



A FLORIDA HERITAGE PUBLICATION

# Florida Women's Heritage Trail

# FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS



The *Florida Women's Heritage Trail* was produced in cooperation with the Florida Association of Museums (FAM). The Florida

Association of Museums is a nonprofit corporation, established for educational purposes. It provides continuing education and networking opportunities for museum professionals, improves the level of professionalism within the museum community, serves as a resource for information on Florida's museums,

raises the visibility of museums in the state and serves as a liaison between museums and government.

FAM is managed by a board of directors elected by the membership, which is representative of the spectrum of museum disciplines in Florida. FAM has succeeded in providing numerous economic, educational and informational benefits for its members.

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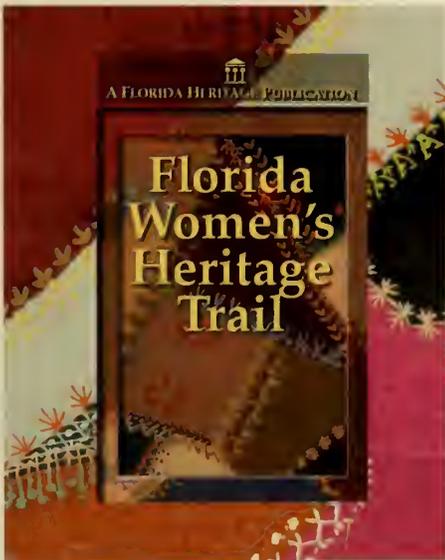
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On the Cover: Sections from three 1880s crazy quilt blocks from the Tallahassee Museum of History & Natural Science permanent collection. Crazy quilts, popular during the late 19th century, are made from differently colored and sized pieces of wool, velvet and silk fabrics, sewn together with fancy embroidery stitches.

Many of the sites listed in this publication are listed in the National Register of Historic Places, either individually or as contributing resources in a historic district. The National Register is an official list of historically significant properties located throughout the country. The list is maintained by the National Park Service, and includes places that have been documented as significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture, at the local, state, or national level. For information on the National Register, consult the National Park Service's National Register website at [www.cr.nps.gov/nr/](http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/), call the Florida Department of State, Bureau of Historic Preservation at (850) 245-6333 or (800) 847-7278 or visit [www.flheritage.com](http://www.flheritage.com).

# INTRODUCTION



**Orange City Elementary School students and their teacher, Miss Pickney. 1934. Florida Photo Archives**

**W**ithin this book are brief outlines of over 100 women significant in Florida's history. In each case, a historic site or marker exists to illustrate their role in defining the state's past, present, and future. These stories begin with early native Indians and Spanish pioneers, and continue through the end of the 20th century. The impact of their lives and work often reaches far beyond the shores and borders of the Sunshine State. Although these women are no longer with us, their impact is felt today in the State of Florida and its people.

## PATTERNS OF HISTORY

Historically, the creation of quilts was the province of women. These products of labor and love came to represent the intricate, diverse patterns of women's lives. Quilts speak today of women's changing roles. Details from the blocks of an elaborately embroidered, late 19th-century crazy quilt from the collection of the Tallahassee Museum of Science and Natural History are featured on the cover of *Florida Women's Heritage Trail*. Details of a 20th-century Yo-Yo quilt illustrate the features inside.

In the 19th century, quilting often served as a woman's self-expression. An essential skill, often passed down

from mother to daughter, it inspired quilting bees and sewing circles — the forerunners of modern women's clubs. Quilts provided warmth, beautified the home, and marked important passages in life — birth, marriage, and death. Quilts reflected women's role as mother, daughter, sister, and wife.

Into the 20th century, the fabric and patterns of American women's daily life began to change. Hard won opportunities redirected energy and interest toward the working world and public service. Many women redirected their talents to support social reforms such as the temperance movement and the right to vote.

Florida authors of the 1930s and 1940s, Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings and

Zora Neale Hurston, portrayed quilts as ritual. Hurston's novel, *Seraph on the Suwanee*, features middle-aged Arvay, closing her dead mother's eyes and wrapping her in three quilts of her mother's making. In "Cracker Chidlings," a work of short fiction, Rawlings draws the picture of a group of women gathered together at Aunt Mag's for a quilting bee from where the word goes out that a joke will be played that night on a newcomer to town.

At the beginning of the 21st century, women continue to redefine their roles as reflected in the achievements of Floridians such as Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry and Elaine Gordon. Quilts and quilting have also been redefined. The AIDS Memorial Quilt became a national symbol, a creative means for remembrance and healing. The quilt has become widely accepted among both male and female artists as a work of art, collected by museums and displayed in exhibits such as the annual Capital City quilt show of the Museum of Florida History. Quilts tell women's stories. They represent the strong and delicate threads which weave women into Florida's heritage — a past we all share, and that binds us all together.



**Quilting at the Florida Folk Festival 1957. Florida Photo Archives**

# NORTH FLORIDA

## ESCAMBIA COUNTY

### PENSACOLA

#### **Barkley House**

410 South Florida Blanca Street  
(850) 595-5985

Built for **Clara Louise Garnier Barkley** (1800-1867) in 1830, this home is one of the oldest masonry houses in Florida. Once called a "high house" because of its elevated first floor, the building's construction resembles that of early masonry houses of New Orleans and Louisiana. The Creole influences are evident in its wide gallery porch and gables, combined with a center-hall floor plan. The Barkley House was restored by the Pensacola Heritage Foundation.

#### **Dorr House**

311 South Adams Street  
(850) 595-5985

**Clara Barkley Dorr** (1825-1899), the daughter of Clara Louise Garnier Barkley, grew up in the Barkley House. In 1870, following the death of her husband and eldest son, she purchased land in Pensacola's most prestigious residential neighborhood and built this classically inspired house. Here she raised her five remaining children. During the 1890s, the home was used as a private school for the children of Pensacola's wealthy families. The home remains substantially unchanged and is completely furnished with antiques from the 1850s to the 1890s.

#### **Julee Cottage Museum**

210 East Zaragoza Street  
(850) 595-5985

The cottage belonged to **Julee Panton**, a "free woman of color" who worked to purchase the



freedom of her fellow blacks. The cottage was later owned by a succession of free black women. The simple wooden vernacular building, built between 1804 and 1808 during the Second Spanish Period, is Pensacola's only surviving example of "to the sidewalk" construction. Its pegged framing and beaded ceilings were carefully preserved for its new role as a black history museum.

#### **Lavalle House**

205 East Church Street  
(850) 595-5985

**Carlos Lavalle** and **Marianna Bonifay** (1760-1829), a French widow, built this rare surviving example of French Creole colonial architecture in 1805 during Florida's Second Spanish Period. The house is furnished with 18th- and 19th-century antiques recreating frontier life in the 1820s.

## LEON COUNTY

### TALLAHASSEE

#### **Bellevue**

Tallahassee Museum of History  
and Natural Science  
3945 Museum Drive  
(850) 575-8685

Bellevue is the former home of **Catherine Daingerfield Willis Gray Murat** (1803-1867), great-grandniece of George Washington, widow of Achille Murat, Prince of Naples and nephew of Napoleon Bonaparte. Catherine bought the modest story-and-a-half house and 520 acres of land in 1854. Built between 1838 and 1841, the house is an example of indigenous southern architecture, part of a "carpenter tradition" using construction practices passed from generation to generation. The high ceilings, central hallway, and wide porches are well-suited for a hot, humid climate. It is a simple, frame vernacular plantation residence. Catherine Murat lived at Bellevue part of each year. She was an active supporter of the Confederate cause during the Civil War and once fired a cannon from the Capitol steps



## ELAINE GORDON

### STATE LEGISLATOR

Elaine Gordon was born in New York City in 1931 and moved to Florida in 1964. In 1972, she was elected to the Florida House of Representatives—the first woman ever elected to represent her district. Representative Gordon was the prime sponsor of a series of women’s rights bills including the Equal Rights Amendment and a bill that eliminated mandatory divorce for spouse abuse victims seeking restraining orders. In 1976, she was instrumental in passing legislation establishing a Displaced Homemaker Program offering job counseling, wellness clinics, and financial and educational services to divorced women who spent their lives as homemakers. She sponsored legislation creating the Florida Commission on the Status of Women and, in 1982, was the first woman inducted into the Florida Women’s Hall of Fame. In 1992 she became the Dean of the Florida House, a ceremonial title reserved for the longest-serving member. She was the first woman elected Speaker Pro-Tempore and the first recipient of the State of Florida United Way Humanitarian Award. Elaine Gordon died on February 25, 2000.

announcing Florida’s secession from the Union. In 1967, 100 years after Catherine Murat’s death, the Junior League of Tallahassee, the Florida Heritage Foundation, and the Tallahassee Museum of History and Natural Science saved Bellevue, and moved it to its current site. Catherine Murat is buried in the St. John’s Episcopal Cemetery in Tallahassee.

**State Library of Florida, Division of Library and Information Services**  
**R. A. Gray Building**  
**First and Second Floors**  
**500 South Bronough Street**  
**(850) 245-6600**

**Dorothy Dodd (1902-1994)** was the first archivist for the State of Florida. She was largely responsible for beginning the Florida Collection of the State Library of Florida. The collections of the Florida State Archives include State Government Records, Local Government Records, Manuscripts (Non-Governmental Records), the Florida Photographic Collection, and the Genealogical Collection. A published guide to women’s history resources is also available. Dr. Dodd wrote and edited *Florida Becomes a State* in 1945.

**Knott House Museum**  
**301 East Park Avenue**  
**(850) 922-2459**

The Knott House was built about 1843 as a wedding gift for **Catherine Gamble** and territorial lawyer Thomas Holmes Hagner. Catherine was the sister of Major Robert Gamble, builder of the 1845 Gamble House near Bradenton and South Florida’s only surviving antebellum plantation house. In the Spring of 1865, Union Brigadier General Edward M. McCook arrived in Tallahassee and established his headquarters in the Knott House. On May 20, 1865, while residing at the Knott House, McCook issued President Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation. Each year on May 20 a ceremony commemorating the event is held at the Knott House. In the early 20th century, three Florida Supreme Court justices and their families lived there in succession. **Louella Knott (1871-1965)** and her family acquired the home in 1928. All of the furnishings in the house date from the Knott family. Poems she wrote hang from the furniture just as she left them, giving the Knott House its nickname, “the house that rhymes.”

**Maclay State Gardens**  
**3540 Thomasville Road**  
**(850) 487-4556**

This park was once part of a 3,760-acre hunting estate owned by Alfred B. Maclay, a New York financier. He and his wife designed ornamental gardens for the property, including a Camellia Walk, Walled Garden and Secret Garden. After her husband’s death in 1944, **Louise Maclay (1885-1973)** opened her 28-acre ornamental garden to the public and in 1953 donated 307 acres to the state. Today, close to 100 varieties of camellias and 50 varieties of azaleas bloom from December through April.



**The Knott House Museum,  
Tallahassee**

**Museum of Florida History**  
R.A. Gray Building, Ground Floor  
500 South Bronough Street  
(850) 245-6400

Many of the museum's permanent exhibits and collections provide information on the role of women in the development of Florida. The **First Ladies' Gown Collection** commemorates the wives of the state's governors and includes several inaugural gowns. Portions of the collection are sometimes on display at the Museum of Florida History. The museum also hosts an annual quilt show and maintains archival records of the **Florida Quilt Heritage Documentation Project**, which are available to researchers upon prior request.

**Robert Manning Strozier Library**  
Florida State University  
Dogwood Way  
(850) 644-2706

**Lois Lenski** (1893-1974) was an author and illustrator of almost 100 books and illustrated more than 50 books by other writers. In 1946 she won the coveted Newbery Medal for the most distinguished contribution to literature for American children published in the previous year. The award was given for *Strawberry Girl*, a novel set on a strawberry farm in rural Florida, probably near Lakeland. In 1958 she donated a large collection of her illustrations, manuscripts, and background materials to Florida State University's Strozier Library.

