

Cynthia's Blue Palms

February 21, 2017

City of Key West Tree Commission

Purpose: Following are my findings of evaluation concerning 2 Spanish Lime trees (photo 1) and 2 Washingtonia palms (photo 2) located at 336 Duval Street, Key West, Florida. I have been retained by owner Claude Gardner, Jr., of Berkshire/Hathaway Knight & Gardner Realty. This application is submitted for purposes of constructing an additional building to the immediate north side of existing historic house. A new entrance from Duval Street will be constructed to access additional building (photo 3). Once built an art community will be developed surrounding property similar to the northern end of the 300 block. Replacement trees of endangered species will be planted on the Eaton Street side of historic building which includes a full property landscape enhancement.

The Spanish Lime trees, *Meliococcus bijugatus*, are located at the north north east corner, front of property, abutting the historic wall (photo 4). The trees can be viewed from Duval and Eaton Streets (photo 5).

Tree number 1, the southernmost tree is approximately 11" diameter measured at approximately 5' above grade. Canopy approximately 30'x15' impacted by tree canopy number 2. Tree condition is fair. Included bark is evident on main stem; correction is possible of smaller limb however, main stem remaining has a significant lean toward historic building (photo 6).

Tree number 2, the northernmost tree is approximately 11" diameter totaling both east and west codominate stems respectively measured at approximately 5' above grade. Canopy approximately 15'x10' impacted by tree canopy number 1. Condition is poor. Codominate stems originate at 1 ½' above grade (photo 7). Due to condition correction is not recommended.

Due to condition of trees transplanting is not recommended and should be removed.

The 2 Washingtonia palms are located on the south side of historic building (photo 8). Heights are approximately 45' and 20' respectively. Not only are the palms listed by the State of Florida as an invasive exotic they are also in very close proximity to power and utilities supplying services to building (photo 9).

Due to species and close proximity to utilities these palms should not be transplanted but should be removed.

If you have any questions please contact me at 305/747-2141.

Cynthia Domenech-Coogle, ISA Certified Arborist, FL 0277A



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