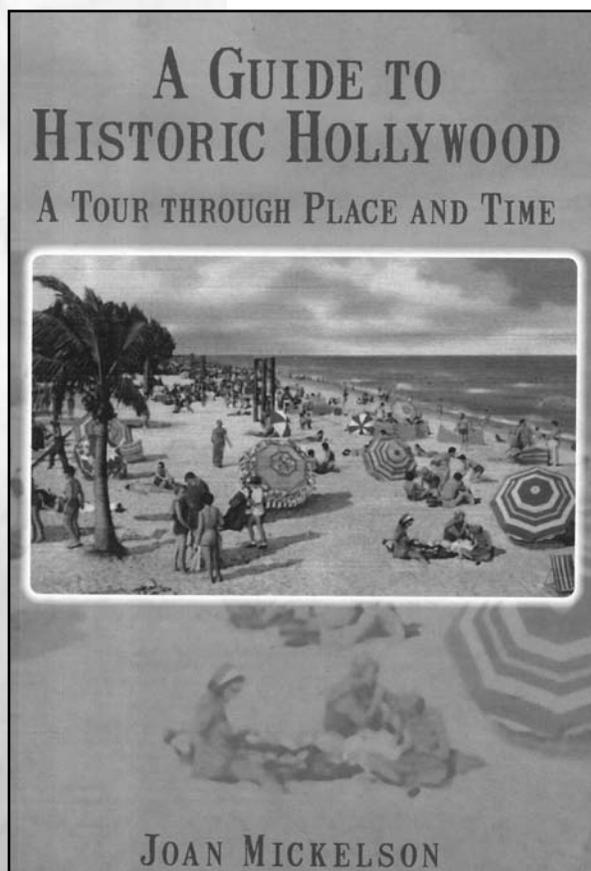
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## Hollywood By-the-Sea

*A Guide to Historic Hollywood Brings the City's Past to Life, from the Roaring 20s to the Fabulous 50s*

by Catherine McElrath



*A Guide to Historic Hollywood – A Tour Through Place and Time, by Joan Mickelson. The History Press, 2005, 254 pages with index and extensive bibliography*

Observe history up close with Joan Mickelson's *A Guide to Historic Hollywood*, a well-researched, fast-moving account of the rapid birth and growth of the city of Hollywood. Filled with pages of vintage black-and-white photos, postcards and diagrams of historic streets and homes, the book is a comprehensive and (just as important) interesting narrative that weaves tales of starry-eyed developers and brave pioneers into a neat timeline that begins in the fun-loving 1920s and continues to the 1950s. Filled with eyewitness accounts and direct quotes from major players, *A Guide to Historic Hollywood* was written by native born historian Joan Mickelson, whose parents were among the first Hollywood settlers.

*A Guide to Historic Hollywood* is divided into two parts — the story of Hollywood's history and a convenient, street-by-street guide of historic homes, buildings and other significant sites, complete with street numbers and brief histories of the locales. The perfect companion for a do-it-yourself historic driving or walking tour, the book's conversational style combined with its thorough and fascinating account of Broward County's first planned community make it a must-read for anyone interested in the tumultuous origins and development of one of South Florida's original great city beautiful communities, a seaside paradise that is still evolving as one of the area's most dynamic cities.

For more information on Hollywood and Florida history, visit [www.broward.org/library](http://www.broward.org/library) to access the Florida Electronic Library on Broward County Library's Free Online Resources.

Other books on the history of Hollywood, Florida:

TenEick, Virginia Elliott, *A History of Hollywood Florida 1920 – 1950*. Florida Classics Library, 1989 (reprint of 1966 original). Written by a *Miami Herald* reporter who first came to Hollywood in 1923, this history includes interviews with Hollywood pioneers.

Oliver, Kitty, *Race and Change in Hollywood, Florida*. Arcadia Publishing, 2000. Oral histories of local residents both black and white compiled by historian Kitty Oliver.

Roberts, C. Richard, *Images of America – Hollywood*. Arcadia Publishing, 2002. 128 pages of photos dating from the 1920s to the 1960s.

Wilpon, Bonnie, *The Postcard History Series: Hollywood, Florida*. Arcadia Publishing, 1999 (reprint 2004). 20<sup>th</sup> century postcards from private and family collections.



*Fig. 1 – The Wicker House (built 1959), sensitively nestled within an indigenous live oak hammock. [photo by Louis Friend, 2006]*

## *Hollywood Houses – The Work of Architect Charles Reed, Jr.*

*by Louis Friend*

*“All architecture is shelter. All great architecture is the design of space that contains cuddles, exalts, or stimulates the persons in that space”*

– Phillip Johnson

By this definition, a house could simply be considered a shelter for people, but to a diverse group of people in Hollywood, Florida, the houses in which they reside are more than mere architecture. All currently live in houses designed during the early 1950s through the early 1960s by architect Charles Reed, Jr. The diverse group of homeowners interviewed include of a sculptor, a sea captain, a surveyor, an architect, an optometrist, and an orthopedic surgeon consider without question that their houses transcend into the realm of Great Architecture as Phillip Johnson defined it. All are united by a common spiritual connection to great architecture articulated by spaces that actually “exalt” and “stimulate”.

One house designed by Charles Reed, Jr. even sustains life. Its owner contemplated euthanasia in response to a diminished quality of life resulting from terminal illness. He confessed to being a member of the Hemlock Society. He finds inspiration to live, albeit in a hospital bed, that is located in a living room designed by Reed. The two-story volume of this room, which contains a floating spiral staircase leading to the interior balcony of the bedrooms above, is defined by unadorned horizontal-stacked concrete masonry, exposed structural wood beams, and floor-to-ceiling jalousie windows, which flood the space with natural light and provide views to the indigenous live oak hammock on the site. It is within the continuum of these finely designed and expertly crafted spaces of the Wicker House that a man finds meaning in life.

