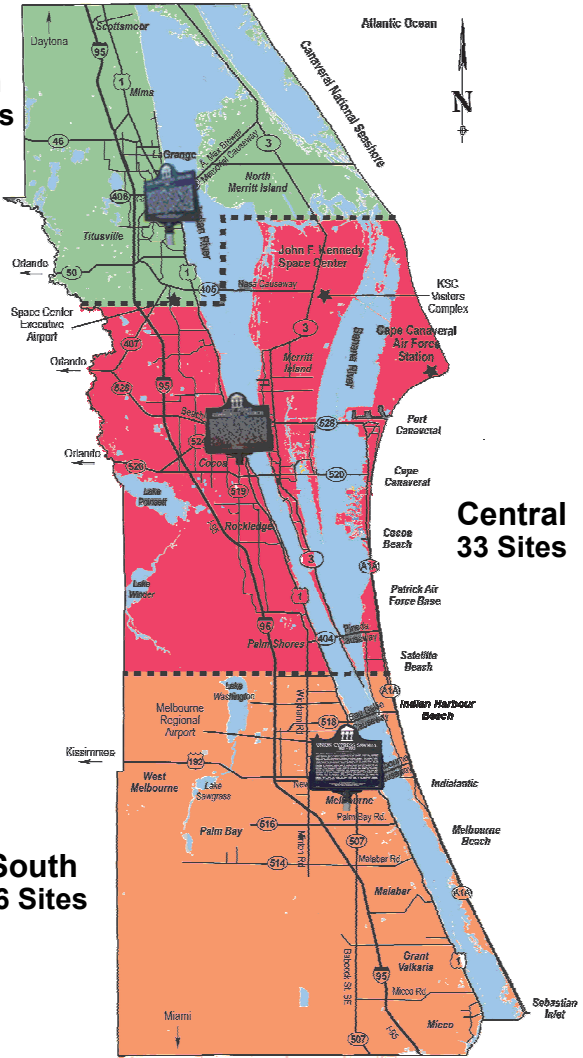# HISTORIC BREVARD

Brevard COUNTY

Updated in 2016

North
23 Sites

Central
33 Sites

South
36 Sites

A FREE PUBLICATION OF THE
BREVARD COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
FUNDED BY THE
BREVARD COUNTY
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
VISITOR INFORMATION: 877 57-BEACH

Welcome to Historic Brevard!

Brevard County is unsurpassed in the diversity and excitement of its history. We have touched pieces of our past that date back 10,000 years, and continue to reach for the threads which will unravel the mysteries of our universe.

The Brevard County Historical Commission created the Historic Brevard Landmark Program in 1989. This booklet is designed to spotlight some of Brevard County's historic landmarks and sites, many of which have been named to the National Register of Historic Places. The NRHP sites are indicated with the year they were named (*e.g.* NRHP 1990).

We think you'll find this booklet both an informative and enjoyable guide to Brevard County's historic treasures.

How To Use This Guide

A map of Brevard County is provided in the center of this booklet. It shows the cities and some of the major roads in the County.

For your convenience, the historic sites and landmarks listed in this booklet are arranged from the Northern part of the County to the Southern.

Please keep in mind that some sites can be viewed from the street but are private and not open to the public. Also, some sites are currently in restricted areas and cannot be viewed at all.

A variety of markers have been used to designate historic sites or landmarks. Listings in this guide that have an official Florida Heritage Site or Landmark marker have this symbol in the text. Other types of markers are not indicated.

For an overview of the Florida Historical Marker program, visit their website at http://dos.myflorida.com/historical/preservation/historical-markers/

GPS coordinates for some of the official markers are listed, particularly if they do not have standard addresses. The coordinates are in the standard GPS format, which can be entered into most GPS devices and Internet map sites, like Google Maps. Some devices and sites, like Yahoo Maps, only work with other formats such as: Decimal (WGS84) or Degrees, Minutes & Seconds. There are utilities available on the Internet that allow you to easily convert between the various coordinate formats.

