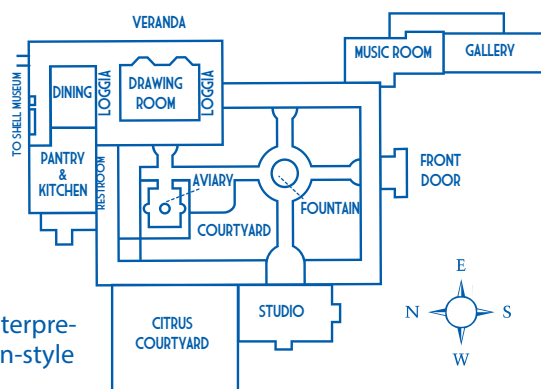


MAIN HOUSE

Bonnet House is one of the only homes and studios of two recognized American artists with original furnishings that is open to the public. The house is Frederic Bartlett's interpretation of a Caribbean-style plantation house.



COURTYARD - The lush courtyard with splashing fountain contrasts with the arid desert garden just outside the front door. On the walls hang reproductions of wooden ceiling panels of Bavarian scenes painted by Frederic.

STUDIO - The studio takes advantage of the north light. Most of the paintings on display are by Frederic, an avid art collector. In 1926, he gave the Art Institute of Chicago 24 very significant paintings in memory of his wife, Helen.

BUTLER'S PANTRY & KITCHEN - Here Evelyn planned meals and settings with her chef and butler. The bright blue is the original color of the cabinets. Evelyn was known for her hospitality. The small room off the kitchen is the cook's pantry with a staff dining table.

DINING ROOM - Mounted fish caught by Frederic and his son Clay decorate the paneled walls. The ceramic objects include tankards collected in Germany, a rare set of Davenport china, blue and white Spode and Wedgwood Caneware.

NORTH LOGGIA - The loggia is the breezeway between the dining room and the drawing room. The ceiling mural, the faux painting and the inlaid shell decorations are all Frederic's work.

DRAWING ROOM - Faux painted doors and window moldings were created by Frederic to decorate this room. He painted the portraits of his son, Clay and caretaker, Jeff Lockett. The center ceiling boards are from a mahogany log that Hugh Taylor Birch found washed up on the beach.

SOUTH LOGGIA - Carousel animals stand guard under a ceiling mural painted by Frederic and Evelyn. He painted the sea creatures, and she had the unenviable task of painting the netting.

MUSIC ROOM - Helen Birch Bartlett was an accomplished pianist, composer and poet. This room was built for Helen so she could enjoy composing and playing while her husband was painting in his studio.

CARL WEINHARDT, JR. GALLERY - Evelyn painted from 1932 to 1938. Her instinct for color, composition and form manifested itself in watercolors and oils. This part of the house originally contained guestrooms. It is named for Bonnet House's first Executive Director.

1 WELCOME CENTER - The Welcome Center and South Gate Ticket House are the only buildings on the property that are not original to the estate. They were added after Bonnet House opened to the public. Restrooms are available in the Welcome Center.

2 BOAT HOUSE - Situated in the very center of the property, this was the delivery point for building materials brought in by barge during the construction of Bonnet House. It later stored The Bonnet, a 35-foot Richardson yacht the Bartletts used for cruising the Intracoastal Waterway. The Boat House was rebuilt in 1985 and re-roofed in 2006 after being damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Wilma.

3 FRONT DOOR - This is where the house tour begins.

4 SHELL MUSEUM & ORCHID HOUSE - Frederic designed this building around 1935 as a gift to Evelyn to showcase some of her favorite things. The Shell Room contains pairs of shells from around the world, and the Orchid House displays orchids in bloom from the large orchid collection. In the Bamboo Bar, Evelyn often served her house specialty, a Rangpur lime cocktail.

5 CARETAKER'S COTTAGE & MUSEUM SHOP - The caretaker and his family lived here year round. Today refreshments, art work and unique gift items may be purchased here. Restrooms are available. Nature Trail tram tours start here.

6 PAVILION - Designed by Frederic Bartlett for parties, this space was used by the Bartletts for afternoon lounging, playing cards or visiting with friends. The Pavilion, built in 1936, overlooks the Lily Pond where the Spatterdock (bonnet lily) grows.

7 DRY FOUNTAIN - Another of Frederic's creations, this was built in 1942 with materials recovered from a demolished estate in Palm Beach. The marble fountain stands at the end of the tree-lined alleé, reminiscent of European-style gardens.