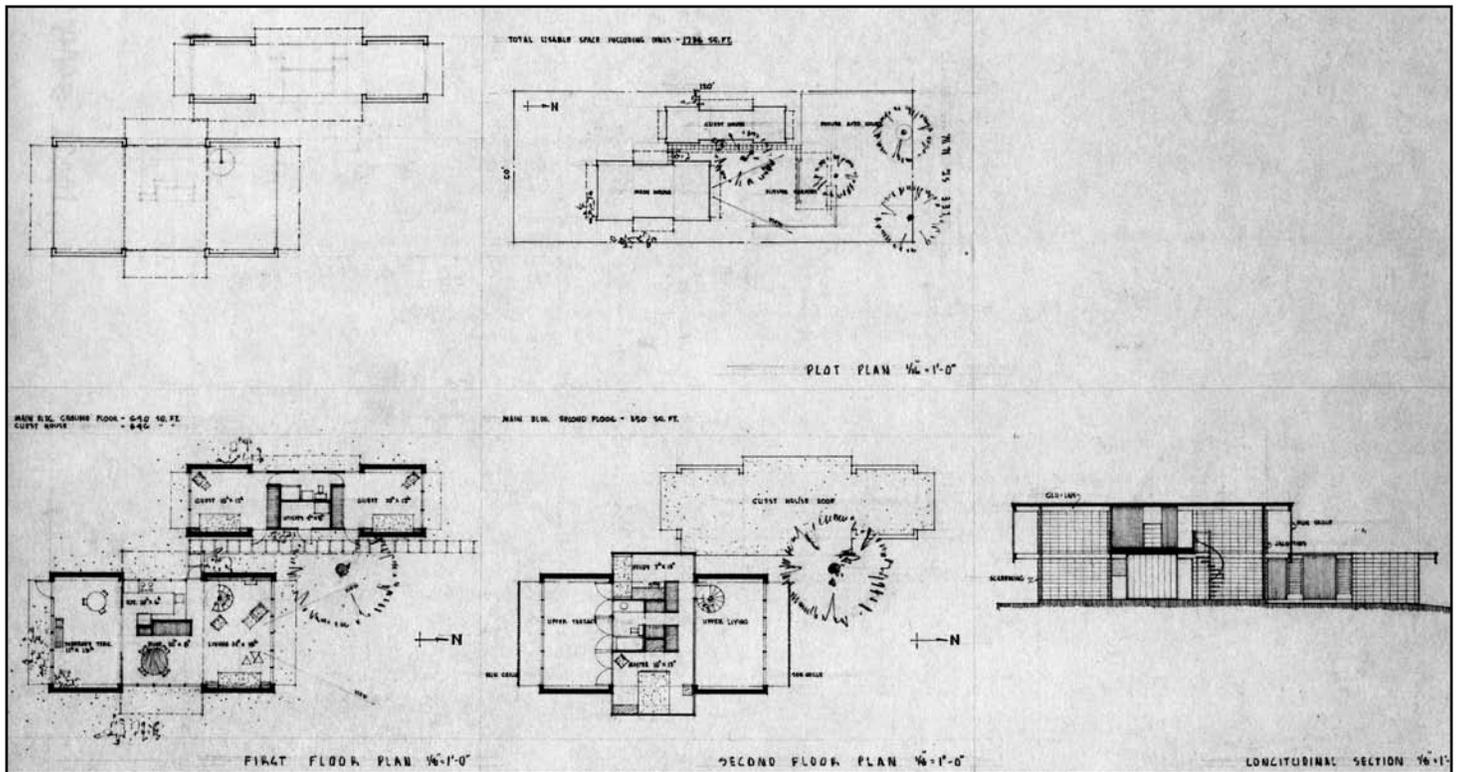


Fig. 2 – The Wicker House floor plan (built 1959), [Charles Reed, Jr. collection]

This article includes information transcribed from an oral history interview with Charles Reed, Jr. on May 7, 2004. Mr. Reed spoke with a trio of interviewers who collaborated and produced this project: sculptor Claire Garrett, owner of the Reed designed Jaffe-Garrett House, (c. 1959), Jackie Friend, an architect, and Louis Friend, author of this article and a licensed and insured general contractor specializing in historic rehabilitation. This article includes the accounts of Reed’s professional experience and design theory drawn from those interviews.

*“In those days after the war, people were optimistic about the future, adventuresome, and willing to try something new”*

- Charles Reed, Jr.

Charles Reed, Jr. was a World War II veteran, working as a carpenter in South Florida after the war. “That was one of the few jobs available to vets in those days,” Reed reminisced. Reed was “always fascinated by the organic shape, the form, the color, and the design of high-speed airplanes.” It seems that his construction related experience, his exposure to innovative architecture, and his fascination with forms and design, all influenced Reed to pursue a degree in architecture. Reed enrolled in the University of Miami’s fledgling architectural college. He recalled his experience there as “being satisfactory, but it wasn’t intense enough.”

Reed always had admired the work of Igor Polevitzky. Polevitzky (1911-1978), a Russian immigrant and University of Pennsylvania graduate, is widely recognized for creating the unique South Florida expression of modern residential architecture, in particular the indoor-outdoor lifestyle readily identified with the mid-century. These buildings uniquely responded to sub-tropical South Florida climate, allowing inhabitants both to live and to work in buildings with strong spatial connections to the environment.

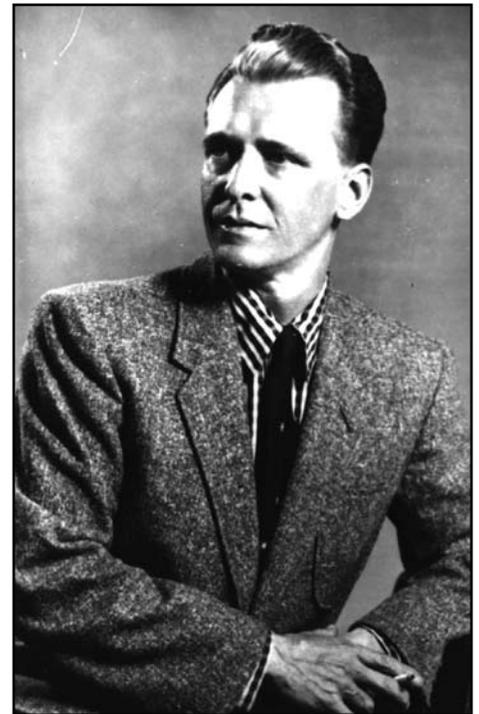


Fig. 4 – Igor Polevitzky [Historical Museum of Southern Florida collection]



Fig. 3 – *The Wicker House* with Chuck Reed, Jr. [photo by Louis Friend, 2006]

“I had always been an admirer of what Igor Plevitzky was doing,” said Reed, “so, I went to Igor’s office one day and told him I wanted to be there in any capacity.” Plevitzky hired Reed as a part-time junior draftsman. “I ought to say junior-junior draftsman,” Reed mused, “way down the pecking order!” The experience with Plevitzky was pivotal. Reed decided that “Igor’s office was a more important university than the University (of Miami) and [I] went to work full time in Plevitzky’s office.” Reed considered the basis for his architectural education to be this apprenticeship with Igor Plevitzky. The education spanned approximately six years during a fascinating time when Plevitzky created influential and important architecture including the extraordinary Heller House II, known as the “Birdcage” house, on Miami’s Venetian Causeway and the Havana Riviera Hotel in Havana, Cuba that was designed and built for gangster Meyer Lansky.