Your Guide to Historic Landmarks in Brevard County

Brevard County Commission:

Robin Fisher, District 1
Jim Barfield, Chairman, District 2
Trudie Infantini, District 3
Curt Smith, Vice Chairman, District 4
Andy Anderson, District 5

Brevard County Historical Commission:

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Librarian:
Martha J. Loss

Honorary County Historian: Weona Cleveland
Historical Commissioner Emeritus: Ada E. Parrish (1929-2011)
Historical Commission Director Emeritus: Stephen R. Benn

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*"Unless
Brevard County history lives in our present,
it has no future."*

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Historical Overview
Of Brevard County

The Prehistoric Period

The arrival of the Paleo-Indians to Florida, some 10,000 to 12,000 years ago, marks the beginning of the Prehistoric Period. The indigenous population lived in small groups and were semi-nomadic hunter-gatherers.

Our climate was more temperate than it is today, with cooler summers and warmer winters. The sea level is believed to have been as much as 100 feet lower as the end of the Ice Age approached.

By about 3,000 B.C., Florida had become much as it is today in terms of climate and sea level. Archaic peoples had arrived in the area. Unlike the Paleo-Indians, the Archaic peoples relied heavily on the fish and shellfish resources in the area and left behind a variety of mounds and shell middens near the major bodies of water.

Around 2,000 B.C. pottery began to appear, indicating that the inhabitants were developing a more sedentary lifestyle. Distinct cultures became identifiable during the later prehistoric times, continuing until the time of European contact.

The Colonial and Pioneer Periods

The Colonial Period began in 1513 when Spanish explorer Juan Ponce de León landed in the vicinity of Melbourne Beach. Two major Native American tribes were living in the area at the time: the Ais and the Jeaga. The threat of hostile attacks and the massive infestation of mosquitoes discouraged would-be settlers from remaining in the region.

By the early 1700s, the tribes along Florida's east central coast were facing extinction. The Indians were unable to protect themselves from European diseases and invasions by other tribes.

The Seminoles, who were mostly displaced Creek Indians from Alabama and Georgia, remained primarily in central and south Florida. Their presence in Brevard County was confined to periodic forays into the area.

In 1763, the English gained control of Florida, and it remained under their flag until 1783 when the territory was ceded back to Spain. This Second Spanish Period lasted until 1821 when Florida became a territory of the United States.

While there are many Prehistoric Indian sites within Brevard County, there is little left of the Colonial and Pioneer Periods. Some of these historic resources were lost to new development, but the heat, moisture, salt air, and the wind also took their toll on the unprotected and neglected structures.

Early Statehood and the Civil War

Florida was admitted to the Union as the 27th state in 1845. In 1848, a lighthouse was established at present-day Cape Canaveral. Families arrived and developed what is considered the first permanent settlement near Cape Canaveral. By 1905, after numerous name and boundary changes, Brevard County (which was first aptly named Mosquito County) attained the basic configuration it has today.

The Civil War had little direct impact on Brevard County. However, in the years following the war, settlers from nearby southern states began filtering into the area in search of a new beginning, arriving first by steamboat.

By the 1880s, the cities of Melbourne, Eau Gallie, Rockledge, Cocoa and Titusville already existed with populations in the low hundreds. Growth was slow, but steady, until the railroad system made Brevard County more accessible.

In 1886, the Jacksonville, Tampa and Key West Railroad was linked to Titusville. Seven years later, Henry Flagler received his land grant to build the Florida East Coast Railroad south to Miami. Supported by funding from the Standard Oil Company, Flagler's railroad reached Melbourne in 1894.

The Early Twentieth Century

The improved transportation system led to growth in population and spurred the development of Florida's tourism industry. Fashionable resorts and hotels sprang up throughout the county. Permanent residents, winter visitors, and tourists became distinct sectors of the county's population. The automobile came on the scene. Roadways were expanded, and more people began turning to Brevard County as a favored vacation destination.

In the 1920s, the Great Florida Land Boom began, as land speculators took advantage of post-war prosperity and the growing transportation system. Real estate became big business. Potential residents and seasonal visitors were all clamoring for a piece of paradise. But it didn't last long. The reckless speculation of the Land Boom brought the economic depression to Florida by early 1927, well before the rest of the nation felt the crunch.

The Modern Era

The Modern Era began in Brevard County in 1940 with the opening of the Banana River Naval Air Station (known today as Patrick Air Force Base). In the late 1950s, Brevard became home to the Long-Range Proving Ground at Cape Canaveral. Later, Kennedy Space Center was established as the Merritt Island Launch Area (MILA).

