

Collins Canal

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March 25, 2012

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The Collins Canal is a man-made canal that links Biscayne Bay, on the west, to Lake Pancoast, on the east, that is south of Dade Boulevard, and was built by John S. Collins in 1912. It is considered the oldest, still existing, built structure in the city of Miami Beach, and celebrates its centennial this year. John Collins planned the canal for the purposes of allowing easy transportation from his avocado farm to Biscayne Bay, and to provide a scenic backdrop for his real estate holdings, especially his hotel site on 23rd site.

A timeline of the Collins Canal follows:

- . canal under construction:
 - earliest citation - 7/6/1912 MH
 - other citations - 7/10/1912 MDM, 7/11/1912 MH, 8/31/1912 MH
- . canal completed, earliest citation - 11/21/1912 MH
- . canal used, earliest citation - 12/5/1912 MH
- . canal named "Collins Canal", 2/25/1913 MH
- . Miami Dade Plat Book:
 - earliest citation, unnamed - 12/11/1912 [2/47]
 - earliest citation, named "Collins Canal" – 6/1915 [5/7]

Citations that detail the building of the canal can be found in the following sources:

1. Miami Dade Plat Book:

. Plat book 2, page 47, dated 12/11/1912, the earliest plat filed by John Collins, has the canal platted. It is not named but identified as "Canal from Biscayne Bay to Lake", and the land description section mentions "the canal recently dredged extending from said lake to Biscayne Bay".

. Plat book 5, page 7, dated June 1915, had the canal named as the "Collins Canal".

2. "The Miracle of Miami Beach", J. N. Lummus, 1940:

In this book, in the section where Lummus discusses the construction of Collins Avenue, he mentions "It took ten men one week to cut a right-of-way from where Mr. Collins was having the canal dug to South Beach."

3. "Forty Years of Miami Beach", Ruby Leach Carson, *Tequesta: The Journal of the Historical Association of Southern Florida*, Volume 1, number 15, 1955:

"Anyway, my grandfather was "agriculturally minded," said Arthur Pancoast. "He wanted to make a go of farming developments on cleared swamp land first. Then that ocean strip not suited to farming he thought could be available for a city later. He did not think of starting a city development until he needed a canal for solution of his farm transportation problems. Then he knew a canal would help in both developments." – Page 7

"He [Thomas Pancoast] arrived in 1911 and helped Collins direct the work on his canal. It was dug from what is now Lake Pancoast, to Biscayne Bay, and quickly became one of the most beautiful features of Miami Beach. It still retains his name. Both Collins and Pancoast realized at this time that the canal would not only provide a quick way to get his avocados to market, but also would help open up an area which would soon be in demand for residences. If homes were to be built, then a bridge for vehicles would be needed." – Page 9

"In 1914 T. J. Pancoast built a mansion on the edge of the deepened wading pool which connected Collins Canal with Indian Creek, and which had been named Lake Pancoast." – Page 11

"By July of 1924, the first coconut tree was planted on the Nautilus grounds and the road building was proceeding. The rock for this was hauled from the mainland on barges. They were floated up Collins Canal to the bantam line railroad which the Fisher interests were using." – Page 17

4. "Miami Beach: A History", Howard Kleinberg, 1994

"Collins also had ideas about transportation. Taking his crop over to the railroad in Miami was a tedious process. It first had to be hauled overland to the western edge of the beach, then barged up the east side of the bay, across the northern portion and then down the west side of Miami, a distance of seven miles. It was the overland route Collins first sought to eliminate. He decided, in 1911, that he needed to build a canal from Indian Creek to Biscayne Bay, which would allow him to barge his avocados directly to the city. To avoid the shallow and still reptile-infested Crocodile Hole to the north, Collins cut his canal from a grass-covered pond on the southern edge of Indian Creek southwest to the bay, the spoil bank becoming today's Dade Boulevard."

