Miami Beach, Florida: Sunny Isles

Anthropologists tell us that 12,000 years ago Native American settlements were found in South Florida. As European settlers made their way into South Florida, the Tequesta people controlled most of the area. They were Native Americans who fished, hunted and were fruit and root gatherers. However, agriculture was not part of their life-style. They were responsible for "Miami Circle." A site in downtown Miami that may have been their capital nearly 2,000 years ago.

The corporate history of Miami Beach began in 1915 when it was officially incorporated as a new city. Before its incorporation, in 1870, Henry Lum and his son Charles from New Jersey, bought what was then a sandbar and mangrove for twenty-five cents an acre. His purchase became a coconut farm, but rodents or rabbits, depending on your source destroyed the venture.
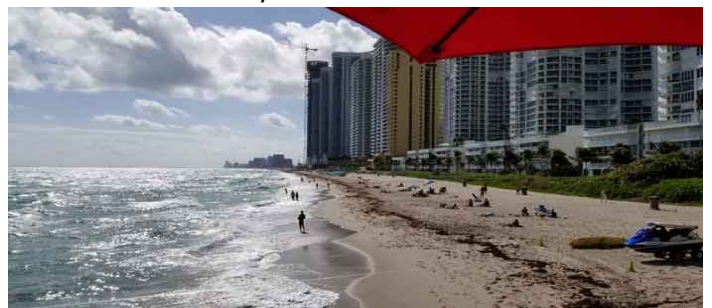
It came to John S. Collins who came later and grew more successful crops, but Miami Beach was still a mangrove with sand. South Florida development would not really happen until land owners or developers began to drain the swampland. Like most swampy places, mosquitoes, high heat and humidity plagued those who chose to clear the land for sale.

Miami history as per a <u>Miami New Times</u> article by Kyle Munzenrieder, March 26, 2016, entitled 100 Years: The Dark and Dirty History of Miami Beach. His article and others speak of Miami Beach and episodes including swamp draining, criminals, racism, international military action, politics, hurricanes, depression, snow bird retirees, gay life, art deco, building boom and some of the tallest buildings along the ocean.

Miami and Miami Beach are part of Miami-Dade County, one of Florida's 67 counties. Miami-Dade County was established in 1836. The county covers nearly 2,000 square miles. It is also the most populated county in Florida. Its name came from Miami, named after the Mayamimi Native American tribe that lived during the 17th and 18th centuries near Lake Okeechobee. The name Dade came from Francis L. Dade, who was a Major in the U.S. Army during the Second Seminole War.

Miami Beach development can be best understood by their year of incorporation. The following are in historical order: Miami Beach, 1915; Golden Beach, 1929; Surfside, 1935; Indian Creek Village, 1939; North Bay Village, 1945; Bal Harbor, 1946; Bay Harbor Islands, 1948; and Sunny Isles, 1997.

Sunny Isles is the highlighted section of Miami-Dade, Miami Beach photo-program. Sunny Isles has transitioned from motels and small beach front hotels to luxury apartments, towers and hotels with two miles of sandy beaches. Sunny Isles is halfway between Miami and Fort Lauderdale. Sunny Isles includes Haulover Beach Park and the Oleta River State Park. Sunny Isles includes Newport's Fishing Pier, a newly designed 776 foot-long pier that has been rebuilt after being devastated in 2005 by Hurricane Wilma.

Drinks: Blood Mary w/Shrimp garnish
&
Ginger Mule

acuri.net   John R. Vincenti   Sunny Isles: Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, Florida