Virtually overnight, the predominantly rural, agrarian society turned into a major center for high technology, research, and development. The county's population soared as it became the stepping-off point to the universe.

The 1960's "race to the moon" resulted in decades of astonishing accomplishments and devastating tragedies. The county endured the economic and employment slack period between the end of the successful Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo programs and the beginning of the Space Shuttle program. Residents faced the grief of losing the *Challenger*, and later *Columbia*. Today, the unmanned commercial space industry is blossoming; the Space Shuttle program took us into the next millennium. We now await a regeneration of the manned space program.

In Brevard, at the edge of the universe, dynamic and exciting history is being made every day!

Mims

In 1876, the Mims brothers and their families moved from Georgia to what is now Mims. Caster Mims had been a railroad agent in Georgia. He and his brothers Robert and Briton developed orange groves in the area. They expanded into nurseries, fruit boxes, crates, lumber, real estate, and land development. When a post office was established in 1886, the name Mims was selected.

① Greater St. James Missionary Baptist Church

Built: original structure built in 1904
Located: 2396 Harry T Moore Ave., Mims
URL—http://www.gsjmims.org/
Marker Coordinates: N 28 39.767 W 80 50.417

In 1894, after organizing a congregation, St. James Colored Missionary Baptist Church acquired land in Mims, and with Rev. G. Brewer as pastor, built the first wooden church on this site in 1904 under the guidance of Rev. J.S. Gilbert. Many of North Brevard's pioneering black families: Warren, Grant, Campbell, Cuyler, Strickland, Bell, Harris, Hester, Lewis, Sheldon, Abrams, Brothers, Wright, Highsmith, and Mitchell, held positions in this church.

Rev. James Massey served as an inspirational and dedicated leader from 1937 to 1967. Choir director Dorothy Hester also served as Youth Advisor for North Brevard NAACP under the direction of Harry T. Moore. Funeral services were held at this church for Civil Rights activists Harry T. Moore and Harriette V. Moore, who were killed when their home was bombed on Christmas night 1951. Moore was Brevard County NAACP Chapter President and later NAACP Florida Convention president/state coordinator. The present church structure was built in 1964. The old wooden structure was torn down in 1968, and the annex building was started in 1971. The name of the church was changed to Greater St. James Missionary Baptist Church in 1974.

The last naval battle of the Revolutionary War was fought at sea off the coast of Cape Canaveral by the USS Alliance and HMS Sybil in March 1783.

Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Homesite and Cultural Center

Built: Original home circa 1935
Located: 2180 Freedom Ave., Mims
URL—http://www.brevardcounty.us/ParksRecreation/North/MooreMemorial/CulturalCenter

Harry T. Moore was born in 1905 in Houston, Florida. Moore completed his high school education at Florida Baptist Institute and graduated in 1924. He secured a teaching position even though he did not have a college degree at this time. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Bethune-Cookman College at Daytona, Florida in 1951.

In addition to teaching, Moore spent 17 years traveling throughout Florida encouraging members of his race to help themselves and unite to support their issues. In 1934, he organized the Brevard County branch of the NAACP, and also served as president of the Florida State Conference of NAACP branches until 1946 when the Florida State Conference selected Moore to hold the position of Executive Secretary.

In 1932, Harry and his wife, Harriette (also a teacher and activist), were deeded a one-acre parcel of land by Harriette's parents, Annie and David Sims. The one-acre lot was located just north of Parrish Rd. and west of Old Dixie Hwy. in Mims, Florida. Harry built his family a six-room cottage with a front porch. The Moore's bedroom was located at the front of the house on the northeast corner.

On Christmas night 1951 at approximately 10:20 p.m., a bomb exploded underneath the front of the house, destroying the front porch and blasting out a hole 3 feet wide and 10 inches deep. Harry T. Moore and his wife both lost their lives as a result of the explosion.

The FBI was brought in to investigate their murders which resulted in national media coverage. This act of violence was never brought to trial, but 55 years later, now-deceased Klansmen were publicly identified as the assailants. The legacy of the Moore's fight for racial equality is exemplified by the establishment of the Harry T. and Harriette V. Moore Cultural Center.