5. Miami Daily Metropolis, 7/10/1912, "Free Gift of Ten Acres on the Ocean Offered Miami City as a Public Park by Ocean Beach Improvement Company":

This article discusses the donation of land by John Collins to the city, for what is now called Collins Park. It has numerous mentions of the canal.

. "Location convenient of access via bridge or canal."

. "the tract he [John Collins] offers the city for park purposes is near the head of Indian creek, the location being convenient of access either via canal or the new bridge which the company is now arranging to build across the bay."

. "the [bridges'] real terminal being at the mouth of the canal which is now being dug. The canal will traverse the entire peninsula, giving water front to those inland . . .

Considerable clearing has already been made back from the canal and it is the purpose of the company to build a large hotel."

. "people availing themselves of the advantage of the park will have the same access to the bridge and canal as would owners of private property"

6. Miami Herald:

. 7/6/1912, "The Great Improvements Now Being Made at Collins' Ranch, Across Bay"

"Mr. Collins concluded a short cut to the ocean beach would be necessary . . . Securing a dredge, a channel was first made from a point out in the bay a quarter of a mile off . . . and ending where the canal proper begins. The canal, it was intended, should cut directly across the peninsula to a small lake at the head of what is known as Indian creek . . . another dredge was added to the little fleet . . . These two machines are now within a few hundred yards of each other and by September 15th, according to the estimate of Thomas J. Pancoast . . . they will have met"

. 7/11/1912, "Cite for Park Is Tendered the City Free"

"The location is stated to be easy of access both via the canal and the proposed new bridge."

. 8/31/1912, "Thomas J. Pancoast Returns to Miami to Make His Home"

"Things have gone along very well on the canals also, although there has been some delay on the main canal ...there being only about 800 feet yet to excavate to the head of Indian Creek. Dredge No. 2 is still at work widening, deepening and straightening out Indian creek, and as soon as the connection is made both machines will engage in digging out a basin at the head of creek, which is to be made a pivotal point for the social life of that entire section"

6. Miami Herald (Continued)

. 11/21/1912, "Dredging of Canal to the Head of Indian Creek Has Been Finished"

"The dredging of the canal from Biscayne bay at a point where the Collins bridge touches the peninsula to the head of Indian creek, which is to give access by boat to the Collins property, was completed a few days ago, and one can now go by water across the peninsula to within 150 yards of the ocean."

. 12/5/1912, "County Commissioners Viewed the Proposed Beach Boulevard"

"After crossing the bay the party viewed the eastern terminus of the bridge, . . . afterward proceeding up the canal to the basin at the head of Indian creek."

. 2/25/1913, "Will Have Regular Service to Indian Creek"

"The launch Virginian will leave from the Twelfth street pier . . . for the head of Indian creek via the Collins canal."

DREDGING OF CANAL TO THE HEAD OF INDIAN CREEK HAS BEEN FINISHED

And Now A Basin For The Anchorage Of Yachts Is Being Made

VARIOUS CAUSES, MOSTLY HEAVY WEATHER, RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DELAY IN COMPLETING COLLINS BRIDGE—BUILDING OF THE STEEL DRAW BRIDGE IS NOW PROGRESSING RAPIDLY.

The dredging of the canal from Biscayne bay at a point where the Collins bridge touches the peninsula to the head of Indian creek, which is to give access by boat to the Collins property, was completed a few days ago, and one can now go by water across the peninsula to within less than 150 yards of the ocean. Some time previous, the channel in Indian creek was finished, and both dredges are now engaged in digging out the basin at the head of the creek, lying back of the hotel site and adjoining the new city park recently donated to Miami by Mr. Collins.

The basin is really a miniature lake that is being deepened to furnish anchorage for the pleasure boats when they run across from the city to visit the park or remain for any other purpose. Without it motor boats could not approach the dock that is to be built, nor would there be any place where they could tie up without interrupting navigation. While the main portion of the dredging is completed for the time being, it is the intention of Mr. Collins to continue the work until the entire lake has been deepened and the channel widened out in the creek to its full width. The present basin is being made 100 feet wide and 200 feet long.