## FRANKLIN COUNTY

### SUMATRA

**Millie Francis Historic Marker**  
**Fort Gadsden Site**  
**Apalachicola National Forest**  
Six miles south of Sumatra  
(850) 643-2282

Also known as the "Negro Fort," Fort Gadsden is located on the lower Apalachicola River. It was built and provisioned by the British and manned by black and Indian forces under a black commandant named Garson. American forces attacked the



fort on July 27, 1816. Some 270 of the 300 defenders were killed. On the grounds is a historic marker commemorating **Millie Francis** (1803-1848). She was the daughter of Hillis Hadjo, a Muskogee Indian chief. In March 1818, the Georgia Militia had joined General Andrew Jackson's army in the invasion of Spanish Florida. The army called a rest stop at Fort Gadsden. Duncan McKrimmon, a Georgia Militia private, was captured by Creek Indians and taken to their village on the banks of the Wakulla River. The Indians tied Duncan to a tree and prepared to kill him. Malee, or as she was later called, Millie, begged for his life. He was spared and returned to his companions. In 1844, the United States awarded Millie Francis a Congressional medal and a pension for her act of compassion.

## WALTON COUNTY

### POINT WASHINGTON

**Eden State Gardens**  
Off U.S. Highway 98  
(850) 231-4214

One hundred years ago, Eden State Gardens was the center of a large lumbering business founded by William Henry Wesley. The timber, logged from Northwest Florida forests, was barged to Pensacola where it was shipped around the

world. In 1963, **Lois Maxon** of New York purchased the property and made extensive changes to what had once been the old Wesley home. In 1968, she donated the restored "Eden" to the State of Florida so that it could become a state park. The 1895 plantation-style house has period furnishings including Louis XV, Louis XVI, and American Empire. The gardens feature large live oaks, azaleas, and camellias.

## ALACHUA COUNTY

### CROSS CREEK

**Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings State Historic Site**  
Off County Road 325  
(352) 466-3672

Cross Creek, the home of **Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings** (1896-1953), is where the world-famous author wrote her most popular books, *The Yearling* and *Cross Creek*. Rawlings came to Cross Creek when she was 32 and drew inspiration for her books from the land and the Florida Cracker community. In 1939, she was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for fiction for *The Yearling*, the story of a 12-year-old boy and his pet deer who lived in the Florida scrub. With its raised floor and pitched roof, the Rawlings house is a fine example of "Cracker architecture" and is well-suited for the hot Florida climate.



## MARJORIE KINNAN RAWLINGS

### AUTHOR

Born Marjorie Kinnan in 1896 in Washington, D.C., she graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1918 with a B.A. degree in English. The next year she married Charles A. Rawlings, Jr., and moved with him to Rochester, New York, where she worked as a newspaper writer. In 1928, Rawlings purchased an orange grove in Cross Creek, Florida, where she and her husband subsequently moved to restore the farm to working condition. They divorced in 1933, but Rawlings stayed in Cross Creek and in 1941 married Norton Sanford Baskin, a restaurant and hotel operator. The rural atmosphere of her Florida surroundings inspired Rawlings to write fiction, including the novels *Jacob's Ladder* (1931), which was originally published as a short story, and *South Moon Under* (1933). She also wrote a semi-autobiographical work entitled *Cross Creek* (1943). Rawlings is best known for *The Yearling* (1938), the tale of a boy, his pet deer, and his sad passage to adulthood. It was made into a motion picture in 1946 and has been published in more than 20 languages. Its popular and critical success made her one of the most beloved of American authors.

The Rawlings home is open to the public and guided tours are provided. Many of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings' books, drafts, letters, and photographs are included in a collection not far from Cross Creek, at the Smathers Library East on the University of Florida campus in Gainesville.

### MICANOPY

**Payne's Prairie State Preserve**  
U.S. Highway 441  
10 miles south of Gainesville  
(352) 466-3397

**Marjorie Harris Carr** (1915-1997), through her leadership and commitment, made a significant impact by protecting part of Florida's environment. She began her work in the early 1960s by bringing attention to what would become the Payne's Prairie State Preserve. The preserve is now the last protected example of the Florida prairie that once stretched across this part of the state. Carr led the Florida Defenders of the Environment during the 1970s and focused its efforts on stopping construction of the Cross-Florida Barge Canal. In 1976 the barge canal was deauthorized and the Ocklawaha River was restored to its pristine beauty, thanks largely to her perseverance and foresight. The group was also instrumental in the creation of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1980.

## COLUMBIA COUNTY

### LAKE CITY

**Florida Sports Hall of Fame and Museum of Florida Sports History**  
601 Hall of Fame Drive  
(904) 758-1310

Exhibits and video displays highlight some of Florida's great women athletes, including **Babe Didrikson Zaharias** (1911-1956), called the "Greatest Woman Athlete of the First Half of the 20th Century" by the Associated Press; **Althea Gibson** (1927-present) who broke the color barrier at Wimbledon in 1953 and

played tennis in college at Florida A&M University; **Doris Hart**, winner of 35 Grand Slam tennis titles; **Betty Skelton Frankman** (1926-present), the first woman inducted into the International Aerobatic Hall of Fame and the International Automotive Hall of Fame; **Patty Berg** (1918-present), founder and charter member of the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) and its first president (1948-1952); **Tracy Caulkins** (1963-present), who as a swimmer won three gold medals in the 1984 Summer Olympics; **Chris Evert** (1954-present), winner of 157 singles tennis titles (a record for men and women); and **Lyn St. James**, "America's top woman race car driver."

## HAMILTON COUNTY

### WHITE SPRINGS

**Stephen Foster State Folk Culture Center**  
Off U.S. Highway 41  
(904) 397-2733

This beautiful park on the Suwannee River contains folklife memorabilia, museum displays, dioramas, and musical instruments, as well as a 97-bell carillon in a 200-foot-tall tower that plays medleys of Foster's music at regular intervals. Each year the park is the site of the Florida Folk Festival, which was founded by **Thelma Ann Boltin** (1904-1992), **Lillian Saunders** (1893-1985), and others in 1952. The two women worked tirelessly to preserve folk arts, crafts, and traditions within the state.

## DUVAL COUNTY

### JACKSONVILLE

**Community Club and Marker**  
12447 Mandarin Road  
(904) 268-1622

In the 1870s and 1880s, **Harriet Beecher Stowe** (1811-1896) and her family wintered in Mandarin. Best known for *Uncle Tom's Cabin*, Stowe

wrote *Palmetto Leaves* while living in Mandarin. It was published in 1873 and describes Northeast Florida and its residents. In 1870, Stowe created an integrated school in Mandarin for children and adults. This was an early step toward providing equal education in the area and predated the national movement toward integration by more than a half century. The marker commemorating the Stowe family is located across the street from the former site of their cottage. It is on the property of the Community Club, at the site of a church where Stowe's husband once served as a minister.

**Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens**  
**829 Riverside Avenue**  
**(904) 356-6857**

**Nina M. H. Cummer (1875-1958)** was instrumental in developing and nurturing the arts in Jacksonville. She commissioned the Olmsted Brothers firm to design Memorial Park in Riverside and founded the Garden Club of Jacksonville. Cummer is best known as the founder of the Cummer Museum where visitors can see one of the few remaining works of sculptor **Augusta Fells Savage (1900-1962)**. Cummer bequeathed one of Savage's works, *The Diving Boy*, a 34-

inch bronze, to the museum. Savage was recognized in the New York art community both as an artist and a teacher, and was part of the Harlem Renaissance. She is known for her portrait busts of famous men and women, and for her images of everyday people in the black community. The Cummer collection includes arts and artifacts from the ancient world, as well as altarpieces, tapestries, porcelain, painting and sculpture from the Middle Ages to the 20th century. It contains one of the world's largest collections of early Meissen Porcelain, featuring 700 pieces of tableware. The museum estate is surrounded by two and one-half acres of formal English and Italian gardens on the St. Johns River.

**Doggett-Tucker House (private)**  
**1548 Lancaster Terrace**  
 The Doggett-Tucker House is the childhood home of **Carita Doggett Corse (1891-1978)**, daughter of Judge and Mrs. John Locke Doggett. Corse is best remembered for her service as the Florida State Director of the Federal Writers' Project, part of the Depression Era's Work Projects Administration (WPA). From its inception in 1935, Corse served as state director, where she vigorously advocated African-American partici-



## MAY MANN JENNINGS

### CONSERVATIONIST/ACTIVIST

One of the most powerful women in Florida history, May Mann Jennings (1872-1963) was a conservationist and women's rights activist, who worked for educational reforms and improvements in public welfare. Jennings served as Florida's First Lady when her husband William Sherman Jennings was governor from 1901 to 1905. As early as 1905, she helped develop a strategy for acquiring the unprotected land which became Royal Palm Park and would later be part of the Everglades National Park. In 1914, she was elected president of the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs. Through the years of her leadership, the Florida women's club network worked for the environment, child welfare, and much more. Club women across the state worked in campaign drives, lobbied legislators, and appealed to the National Audubon Society and other organizations for assistance.



**Cummer Museum of Art, Jacksonville**

pation in the collection and writing of Florida history. During this time, she became a mentor to writer and folklorist Zora Neale Hurston. As her supervisor, Corse is credited with giving Hurston the leeway that her artistic personality required, affording her the freedom to complete her novel *Moses: Man of the Mountain*. Born in Jacksonville, Corse earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Vassar College in 1913 and a Master of Arts degree from Columbia University in 1916. The mother of four children, in 1943, Corse became the Florida State Director of the newly created Planned Parenthood where she advocated for the right for women to control their own biological destiny. In her letters, speeches and publications, Corse eloquently described Florida's rich heritage. She earned distinction as a historian, writing *Dr. Andrew Turnbull and the New Smyrna Colony* (1919) and *Key to the Golden Islands* (1931). Corse received an honorary Doctor of Letters from the University of the South in 1932. She died in Jacksonville in 1978 at the age of 87.

**Clara White Mission**  
**611-13 West Ashley Street**  
**(904) 354-4162**

The Clara White Mission is a memorial to the humanitarian activities of **Clara English White** (1845-1920), a former slave, and her adopted daughter, **Eartha Mary Magdalene White** (1876-1974). Clara White was a pioneer member of the Bethel Baptist Church. Her influence was continually felt throughout the community as she devoted her life to helping those less fortunate. The masonry vernacular building was designed by noted architect Henry John Klutho to serve as a symbol of hope for the needy. Her daughter, Eartha Mary Magdalene White, was also a humanitarian, educator and publisher. Through her efforts, a prison mission was formed. She founded the Eartha M. M. White Nursing Home, which specialized in caring for the needy, and created a senior citizens' home for African-Americans. White donated land for the city's first park for African-American children and was twice honored at White House receptions. White served as a lobbyist for African-Americans with the Jacksonville City Commission and the Florida Legislature.



**Monument to the Women of the Confederacy, Jacksonville**

**Jessie Ball duPont Park**  
**North bank of the St. Johns River**  
**Jessie Ball duPont** (1884-1970) and her husband, Alfred, became winter residents of Jacksonville in 1927. The duPonts and Jessie's brother, Edward Ball, had many business interests in Florida. She was personally involved in the Florida National Banks, the St. Joe Paper Company, and the Florida East Coast Railway. When her husband died in 1935, she became the principal trustee of his estate. In his memory, she created three foundations, including one in Florida to assist the state's needy. When she died in 1970, her will established the Jessie Ball duPont Religious, Charitable and Educational Fund.

**Kingsley Plantation**  
**Timucuan Ecological and Historical Preserve**  
**11676 Palmetto Avenue**  
**Fort George Island**  
**(904) 251-3537**

**Anna Madgigine Jai** (1793-1870), a princess from Senegal, West Africa, was sold into slavery at the age of 13 to Zephaniah Kingsley, who she soon married. After the birth of their third child in 1811, Anna Kingsley and her children were given their manumis-



**Doggal House, Jacksonville**

sion papers. Anna actively participated in plantation management, running several plantations with Zephaniah. In 1813, Anna burned her own plantation to the ground to keep it from falling into the hands of invading American troops. As a reward for her bravery, the Spanish Crown gave her lands of her own. Although Kingsley left Florida when it became an American territory, she would return after the Civil War to live on her daughter's plantation where she died in 1870. The Kingsley Plantation is one of the few remaining examples of the plantation system of Territorial Florida and is the site of the oldest plantation house in the state. Visitors to the plantation today can see Anna's house, situated over the separate kitchen, as was the Senegal custom.

**Marabanong (private)  
4749 River Point Road**

Thomas Basnett, a noted astronomer from England, built Marabanong. In 1880, he married **Eliza Wilbur** (1850-1930), a scientist and inventor from New York who was the first woman to lecture science students at Harvard. While living at Marabanong, Wilbur patented several inventions, including a large astronomical telescope and an airplane. Following the death of Basnett, she married E. Matthew Souvielle, a French doctor, and they turned the home into a health resort. In 1914, she sold the property to her cousin, **Grace Wilbur Trout** (1864-1955), an author and activist in the national women's suffrage movement.