Interestingly, Reed told us that the Havana Riviera project is fictionalized in the movie *The Godfather Part II* with the character of Hyman Roth being based on Meyer Lansky. The deal between Roth and Michael Corleone to establish a venue for casino gambling in Havana is based on the Havana Riviera Hotel. Reed shared another intriguing account of how Morris Lapidus, the Miami Modern architect of the famed Fontainebleau and Eden Roc Hotels, (who is generally acknowledged as the architect responsible for defining 1950s Miami Beach resort and hotel style<sup>1)</sup> was surprisingly discovered in the lobby of the Havana Riviera Hotel, with a sketchbook in hand, by Igor Plevitzky when he arrived for a site-visit prior to the hotel’s opening.

Reed disclosed that what he took from his experience working under Igor Plevitzky was an appreciation for technical details and to look at architectural design comprehensively through an engineer’s eyes. According to Reed, “He (Plevitzky) knew what he was doing structurally, mechanically, electrically, and every other way.” Another important aspect, according to Reed, “was simple detailing and simplification of form.” Reed mused, “Sometimes a project was complicated, so the design was complicated. Only if you got into trouble.” Also Reed was fascinated by the indoor-outdoor spatial concepts expressed in Plevitzky’s architecture. He recalled, “...projects in the office that had marvelous house frames that literally had no walls.” Reed states, “Igor was always experimenting with ways of opening up houses to the outdoors to the extreme... so that was a strong influence really, opening up buildings.”



Fig. 5 – The Heller House II, (the “Birdcage” house) [Historical Museum of Southern Florida collection]

In the mid-1950s, Reed left Plevitzky’s office to establish his own practice in Hollywood, FL. He relocated his practice to Hollywood, Florida in 1955, and retired in 1997. In his years in Hollywood he produced a significant body of work. The best examples of Reed’s legacy include the following houses, all in Hollywood: the Heiden House, the Jaffe-Garrett House, the Gahstrom House, the Simon House, the Ritchie House, the String House, the Hulmes House, the Brill House, the Wicker House, and the Lawson House. In contrast to the ubiquitous ranch-style houses built during that time, Reed’s work clearly represents a unique interpretation of residential architecture.

Although each house was built during the time which is now identified as Mid-Century Modern, Reed preferred not to choose a category, style, or era to describe his work. Reed muses, “Mid-Century Modern helps categorize buildings so that they can be more easily understood.” He called his work organic, and to him it represented a less self-conscious way of designing. His work is “the direct result of responding to a set of universal design necessities that would apply in any era and in any place if you are sensitive to the requirements of climate, client’s needs, construction techniques, and available materials.” To many, this is the true meaning of architecture.

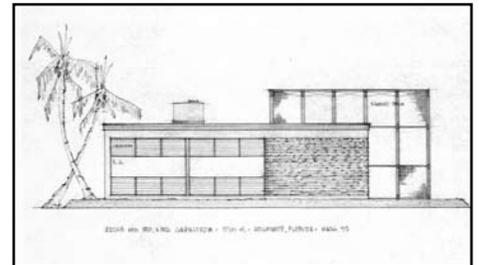


Fig. 6a – Front elevation rendering of Reed’s Gahstrom House (built 1952) that shows influence of Plevitzky’s Birdcage House. [Charles Reed, Jr. collection]

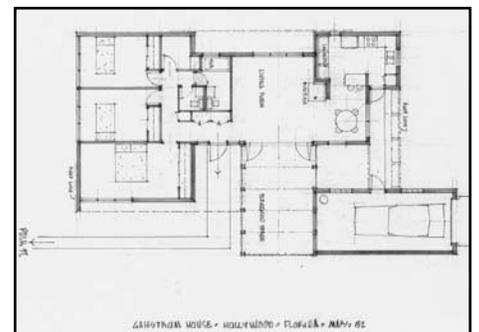


Fig. 6b – Front elevation rendering of Reed’s Gahstrom House (built 1952) that shows influence of Plevitzky’s Birdcage House. [Charles Reed, Jr. collection]



Fig. 7b – Hulmes House (built 1956) [photo by Charles Reed, Jr.]

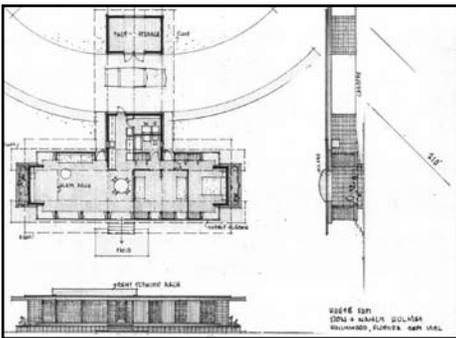


Fig. 7a – Floor plan of Hulmes House (built 1956) illustrating diagonal orientation of house to its site [Charles Reed, Jr. collection]

Throughout the predominant grid of South Florida neighborhoods, most houses have a perpendicular relationship to the adjacent street. Often times, a house designed by Reed is oriented diagonally. Reed clarified, “Whenever a house is placed diagonally, such as the Jaffe House, the Simon House, or the Hulmes House, it is never done as caprice; it was for a particular reason such as orientation to the compass, the sun rising and setting, and the prevailing breezes.” In the 1950s, residential air conditioning was not common. In response, Reed believed that “it was possible to open a building to the outside much more freely and the air-conditioning became the natural southeastern breezes.” By orienting his buildings appropriately and by articulating and defining building facades with operable fenestrations, Reed addressed ventilation and natural lighting in aesthetically pleasing relationships.

Reed believed that “light is life giving” and it directly affects one’s mood. Reed cleverly designed window glazing to stimulate one’s mood, as well as to provide natural light. As one walks through the main hall of the Simon House (c. 1957), randomly placed colored glass blocks punctuate and contrast the texture and color of exposed concrete masonry walls with an almost spiritual quality, similar to Le Corbusier’s Notre Dame du Haut, although on a less grand scale. Notre Dame du Haut is a twentieth century masterwork chapel located in Ronchamp, France, and designed by Swiss architect Le Corbusier in 1955. At the Jaffe-Garrett House (c. 1957) clerestory ribbon-windows encircle the perimeter of the building, accentuating the innovative structure and providing glimpses of the sky.



*Fig. 8a – Clerestory ribbon windows at Jaffe-Garrett House (built 1959) Provide glimpses of the sky. [photo by Louis Friend, 2006]*



*Fig. 8b – Jaffe-Garrett House Exterior (built 1959) [Charles Reed, Jr. collection; photo by Earl Strunk]*

Within the uniform grid of exposed and vertically stacked concrete masonry of the String House (c.1959), randomly spaced units turned on-end expose glazed voids that whimsically punctuate the exterior walls. The entry vestibule of the String House defined by lattice work creates another dramatic interior space.



*Fig. 8c – Jaffe-Garrett House Interior (built 1959) [Charles Reed, Jr. collection; photo by Earl Strunk]*

Requirements for ventilation and natural light did not overshadow concerns for privacy. Reed expertly tackled the contradictory requirements for ventilation, natural light, and privacy in the String House (c.1959). In his words, in the String House “there were always ways of devising privacy and openness sensations.”