Various causes have occasioned more or less delay in driving the piles in the gap yet to be closed in the bridge being built across the bay. Heavy weather has had much to do with the comparatively slow progress, the stiff breeze making it all but impossible at times to hold the pile driver in position. Then the barges have been impressed on two occasions to be used as lighters. But in spite of all of that, Engineer Conklin has kept his work ahead of the schedule, and if nothing unforeseen should happen, the big structure will be completed well within the time specified in the contract.

The building of the steel draw bridge is rapidly being accomplished by the sub-contractor and the parts will be on the ground ready to be assembled long before the bridge is open to traffic. The most tedious work in the building of the draw will be in the making of the concrete pier upon which the bridge will revolve. That once in position, the putting together of the bridge will occupy comparatively little time.

FREE GIFT OF TEN ACRES ON THE OCEAN OFFERED MIAMI CITY AS A PUBLIC PARK BY OCEAN BEACH IMPROVEMENT COMPANY

John S. Collins, President of the Company, Makes the Offer by
Telegraph to Secretary Ward of the Board of Trade,
Detailed Information Coming by Mail

PROPOSED PARK HAS FRONTAGE OF 400 FEET ON THE OCEAN

RIPIARIAN RIGHTS ALSO GO WITH THE OFFER—CITY HAS FOR
YEARS ENDEAVORED TO SECURE PUBLIC PARK WITH
BEACH. ORDINANCE NOW PENDING IN THE CITY COUNCIL
PROVIDES FOR \$40,000 FOR PARK AND DOCK PURPOSES—
PROPOSED PARK IS IN IDEAL LOCATION AND OF EASY AC-
CESS FROM CITY.

+++++
The Miami Beach Improve-
ment company offers a free gift
to the city of Miami of ten
acres of land containing four
hundred feet of ocean front
with riparian rights, located
near the head of Indian creek,
for city park purposes. Loca-
tion convenient of access via
bridge of canal. More definite
information follows by mail.
JOHN S. COLLINS.

Offering to the city a tract of land
on the ocean beach, the tract contain-
ing ten acres with four hundred feet
of ocean front with riparian rights,
the Ocean Beach Improvement com-
pany through its president, John S.
Collins, in the above telegram to Sec-
retary Ward of the Board of Trade,
would generously provide Miami
with a public park and playground.
The telegram was received this
morning, but no action has as yet
been taken by the Board of Trade or
the city council. Mr. Ward saying
that probably nothing would be done
until the promised letter from Mr.
Collins containing more detailed in-
formation is received.

The offer of the Ocean Beach Im-
provement company comes unsolicit-
ed, as far as it is known, and this
makes it all the more appreciated,
the secretary of the board of trade
making the statement that the entire
populace ought to feel more than
grateful to Mr. Collins for his gen-
erous gift, and that the gift ought
to be accepted without question. The
city has for some time considered
the feasibility of buying land on the
beach for park purposes, but in the
offer of the Collins property as a
free gift it is now believed that there
will be no necessity of supplement-
ing this with a purchase.

Fine Location for Park.

According to the telegram from
Mr. Collins, the tract he offers the
city for park purposes is near the
head of Indian creek, the location
being convenient of access either via
canal or the new bridge which the

company is now arranging to build
across the bay. The bridge will be
built across the bay opposite the
northern part of the city, the ap-
proach on this side being near the
"Garden of Eden" while the ocean
terminal will be on the Collins prop-
erty. The eastern end will first
strike land on Bull's Island. The is-
land will be crossed by a good rock
road way and a couple of spans will
connect it with the peninsula, the
real terminal being at the mouth of
the canal which is now being dug.

The canal will traverse the entire
peninsula, giving water front to
those inland as well as parties who
might build cottages on the bay or
ocean front. Considerable clearing
has already been made back from
the canal and it is the purpose of the
company to build a large hotel, pavil-
ion and other buildings here.