Oliver's Camp

Built: circa the 1870s
Located: E. Jay Jay Rd & Snowy Egret Dr., Mims
Coordinates: N 28 38.667 W 80 49.617

Circa 2009 Olivers's Camp on a new foundation

This site derives its name from the Oliver family who migrated from Missouri and homesteaded this area of Turnbull Hammock in the early 1870s. They owned large tracts of timberland and citrus groves, and the main camp was located on this property. In 1886, L.C. Oliver started a lumber business in Titusville and dealt in Georgia pine lumber, shingles, and other building supplies. Oliver bought half interest in the Budge & Huckabay Hardware Store in 1888 and renamed the business Oliver & Budge Hardware & Lumber. Budge and Oliver moved to Miami in 1895 and started another hardware and lumber business. Budge bought Oliver's half interest in the Titusville business, and in 1898 sold it to his father-in-law, Captain J. Pritchard, and it became James Pritchard and Son Hardware. In 1918, Oliver and wife Louise sold their Turnbull Hammock 40 acres to Florida Senator J.J. Parrish and wife Emma for $15,000. Parrish was one of the state's largest citrus grove owners and businessmen during the early 1900s. Located on this property was a 1910 Craftsman style two-story house that Parrish used as the Grove caretaker's residence.

LaGrange

The first postmaster, John Harvey, called a meeting to choose a name for the new post office in 1877. Someone suggested calling it for the first postmaster, but Harvey said: "No, call it after your club." The Grange, a lodge of the National Grange of the Patrons of Husbandry, met in the second-floor meeting room of the community church, so the town was named LaGrange.

LaGrange / Mims Community (Colored) Cemetery

Built: circa 1903
Located: 1575 Old Dixie Highway, 3 miles north of Titusville, just north of Dairy Road
Marker Coordinates: N 28 38.433 W 80 50.250

In the early 1900s, a two-acre parcel of land north of LaGrange Church and Cemetery was given to the Mims colored community for a cemetery. Earliest marked graves are dated 1903; many were unmarked. During the late 1800s, both blacks and whites worshiped at LaGrange Community Church. In 1894, after organizing a separate congregation, the St. James Colored Missionary Baptist Church acquired land in Mims and built a church in 1904.

In June 1913, trustees of that church purchased this parcel from the East Coast Cattle Company for use as a cemetery, and then referred to as the Mims Colored Cemetery. Many of North Brevard's pioneering black families rest in this hallowed ground with family names of Abrams, Bell, Brothers, Brown, Campbell, Cuyler, Grant, Gibson, Highsmith, McKenzie, Mitchell, Seigler, Simms, Strickland, Warren, and Williams. Most noted are the graves of Harry T. Moore and Harriette V. Simms Moore, Florida civil rights activists. Moore was chapter president of the Brevard County National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and later NAACP Florida Convention president/state coordinator. On Christmas Eve, 1951, the Moores were killed when their home, located near this site, was bombed.

5 LaGrange Church and Cemetery

Built: circa 1869
Located: 1560 Old Dixie Highway, Titusville
(North of Dairy Rd. off U.S. 1)
Church Marker Coordinates: N 28 38.367 W 80 50.217
Cemetery Marker Coordinates: N 28 38.400 W 80 50.233

LaGrange Church and Cemetery were established in 1869 by Tom Johnson Cockshutt and his wife, Anne. It was the first Protestant church organized on the east coast of Florida between New Smyrna and Key West, used for public meetings and the first schoolhouse where Margaret Narcissa Feaster taught 17 students. In 1872, a two-story vertical log structure was built with church services held on the first floor, school and public meetings on the second floor. Services were conducted by circuit preachers and in 1872 by an ordained pastor. In 1893, the second story was removed, and horizontal boards were placed over the vertical logs, resulting in the church structure that appears today. The adjacent cemetery gravesites date from 1869, including that of Andrew Feaster, who fought in the War of 1812. (NRHP 1995)

Photo by Mary Thrasher

9

Titusville

One account says that Titusville is named because of a bet on a game of dominoes between Colonel Titus and Captain Rice, the winner getting the right to name the town. Another source indicates that Titus, as postmaster, unilaterally named the town after himself despite local opposition. At any rate in 1873, the name of the town was changed from Sand Point to Titusville.