*Fig. 8d – Jaffe-Garrett House Interior (built 1959) [Charles Reed, Jr. collection; photo by Earl Strunk]*



*Fig. 8f – Jaffe-Garrett House Exterior (built 1959) [Charles Reed, Jr. collection; photo by Earl Strunk]*

Here, exterior elevations were entirely constructed of louvered doors that were enclosed by screened vestibules. With doors opened, “the walls can be opened to maximum transparency” or with doors closed, “the walls became opaque.” According to Reed, “the String House is an outstanding example of



*Fig. 8e – Jaffe-Garrett House Interior (built 1959) [Charles Reed, Jr. collection; photo by Earl Strunk]*

this dichotomy, allowing the client to have a house that is wide open, but at the same time can be buttoned up entirely and be totally private.”

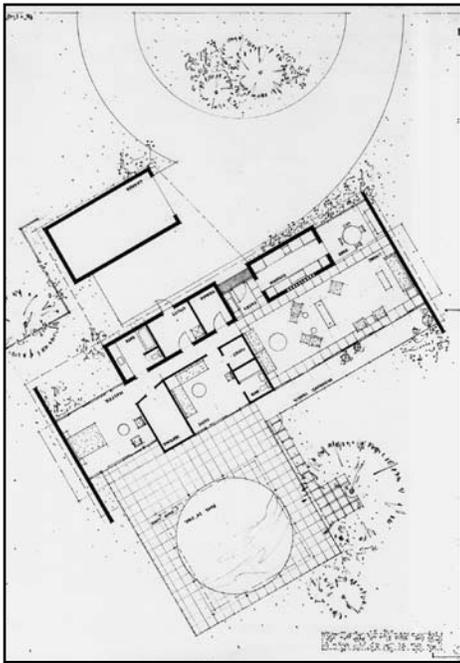


Fig. 8g – Jaffe-Garrett House plan (built 1959)  
[Charles Reed, Jr. collection]

Reed explored creative ways to address the South Florida environment with whimsy. “Tropical downpours are always a consideration for me,” states Reed, “so that’s why I favor, in most cases, the wide overhang to keep water away from the house so you can also enjoy the downpour.” Sculptor Claire Garrett acknowledged that at the Jaffe-Garrett House (c. 1957), “one of the things that I admire so much is the experience during heavy downpours when I stand by the 38 foot long living room wall, and have my own version of Fallingwater, where the water is pouring in torrents over the flat roof on to the patio. The spacing and the proportion is such that I can be outdoors, experience it, and not get wet.” Fallingwater, also known as the Edgar J. Kaufmann residence, was designed by architect Frank Lloyd Wright and built over the precipice of a waterfall. Fallingwater is located in Bear Run, Pennsylvania and was built in 1936. The residence is commonly listed in “Top Ten” lists of innovations in American architecture.



Fig. 9 – Whimsical glazing details of the String House [photo by Louis Friend, 2006].

Reed’s designs are sensitive to the South Florida landscape as well. Reed states, “In South Florida, all these wonderful shapes and colors growing here are always demanding something of you... It requires an active response.” Nothing captures this sentiment better than the Wicker House (Figure 1), where one really feels part of nature. The site is contiguous with the dense tropical hardwood hammock of mature live oak trees, an ecological landmark that defines the character of the Emerald Hills subdivision in Hollywood and Broward County’s Topeekegee Yugnee Park. The house is nestled in the trees. It’s like living in a tree house. “The trees are right there for you,” says Reed.

Reed has been always interested in Japanese architecture and Japanese art. He acknowledges the modular tatami style of design, in which planning and articulation of architecture are governed by a rule of proportions based on the geometry of a tatami mat and all vertical planes have the same geometry<sup>2</sup>. In his designs, Reed explored a similar relationship between the plan’s geometry and its manifestation in three-dimensional



Fig. 10 – Entry vestibule of the String House creating a dramatic lighting effect [photo by Louis Friend, 2006]

form. “A particular goal was to have the plan express the volume so that when you looked at the plan, you could sense what kind of building it was.” This is apparent in Reed’s Lawson House, where plan and elevation reflect each other’s scale, mass, and proportions.