The new park will be adjacent to
this valuable property, and people
availing themselves of the advantage
of the park will have the same access
to the bridge and canal as would
owners of private property in the vi-
cinity.

City Has Long Wanted Park

Miami has for years wanted such
a park as is now offered by Mr. Col-
lins of the Ocean Beach Improvement
company. An effort was made to
get a bathing beach near the govern-
ment cut south of "Fairlyland" but
this fell through and the city today
has no public park or bathing beach-
es. At the last meeting of the city
council an offer was made the munic-
ipality to sell 25 acres on the penin-
sula to the city for \$16,500, but the
proposition was laid on the table for
future consideration, the city not
having the money with which to buy
lands for park purposes.

There is now pending before the
city council a bond ordinance provid-
ing for the issuance of bonds in
the sum of \$140,000, \$40,000 to
be known as park and dock bonds.
This ordinance has passed its first
two readings and will come up for
final reading and passage at the next
regular meeting of the council.

When the ordinance was intro-
duced it was generally understood.
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THE GREAT IMPROVEMENTS NOW BEING MADE AT COLLINS' RANCH, ACROSS BAY

BESIDES MAKING ONE OF THE GREATEST CITRUS FRUIT PLANTATIONS IN THE WORLD, A RESORT—A MINIATURE CONEY ISLAND WILL BE PROVIDED—BLOCKS AND LOTS LAID OUT, BIG HOTEL TO BE BUILT, CANALS CUT AND BRIDGE ACROSS BAY TO BE BUILT—THE WORK NOW UNDER WAY AND THAT CONTEMPLATED.

John S. Collins, of Moorestown, New Jersey, though just about as much at home in Miami, builded better than he knew when he acquired title to some 1,600 acres of land on the peninsula east of the city over two decades ago. Twenty years would seem a long time to wait, ordinarily, before starting to improve a bit of real estate such as that, but Mr. Collins was in no hurry. The investment, it is safe to assume, did not represent such a tremendous amount, bought at the time it was, the taxes were small and it was not until four years ago a start was made on what it is now proposed to make the show place of all show places in Dade county.

Mr. Collins is one of the largest fruit growers and exporters in the United States, having thousands of acres in peaches and other small fruits in Georgia and New Jersey, and eventually his fame in that direction will be extended to include the tropical fruits now so scarce in northern markets—avocadoes, man-

goes and grapefruit.

Much Interest Manifested.

Interest in the Collins ranch has been revived greatly within the last few months by reason of its close association with the bridge that is to be built across the bay, starting from a point about a mile above the city limits. All the holdings formerly standing in the name of J. S. Collins have been transferred to the Miami Beach Improvement Company, which company is also to be the builder of the bridge referred to.

Four years ago the work of improving the tract was begun, it being under charge of Charles Spier, now general manager of the company, and since that time operations have gone on more or less without interruption, 300 acres at present being clear and under cultivation. Each year a certain number of avocadoes and mangoes have been planted until now there are 9,000 Trapp and Pollack avocadoes and 300 Mulgoba mangoes growing, varying from one to four years of age. Last season quite a quantity of the ground was devoted to potatoes, which yielded a total of 17 cars of 400 crates each. On the ocean side of the tract, for more than a mile, are cocoanuts planted at regular intervals.

Cutting Canals.

When it was decided to improve the property, but before thoughts of a bridge across Biscayne bay had been dreamed of, Mr. Collins concluded a short cut to the ocean beach would be necessary before the proposition could be made as attractive as it should be. Securing a dredge, a channel was first made from a point out in the bay a quarter of a mile off, just missing the south end of Bull's island, and ending where the canal proper begins.

The canal, it was intended, should cut directly across the peninsula to a small lake at the head of what is known as Indian creek, though slough would be a better name for it. The work progressed slowly and another dredge was added to the little fleet, the latter being set to work dredging out a narrow and shallow channel in the creek a short distance below the lake.

Machines Near Together.