8 CHICKEE BRIDGE - This replaced a simple plank bridge that crossed the marshland of sawgrass leading to the Bonnet House beach. The marsh was dredged, clearing the slough and ponds on the eastern side of the property. The original thatched roof was created by a local group of Seminoles.

9 ISLAND THEATER - Designed by Frederic and built in 1938, this structure is surrounded by a moat stocked with koi. The theater was originally built to show home movies. Today's structure (a replica of the original) is used for classes, meetings and exhibits.

TO PRESERVE BONNET HOUSE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS AND FOR YOUR OWN COMFORT PLEASE OBSERVE THE FOLLOWING:

- Smoking and e-cigarettes are not permitted.
- Large bags, backpacks or tripods are not permitted.
- A permit from the Museum's Events Department is required for personal, commercial, engagement, wedding or celebratory photo shoots. Non-permitted photo shoots will be asked to leave. No flash photography is permitted in exhibit rooms. Photographs are permitted on the grounds and in the courtyard only.
- An adult must supervise children at all times; no children under the age of 18 permitted without adult.
- Do not approach or feed animals or birds.
- Remain on the designated walkways.
- Nature Trail paths may be uneven, please watch your step. Fire ants and mosquitoes may be present. Insect repellent is recommended.
- Beverages & light snacks are available in the Museum Shop.

Bonnet House makes its facilities accessible to persons with disabilities within the limits of an historic site. Wheelchair-accessible restrooms are located in the Welcome Center and Main House. Trams are available to our visitors with special needs at no charge if they wish to explore the Nature Trail.

PRESERVE A PART OF FLORIDA HISTORY BECOME A MEMBER OF BONNET HOUSE

Help preserve and enhance this wonderful treasure by becoming a member. Your membership includes an annual pass for unlimited admission to Bonnet House. Simply pick up and complete a membership application in the Museum Shop or Welcome Center and help preserve a part of history.



OVER 90 YEARS IN THE MAKING - AWAITING YOUR ARRIVAL

900 NORTH BIRCH ROAD

FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33304

954-563-5393 www.bonnethouse.org

Funding for this organization is provided in part by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau.