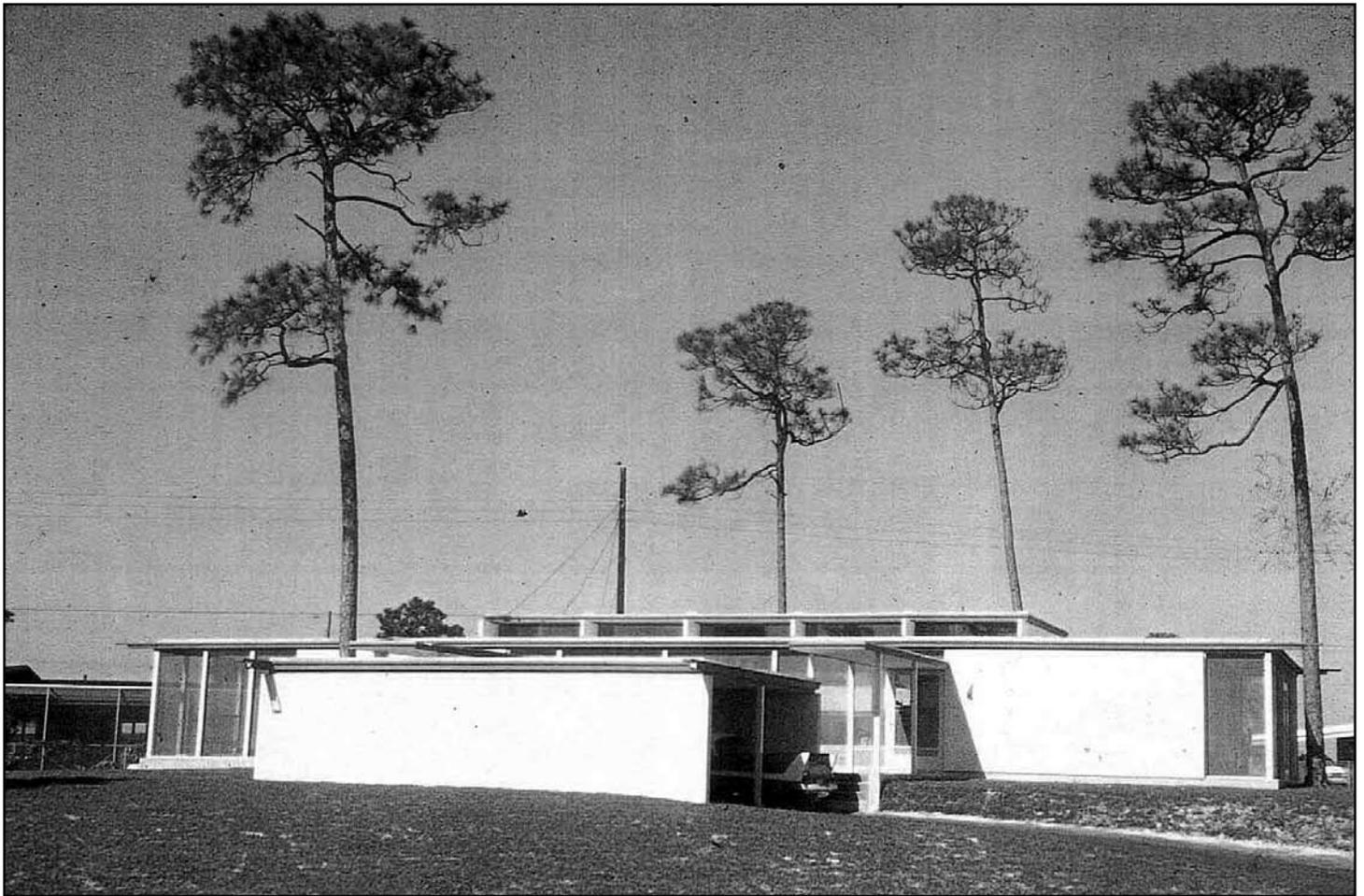


Fig. 11 – Exterior wall system of String House including lowered door and screened vestibule assemblies that address ventilation, natural lighting, and privacy [photo by Louis Friend, 2006]

Reed looked to local materials and strove to use them in creative ways. He asked, “How can you assemble all those materials and make a building charming and interesting?” Reed found common concrete masonry units to be the perfect material — readily available and inexpensive, yet very expressive. Reed stated, “Concrete block had texture, subtle color, and geometric linearity.” During a time when stucco clad ranch houses were de-rigueur, Reed’s innovation was revolutionary. Reed joked, “Well the concrete block stucco house certainly does its job, but it’s certainly not very interesting!” Reed designed architectural details, by turning standard building materials into sophisticated architectural elements. In the Jaffe-Garrett House, a single course of turned concrete masonry units, revealing the voids of the blocks, created a screen within the vertical-stacked and exposed concrete interior wall.



Fig. 12 – String House Interior [photo by Louis Friend, 2006]



*Fig. 13a - The Lawson House reflects Reed's appreciation for Japanese Tatami design and illustrates exploration by Reed for plan geometry to reflect three-dimensional forms [photo by Charles Reed, Jr.]*

Both whimsical and sophisticated, this wonderful architectural detail visually connects the kitchen to the living room and brings joy daily to home owner and sculptor, Claire Garrett, who embellishes it with seasonal fruits and found objects. Elsewhere in the house, fine hardwood door casings juxtapose the textural exposed interior concrete masonry walls. Reed innovatively eliminated the concrete tie beams and replaced them with clerestory ribbon windows under the roof line while still maintaining vital structural connections between foundation and roof, thereby creating artistically seamless walls and glimpses to the sky from within. Garrett considers her house to be such a work of art that she is reluctant to hang paintings on the wall. She adds, "We don't want to put any holes or hooks or marks in it; it's a sculpture, a sculpture that you can live in." The Jaffe-Garrett House truly is charming and interesting, just as the architect intended.



*Fig. 13b - The Lawson House [photo by Charles Reed, Jr.]*

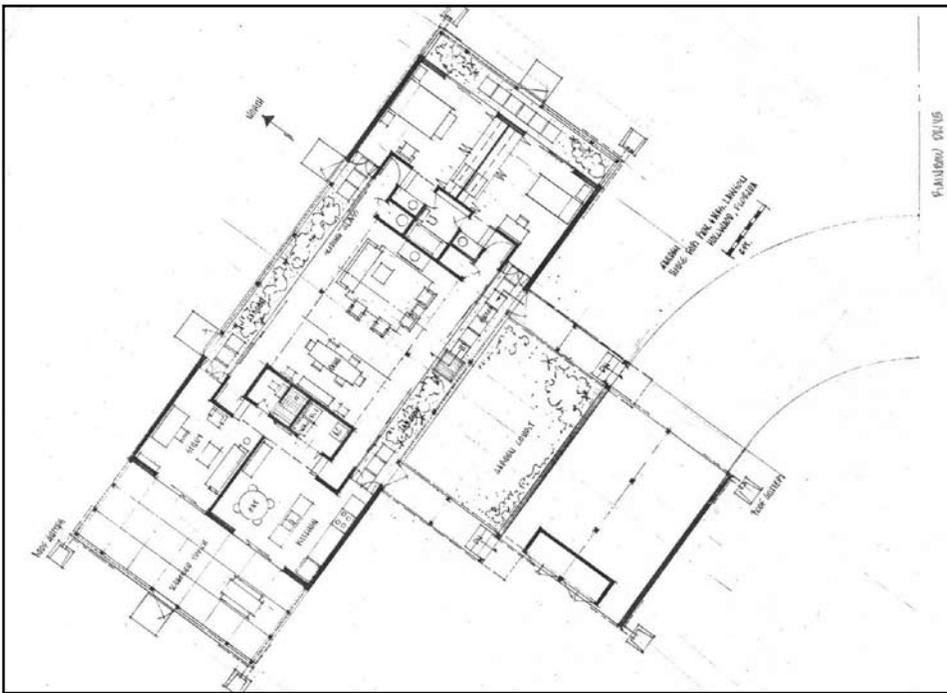


Fig. 14 Floor plan of the LAWSON HOUSE (c. 1960). [Charles Reed, Jr. collection]

Perhaps Reed's greatest accomplishment, although he is not recognized for the contribution is his foresight, in implementing reinforced masonry construction. Today it is now a standard building method mandated by the Florida Building Code in response to lessons learned from Hurricane Andrew, but Reed's visionary structural designs preceded current building codes by 30 years. He stated, "I was always cognizant of hurricane design and structural reliability; it was always foremost." It was apparent to Reed that a direct connection between a roof and the foundation, through reinforced block walls, was vital to maintaining a building's structural integrity during the impact of hurricane force winds. "So far, I haven't heard of any of my houses disappearing because of hurricane winds and I hope that continues to be so." Additional structural innovations include stressed-skin plywood roof joists. Reed commented, "The structural system was entirely experimental; there was no precedent for stressed-skin plywood." The house, except for



Fig. 16 – Interior detail of Jaffe-Garrett house illustrating juxtaposition of building material textures. [photo by Louis Friend]

the concrete block walls, was entirely prefabricated in a warehouse and then was assembled at the construction site. In the String House, the use of this innovative structural system allows the home owner to enjoy rooms with uncommonly large interior spans with interestingly detailed roofing structure and spaces filled with natural light. These features never cease to please Jim String. He still resides in the house he originally commissioned from Charles Reed, Jr. over 47 years ago.