These two machines are now within a few hundred yards of each other and by September 15th, according to the estimate of Thomas J. Pancoast, secretary and treasurer of the company, they will have met, and the public will be invited to inspect one of the neatest propositions to be found in the entire county.

With a width of thirty feet on top and a depth approximating six to eight feet, almost all of the pleasure craft will be enabled to reach the elaborate resort it is proposed to es-

GREAT IMPROVEMENTS NOW BEING MADE

(From Page One)

is made with the head of the small lake. A suction dredge is to follow in the wake of the former, cleaning out the bottom and adding to its depth. Just at present the dredge in the canal is crossing a reef of coquina rock, about two feet of which is blasted out.

To Start on Bridge.

According to Mr. Pancoast, work is to be begun on the bridge across the bay immediately. The eastern end of it will first strike land on Bull's island, which is crossed, and then comes a couple of small spans and the peninsula is reached directly at the mouth of the canal now being dug. Fifty feet back from the north bank of the canal has been cleared and for a mile the boulevard that is to be a continuation of the bridge follows that bank, then crosses the canal and in a couple of hundred yards inscribes a circle around a plot that has been set aside for a big hotel.

Space has also been allotted for a pavilion and, in fact, if the expressed intentions of the management are carried out, a miniature Coney Island will arise from what but a short time ago was a tangled mass of mangrove and palmetto. Still another drive planned is a beach boulevard that shall follow the shore line for over a mile and be a model of its kind.

Lots to Be Sold.

Though primarily intended as a big fruit ranch, Mr. Collins has decided the proposition offers too many advantages to be kept from the public, and has laid out four tiers of blocks containing 415 lots facing the beach boulevard. These are being improved as rapidly as possible and by fall will be ready to be offered to the public.

Yesterday a number of the business and professional men of Miami made a trip to the Collins property as guests of Mr. Pancoast. Included in the number was George B. Celson, who has been labeled the "Burbank of Florida" for his success in budding and in-arching avocadoes and mangoes, and he it was who predicted with the present rate of increase of the acreage of tropical fruits now being carried on by Mr. Collins, in the course of five years he would have the most valuable and greatest income producing orchard of its size to be found anywhere in the world.

SITE FOR PARK IS TENDERED THE CITY FREE

JOHN S. COLLINS WILL DONATE SUCH A SITE ON THE OCEAN FRONT.

WILL BE ACCESSIBLE BY PROPOSED BRIDGE

OFFER IS WIRED THROUGH SECRETARY OF BOARD OF TRADE, STATING THAT LETTER IS FOLLOWING GIVING DETAILS OF THE PROPOSED GIFT—IS AT PROPOSED NEW RESORT.

With \$40,000 on hand, should the bond issue carry upon being submitted to the tax payers, and an acceptable site comprising ten acres donated to the city, it is more than likely within a year from date Miami will possess a public playground and bathing resort that will be a credit to the city and a monument to the generosity of the man who will have made such a thin-possible.

John S. Collins is a man who never does things by halves. Over twenty years ago he became impressed with the possibilities of this section of Florida, before Miami even had use for swaddling clothes, and he acquired several thousand acres along the keys and narrow peninsulas that are more or less scattered from one end of the east coast to the other.

Of late years he has concluded the time was ripe to make some of his holdings productive and he has expended over \$150,000 in improving a portion of the 1,600 acres owned just across the bay from the city. Three hundred acres have been cleared and planted to fruit trees, which it is intended will be the model place of its

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SITE FOR PARK IS TENDERED CITY FREE (From Page One)

kind in the state. Adjoining that plat and lying between it and the ocean he has caused to be laid out over 400 lots that are shortly to be offered the public as building sites for summer cottages.

Now, to make this summer bungalow addition doubly attractive, he has made the city an offer of ten acres for park purposes, the tract costing nothing except the price of recording the deed. The offer came yesterday in a wire to Secretary Ward, of the Board of Trade, the message stating the Miami Beach Improvement Company would be glad to make a free gift to the city of ten acres of land containing 400 feet of ocean frontage with riparian rights located near the head of Indian creek, such to be used as city park purposes. The location is stated to be easy of access both via the canal and the proposed new bridge.

