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Remaining Lake Boynton Estates gate designated historic

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Posted: 3:34 p.m. Wednesday, April 23, 2014

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BY [ALEXANDRA SELTZER](#) - PALM BEACH POST STAFF WRITER

BOYNTON BEACH – Near the American Legion Post 164 on Ocean Avenue in Boynton Beach, there’s a tall, white gateway entry feature. It’s the only remaining piece of a 3-part gate designed in 1925 during the Florida Land Boom era to enter into the Lake Boynton Estates subdivision.

The area has changed – Interstate 95 and Tri-Rail tracks took over the area – and the once beautiful and extravagant entrance-way no longer remains.



Fig. 10. Postcard showing the gates at Lake Street (Boynton Beach Boulevard) (Photo: Boynton Beach Historical Society)

Lake Boynton Estates gate (past)

But now, the one piece that is still there is part of the Boynton Beach Register of Historic Places and can not be touched without getting the Historic Resources Preservation Board’s input.

“The gates themselves cost almost as much as a small house to be built,” said Warren Adams, the city’s historic planner. “They really announced your arrival into the subdivision.”

The board wanted the gate to be designated historic and city commissioners approved it on April 16.



Adams said he doesn’t know what happened to the two other gate pieces, but they aren’t

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Lake Boynton Estates gate (present)

there anymore. One was on Boynton Beach Boulevard. The gate feature is associated with Kelsey D. Purdy who platted the subdivision and other subdivisions including The Lawns, Boynton Heights and Lakeside Gardens. The gate has classic details including an urn, volutes and acanthus leaves.

City commissioners asked what the cost would be to install a plaque at the gate to

inform the public what the cement piece is. Adams is working on a figure and will present it later.

But there's already someone who is interested in fixing it.



The only remaining entrance gate at Lake Boynton Estates has been designated historic. The Lake Boynton Estates is said to be ... [Read More](#)

Ken Nichols, who is the commander of the nearby American Legion, said he plans to raise the idea of repainting the fixture, and might even have the Boy Scouts beautify the area around it.

"It's really an important part of the history of Boynton because this was a major thoroughfare before (Interstate) 95," Nichols said. "There's a lot of history back here."

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