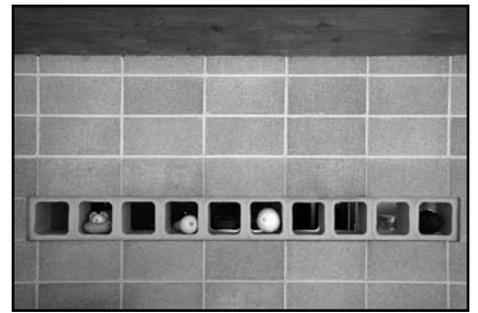


Fig. 15a – Interior wall of Jaffe-Garrett house illustrating Reed's creative use of concrete masonry [photo by Louis Friend, 2006]



Fig. 15b – Detail of Jaffe-Garrett house [photo by Louis Friend, 2006]



Fig. 17 – Exterior Wall of JAFFE-GARRET HOUSE (c. 1959) Illustrating artistically seamless walls [photo by Louis Friend, 2006]



Fig. 18a – Interior of String House, illustrating innovative prefabricated stressed-skin plywood roof joists supporting the large interior span of the living room [photo by Louis Friend, 2006]

When asked which architects Reed admires, he mentioned Bruce Goff, Harwell Hamilton Harris, and Donald Singer. Like Reed, American architect Bruce Goff (1904-1982) was a World War II veteran, self-educated, and exceptionally creative. He introduced a form of organic architecture that was sensitive to both client needs and site constraints.<sup>3</sup> Like Reed, who trained under Igor Polevitzky, California architect Harwell Hamilton Harris (1903-1990) trained under another great Modern architect, Richard Neutra. The work of both Reed and Hamilton Harris exhibited sensitivity to site and materials, well crafted interiors spaces, and an expression of roofing on the interior.<sup>3</sup>

Reed shared a close relationship with Fort Lauderdale architect Donald Singer (b. 1938). Reed and Singer once lived in the same Hollywood, Florida neighborhood and as a young architect Singer apprenticed with Reed. Like Reed, many of Singer's designs include clerestory glass windows under the roof line, and exterior and interior walls of exposed vertical stacked concrete masonry. In many regards the link between Igor Polevitzky and Charles Reed, Jr. and the link between Reed and Donald Singer, represents a direct line of descent of South Florida Modern architects. Interestingly, within Hollywood's Lakes Area Historic District, one can walk just a few blocks and trace the lineage through built examples of the three architects work.



Fig. 18b – Jim String, 47-year resident of the String House that he commissioned in 1959 [photo by Louis Friend, 2006]



Fig. 19a – Simon House illustrating well-crafted interior and detailed roofing structure [photo by Charles Reed, Jr., c. 1960s]



Fig. 19b – Simon House Exterior [photo by Charles Reed, Jr., c. 1960s]



Fig. 19c – Simon House [photo by Earl Strunk, c. 1960s]



Fig. 19d – Simon House [photo by Earl Strunk c. 1960s]



*Fig. 19e – Simon House [photo by Earl Strunk c. 1960s]*



*Fig. 19g – Simon House [photo by Earl Strunk c. 1960s]*



*Fig. 19f – Simon House [photo by Earl Strunk c. 1960s]*



Fig. 20a – Reed's Brill House which included an interior swimming pool [photo by Chuck Reed, Jr., c. 1959]

These residences include the Weitzman (Porch Series) House by Polevitzky; the Heiden, Ritchie, Simon, and Gahstrom houses, designed by Reed; and a béton brute-style house and the Cornfeld House, designed by Singer.

The City of Hollywood identifies Charles Reed, Jr. as a significant architect whose work contributes to the architectural integrity of the City's Lakes Area Historic District. He is listed in the City's Guidelines for Historic Preservation. He was invited by the City of Hollywood in 2004, and by Broward County in 2006, to participate in panel discussions on the significance of his work. The City of Hollywood exhibited his work in 2004, and in 2004 the Historical Museum of Southern Florida featured Reed's Brill House (c.1959) in its exhibit entitled *The Florida Home: Modern Living 1945-1965*. In 2006, Reed was honored again by a city-sponsored exhibition, home tour, and award for his significant architectural contribution. Recently articles regarding Chuck Reed have appeared in the *Miami Herald* and *Home Fort Lauderdale* magazine.

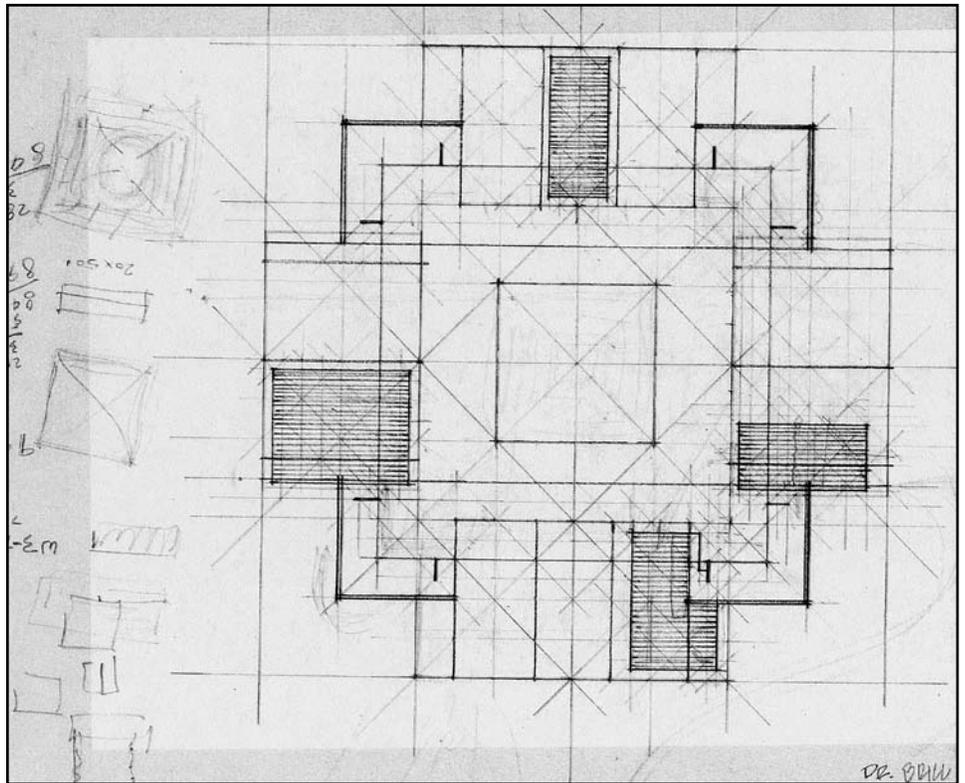


Fig. 20b – Rendering of interior swimming pool of the Brill House [Charles Reed, Jr. collection, c. 1959]