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09/15

Visitor Guide



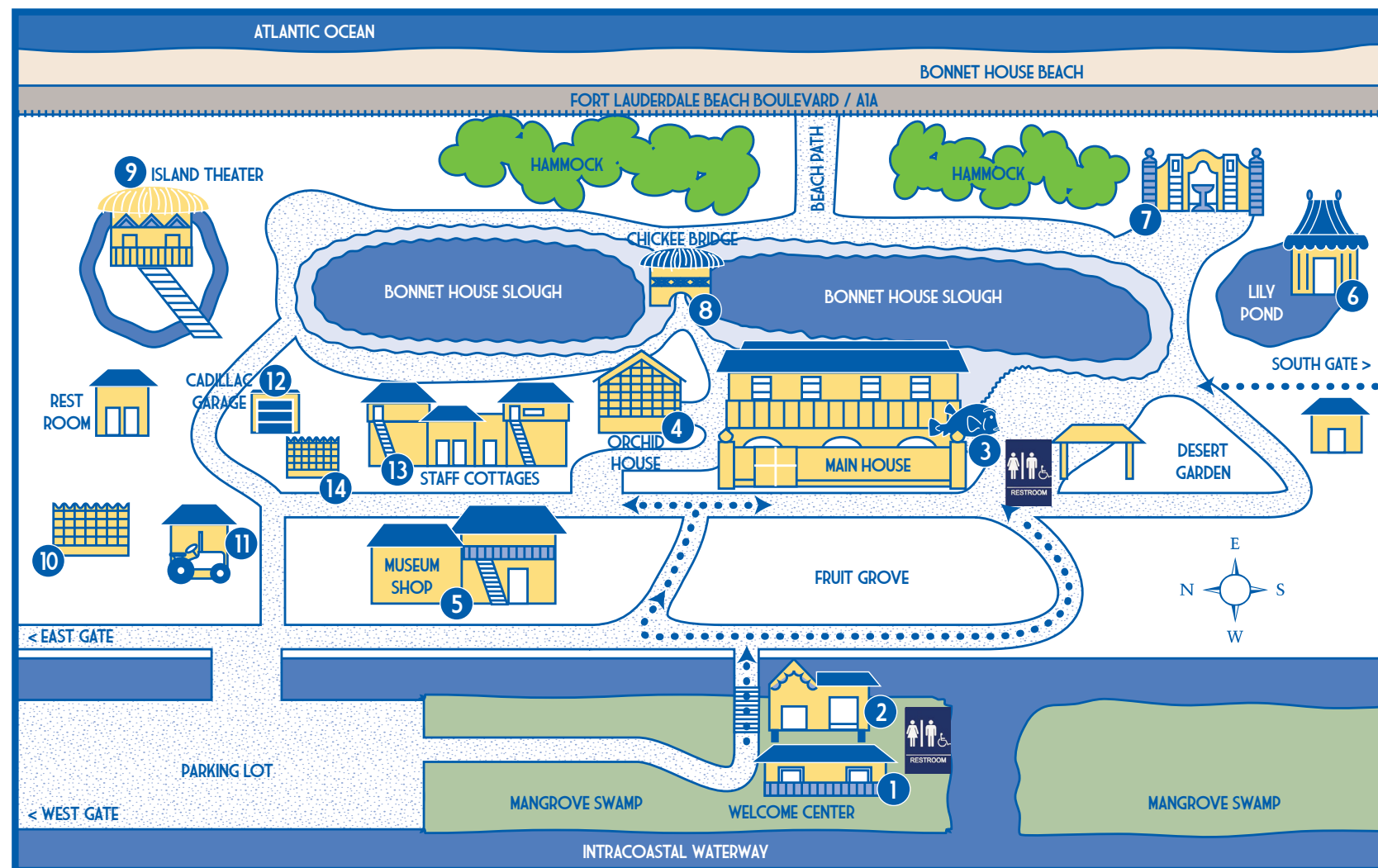
WELCOME

Bonnet House (named for the bonnet lily that grows here) was designed by Frederic Clay Bartlett, an American artist from Chicago, Illinois. The land was given to Frederic and his wife Helen by her father, Hugh Taylor Birch, as a wedding gift. Construction on the estate began in 1920 and continued for more than 20 years. Frederic and Helen traveled extensively and were avid art collectors. Six years after Helen's death in 1925, Frederic married Evelyn Fortune Lilly. Bonnet House remains much as it was in the 1930s and 1940s when Frederic and Evelyn created the unique blend of art and whimsy that delights us today. After Frederic's death in 1953, Evelyn continued to winter at Bonnet House. She made a gift of the estate to the Florida Trust for Historic Preservation in 1983 to ensure that a piece of Florida history would be enjoyed by future generations.

Bonnet House is situated on a coastal barrier island with the Atlantic Ocean to the east and the Intracoastal Waterway to the west. Barrier islands protect the mainland from the impact of the ocean tides and currents and provide a habitat for many kinds of wildlife. Much of the natural environment of barrier islands has been lost today to commercial development. The Bonnet House estate and nearby Hugh Taylor Birch State Park are significant remnants of this coastal wilderness in Broward County.

A walk along the Nature Trail allows you to step back in time and experience a rare piece of old South Florida. You will walk the footpaths of the Birch and Bartlett families and cross the paths of much earlier inhabitants of this area such as the Tequesta Indians, who occupied these coastal areas from 2000 BC to 1700 AD. The area was also visited by European explorers around 1500 AD and a House of Refuge was built on the beach here in 1876 as a shelter for shipwrecked sailors.

ACCREDITED BY THE AMERICAN ALLIANCE OF MUSEUMS
LISTED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
A CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE HISTORIC LANDMARK



10 ORCHID GREENHOUSE - Here is where some of the extensive orchid collection is cared for and housed when the orchids are not in bloom.

11 ROSIE'S PALACE - A small barn named for Mr. Birch's mule now houses the restored 1935 Case "CC" tractor that replaced Rosie.

12 CADILLAC GARAGE - The Bartletts' original 1941 Cadillac Deluxe Convertible Sedan is parked here. Frederic and Evelyn Bartlett purchased this car at the 1941 Miami Auto Show and used it for local transportation while in winter residence in Fort Lauderdale.

13 STAFF COTTAGES - The upstairs rooms, originally used as living quarters for the staff, are now used as office space and Resident Security. Downstairs continues to be a laundry room, service garage and storage areas. The Event Rental, Marketing & Education Offices are located here.

14 ORCHID LATH HOUSE - This structure provides a protected environment for some of the several hundred orchid plants that comprise Evelyn Bartlett's collection. Some of Mrs. Bartlett's original specimens are decades old.