

For 55 years the Arches stood as the entrance to FMB, and became the identity of the town itself. While they should not have been destroyed, 20 years later, rebuilding them was in the original Town of FMB 1999 Comprehensive Plan. Today, over 4 decades later, the Arches remain a symbol of importance to our community, as evidenced by the full wall mural of the Arches behind TFMB Council chambers, and a first place listing in the Estero Island Historic Society FMB Historic Island Tour Brochure "Footprints in Time".

Even with a strong connection, funding the restoration did not get support due to concerns about the cost and where to locate them, and as Fort Myers Beach grew, officials addressed higher priority requirements to meet infrastructure needs and provide services. Those needs continue, but with an acceptable scaled down proposal, and our proposed public private partnership, the project has gained acceptance, but needs financial assistance to help with the plans to keep the project moving forward.

In 1979, the Jaycees, citizens and politicians worked hard to save the original Tom Phillips 1924 Arches from FDOTs planned destruction and proposed a plan to save and relocate them to a park. The bridge contractor agreed and FDOT was told to stand down until they could be moved. Everything was in place to save our Arches, but one key thing did not happen, nobody told the wrecking ball sub-contractor. Everyone was in disbelief, but our Arches were gone for lack of communication. Even the contractor recognized the importance, as he paid to remove and stored the remains at his home for 40 years.

In the book Coconuts and Coquinas they wrote "The demolition of the Arches symbolized an end of an era for FMB". Today, with the help of our Town, County, and State governments, we hope to restore a link to and remember that era by building the Commemorative Arch.

Make checks payable to :
Restore Fort Myers Beach Arches, Inc

4" X 8" BRICK

You can order 4" x 8" brick with up to 3 lines of engraving and up to 18 characters per line for only

\$ 100

Send brochure with checks to:
Restore Fort Myers Beach Arches, Inc,
11796 S. Cold Creek Place, Vail, AZ 85641

8" X 8" BRICK

You can order 8" x 8" brick with up to 6 lines of engraving and up to 18 characters per line for only

\$ 225

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HELP

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BEACH ARCHES, INC

BUILD THE

COMMEMORATIVE

ARCH