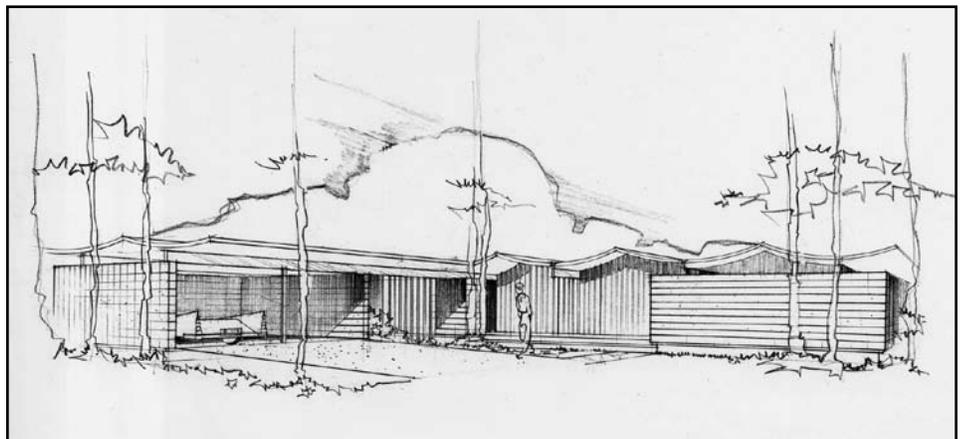


Fig. 20c – Brill House [Charles Reed, Jr. collection, c. 1959]

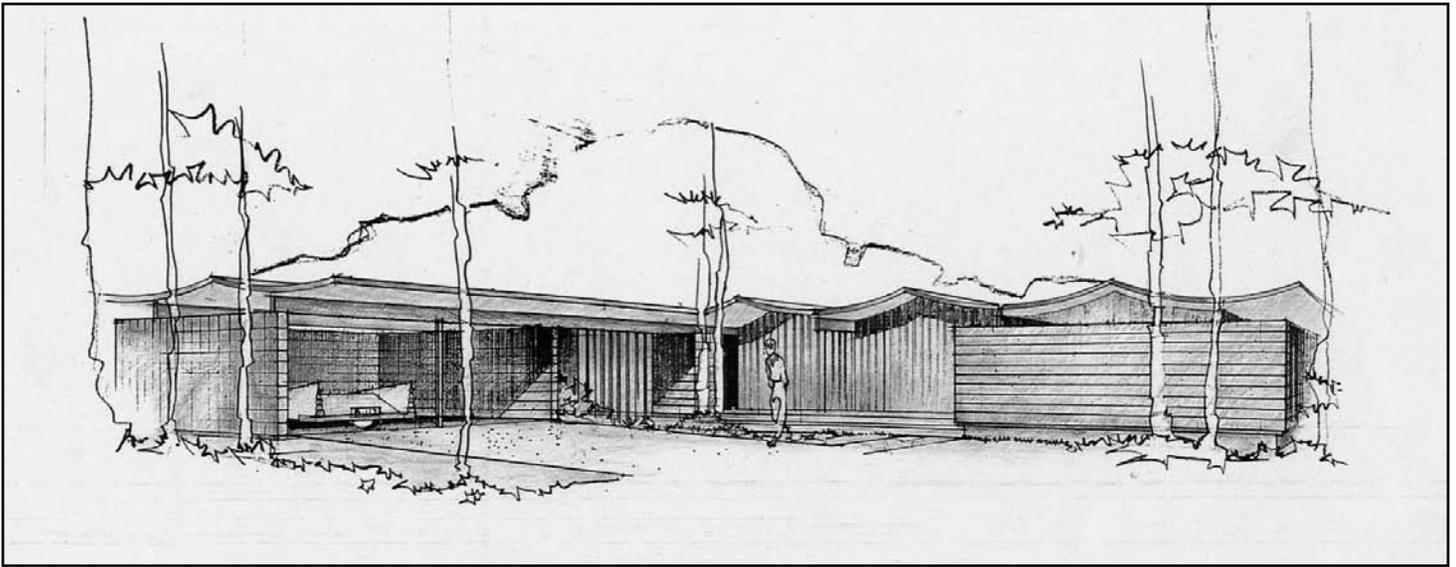


Fig. 20e –Brill House [Charles Reed, Jr. collection, c. 1959]

It is interesting to note that it has been over 40 years since Reed left South Florida and it is only until recently that his work is being rediscovered as a significant contribution to the South Florida built environment.

Hollywood has a rich architectural legacy, and Charles Reed, Jr. has a rightful place in a fine fraternity of significant architects who have enriched the City with meaningful buildings. The Lakes Area Historic District and the Downtown Hollywood Historic District include buildings designed by noted architects whose work epitomizes significant periods of architectural history. The Mediterranean Revival architecture of the 1920s is represented by the work of Miami architect Martin Luther Hampton and the Indianapolis firm of Rubbish & Hunter. Art Deco and Streamline Moderne architecture of the 1930s is represented by Miami Beach architect Henry Hohauser and Hollywood architects Bayard Lukens and Cedric Start. Florida Modern architecture of the 1940s and 1950s is represented by Miami Beach architect Igor Polevitzky and Hollywood architect Charles Reed, Jr.

Unfortunately, the majority of Reed's work is located outside of historic district boundaries. These homes include the Jaffe-Garrett, the String, the Wicker, the Lawson, the Brill, and the Hulmes houses.