The wire was signed by John S. Collins, who is president of the company making the offer, and it is stated further that more definite information was following by mail. "those who enjoy Mr. Collins' confidence do not believe he will impose any condition hard to carry out. He will naturally want the city to clear the land and make it into a sure enough park within a reasonable length of time, and he will doubtless require some surety that the city will be responsible for its upkeep and proper maintenance, but beyond that it is thought nothing more will be asked.

Should the bond issue be carried, the sum that is to be devoted to parks and public playgrounds—\$40,000—will be more than ample to defray the cost of making the Collins park into a model of its kind. Bathing pavilions and all sorts of amusements for both young and old can be provided, and Miami will have a resort to which her people can go and enjoy themselves twelve months in the year.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS VIEWED THE PROPOSED BEACH BOULEVARD

AND WITHOUT COMMITTING THEMSELVES IT IS BELIEVED THE BOARD WILL MEET THE COLLINS PEOPLE AND OTHERS HALF WAY IN THE OFFER TO ASSIST IN CONSTRUCTING THE PROPOSED HIGHWAY.

Without committing themselves officially to the proposition, it is believed the board of county commissioners will meet the Collins people and those of the Ocean Beach Investment Company half way in the offer of the realty owners mentioned in the matter of the construction of a boulevard from the end of the Collins bridge to the ocean side, and thence south to a point almost to the site of the present pavilion, and the decision to that effect is thought to have been arrived at yesterday as a result of a personal inspection of the proposed route.

All parties interested got together in the early afternoon, making the run across the bay in Mr. Collins' boat. Representing the Collins' interest were Mr. Collins in person and Mr. Pancoast; those of the Ocean Beach Company included J. E. Lummus, J. N. Lummus, J. A. McDonald, Z. T. Merritt and John Gramling, and all the members of the board of commissioners were on hand with the exception of Mr. Hinson, and there was also L. R. Railey, attorney of the board.

After crossing the bay the party viewed the eastern terminus of the bridge, which is to be the starting point of the proposed boulevard, afterward proceeding up the canal to the basin at the head of Indian creek, adjacent to the Collins townsite property. Disembarking there, the launch was sent back and around to the dock of the Ocean Beach Realty Company, the party tramping over the route of the road up the beach

almost to the bathing pavilion. After crossing the canal the road will traverse Atlantic avenue to Collins avenue, and thence run parallel with the beach about 500 feet back from the water's edge straight up to and through the property of the Ocean Beach Company, touching the park recently donated to the city by Mr. Collins as a playground.

From casual conversation had at the time, the members of the board would appear to be favorable to the proposition and it is not unlikely definite action will be taken at their next meeting. What is desired is a sixty foot roadway, fully rocked and rolled, from the terminus of the bridge to the northern line of the property of the Ocean Beach Company, from which point the plat of the townsite calls for an eighty foot boulevard.

The length of the road will be approximately three miles, and one-half of the cost of the same is to be defrayed by the property owners, who also agree to make any fills that may be necessary at their own expense. The Collins people will also put in at their expense the draw bridge that is to span the canal a short distance this side of the basin. There will be little or no grading to be done, and the work will in no ways be expensive. Should the road be constructed it will afford not only a beautiful drive via the Collins bridge, but will give easy access by automobile or any other kind of a vehicle to the ocean beach and the new casino being built by the Ocean Beach Amusement Company.

THOMAS J. PANCOAST RETURNS TO MIAMI TO MAKE HIS HOME

Is Representative of John S. Collins, Builder of Resort Across the Bay

AND HE COMES WITH MANY PLANS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF RESORT.

Piling for Bridge Are Now Out 1,750 Feet From West Shore, and 500 Feet From East Shore—Will Be Finished Within the Contract Period—Work Across Bay.