**Monument to the Women of the Confederacy, Confederate Park  
Hogans Creek from Hubbard to Sixth Street**

In 1914, Jacksonville hosted a Confederate Veterans Reunion, where plans were made to create a monument "in memory of the women of the Southland." The Monument to the Women of the Confederacy was completed in 1915. It features a set of

steps on each of its four sides with tripled columns, which support a mansard roof. A figure of a Confederate woman stands atop the roof.

**Old Brewster Hospital (private)  
915 West Monroe Street**

The **Women's Home Missionary Society** of the Methodist Church established the first hospital for blacks in Jacksonville in this home built in 1885 by Hans Christian Peters. A gift from **Mildred Brewster** established the nurses' training facility here in 1901. By 1910, the hospital had outgrown the space and moved to other facilities. The Queen Anne style building features a two-tier verandah with jigsaw scrollwork. It now serves as a multifamily residence.

**Old Federal Reserve  
Bank Building (private)  
421 North Hogan Street**

In 1899, **Henrietta Cuttino Dozier** (1872-1947) was one of three women graduates of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a degree in architecture. Known as Jacksonville's first woman architect, she designed the Old Federal Reserve Bank Building with A. Ten

Eyck Brown. Dozier also designed the Lampru Court Apartments and several other Jacksonville buildings and homes.

**Old St. Luke's Hospital (private)  
314-318 Palmetto Street**

During the 1870s, many of the thousands of tourists who came to Jacksonville were invalids seeking moderate weather. There was no hospital in the area to care for all of the sick people who arrived. In 1873, **Anna Doggett, Susan Hartridge, and Myra Mitchell** raised enough money in three months to establish St. Luke's Hospital in a small temporary building. That building burned to the ground just days before it was to open. The second building was completed in 1878. By 1885, Florida's first modern nursing school was part of the hospital. The hospital played a major role in treating victims of the yellow fever epidemic of 1888, the typhoid epidemic of 1898, and the Great Fire of 1901. The hospital moved to a larger facility in 1914. The original building subsequently served as a coffin factory and a warehouse and was vacant for a number of years. During the 1970s, a





St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Fernandina Beach

nonprofit group was able to save the building from demolition. It now serves as the office of the Northeast Florida Arthritis Foundation.

## FLAGLER COUNTY

### PALM COAST

**Washington Oaks State Gardens**  
6400 North Oceanshore Boulevard  
(386) 446-6780

In 1936, Owen and Louise Young (1887-1965) purchased part of the historic Bella Vista Plantation, south of St. Augustine. It became their winter home. They created a garden which contained almost every kind of plant, shrub, tree, and flower that could be grown in the area. Following her husband's death in 1964, Louise donated the property to the state. Their home now serves as the park's interpretive center.

## NASSAU COUNTY

### FERNANDINA BEACH

**Bosque Bello Cemetery**  
**St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church**

**Fourteenth Street**

**Emma B. Delaney** (1871-1922) grew up on Amelia Island and was the first black woman missionary to travel alone in East Africa. There she established schools and churches,

including a school in Malawi and the Seuhn Industrial Mission in what is now Liberia. She is buried in the Bosque Bello Cemetery in Fernandina Beach. Bosque Bello Cemetery is also the site of the graves of the Sisters of St. Josephs who treated victims of the 1888 yellow fever epidemic.

**St. Peter's Episcopal Church**  
801 Atlantic Avenue  
(904) 261-4293

A stained glass window in this spectacular Gothic Revival church commemorates **Mary Martha Reid** (1812-1894), often called the "Florence Nightingale of the Confederacy." She was married to Robert Raymond Reid, a federal judge who was appointed Territorial Governor of Florida. After his death in 1841, Reid came to Fernandina Beach and taught school. During the early days of the Civil War, one of her sons enlisted in the Confederate Army. As a result, she soon realized that there was a great need for medical care for Florida Confederate soldiers near the battle sites. Reid was instrumental in establishing a 150-bed hospital on the outskirts of Richmond, Virginia in 1862, where more than 1,000 soldiers were treated. She fled Richmond when it fell to federal troops on April 2, 1865. Reid then returned to Fernandina Beach, opened a school,

and resumed her teaching. She is buried in the church's cemetery.

## ST. JOHNS COUNTY

### ANASTASIA ISLAND

**St. Augustine Lighthouse and Museum**  
81 Lighthouse Avenue  
(904) 829-0745

In 1860, upon the death of her husband, **Maria de Los Dolores Mestre Andreu** (1801-1871) became one of the nation's first female lighthouse keepers. The St. Augustine Lighthouse is one of Florida's first official lighthouses authorized by Congress, and was built in 1824 on Anastasia Island. The present 165-foot tower dates from 1874 and is the state's only spiral-banded lighthouse. It also contains its original first-order Fresnel lens.

### ST. AUGUSTINE

**Abbott Tract Historic District**  
**Twelve blocks between San Marcos Avenue and Matanzas Bay**

Residential construction in the Abbott Tract Historic District began during the 1840s and continued into the early 20th century. It takes its name from **Lucy Abbott** who spearheaded the development of this district. She came to St. Augustine in the 1860s and was one of the city's earliest real estate speculators. The neighborhood contains many examples of Victorian architecture.

### Bridge of Lions

**Cathedral Place at Matanzas Bay**  
Completed in 1927, the Bridge of Lions links the mainland portion of St. Augustine to eastern neighborhoods across Matanzas Bay on Anastasia Island. The bridge's design reflects the city's Mediterranean heritage. The bridge draws its name from the two lion statues on its western approach. **Clarissa Anderson Gibbs'** (1895-1990) father, Dr. Andrew Anderson, helped Henry Flagler begin his Florida rail and hotel empire. In the 1920s, when he purchased the lions for the bridge,

Clarissa and her brother presented them to the city. Romanelli Brothers of Florence, Italy was the firm commissioned to reproduce the lions, which are similar to those that adorn the Loggia di Lanzi in Florence. Gibbs' philanthropic endeavors included Echo House, an African-American learning and social center; the Dr. Peck House and Women's Exchange; Flagler Hospital; Flagler College, located in what was formerly the first Flagler Hotel in Florida; and the St. Augustine Historical Society.

**Abbie M. Brooks House (private)**  
50 Water Street

Abbie M. Brooks (1830-1914) was a writer who sometimes worked under the pen name **Silvia Sunshine**. She lived in St. Augustine for many years and was best known for her travel guide, *Petals Plucked from Sunny Climes*, which told of her travels throughout Florida between 1876 and 1878. She also traveled to Spain to research and transcribe colonial archives which resulted in her 1907 *Unwritten History of Old St. Augustine*. She lived her last seven years under the care of the Hopkins family at this house.

**Fountain of Youth Park**  
155 Magnolia Avenue  
(904) 829-3168

The park is the site of early Indian villages and the probable location where the 1565 colonizing expedition led by Pedro Menendez de Aviles came ashore. The legend of the location of the magical Fountain of Youth began with **Luella Day**, who promoted it as one of the city's first tourist destinations. Day was a pioneering woman physician during the Canadian Klondike gold rush who wrote of her experiences in *The Tragedy of the Klondike*.

**Fulwood House (private)**  
83 Kings Ferry Way

This simple building was for 71 years the residence of **Fannie Louise Fulwood** (1910-1944), a leader of the National Association for the Ad-

vancement of Colored People (NAACP) during the 1960s civil rights movement in St. Augustine. Fulwood, who earned her living as a housekeeper and maid, was the recipient of numerous awards, including the St. Augustine de Aviles Award and a fellowship award from the Unitarian Universalist Church.

**González-Alvarez House**  
Oldest House Museum

14 St. Francis Street  
(904) 824-2872

When the British took control of St. Augustine, Major Joseph Peavett, paymaster for the English military, purchased this house. He married **Mary Evans Fenwick** (1730-1792), a widow and midwife. Upon his death, she remarried twice and became **Mary Evans Fenwick Peavett Hudson**. In addition to her business as a midwife, she operated an inn and tavern in what is today thought to be the oldest house in Florida. She died in 1792 at her New Waterford Plantation several miles north of St. Augustine, now Guana River State Park. Two hundred years later, a fictional account of her life and times was recorded in Eugenie Price's book, *Maria*. Built in the early 1700s, the González-Alvarez House is now known as the Oldest House Museum, where nearly 400 years of life in St. Augustine are exhibited. "The Oldest House" is one of the country's most studied and best-documented historic houses and has been occupied since the Spanish built the ground floor of the structure.

**Grace United Methodist Church**  
8 Carrera Street  
(904) 829-8272

The 1887 Grace United Methodist Church was designed in the elaborate Spanish Renaissance Revival style by the New York architects John M. Carrere and Thomas Hastings. When **Wilma E. Davis** (1890-1992) was baptized there in 1893, it marked the beginning of her lifelong association with the Methodist Church. At a time in which women ministers were

rare, she was ordained a deacon in the Florida Conference of Methodism in 1924. Five years later she was ordained an elder, becoming the first woman to receive this certificate. As she traveled around the world, she maintained her association with Grace Church serving as a church pastor, working with youth and studying in Boston and the Middle East.

**Flagler Memorial Presbyterian Church**

Valencia and Sevilla Streets  
(904) 829-6451

The 1890 Memorial Presbyterian Church is a spectacular example of the Venetian Renaissance Revival style. It was built by hotel magnate Henry Flagler in memory of his daughter, **Jean Louise Flagler Benedict** (1855-1889). The church was designed by the internationally renowned architects Thomas Hastings and John M. Carrere. The remains of Flagler and his first wife, Mary, lie beside those of his daughter in a mausoleum within the church. The building's copper dome is modeled after the Basilica de San Marco in Venice.

**Mission of Nombre de Dios**  
101 San Marco Avenue  
(904) 824-2809

The Mission of Nombre de Dios was established not long after St. Augustine was founded in 1565. Today it is the site of the Shrine of Nuestra Senora de la Leche y Buen Parto. It consists of a small Mission-style building. The mission is close



to the landing site of the Pedro Menendez de Aviles expedition. Menendez was Captain General of the Indies Fleet and Governor of the Province under the King of Spain. His wife, **Maria de Solis**, is generally regarded as Florida's first "First Lady."

**St. Augustine Historical Society Museum**

16 St. Francis Street  
(904) 824-2872

**Emily Lloyd Wilson** served as historian and librarian for the St. Augustine Historical Society from 1919 to 1953. She is largely responsible for the society's outstanding library, where she devoted her life to securing copies of old maps and Spanish documents. The museum contains exhibits on the history of St. Augustine and a museum shop.

**St. Augustine Record Building**

154 Cordova Street  
(904) 829-6562

Since its construction in 1906, this two-story Mediterranean Revival style building has been the home of the local newspaper. **Nina Hawkins** (1890-1972) was 21 years old when she began her first day on the job as a reporter in 1910. Her career would span 43 years, of which 19 were spent as editor and editor-in-chief of the *Record*. In 1999, she was inducted into the Florida

Press Association Newspaper Hall of Fame.

**St. Francis Inn**  
279 St. George Street  
(904) 824-6068

Gaspar Garcia built the St. Francis Inn in 1791. **Anna and Sarah Dummett** operated it as a boarding house beginning in 1845. During the Civil War, sentiments in St. Augustine were intense. When Union forces took over St. Augustine, Anna heard that the Union flag had been raised at the St. Francis Barracks. Upset that St. Augustine had surrendered to the Union, she led a group of women who chopped down the wooden flagpole, thus preventing the Stars and Stripes from flying in place of the Stars and Bars.

**Seguí/Kirby Smith House**

6 Artillery Lane  
(904) 824-2872

Bernardo Seguí, a prominent Minorcan businessman, constructed this imposing house about 1800, during the Second Spanish Period.

 Edmund Kirby Smith, the highest ranking Confederate officer from Florida

and the last Confederate general to surrender in the Civil War, was born here in 1824. His mother, **Frances Kirby Smith**, was rumored to be a Confederate spy and was banished from St. Augustine during the Union occupation. Today, the building serves as the research library of the St. Augustine Historical Society.

