



Memorandum

Memorandum No: 22-095

Date: August 17, 2022

To: Honorable Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Commissioners

From: Greg Chavarria, City Manager 
Greg Chavarria (Aug 19, 2022 17:50 EDT)

Re: Florida Historical Marker for Rivermont Archaeological Site – Proposed Text

On February 16, 2021, the City Commission adopted a resolution approving the historic designation of the property known as “Rivermont” located at 1016 Waverly Road as an Archaeological Site in the City of Fort Lauderdale and on April 20, 2022, Rivermont was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The City is now preparing an application to the Florida State Historic Preservation Office to place a Historical Marker at this site. Below is the proposed text which was shared with the Historic Preservation Board at their August 1, 2022, meeting. The board members expressed that they were in favor of the marker and the proposed text but did not vote on a motion to express their support.

Proposed Marker Text

Rivermont is an archaeological site part of what was once a large prehistoric site complex located on the north bank of the New River, within today's Sailboat Bend Historic District. Once a thriving Tequesta village and ceremonial complex, this site holds at least 2000 years of documented prehistoric occupation and activity. The Tequesta were Indigenous people who predated the Seminoles and inhabited southeast Florida from Boca Raton to Key West, and the Everglades. They were well adapted to the varied environments of South Florida. Rivermont is likely the best-preserved prehistoric site in eastern Broward County, representing one of the most intact and deepest surviving black earth middens on the New River. It has been known since the 19th century and visited as early as 1908 by prominent American archaeologist, M.R. Harrington. Rivermont was locally designated by the City of Fort Lauderdale as an Archaeological Site in 2021 and was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2022.

Next Steps

An application to the Florida Historic Marker Program will be submitted to the State Historic Preservation Office for review. If approved, the marker will be ordered and installed at the Rivermont Archaeological Site in coordination with the Parks and Recreation Department. It is expected that this process will take approximately six to nine months to complete.

For additional information please contact Chris Cooper at Ccooper@fortlauderdale.gov.



Sample Marker

- C: Tarlesha W. Smith, Esq. Assistant City Manager
- Anthony G. Fajardo, Assistant City Manager
- Susan Grant, Assistant City Manager
- Alain E. Boileau, City Attorney
- David Soloman, City Clerk
- Patrick Reilly, Interim City Auditor
- Department Directors
- CMO Managers