Thomas J. Pancoast, personal representative of John S. Collins, the New Jersey capitalist, donor of a ten-acre park site to the city, builder of the bridge across the bay and pioneer in the transformation of the peninsula wilderness into a paradise, returned to Miami yesterday morning, and one of his first utterances after greeting old friends was that he was here to stay, that his family would join him in a week or so and Miami was to be his future home for good and all time. "It was hard to leave a place where one had spent twenty-four years of their life, to feel that you were pulling up for good, but our interests are becoming so extensive and will be of so much consequence in the near future I decided to make the change. Mrs. Pancoast and our youngest son will join me as soon as I can arrange for the accommodation, and with the completion of the bridge we will build a home of our own across the bay. Our oldest son is a senior at Swarthmore, and the second will attend a private school, both remaining in the north for the present."

Yesterday Mr. Pancoast was closeted with his attorneys the most of the forenoon, but in the afternoon he is in company with C. D. Bowen, J. I. Conklin and George P. Cook made a trip of inspection, first of the progress being made on the bridge and later of the dredging operations.

"I found the building of the bridge," said Mr. Pancoast, "to have progressed fully as well as could be expected and there seems little doubt of it being finished some time before the expiration of the contract period. On this side the piling is now out 1,750 feet and would have been much farther had not the contractors run out of piling of sufficient length. Instead of the shortage causing a delay, however, the force and the piledriver were shifted over to the Ball's island end of the long span and 500 feet have been run out from that side. Next week the outfit will be back on this side as five carloads of the long piling are here, or will be by Monday.

"Things have gone along very well on the canal also, although there has been some delay on the main canal owing to silt and muck either having sloughed off the banks or not sufficient depth having been attained in the first place. It is being cleaned out now and as soon as finished the dredge will move to the head of the canal and resume digging, there being only about 800 feet yet to excavate to the head of Indian creek."

"Dredge No. 2 is still at work widening, deepening and straightening out Indian creek, and as soon as the connection is made both machines will engage in digging out a basin at the head of the creek, which is to be made the pivotal point for the future social life of that entire section. A suction dredge is also to be put on the main canal which will pump up sand and throw it on the north bank as a foundation for the boulevard that is to follow."

Regarding the plans for the immediate future, Mr. Pancoast said all energies were to be directed to completing the bridge as soon as possible in order to make their property more accessible than at present. After that will come the completion of the boulevard that is to extend from the east end of the bridge across the peninsula to the hotel site and ocean beach which will enable automobiles to make the run to the beach in ten minutes or less.

Following the completion of the bridge and boulevard will be taken up the perfecting of the plan of the building lots, putting the ground in shape for immediate occupancy and the laying out and construction of the roads that are to intersect the tract. A force of twenty to thirty men has been at work all summer clearing the land and making it ready for home seekers. The main boulevard will be built to the southern line of the Collins holdings where a connection will be made with a similar highway extending south as far as the present pavilion. "We have many plans for the fu-

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THOMAS J. PANCOAST RETURNS TO MIAMI TO MAKE HIS HOME

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ture," continued Mr. Pancoast, "but it will take time to work them out. Our engineer, Mr. Conklin, has been so busy with the bridge he could find time for nothing else, but it is going along so nicely now and he has a good assistant so he will be able to devote a little attention to other matters, and one of the first will be the locating of the ten acres Mr. Collins has given the city for park purposes. Mr. Collins as usual will arrive about the latter part of November for the season."

WILL HAVE REGULAR SERVICE TO INDIAN CREEK

The launch Virginian will leave at 9 o'clock in the morning from the Twelfth street pier on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for the head of Indian creek via the Collins canal.

The service will be maintained indefinitely for the benefit of those interested in the property of the Miami Beach Investment Company, which recently auctioned off one hundred of its choicest lots.



Collins Canal With Fish Strike, Gleason Waite Romer



The Scene Today (2012)



Gondolas in the Collins Canal in front of the Hubbel residence - Miami Beach, Florida, 1930



The Scene Today (2012)