

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 28, 2011

RE: 1737 Laird St.

FROM: Karen DeMaria, Interim Urban Forestry Manager, City of Key West

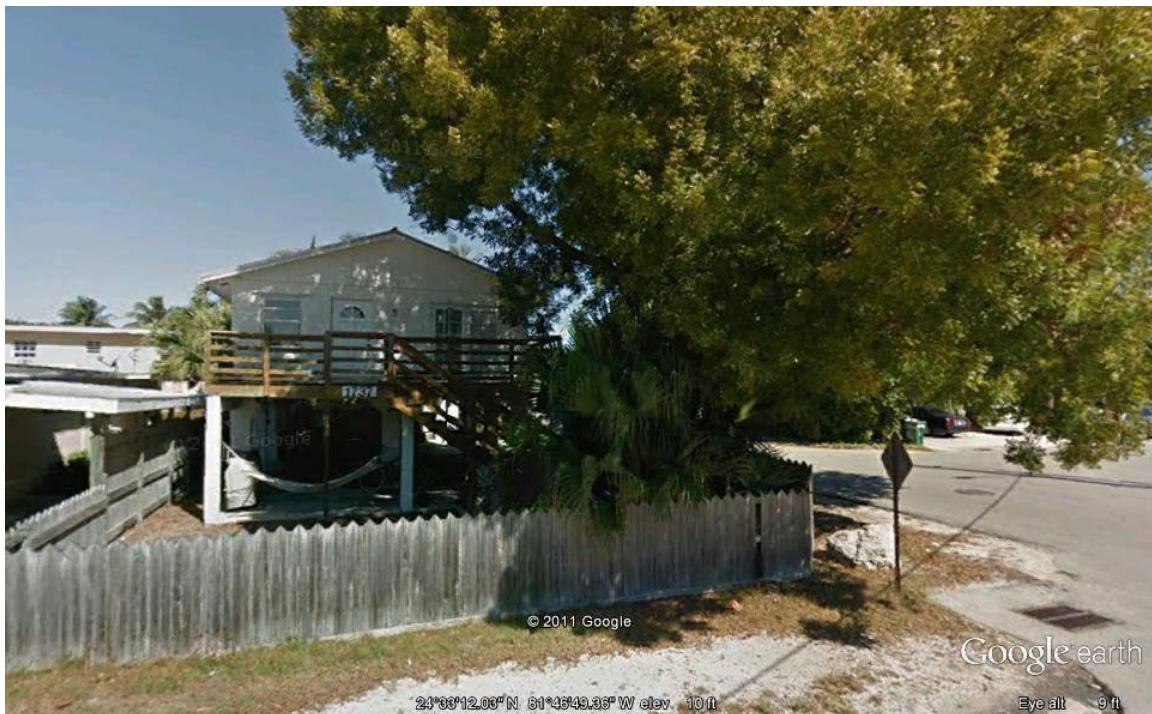
On December 28, 2011, we received a phone call in the office about a Mahogany tree that had been root pruned. A site inspection revealed that roots of a very large mahogany tree had been cut, the yard cleared, and that recent construction had occurred in the area (installation of a new fence).



Further investigation revealed that a Building Permit was issued in October 2011 (permit# 11-3644) for the installation of a fence. The hand written plan drawings show a tree in the fence line. Additionally, review of Google Earth Street photos indicate that palm trees also existed in the yard but the palm trees were not on the property when the site was inspected on December 28, 2011.

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Photos from Google Earth prior to Construction and clearing activities:



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Photos taken December 28, 2011:



Note: Cut roots.

It appears that three clumps of palm trees have also been removed:

1. x-mas or Areca palms (possibly less than 8ft-therefore NPR)
2. Sabal or similar palm (if sabal, it is a native palm and therefore a permit is required for it's removal)
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Contact needs to be made with the homeowners to stop them from further damaging the root system of the large mahogany (110-256 (c) (1) – No private property owner or agent shall damage, cut, or carve any tree or tree root located on the owner's property.

Additionally, information should be requested from the homeowners as to the species of the palm trees removed from the property. If native palms were removed, then a permit would have been required. (Sec 110-253 and Sec 110-321 (a) (1).)



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