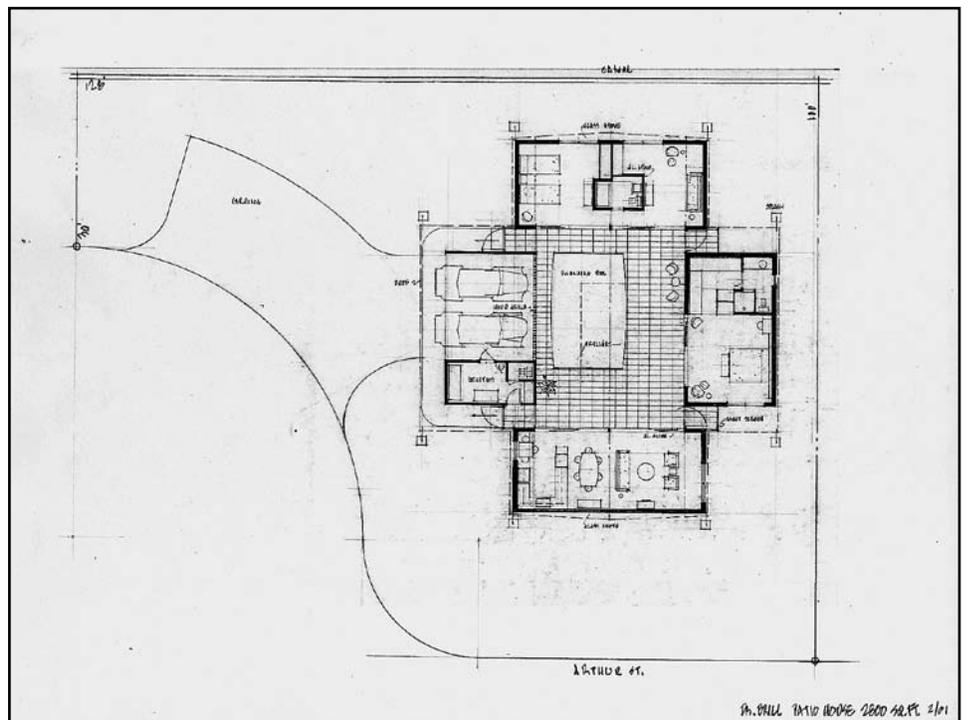


Fig. 20d –Brill House [Charles Reed, Jr. collection, c. 1959]

These houses represent the best examples of Reed's architecture, yet none of them have protection from inappropriate modifications or, worse yet, from demolition. As the pressure associated with infill development and attainable housing in Broward County increases, the status of these houses could be in jeopardy. One only needs to inspect the irreversible and inappropriate modifications to the Ritchie House to realize what is at stake. The author believes there is a strong argument to designate all of Reed's buildings collectively as a

local historic landmark because his work exceeds the minimum criteria mandated by the City of Hollywood Code of Ordinances for evaluation and designation of historic sites. Reed's work has association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history, namely the influx of service men who were stationed in South Florida during World War II and who returned here after the war to live, thereby generating a building boom that expanded the economy and spurred population growth.



Fig. 22a – Ritchie House [photo by Charles Reed, Jr., c. 1958]

Reed, himself was one of those G.I.s who returned here after the war and the houses that Reed designed reflect “a post war generation’s desire for modern homes that expressed the optimistic, future-oriented mood of the times”<sup>5</sup>. Reed’s designs represent the work of a master. He is a protégé of Igor Plevitzky and the meaningful architecture that Reed designed was practical in the way it addressed climate, client’s needs, construction techniques, and available materials; yet it was innovative and highly artistic in its articulation of space and form. The structural systems he designed preceded current building requirements by 30 years. His work embodies distinctive characteristics of the Florida Modern period. He used local building materials of concrete masonry, glass, and wood in

ingenious ways to create significant architecture that responded to our sub-tropical climate by articulating space to reflect the desired indoor-outdoor style of living. In all, the work of Reed in Hollywood contributes and enhances the City’s sense of place. For the benefit of future generations, the author believes government action should be taken to ensure that Reed’s work in Hollywood is preserved.

The interview with Reed closed with the following comments between the interviewer, Claire Garrett, and Charles Reed, Jr., which capture that wonderfully noble modesty that, very much like his buildings, focuses on people and the environment, in lieu of the man who designed them:

**Claire Garrett:** “So tell me Chuck, How would you like best to be remembered professionally?”



Fig. 21 –Charles Reed Jr. in May, 2004 with Jackie Friend [photo by Louis Friend]

**Charles Reed, Jr.:** “Oh my! I’ll have to come back next week and answer that one!”

**Claire Garrett:** “I know that everyone who has the pleasure of living in a Chuck Reed, Jr. house will indeed remember you very fondly and with great admiration.”

**Charles Reed, Jr.:** “That is wonderful! You’re expressing your feelings and I appreciate it a great deal. You have no idea how much that means.”



Fig. 22b – Current photo of Ritchie House showing modification inappropriate for the architectural style of the Ritchie House [photo by Louis Friend, 2006]

Reed, age 80, currently lives in Raleigh, North Carolina. He is quite pleased by the recognition received for the architectural legacy he has bestowed. Reed is also very proud of the artistic heritage of his family. “There’s a kind of continuity there,” exclaims Reed. He acknowledges his wife Elaine as a “wonderful artist” and credits her with helping him in his success as an architect. Elaine Reed is a talented sculptor whose work, in part, has architectural references. Her oil painted porcelain sculptures can be found in prestigious collections and museums. She has received many honors and awards. Both of Charles and Elaine Reed’s daughters are also artists. One is a painter and the other is a writer.

After spending a few hours in the company of Chuck Reed during the taping of the oral history, all were inspired by his admirable humility. Although the focus of the interview was on Chuck Reed, he typically redirected the attention toward the work or to stories about people other than himself — namely his family, his clients,

and his colleagues. True to form, Reed edited the draft of this article with added acknowledgements of his colleagues, thereby improving it with the following list of “especially capable associates”:

- 1) Jay Dusard, “a University of Florida graduate who became a famous photographer of cowboys from the Rio Grande to Canada, who now resides in Douglas, AZ”;
- 2) Tom Bridges, “a University of Florida graduate who was an excellent architectural draftsman”;
- 3) Bob MacDonald, “one of Fort Lauderdale’s best architects”; and
- 4) Bob Daniels, “a University of Florida graduate who was very good at quick sketch architectural presentations.” He also included the following list of “building contractors with exceptional skills”: 1) Ned Smith, who built the Simon and Brill Houses; 2) Bob & Frank Erickson, who built the Ritchie and Jaffe Houses; and 3) Allan Downing, who built the String and Lawson Houses.

## Notes

<sup>1</sup> “Morris Lapidus from Wikipedia, *The Free Encyclopedia*”, n.d., < [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morris\\_Lapidus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morris_Lapidus) > (November 21, 2006).

<sup>2</sup> Horst de la Croix and Richard G. Tansey, *Art through the Ages 8<sup>th</sup> Edition* (Orlando, FL Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1986), p.483.

<sup>3</sup> Kevin Matthews and Artifice, Inc., “Bruce Goff,” Great Buildings Online”, “website < [http://www.greatbuildings.com/architects/Bruce\\_Goff.html](http://www.greatbuildings.com/architects/Bruce_Goff.html) > (November 19, 2006).

<sup>4</sup> Kevin Matthews and Artifice, Inc., “Harwell Hamilton Harris from Great Buildings Online”, website [http://www.greatbuildings.com/architects/Harwell\\_Hamilton\\_Harris.html](http://www.greatbuildings.com/architects/Harwell_Hamilton_Harris.html) (November 19, 2006).

<sup>5</sup> Allan T. Shulman, “Igor Polevitzky’s Architectural Vision for a Modern Miami”, *The Journal of Decorative and Propaganda Arts*, Florida Theme Issue, Issue 23 (1998)





*Curcie House, circa 1920's*

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