**Ximénez-Fatio House**

20 Aviles Street  
(904) 829-3575

Constructed between 1797 and 1802, this building was a fashionable rooming house for most of the 1800s operated by a succession of women owners. In 1821, when Florida became a United States territory, **Margaret Cook** began to buy property in St. Augustine. By 1830, she owned the building and decided to use it as a boarding house. **Eliza Whitehurst** managed it from 1830 to 1838. In 1838, **Sarah Anderson** purchased the house and property. In 1855, **Louisa Fatio** bought the house. Sometime after her death in 1875, the house became a gift shop and club. In 1939, the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Florida purchased the property. Today's visitor can tour the "boarding house" restored as it might have been when Eliza Whitehurst managed it.

**Flagler Memorial Presbyterian Church, St. Augustine**



# CENTRAL FLORIDA

## ORANGE COUNTY

### EATONVILLE

**Zora Neale Hurston National Museum of Fine Arts**  
227 East Kennedy Boulevard  
(407) 647-3307

For African Americans in Florida and throughout the country, Eatonville has great significance. It is the oldest surviving incorporated black municipality and possesses a rich traditional culture immortalized in the works of **Zora Neale Hurston** (1901-1960). The Zora Neale Hurston National Museum of Fine Arts offers a kaleidoscope of exhibitions representing the work of African diaspora artists. Each January, the nationally renowned Zora Neale Hurston Festival of the Arts and Humanities presents a vibrant street festival with vendors and performing artists, as well as a series of lectures, dramatic works, exhibitions, and poetry readings by influential African-American scholars and cultural figures. In addition to Eatonville, Hurston also lived in Miami, Fort Pierce and St. Augustine, where she taught at Florida Normal College (now located in Miami and called Florida Memorial College).

### ORLANDO

**Edyth Bush Theatre**  
Civic Theater of Central Florida  
1001 East Princeton Street  
(407) 896-7365

**Edyth Bush** (1900-1972) and her husband, Archibald, were heirs to the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing fortune, who wintered in Winter Park. Throughout her life, Edyth was committed to the arts and to the metropolitan Orlando community. She established the Edyth Bush Foundation, an important force in the cultural growth of the area. Much

of her personal philanthropy went toward assisting organizations serving crippled or handicapped children, the blind, the deaf and private higher education.

### WINTER PARK

**The Charles Hosmer Morse Museum of American Art**  
445 Park Avenue North  
(407) 645-5311

**Jeannette Genius McKean** (1909-1989), an artist, and her husband Hugh, president of Rollins College from 1951 to 1969, were committed to American art. They collected over 4,000 pieces, most notably the works of Louis Comfort Tiffany. One of many significant works in the collection, Tiffany's 1893 Chapel for the World's Columbian Exposition, has been reassembled and is on display at the Morse Museum.

**Annie Russell Theatre**  
Rollins College Campus  
1000 Holt Avenue  
(407) 646-2501

**Annie Russell** (1864-1936) was an innovative stage producer and a noted British and Canadian actress. She was the first to introduce the use of electric lighting for dramatic effect to New York Theater. When she retired in 1918, she moved to Winter Park, and in 1929 became head of the dramatic arts program at Rollins College. She enlisted the financial support of her friends to fund the construction of a theatre for the performing arts. It was built in 1932 and she supervised its operations until her death in 1936 at the age of 72. The Annie Russell Theatre combines the styles of Italian-Romanesque Revival and Spanish Mediterranean and provides a continuation of those themes in the buildings on the campus.



## ZORA NEALE HURSTON

### FOLKLORIST/ ANTHROPOLOGIST

Born in Notasulga, Alabama in 1891, Zora Neale Hurston moved with her family to Eatonville in 1893. A recipient of Rosenwald and Guggenheim fellowships, Hurston was one of the first blacks to receive a bachelor's degree from Barnard College in New York City. Her autobiographical work, *Dust Tracks on the Road*, won the Anisfield-Wolf award from the *Saturday Review* in 1943. She was a master storyteller. Her works, however, faded into obscurity and, after receiving a rejection of her manuscript on King Herod, she died nearly penniless in a welfare home in Fort Pierce, Florida in 1960. Years later, Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Alice Walker rediscovered Hurston's powerful writing and brought her work back to the public's attention. Today her novels, stories, and autobiography are on reading lists of schools across the nation.



## MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE

### EDUCATOR

Born in 1875, the daughter of former slaves, Mary McLeod Bethune became a noted educator and advisor to presidents from Coolidge to Truman. She was President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Director of Black Affairs in the National Youth Administration and later was a consultant to the founding conference of the United Nations. She launched a school for girls in Daytona Beach in 1904 with \$1.50 and sheer determination. As she wrote, "We burned logs and used the charred splinters as pencils and mashed elderberries for ink... I haunted the city dump and the trash piles behind hotels, retrieving discarded linen and kitchenware, cracked dishes, broken chairs. Everything was scoured and mended." That small girl's school evolved into Bethune-Cookman College with an enrollment of more than 2,200 students by the end of the 20th century. Mary McLeod Bethune died in 1955.

## OSCEOLA COUNTY

### ST. CLOUD

Mount Peace Cemetery

St. Cloud

Kaku Sudo (1861-1963) was born in Northern Japan. She immigrated to the U.S. in 1891 and to Florida in 1907. Sudo attended medical school in Cincinnati and became the first woman doctor of Japanese descent in the United States. She never married and spent most of her life in or near St. Cloud where she died at the age of 102.

## BREVARD COUNTY

### COCOA

Florida Historical Society

Tebeau-Field Library

435 Brevard Avenue

(321) 690-1971

In 1927, Jeanette Thurber Conner of New Smyrna Beach organized the Florida State Historical Society with Colonel John B. Stetson, Jr. It later merged with the Florida Historical Society which acquired the current building in 1997 to house its growing collection of maps and historical documents.

## VOLUSIA COUNTY

### DAYTONA BEACH

Mary McLeod Bethune Home

641 Pearl Street off Second Avenue  
(386) 255-1401

The Mary McLeod Bethune (1875-1955) Home is a National Historic Landmark. The daughter of former slaves, Mary McLeod Bethune rose to become a noted educator and advisor to presidents. She lived in this house from the 1920s until her death in 1955. The simple, two-story frame vernacular structure is now a house museum. It contains original furnishings and serves as the archives for the Mary McLeod Bethune Papers.

## HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

### TAMPA

Margaret L. Chapman Papers

University of South Florida

4202 East Fowler Avenue

(813) 974-2731

Margaret Louise Chapman (1916-1981) was the first director of Special Collections at the University of South Florida. She used her unique knowledge of the state to build an out-



Anne Russell Theatre, Winter Park

standing Florida history collection. An enthusiastic participant in state and local matters, she served on the Hillsborough County Historical Commission and lectured on Florida history and library collections. Her papers are now part of the University of South Florida's collection.

**Ybor City State Museum**  
**1818 East Ninth Street**  
**(813) 247-6323**

The history of Ybor City's Cuban community is told at the Ybor City State Museum. The museum complex covers approximately one-half of a city block. It includes an ornamental garden, three restored cigar workers' houses and a bakery building. The Ferlita Bakery building, with ovens, colorful sign displays and exhibits, forms the core of the museum complex. One cigar worker's house, La Casita, is a museum. **Luisa Capetillo** (1879-1922) was an advocate of workers' and women's rights. She was also an experienced labor organizer. Local cigar workers elected Luisa to the important position of lector. Selected and paid by the workers, she would read to them as cigars were being hand-rolled.

## MANATEE COUNTY

### BRADENTON

**Electra Arcotte Lee**  
**Homestead Marker**  
**Corner of 17th Street East and**  
**Manatee Avenue East**

This historic marker commemorates **Electra Arcotte Lee** (1807-1860) who taught in the first school in Manatee County in the 1840s and 1850s. For five dollars per term, pupils were taught in an upstairs room of her house.

## PINELLAS COUNTY

### BELLEAIR

**Florida Gulf Coast Art Center**  
**222 Ponce de Leon Boulevard**  
**(813) 584-8634**

**Georgine Smith** (1873-1955) was an artist and art patron. She donated time and money to help expand a small art museum in Clearwater. In the late 1940s, she donated buildings, equipment, and a portion of her Belleair estate to create the Florida Gulf Coast Art Center. When she died in 1955, a significant endowment and works of art were left to the center. Since that time, the Florida Gulf Coast Art Center has developed into an important cultural institution for the area. Today's collection focuses on contemporary Florida art from 1960, and Southeastern American fine crafts.

### ST. PETERSBURG

**Princess Hirrihigua Marker**  
**1800 block of Pinellas Point Drive**  
In 1528, Juan Ortiz was on one of Spanish explorer Panfilo de Narvaez's ships, returning to Cuba for supplies. Ortiz and three shipmates were captured near Tampa Bay when they went ashore, beckoned by Indians who claimed to have a message from Narvaez. The Indian ruler, Chief Hirrihigua, executed Ortiz's companions and condemned him to death. The chief's wife and daughters pleaded with the chief to spare Ortiz, and saved his life. Ortiz lived as a slave, often under the threat of death for about five years, until the chief's eldest daughter helped Ortiz escape to live among another tribe. There he lived under better conditions until his rescue by Hernando de Soto's men. His story was recorded around 1605 in Garcilaso de la Vega's account of the de Soto expedition.



## BABE DIDRIKSON ZAHARIAS

### ATHLETE

The Associated Press called Babe Didrikson Zaharias the "Greatest Woman Athlete of the First Half of the 20th Century." Born in 1911, she started out playing basketball, then went on to track and field. At the 1932 Olympics, she won gold medals in the javelin and the 80-meter hurdles and a silver medal in the high jump. Zaharias took up golf in 1935 and went on to win 82 pro and amateur events. In 1946 and 1947, she won 17 amateur tournaments in a row, including the British Women's Amateur and the U.S. Women's Amateur. In her golf career she won ten major championships and in 1950 helped found the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA). Zaharias was named the Associated Press Woman Athlete of the year six times from 1931 to 1954. She lived in Tampa at the end of her career and died in 1956.



## PAULINA PEDROSO

### CUBAN PATRIOT

The failed war of 1878 in Cuba forced Paulina Pedroso (1826-1913) and her husband Ruperto, prominent Afro-Cuban leaders, to move to Key West and then to Ybor City. Ruperto rolled cigars and Paulina managed a boarding house, while working on behalf of a free Cuba. José Martí was a frequent guest. Ruperto slept in the hallway near the Cuban leader's bedroom, to guard against would-be assassins while Paulina nursed Martí back to health after his tiring travels throughout Florida. Paulina worked to rally Afro-Cubans and women to help gain their country's freedom from Spanish rule. In 1910, the Pedrosos returned to Cuba where they were honored as heroes of the revolution. The Pedroso homesite is part of the Park of the Friends of Martí in Ybor City. The site is owned by the Cuban government.

## TARPON SPRINGS

**Safford House**  
23 Parkin Court Drive  
(727) 942-5605

Dr. Mary Jane Safford (1832-1891) was a Civil War nurse who later became the first practicing woman physician in Florida. Constructed in 1881, the Safford House is the oldest known residence in Tarpon Springs. It is a fine example of Florida vernacular architecture, and was built by her brother, Anson P. K. Safford, a founder of Tarpon Springs.

## SARASOTA COUNTY

### OSPREY

**Historic Spanish Point**  
500 North Tamiami Trail  
(941) 966-5214

Historic Spanish Point is a hands-on outdoor museum. The property spans more than 4,000 years of prehistoric and historic occupation. It combines nature trails, historic buildings, gardens, and archaeologi-

cal exhibits which interpret the region's rich history. **Bertha Honoré Palmer** (1849-1918) purchased the property in 1911 for her estate and protected its resources. Four gardens interpret early 20th-century Florida gardens as they would have looked when they were part of the Palmer estate.

### SARASOTA

**Historic Marker**  
for Emma E. Booker

**Orange Avenue at 35th Street**  
**Emma E. Booker** (1886-1939) taught African-American children in Sarasota from the 1910s to the 1930s and was named principal of Sarasota's first school for black children. A high school for black students was named for her. In 1935, during the Depression, it graduated its first class of four students.



John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, Sarasota



## BERTHA HONORÉ PALMER

### REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER

When she visited relatives in Sarasota, wealthy Chicago socialite Bertha Honoré Palmer (1849-1918) often said the area was more lovely than the Bay of Naples in Italy. Mrs. Palmer was nationally and internationally known as a patron of the arts. When she discovered Sarasota in 1910 at the age of 60, she invested in extensive real estate holdings in Sarasota and Hillsborough counties. One condition of her purchase of the land was that a railroad line be extended between Tampa and Sarasota. Once that commitment was made, she tirelessly promoted the area and was largely responsible for the real estate boom that followed as the West Coast of Florida became known as a winter resort for the wealthy.

