

Residents of Hobe Sound's London Street want road renamed for black family

Nine homeowners petitioned the county to change it to Lundy Street
By GEORGE ANDREASSI

HOBE SOUND — Several London Street residents have lived there long enough to remember when it was called Lundy Street after the black family who once owned a large swath of northern Hobe Sound.

That's why they have embraced a proposal for Martin County to officially rename the quiet dead-end road Lundy Street.

"It's fine to go back to what it was," said Tiny McClain, who has owned a home a London Street for more than 40 years. "Lundy. That was named after the lady that used to own all this property."

Several longtime homeowners said their street was called Lundy Street when they first moved in 40 to 50 years ago.

Located west of Dixie Highway, one block south of Pettway Street, London Street is part of the Pearl Lundy Subdivision, county records show.

The road officially became known as London Street more than 40 years ago, but none of the homeowners said they know why.

Several longtime homeowners said they raised their children on London Street and enjoy the peace and quiet of the family-oriented street.

"It's about the quietest street, I think, here," McClain said. "Everybody just about knows everybody here."

Martin Commissioner Lee Weberman, whose district includes Hobe Sound, said he expects the commissioners to approve the name change during their meeting Tuesday at the county Administrative Center in Stuart.

"It was a request of the residents," Weberman said. "I think it's a good thing. It promotes the neighborhood. It makes people feel more connected to their neighborhood."

Nine homeowners on London Street signed a petition supporting the name change and one homeowner came out against it, county records show.

Chris Ferguson, who has lived on London Street since 1961, is among those who would like to see the name officially changed to Lundy Street.

"I think it's a nice idea," Ferguson said. "It's been named Lundy Street ever since I came to this street."