Mizner left mark on West Coast coast, also

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ST. PETERSBURG --- The legendary Addison Mizner, whose press agent billed as "The Poet of Architects," was the most noted designer along Florida’s glittering lower East Coast. But his influence also extended to Jacksonville at the northeast corner of the state, and to St. Petersburg on the West Coast.

Mizner, who with his brother Wilson, became known as "The Legendary Mizners," designed the Cloister Inn at Boca Raton, the Everglades Club and numerous homes for the wealthy in posh Palm Beach. Among his multimillionaire clients were Joseph P. Kennedy, the Vanderbilts, the Wanamakers and the Stotesburys.

Addison rode high, wide and handsome throughout the boisterous boom in Florida real estate in the late 1920's. But the grandiose activity collapsed, and Mizner's bubble also burst. He continued to design buildings wherever he could. He was the architect for the Riverside Baptist Church in Jacksonville, and then he came over to St. Petersburg. He was working on "the Williams home" at 510 Park Street, North, (photo) when he died in 1933. It’s a beautiful showplace to this day and features the deft touch of the famed architect. The house is noted for its two-story retunda which centers the house. It was reputed to have cost $500,000 in the 1930x.

Considered one of Florida’s finest mansions, the Park Street home was sold to Charles Holin, owner of Holin Tackle Co. of Detroit and Windsor, Ont., in 1967. The handsome estate is in an area which the developer, Walter P. Fuller; chose to build his own personal home during the "Boom." Fuller later went "grandly broke" and lost the residence at 450 Park St., N.