**Florida State University Ringling Center for the Cultural Arts:  
The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art**  
5401 Bayshore Road,  
U.S. Highway 41  
(941) 359-5700

In the years after the Ringling Circus became a success, John and Mable Ringling (1875-1929) moved the circus's winter quarters to the Sarasota-Venice area. They found a piece of property along beautiful Sarasota Bay and decided to build their winter home there. Mable worked closely with the architects designing the estate. They toured Europe many times seeking art and furnishings. Named Ca'd'Zan, the "House of John" contains 30 rooms and 14 baths. The house incorporates design elements from the French and Italian Renaissance periods and is one of Florida's most impressive mansions. Over the years, Mable's interests turned to fine art. The Ringlings were avid collectors of Old Masters, Late Medieval, and Renaissance works of art. Their collection can now be seen in The John and

Mable Ringling Museum of Art. When John Ringling died in 1936, his will stipulated that their home, art collection, and 86 acres of their gardens and properties be given to the State of Florida.

**Marie Selby Botanical Gardens**  
811 South Palm Avenue  
(941) 366-5731

In the early 1920s, Marie Selby (1885-1971) built a Spanish-style two-story house on seven acres of land on Sarasota Bay. Marie's love of nature was her most consuming passion and she created an extraordinary garden for the property. When she died in 1971, she left the property to the community as a botanical garden which was opened to the public in 1975. The garden specializes in epiphytes (air plants) and has what many consider the most beautiful collection of orchids in a botanical garden in the United States. Adjoining Sarasota Bay, the park also has seven greenhouses, and a botanical research center.

# SOUTH FLORIDA

## HENDRY COUNTY

### CLEWISTON

**Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum  
Big Cypress Seminole Reservation  
Alligator Alley to Exit 14, then 17  
miles north on County Road 833 to  
West Boundary Road  
(863) 902-1113**

During the 1830s and 1840s, the Seminole Indians fled to the Everglades from U.S. Army troops who had orders to move them west to Oklahoma. The Seminoles who managed to avoid capture remained in the Everglades. Almost a century later, **Harriet Bedell** (1886-1967) arrived in Everglades City. An Episcopal deaconess, she renovated an old mission and dedicated her later years to surviving members of the Miccosukee and Seminole Indians. Throughout her life, Harriet Bedell worked with the Native Americans to help them gain tribal status and acquire 200,000 acres of land in the Everglades where they established a school and controlled

their own hunting and fishing areas. In 1967, Seminole Tribe member **Betty Mae Tiger Jumper** was elected Tribal Chairman, becoming the first female Tribal Chief in America. With many honors and awards in recognition of her achievements and leadership, Betty Mae Tiger Jumper continues to work on behalf of her Tribe today.

## GLADES COUNTY

### MOORE HAVEN

**Moore Haven City Hall  
99 Riverside Drive  
(863) 946-0711**

In 1916, **Marian Newhall Horwitz's** (1880-1932) husband joined a partnership to purchase 3,600 acres of land west of Moore Haven. When he died a short time later, she became the owner of a large tract of property. Horwitz moved to Moore Haven in 1917 and developed a 2,000-acre farm. That same year, the city was incorporated. The charter provided for female suffrage and entitled

women to hold office. Moore Haven was one of only three Florida cities to grant these rights prior to the adoption of the 19th Amendment in 1920. When Moore Haven's first city election was held in July of 1917, Horwitz was elected mayor. With that election, she became the first woman mayor in Florida, the first in the Southern United States, and one of the first in the country.

## HIGHLANDS COUNTY

### LORIDA

**Pearce Homestead  
U. S. Highway 98 and C.R. 721  
(561) 686-8800**

The Pearce Homestead is owned by the South Florida Water Management District and serves as a demonstration of a working farm of the early 1900s. In 1944, **Edna Pearce Lockett** (1908-1991) inherited her father's 50,000-acre ranch, which boasted one of Florida's largest cattle herds. She went on to become the most prosperous woman rancher in the South, raising range and Brahman cattle. She also entered the political arena and was the third woman to serve in the Florida House of Representatives. During her tenure (1948-1953), she successfully sponsored a bill that allowed women to serve on Florida juries.

**Henry Morrison Flagler Museum (Whitehall), Palm Beach**



## LEE COUNTY

### FORT MYERS

**Dr. Ella Piper**  
**Senior Citizen Center**  
1771 Evan Avenue  
(941) 332-5346

**Dr. Ella Piper** (1884-1954) came to Fort Myers in 1915 and opened a beauty parlor on Jackson Street. She later became a foot doctor, with offices on Hendry Street and still later started the Big 4 Bottling Company, then located at Mango and Evans Streets. She held annual Christmas parties for children of the Dunbar community. Throughout her life, Dr. Piper was known as a philanthropist and often helped young people obtain scholarships to attend Tuskegee College. Upon her death, she left her property to the City of Fort Myers for the benefit of young children and senior citizens.

## PALM BEACH COUNTY

### PALM BEACH

**Henry Morrison Flagler Museum**  
(Whitehall)  
Coconut Row at Whitehall Way  
(561) 655-2833

Henry Flagler became interested in Florida in the 1880s. In 1901, after developing Palm Beach as a luxury winter resort, he built Whitehall as a wedding gift for his third wife, **Mary Lily Kenan Flagler** (1867-1917). Sold by members of the family in 1925, the building was used as a luxury hotel until 1959. At that time, a Flagler granddaughter, **Jean Flagler Matthews** (1910-1979), acquired the building, restored it, and opened it as the Flagler Museum in 1960. Today's visitors see this American palace as it was when Mary Lily and Henry Flagler lived there. Many of the building's original furnishings have been returned and its rooms carefully restored.

### Hattie Gale's Little Red Schoolhouse Phipps Park

Palm Beach was quite small in 1886 when **Hattie Gale** arrived to open her schoolhouse, the first in Southeast Florida. When the school opened, she had seven pupils, ranging in age from six to 17. The schoolhouse was built with lumber brought by schooner from Jacksonville. The building was moved several times before being located at Phipps Park.

### WEST PALM BEACH

**Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry House**  
623 Division Avenue  
(561) 833-5836

**Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry** (1923-1979) was the first black woman admitted to the University of Miami Law School, Dade County's first black female attorney, and the first black woman elected to the Florida Legislature, where she served from 1970 until her death in 1979. Her masonry vernacular home is the home of the Black Historical Preservation Society of Palm Beach County. A park named for her is located at 2591 N.W. 71st Street in Miami.

### Mickens House (private) 801 Fourth Street

**Dr. Alice Frederick Mickens** (1873-1950) rose to national prominence promoting higher education for African-Americans. She was chosen "Outstanding Woman of the Century" at the American Negro Emancipation Convention in 1963. Dr. Mickens made outstanding contributions in helping to curb juvenile delinquency. Her home was often used as a clearinghouse for dispensing articles to the needy. Her husband, Halen Mickens, built the house in 1917. Dr. Mickens was the Founder and President Emeritus for many years of the City Association, an affiliate of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs.



## JULIA DEFOREST STURTEVANT TUTTLE

### REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER

Known as the "Mother of Miami," Julia DeForest Sturtevant Tuttle (1848-1898) arrived in the area in the late 1800s. In 1891, shortly after her husband's death, she bought one square mile of land at the mouth of the Miami River. There were few settlers and she lived a rustic life. Julia Tuttle was aware of the efforts of Henry Flagler and his expanding railroad and hotel empire. She wrote to him many times to tell him about her land. As his rail lines moved down the East Coast of Florida, she knew that if she could convince him to build a railroad terminal and a tourist hotel in Miami, her property values would soar. Finally, they met. Henry Flagler and Julia Tuttle came to an agreement and modern-day Miami began. Julia gave every alternate lot to the Flagler interests and Henry Flagler agreed to build a railway station and a luxury hotel in Miami. Both kept their promises. The railroad reached Miami in 1896 and, soon after, a land boom and population explosion began.



## LYDIA CABRERA

### SCHOLAR

An ethnologist, artist, historian, and writer of folk tales, Lydia Cabrera was born in Havana, Cuba in 1899, but developed her interest in Afro-Cuban culture in Paris, where she had gone to study in 1927. She moved back to Cuba in 1938, and after the Castro revolution fled to Madrid and then to Miami. She wrote 23 books and compiled a dictionary of the Afro-Cuban Yoruba language. She died in 1991. Her best-known work was *El Monte*, considered the most important book about Santería, a mix of Catholic teachings and native African religions that evolved among former slaves in the Caribbean. A collection of her important manuscripts is housed in the Cuban Heritage Collection at the University of Miami in Coral Gables.

### Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens 253 Barcelona Road (561) 832-5328

This 1.7-acre property near West Palm Beach is part of the former residence of sculptor **Ann Weaver Norton** (1905-1982), and features a collection of 300 species of tropical palms. Throughout the house, studio and gardens are more than 100 sculptures by the artist, including nine monumental brick and granite works standing in a dramatic green environment designed in the natural-form English style. Now operated as a public foundation, the Gardens offer a schedule of exhibitions and occasional master artists workshops on the grounds and in Norton's original sculpture studio.

## BROWARD COUNTY

### FORT LAUDERDALE

#### Bonnet House 900 North Birch Street (954) 563-5393

In 1920-21, artist **Helen Birch Bartlett** (1882-1925), with her husband Frederick, designed and built Bonnet House on a 35-acre estate which Helen's father had given to them as a wedding present. After Helen's death, Frederick married

another artist, **Evelyn Fortune** (1887-1997), whose creative influences are evident throughout the house. The tropical plantation house features 30 rooms and was constructed of native coral stone, Dade County pine, and concrete blocks poured at the site. The subtropical estate is one of the best preserved in Florida.

#### Stranahan House 335 Southeast Sixth Avenue (954) 524-4736

**Ivy Julia Cromartie Stranahan** (1881-1971) came to Florida in 1899 at the age of 18 to teach the children of six settler families in tiny Fort Lauderdale. She met and married Frank Stranahan and they lived in the combination home and trading post. Built in 1901, Stranahan House is the oldest home on its original site in Broward County. It has been restored to its 1913-1915 appearance. For 15 years, Stranahan informally taught Seminole children and was involved in the Audubon Society, the Friends of the Everglades and served as president of the Florida State Suffrage League. Ivy Stranahan and many other Florida women, often working through the structure of the Federation of Florida Women's Clubs, lobbied for nearly two decades on behalf of the Seminole



Courtyard of the Bonnet House, Ft. Lauderdale



Shuman House, Fort Lauderdale



## MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS

ENVIRONMENTALIST/  
AUTHOR

Marjory Stoneman Douglas was a resident of Coconut Grove and Miami for most of her adult life. Born in 1890, she arrived in 1915 and became a reporter for the *Miami Herald*. After leaving the *Herald*, Douglas turned to writing magazine articles and later began work on a book. In 1947, when her work, *The Everglades: River of Grass* was published, her life changed. She became increasingly identified with her outspoken efforts to help Floridians understand the importance of saving the Everglades and the South Florida environment. In her late 70s, Douglas formed the Friends of the Everglades to fight further development of that area. In 1993, she was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom for her collective work on environmental issues. She died in 1998 at the age of 108.

Indians to get federal designation of land for a reservation in South Florida.

## DADE COUNTY

### CORAL GABLES

**Lydia Cabrera Collection**  
**The University of Miami**  
**Otto G. Richter Library Archives**  
**and Special Collections**  
**1300 Memorial Drive**  
**(305) 284-3551**

Lydia Cabrera (1899-1991) was born in Havana, Cuba, the daughter of Raimundo Cabrera, a prominent Cuban intellectual. Her interest in Afro-Cuban culture began when she left Cuba for Paris in 1927. While in France, she wrote and spoke about the richness of Cuban culture.

After returning to Cuba in the 1930s, Cabrera wrote 23 books exploring the rich folklore of Afro-Cubans. Several of her books have been translated into French, English, and Portuguese. Through her writing, Cabrera made valuable contributions in the areas of literature, anthropology, and ethnology. In the 1960s, she went into exile in Madrid and then moved to Miami. Her important collection of manuscripts and other materials are now housed in the Otto G. Richter Collection at the University of Miami in Coral Gables.

### HOMESTEAD

**Homestead Branch Library**  
**700 North Homestead Boulevard**  
**(305) 246-0168**

Lily Lawrence Bow (1870-1943) was a Florida pioneer. With two young sons, she settled on isolated Cudjoe Key and provided for her family through fishing and raising citrus. She taught children and adults from neighboring islands in return for food. Shortly before the 1906 hurricane, she moved to the mainland where she acquired a property in the area that is now part of Homestead. She founded the area's first library, which for many years was named for her. Inside the present library are plaques and information concerning Lily Lawrence Bow's contributions to the Homestead community.

**Royal Palm Park**  
**Everglades National Park**  
**40001 State Road 9336**  
**12 miles southwest of Homestead**  
**(305) 242-7700**

The Royal Palm Park stands as testament to the work of May Mann Jennings (1872-1963) and the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs which worked tirelessly to set aside the land for park use. Through the efforts of members of the organization under her presidency, the funds to purchase a 960-acre tract of land were raised. The park was dedicated in 1916. In order to keep it open, the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs lobbied the legislature for annual

funding and, over time, additional land purchases were made. By the mid-1930s, the park had grown to some 500,000 acres.

## MIAMI

### The Women's Park

#### West Flagler Street and 103rd Court

The Women's Park, the first in the United States, honors the women of Dade County and their contributions to the quality of life in that community. A time capsule containing mementos of outstanding South Florida women is buried beneath a coral rock monument. The capsule contains documents such as writings from **Marjory Stoneman Douglas**, **Zora Neale Hurston**, and **Lydia Cabrera**. The capsule will be opened in 2020.

### Marjorie Stoneman Douglas Cottage 3744 Stewart Avenue Coconut Grove

**Marjory Stoneman Douglas** (1890-1998) built this English-style cottage in 1926 and lived here for 72 years from 1926 until 1998. While the cottage is not open for public tours, the building features eclectic architecture blending Tudor and Medieval Revival, a hip roof, half-timbering and stucco over Dade County pine. Over the years, Douglas's cottage became a center for those seeking an end to environmental destruction in South Florida. She wrote *The Everglades: River of Grass* while living here.

### Esther Mae Armbrister Park 236 Grand Avenue

**Esther Mae Armbrister** (1916-1997) was a neighborhood historian for the African-American section of Coconut Grove. She provided the research for historic markers along Charles Avenue, and led the effort to preserve the Mariah Brown House and the Coconut Grove Cemetery. She also chaired the Oral and Historical Committee of the Bahamian Goombay Festival.

### Miami-Dade Public Library Florida Room 101 West Flagler Street (305) 375-2665

In *An Authentic Narrative of the Seminole War and the Miraculous Escape of Mrs. Mary Godfrey and her Four Female Children*, **Mary Godfrey** described her family's ordeal. In the 1830s, she lived in the New River area of Fort Lauderdale and was caught in the Seminole War. With her four daughters, the youngest only six months old, she took refuge in a "thick and wiry swamp." Without food or water, she hid with her children for four days. On the fourth day a "humane African" discovered them. Although an ally of the Seminoles, at the risk of his own life, he obtained blankets and food for the family and ultimately led them to safety. The pamphlet describing her ordeal was first published in 1836. Many years later, the Miami-Dade Public Library located a copy and purchased it. Although the original pamphlet is far too fragile to be viewed, it has been photocopied and can be seen in the library's Florida Room.

### Historical Museum of Southern Florida Miami-Dade Cultural Center 101 West Flagler Street (305) 375-1492

The Historical Museum of Southern Florida collects and exhibits materials about the history of South Florida. On permanent exhibit is a photograph of **Julia DeForest**



Fairchild Tropical Garden, Miami

**Sturtevant Tuttle** (1848-1898), the "Mother of Miami." The museum's archives contain information about the founding of Miami and Tuttle's role in it. The book *Julia's Daughters: Women In Dade's History* tells of Julia Tuttle and other women who helped develop Miami and Dade County.

**Fairchild Tropical Garden**  
10901 Old Cutler Road  
(305) 667-1651

While Robert Montgomery and Dr. David Fairchild were developing Fairchild Tropical Garden, **Marjory Stoneman Douglas** (1890-1998), **Marian Fairchild** (1880-1962), **Eleanor Montgomery** (1905-1990) and others were promoting the magnificent site. Partially due to their combined efforts, it is now the largest tropical garden in the continental United States.

**Annie M. Coleman Gardens Public Housing Project**  
5200 NW 22nd Avenue  
(305) 638-6055

**Annie M. Coleman** (1894-1981) moved to Miami from Quitman, Georgia in the 1920s with her husband Reverend J.E. Coleman. After her husband's death, she taught music and became secretary to Dana

Albert Dorsey, Miami's first black millionaire. Coleman helped organize the local chapter of the National Council of Negro Women and served for 25 years as president of Miami's Friendship Garden and Civic Club. She worked with other women activists, including **Mary Sorensen Moore** (1877-1956) and **Mrs. Mary Jane Wood Reeder**, to help increase opportunities for black people in the then segregated society. Their efforts helped the community reach several milestones, including the establishment of the first library for Miami's black children in the 1930s. In the 1940s, Coleman received national recognition for her work in helping curb juvenile delinquency. In 1966, an apartment housing project was named in honor of her tenacity and perseverance.

**Elizabeth Virrick Park and Pool**  
3255 Plaza Street  
(305) 445-0115

**Elizabeth Landsberg Virrick** (1897-1990) moved to Miami in 1925. She spent her life working to better the lives of poor families. She sup-

ported Saint Alban's Day Nursery and the Coconut Grove Clinic and served as director of Coconut Grove Cares.

## MIAMI BEACH

**Miami Beach Architectural (Art Deco) Historic District**  
(305) 672-2014

South Miami Beach's Art Deco Historic District contains the world's largest collection of Art Deco-styled buildings. A major figure in promoting its importance and preservation was **Barbara Capitman** (1920-1990). As a journalist specializing in design, she and other visionaries founded the Miami Design Preservation League. Within a year, they reported their findings on the value of its unique architectural heritage at a time when its importance was not yet widely appreciated. Through her efforts, the Miami Beach Architectural District became the nation's only Art Deco district to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.



Miami Beach Architectural (Art Deco) Historic District

**Sanford L. Ziff**  
**Jewish Museum of Florida**  
301 Washington Avenue  
(305) 672-5044

The Ziff Museum explores the ways in which Florida Jews have influenced the state's history. Its collections and exhibits include information about many important Jewish women, including **Annie Ackerman** and **Rose Jeremiah Weiss**. Annie Ackerman (1914-1989) was an advocate for the elderly. Ackerman was known as the "Condo Queen," traveling from condominium to condominium working with older

residents to develop voting blocks. Through her efforts, Dade County leaders heard the needs of the elderly. Between 1969 and her death in 1989, Ackerman worked unceasingly for elder rights. When **Rose Jeremiah Weiss** (1886-1974) arrived in 1919, Miami Beach was a sparsely populated sandbar, accessible only by boat. The area became her home and its residents her family. Weiss earned her nickname "Mother of Miami Beach" due to her persistent efforts to organize welfare services for the needy. Following the devastating hurricane of 1926, she became an official representative of the Red

Cross and raised money for relief funds. During World War II, she sold \$1 million in war bonds, more than any other woman in Florida. Active in local politics, she attended every city council meeting between 1921 and 1959.

### **OPA-LOCKA**

**Helen L. Miller Opa-locka**  
**Post Office**  
550 Fisherman Street  
(800) 275-8777

**Helen L. Miller** (1925-1996) was the first black woman mayor of Opa-locka and the first in Dade County. She served as Opa-locka's mayor, vice mayor and commissioner for 14 years. She lived in Opa-locka for more than 50 years and raised seven children.

## **MONROE COUNTY**

### **KEY WEST**

**Mercedes Hospital/**  
**E.H. Gato House (private)**  
1209 Virginia Street

Early in the 20th century, many Cubans arrived in Key West, most of whom were involved in the growing cigar industry. In 1910, a dozen Cuban women founded two charitable organizations to assist the Cuban poor. Beneficencia Cuban was a charitable organization supporting the hospital, Casa del Pobre, which opened its doors in 1911 on what is now Truman Avenue and Jose Marti Drive. **Maria Valdez Gutsens** (1880-1941) was matron of the hospital until her death in 1941. In 1934 the Cuban government awarded her the Cross of the Order of Carlos Manuel de Cespedes for her charitable work.

**Old Key West City Hall**  
510 Greene Street  
(305) 292-6718

**Lena Johnson** (1870-1932) spent her life serving as a mentor to many of Key West's youngsters. She founded the Girl's Friendly Society and also worked with the Boy Scouts. When the Boy Scouts needed a meeting



**Sanford L. Ziff Jewish Museum of Florida, Miami Beach**

place, she gave them a small building on the rear of the property. In 1927, less than a decade after the United States adopted the 19th Amendment, she was elected to the city council and became the first woman elected to political office in Monroe County. When she died, Boy Scouts served as her honorary pallbearers.

**Key West Historic Memorial Sculpture Garden**  
**Mallory Square**  
**One Whitehead Square**  
**(305) 294-4142**

For many years, the Mallory boats docked at their family pier, which today is known as Mallory Square. In 1997, a sculpture garden was created at Mallory Square to recognize the contributions of many Key West pioneers. Among those recognized are:

**Ellen Russell Mallory (1792-1855)** and her husband Charles arrived in Key West on December 23, 1823. She was an experienced nurse who sheltered the shipwrecked and cared

for victims of the yellow fever epidemics that struck the Keys. For a time, she served as the matron of the Naval Hospital. After the deaths of her oldest son and husband, she ran a boarding house on Fitzpatrick Street, which in its day was known as the only comfortable boarding house on the island. Her younger son, Stephen, was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1851 and reelected in 1857, serving until Florida seceded from the Union before the Civil War.

**Elisabetha Smith**—In 1846, a ship carrying a young woman from Germany wrecked on the Florida Reef. She was rescued and went on to outlive four seaman husbands. **Elisabetha Merklin Knight Beiglett Smith (1828-1898)** supported herself and her children by running a boarding house and making and selling cheese and noodles.

**Sister Louis Gabriel (1879-1948)** arrived at the Convent of Mary Immaculate on August 25, 1897. She spent the next 51 years dedicated to

teaching and serving others. Her teaching career was interrupted only when the convent became a military hospital from April to August 1898 during the Spanish-American War. During that time, she and her fellow nuns nursed 600 of the sick and wounded brought to Key West from the Cuban battlefields and ships of the Atlantic Fleet. From 1904 to 1914, she managed a kindergarten and gave private art lessons. In 1917, she became bursar (treasurer) of the convent. To commemorate the 25th anniversary of her religious profession, Sister Louis and the citizens of Key West erected a Grotto to Our Lady of Lourdes and Bernadette. At the dedication, Sister Louis prayed that, as long as the Grotto remained standing, Key West would be protected from hurricanes.



**Key West Historic Memorial Sculpture Garden**

# FLORIDA WOMEN'S HERITAGE TRAIL SITES

## NORTH FLORIDA

### ESCAMBIA COUNTY

#### PENSACOLA

- Barkley House
- Dorr House
- Julee Cottage Museum
- Lavalle House

### LEON COUNTY

#### TALLAHASSEE

- Bellevue
- State Library of Florida and Division of Library & Information Services
- Knott House Museum
- Maclay State Gardens
- Museum of Florida History
- Robert Manning Strozier Library

### FRANKLIN COUNTY

#### SUMATRA

- Millie Francis Historic Marker

### WALTON COUNTY

#### POINT WASHINGTON

- Eden State Gardens

### ALACHUA COUNTY

#### CROSS CREEK

- Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings State Historic Site

#### MICANOPY

- Payne's Prairie State Preserve

### COLUMBIA COUNTY

#### LAKE CITY

- Florida Sports Hall of Fame and Museum of Florida Sports History

### HAMILTON COUNTY

#### WHITE SPRINGS

- Stephen Foster State Folk Culture Center

### DUVAL COUNTY

#### JACKSONVILLE

- Community Club and Marker
- Cummer Museum of Art
- Doggett-Tucker House (private)
- Clara White Mission
- Jessie Ball duPont Park
- Kingsley Plantation



- Marabanong (private)
- Monument to the Women of the Confederacy
- Old Brewster Hospital (private)
- Old Federal Reserve Bank Building (private)
- Old St. Luke's Hospital (private)

### FLAGLER COUNTY

#### PALM COAST

- Washington Oaks State Gardens

### NASSAU COUNTY

#### FERNANDINA BEACH

- Bosque Bello Cemetery
- St. Peter's Episcopal Church

### ST. JOHNS COUNTY

#### ANASTASIA ISLAND

- St. Augustine Lighthouse and Museum

#### ST. AUGUSTINE

- Abbott Tract Historic District
- Bridge of Lions
- Abbie M. Brooks House (private)
- Fountain of Youth Park
- Fulwood House (private)
- González-Alvarez House
- Grace United Methodist Church
- Flagler Memorial Presbyterian Church
- Mission of Nombre de Dios
- St. Augustine Historical Society Museum
- St. Augustine Record Building
- St. Francis Inn
- Seguí/Kirby Smith House
- Ximénez/Fatio House

## CENTRAL FLORIDA

### ORANGE COUNTY

#### EATONVILLE

- Zora Neale Hurston National Museum of Fine Arts

#### ORLANDO

- Edyth Bush Theatre

#### WINTER PARK

- Morse Museum of American Art
- Annie Russell Theatre

### OSCEOLA COUNTY

#### ST. CLOUD

- Mount Peace Cemetery

### BREVARD COUNTY

#### COCOA

- Florida Historical Society Tebeau-Field Library

### VOLUSIA COUNTY

#### DAYTONA BEACH

- Mary McLeod Bethune Home

### HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

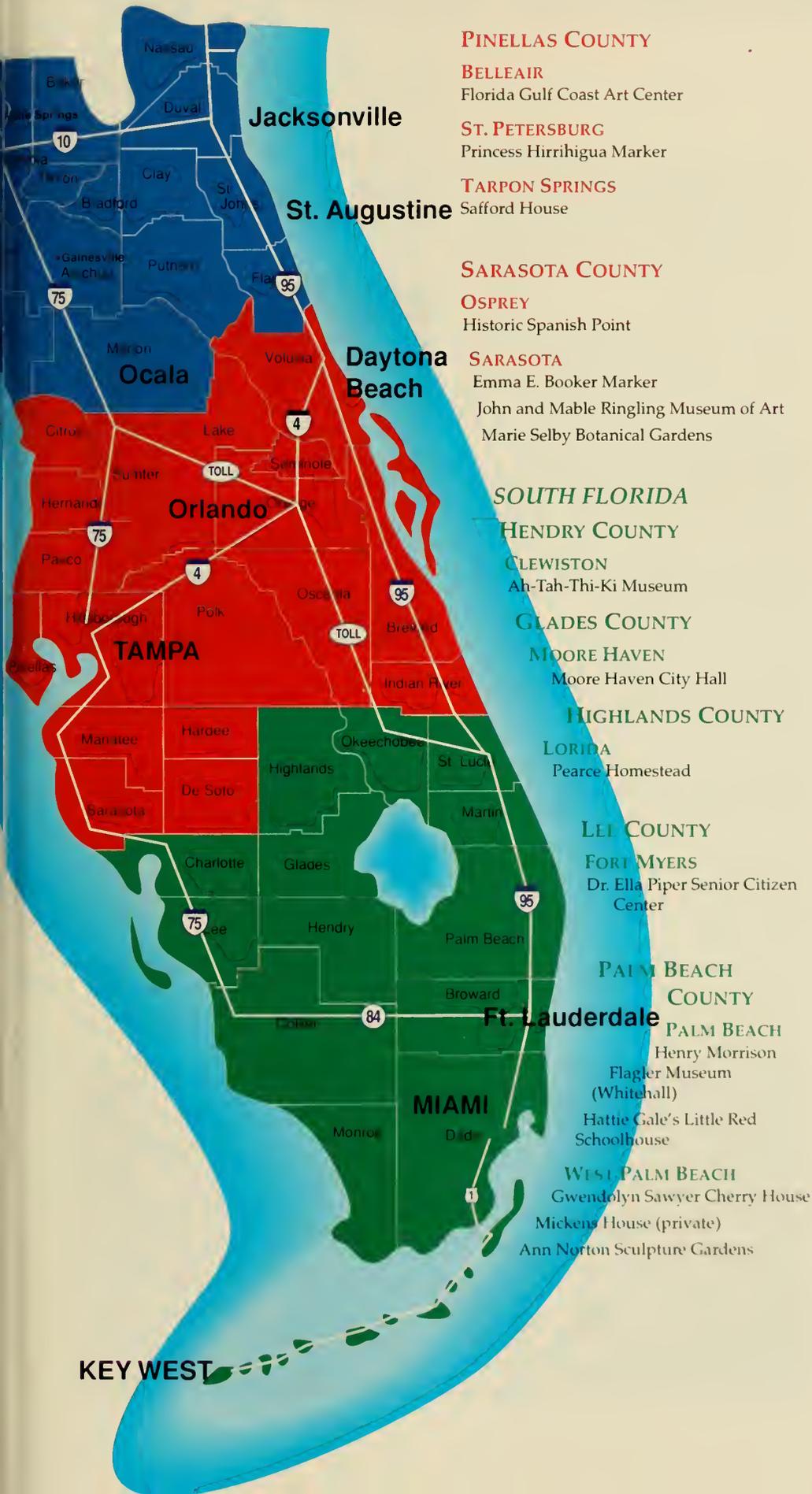
#### TAMPA

- Margaret L. Chapman Papers at the University of South Florida
- Ybor City State Museum

### MANATEE COUNTY

#### BRADENTON

- Electra Arcotte Lee Homestead Marker



**PINELLAS COUNTY**

**BELLEAIR**  
Florida Gulf Coast Art Center

**ST. PETERSBURG**  
Princess Hirrihigua Marker

**TARPON SPRINGS**  
Safford House

**SARASOTA COUNTY**

**OSPREY**  
Historic Spanish Point

**SARASOTA**  
Emma E. Booker Marker  
John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art  
Marie Selby Botanical Gardens

**SOUTH FLORIDA**

**HENDRY COUNTY**

**CLEWISTON**  
Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum

**GLADES COUNTY**

**MOORE HAVEN**  
Moore Haven City Hall

**HIGHLANDS COUNTY**

**LORIDA**  
Pearce Homestead

**LEE COUNTY**

**FORT MYERS**  
Dr. Ella Piper Senior Citizen Center

**PAIM BEACH COUNTY**

**PAIM BEACH**  
Henry Morrison  
Flagler Museum (Whitehall)  
Hattie Gale's Little Red Schoolhouse

**WEST PALM BEACH**  
Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry House  
Mickens House (private)  
Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens

**BROWARD COUNTY**

**FORT LAUDERDALE**  
Bonnet House  
Stranahan House

**DADE COUNTY**

**CORAL GABLES**  
Lydia Cabrera Collection at the University of Miami

**HOMESTEAD**

Homestead Branch Library  
Royal Palm Park

**MIAMI**

Women's Park  
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Cottage  
Esther Mae Armbrister Park  
Miami-Dade Public Library  
Historical Museum of Southern Florida  
Miami-Dade Cultural Center

Fairchild Tropical Garden

Annie M. Coleman Gardens Public Housing Project

Elizabeth Virrick Park and Pool

**MIAMI BEACH**

Miami Beach Architectural (Art Deco) Historic District  
Sanford L. Ziff Jewish Museum of Florida

**OPA-LOCKA**

Helen L. Miller Opa-locka Post Office

**MONROE COUNTY**

**KEY WEST**

Mercedes Hospital/E.H. Gato House (private)  
Old Key West City Hall  
Key West Historic Memorial Sculpture Garden

**KEY WEST**

# FLORIDA "FIRSTS"

## ELECTED AND APPOINTED STATE OFFICE HOLDERS

First Woman Elected to the Florida Supreme Court, 1986 and first woman elected Florida Supreme Court Chief Justice, Rosemary Barkett, 1992

First Woman to Serve as a Member of the Florida Cabinet, Secretary of State Dorothy W. Glisson, Tallahassee, appointed 1974

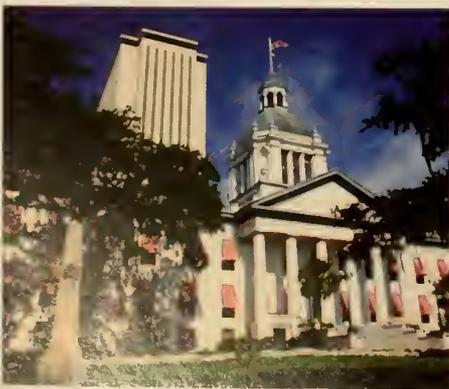
First Woman Elected to the Florida Cabinet, Commissioner of Education Betty Castor, Tallahassee, 1987

First Woman to Serve on Florida's Little Cabinet, \* Motor Vehicle Commissioner Ina S. Thompson, DeFuniak Springs, 1955-1961

First African-American Woman to Serve on Florida's Little Cabinet,\* Community Affairs Secretary M. Athalie Range, Miami, 1971

First Woman Elected to Statewide Office, Railroad Commission, Mamie Eaton Green, Monticello, 1928

First Woman to Serve in the Florida Legislature, Elected to the Florida House of Representatives, Edna Giles Fuller, Orlando, 1929



First Woman Elected to the Florida Senate, 1962 and First Woman to Preside over the Florida Senate or House by Election of the Membership, Elizabeth (Beth) McCollough Johnson, Orlando, 1966

First Republican Woman Elected to the Florida Legislature (House), Mary Grizzle, Indian Rocks, 1963

First African-American Woman Elected to the Florida House of Representatives, Gwendolyn Sawyer Cherry, J.D., Miami, 1970

First African-American Woman Elected to the Florida Senate, Carrie P. Meek, Miami, 1982

First Hispanic Woman to Serve in the State Legislature, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Miami, 1982

First Woman to Preside Over the Florida House of Representatives, Mary Lou Baker, Pinellas, 1945

First Woman to be Nominated for Speaker of the Florida House, Sandra Barringer Mortham, Largo, 1992

First Woman Elected Speaker Pro-Tempore in the Florida House of Representatives, Elaine Gordon, Miami, 1985-1986

First Woman President Pro-Tempore of the Florida Senate, Betty Castor, Tallahassee, 1984-1986

First Woman President of the Florida Senate, Gwen Margolis, Miami, 1990

First Republican Woman in the Florida Legislature Elected President of the Senate, 1996 and First Senator in Florida History to Serve Two Successive Terms as President, Toni Jennings, Orlando, 1996-2000

## ELECTED AND APPOINTED FEDERAL OFFICE HOLDERS



First Woman Elected to Congress from Florida, Ruth Bryan Owen, Miami, 1928

First Woman Elected to the United States Senate from Florida, Paula Hawkins, Maitland, 1980

First Woman Appointed U.S. Attorney General, Janet Reno, Miami, 1992

First Cuban-American and First Hispanic Woman to Head a Congressional Subcommittee, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Miami, 1994

\*The Governor appoints the heads of several state agencies. Together with the Governor's Chief of Staff, they have become the "Little Cabinet," even though that name has no formal standing.

# THE FLORIDA WOMEN'S CLUB MOVEMENT

An intrinsic part of women's history in Florida is the women's club movement. The seeds of the national women's movement were sown during the years immediately following the Civil War, a period that witnessed the emergence of the first generation of self-supporting and often unmarried, college-educated women. Between the late 1890s and World War I, during the so-called "Progressive Era," the United States experienced a period of significant development, spurred by economic forces different from those of earlier decades.

Characterized by reform movements in business, education, government, labor, politics, and women's rights, the Progressive Era dramatically altered the nation's political, economic, and social fabric. For the first time in American history, women emerged as a major force in directing policy at local, state, and national levels. Improved technology and prosperity of the early 20th-century provided many middle- and upper-class women with some freedom from domestic burdens that had previously committed them primarily and sometimes exclusively to their homes and families.

The Florida Federation of Women's Clubs (FFWC) was formed during this era. It was part of a larger national organization called the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC), which was founded in New York City in 1890. The GFWC's goals were to unite a wide variety of women's organizations throughout the country to work toward common goals, including child welfare, conservation, education, equitable taxation, health, and town beautification. The organization also contributed to the larger women's suffrage movement, which adopted aggressive tactics to ensure that women's voices were heard in the political process. Within five years of its founding, the GFWC had established affiliations with 500 clubs nationwide and had an enrollment of 100,000 members. By 1914, the membership was two million.

Florida's involvement with the GFWC began in 1895 when representatives of village improvement associations from Crescent City, Green Cove Springs, Jacksonville, Orange City, and Tarpon Springs met in Green Cove Springs to incorporate the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs. Within a decade, 20 clubs had affiliated with the FFWC, which

emerged as the state's most powerful women-led organization with some 1,600 members in 1910. Four years later, the FFWC boasted 6,000 members enrolled in 36 clubs. By 1917, membership had risen to 9,163 with 59 new clubs having joined the FFWC.

During Florida's Progressive Era, generally between 1905 and the start of World War I, the FFWC began to test its political effectiveness. In 1907, it drafted a child labor bill which was introduced into the Florida Legislature and signed by Governor Napoleon Bonaparte Broward. The organization promoted Stephen Foster's *Old Folks at Home* as the state song and lobbied for the establishment of a State Industrial School for Girls at Ocala and a State Industrial School for Boys at Marianna. Subsequent legislation enacted in large part due to the influences of the FFWC led to reforms in the state's school systems, improvement in health care, temperance, and women's suffrage. Highway construction, land reclamation, cattle dipping legislation, and women's political and economic rights were other important activities of the FFWC in the early 20th century.

One of the FFWC's most daunting tasks was the development of Royal Palm Park southwest of Homestead. As early as 1905, May Mann Jennings, a club leader and activist, helped develop a strategy for acquiring the unprotected land. Clubwomen worked in campaign drives, lobbied legislators, and appealed to the National Audubon Society and other organizations for assistance. Through the club's strenuous efforts, funds were raised to purchase the 960-acre tract of land and the park was dedi-



Tallahassee Women's Club

cated in 1916. In order to keep the park open, the FFWC lobbied the Florida Legislature for annual funds, and in 1925 published 24,000 picture postcards of various park scenes which were sold throughout Florida. Additional land purchases were made and by the mid-1930s, the park had grown to some 500,000 acres.

Suffrage was also a high priority of the FFWC. As early as 1913, an amendment to the state constitution to enfranchise women had been introduced in the Florida Legislature. Several legislative attempts to grant women equal voting rights failed between 1911 and 1919; however, by 1918, 16 Florida towns and 20 counties had enfranchised women in municipal elections, an achievement accomplished in large measure because of the efforts of local clubwomen. During the national ratification process of women's suffrage, the Florida Legislature continued to resist granting women the vote. The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, ratified in 1920, enfranchised women throughout the country without the blessing of the Florida Legislature, which eventually went through the formality of approval in 1969.

The FFWC reached its peak in membership and clubhouse construction during the Florida Land Boom of the 1920s. In 1929, the organization recorded that it represented 17,000 women in 228 clubs throughout the state. During the 1920s, the FFWC supported Prohibition, a concern the organization had first addressed in 1914, as part of its efforts to secure federal designation for a Seminole reservation in South Florida. In 1917, the state set aside nearly 100,000 acres of Monroe County for the Seminoles, only about five percent of which was arable. The FFWC redoubled its efforts and, in 1931,

the Florida Legislature deeded the Seminole's Dania Reservation in South Florida to the federal government.

Mirroring the rest of the country, the 1930s saw a downturn in the FFWC's economic fortunes, although the organization continued its work of relieving despair and promoting culture. In 1931 the FFWC surveyed Florida's county jails, recommending improvements in medical treatment, education reforms, and rehabilitation measures in the state's penal system. They also undertook general education, health care, and public service projects, and funded art and music programs in public schools that boards of education threatened to eliminate because of revenue shortfalls.

During World War II, clubhouses were opened to assist in the war effort. Some 100,000 books were collected and sent to Camp Blanding, a 125,000-acre U.S. Army training center in North Florida. Clubs developed victory gardens in municipal parks and around clubhouses and sold war bonds. The FFWC's "Buy a Bomber" bond campaign raised \$3 million, making it among the nation's most successful fund-raising state federations. After the war, the federation returned to projects it had been working on before the war. In 1947

Royal Palm State Park was deeded to the National Park Service as part of the Everglades National Park.

The FFWC attained its greatest popularity in the mid-1960s when enrollment hit an all-time high of nearly 33,000. During this period, the FFWC was one of the fastest growing affiliates of the GFWC. Within a decade, however, membership began to decline because of a number of factors, including increasing numbers of women joining the work force, competing organizations such as the Junior Welfare League, and more single mothers. In 1995 the state membership consisted of 210 clubs, with 114 of those owning clubhouses. The organization continues to play an important role in voicing concerns and influencing legislation regarding children, crime, education, the environment, and improving the quality of life for all Floridians.

Concurrent with the FFWC was the establishment of a national organization for African-American women's clubs. In 1896, Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin, the founder of the first colored woman's club in Boston, founded the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs (NACWC). From 1899 to 1901, member clubs of the NACWC in Florida were founded in Jacksonville. They included the Jackson-



ville Woman's Christian Industrial and Protective Union, the Phyllis Wheatley Chautauqua Circle, and the Afro-American Woman's Club. The Afro-American was the first of these clubs to be affiliated with the national organization. It had been organized at Divinity High School, later known as Edward Waters College. Among its first officers was Eartha Mary Magdalene White, who was well known for her social work in Jacksonville.

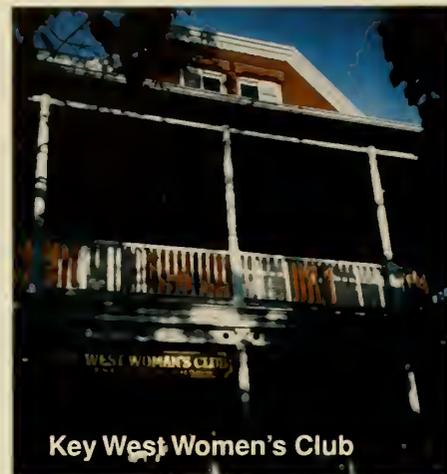
After attending a meeting of the national organization, Mrs. White and other Florida delegates issued a call for the formation of a state organization of African-American women's clubs in Florida. Meeting in St. Augustine on March 10, 1908, the State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs was established. On October 27, 1927, the Florida organization was chartered as a nonprofit corporation in Tampa. The organization's stated goals included maintaining higher and nobler ideals; promoting civic movements; advocating welfare units to support moral, religious, social, literary, and interracial advancement; establishing wholesome recreational facilities for young women; and encouraging the organization of new clubs.

Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, the well-known educator and founder of Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, served as the president of the state federation from 1916 to 1920. During that time, addressing the needs of delinquent girls was adopted as a major project area, which eventually led to the legislature's establishment of Forest Hills, a facility for delinquent African-American girls. This paralleled the support the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs rendered in establishing the Florida Industrial School for Girls, a facility for delinquent white girls, located in Ocala.

One of the new programs promoted by the National Federation in the 1930s and 1940s was the establishment of Youth Clubs. The National Association of Girls' Clubs was founded in the 1930s; Florida's first Youth Club was established in Bradenton in 1939, eventually leading to the founding of the Florida Association of Girls' Clubs. The National Association of Boys' Clubs was established in the 1940s. The national organizations have since been combined as the National Association of Youth Clubs. Today, the Youth Clubs, which include chapters on numerous college campuses, are a strong component of the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs' program.

African-American women's club membership continued to grow in Florida, until by 1980 there were 91 local clubs throughout the state. Clubs in six communities had clubhouses: Bradenton, Belle Glade, Ft. Pierce, Ft. Lauderdale, West Palm Beach, and Palmetto. Other clubs met in homes, schools, or churches. Also in 1980, the Florida Association of Auxiliary of Men was established, the first boys attended a state convention as delegates, and a history of the Forest Hills Home for Delinquent Girls was published. Youth work continued, and in 1984, Youth Clubs were active in Belle Glade, Bradenton, Ft. Lauderdale, Ft. Pierce, Lakeland, Ocala, and West Palm Beach.

Today, there are 45,000 members in the National Association of Colored Women's Clubs, including Youth Clubs, nationwide. There are 15 chapters of the national association in Florida. They, along with the state organization, the Florida Association of Women's Clubs, pursue universal issues related to all women, such as civic service, education, social service and philanthropy, working effectively with other organizations, both black and white.



## FLORIDA'S WOMEN'S CLUBS CLUBHOUSES

- Babson Park
- Bee Ridge
- Belle Glade
- Boynton Beach
- Bradenton
- Chipley
- Clermont
- Coconut Grove
- Coral Gables
- Eustis
- Ft. Lauderdale
- Ft. Pierce
- Hollywood
- Jacksonville
- Key West
- Lakeland
- Lloyd
- Melrose
- Miami
- Milton
- New Smyrna Beach
- Northeast Miami
- Ocala
- Palmetto
- Punta Gorda
- Quincy
- Sarasota
- Springfield
- St. Petersburg
- Starke
- Tallahassee
- Vero Beach
- West Palm Beach
- White Springs
- Winter Park

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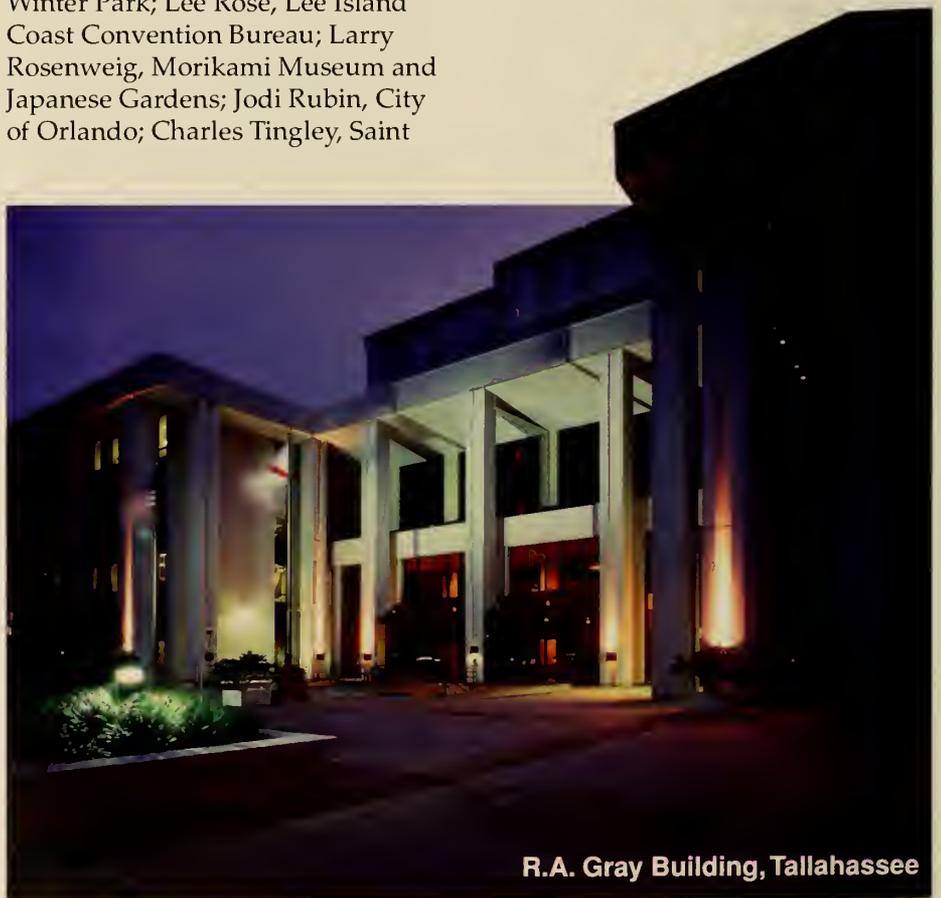
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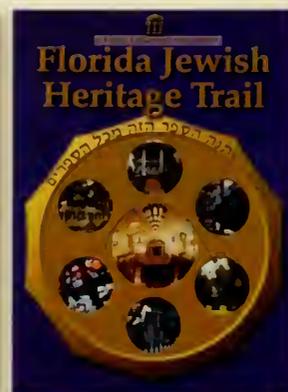
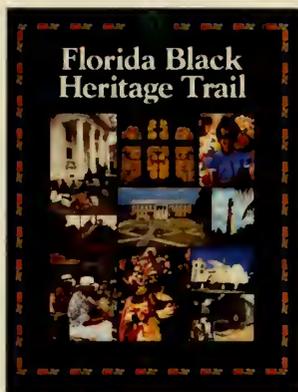
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## Florida Women's Heritage Trail

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