Titusville Veterans Memorial Fishing Pier

6

aka Walker Bridge
Built: circa 1922
Located: 2 A. Max Brewer Memorial Pkwy**,** Titusville

In 1922, this pier was the western end of the first bridge linking Titusville to Merritt Island. Then called Walker Bridge, this hand cranked, wooden draw bridge served the community until the late 1930s when preparations for a modern causeway began. Construction halted as the nation entered World War II and a temporary connection linked the two structures. In 1942, an Army transport laden with soldiers and equipment failed to make the turn at this juncture resulting in an accident that claimed the lives of 6 soldiers. Several inmates, from a near-by labor crew, aided in the rescue efforts. Despite saving several soldiers and recovering the bodies of the deceased, they received little public recognition for their efforts. After the war, construction resumed, and the causeway opened to traffic in 1949. Local citizens petitioned the State Corps of Engineers for ownership of the remaining part of Walker Bridge to use as a community fishing pier. In the decades to follow, it became a cherished gathering place for residents of all ages. Valued by locals and tourists alike, the pier's continued repairs, renovations, and the eventual 2011 reconstruction were made possible through the generosity of the local community.

Andrew Froscher House

7

Built: circa 1895
Located: 704 N. Dixie Ave., Titusville

Photo by Mary Thrasher

Andrew Froscher, a German cabinet maker, bought a tract of land at LaGrange in 1869 and planted orange groves. He married Lavinia Feaster in 1871 and raised eight children. They were married 61 years. He built their first house (1886-88) which later burned with most of their belongings. The existing home was built in 1895, just across the road from the previous house.

He owned and operated the first funeral parlor in Titusville. He helped organize the Masonic Lodge #90 in 1894. He is also credited with building the city's first jailhouse and courthouse.

Titus House

8

Built: circa 1869
Located: 356 Indian River Avenue. Titusville
Marker Coordinates: N 28 36.686 W 80 48.395

Located on the Indian River, the hotel was built (circa 1869) and operated by Henry T. Titus, founder of Titusville. The building, constructed of wood, was U-shaped with each room opening onto a veranda facing a tropical garden. In the days of steamboat travel, the hotel, with its elegant salon, was considered one of the best in Florida. After the death of Titus, the property became part of the Dixie Hotel.

Dixie Hotel circa 1920

Wager House

9

Built: circa 1877
Located: 621 Indian River Avenue, Titusville
Not open to the public

Photo by Mary Thrasher

The Wager House is one of the oldest buildings in Titusville and an excellent example of the Colonial Revival style. Originally, it was a two-story, flat-roofed structure built by Pleasant J. Hall for Perry Wager. The third floor and hip-roof, with a widow's walk, were added sometime after 1920. The south side porch was a 1915 addition.

The main structure was built in 1877 on the site of Wager's Grocery Store, established in 1873 as one of the earliest commercial concerns on the Indian River.

Perry Wager's son, Ellis, published Brevard County's first newspaper, the Florida Star, from the first floor of the house. The second floor was used, on occasion, as Titusville's ballroom and opera house.

The current owners purchased the home in 1990 and completed restoration work in 1998. (NRHP 1990)

Judge George Robbins House
Built: between October 1900 and March 1901
Located: 703 Indian River Avenue, Titusville

The Judge George Robbins House is the only remaining example of the Dutch Colonial Revival style in Titusville. Robbins bought the lot in 1891 for $1,500. He bought an adjoining lot a year later. Construction began in October 1900 and was completed in early March 1901.

Robbins served as superintendent of the Mexican Central Railway for two years. He returned to the U. S. and attended law school. Following graduation, he moved to Florida and was admitted to the Bar in 1886. His familiarity with the railroad industry and his prowess as an attorney attracted the attention of railroad mogul, Henry Flagler, who later retained his services. (NRHP 1990)

Titusville Commercial District
aka **Downtown Titusville Historic District**
Built: circa 1895-1926
Located: Roughly bounded by Julia St., Hopkins Ave., Main St., and Indian River Ave., Titusville

The District includes 24 historical resources on South Washington Avenue and Main Street in "old downtown" Titusville.

The buildings date from circa 1895 through the collapse of the Florida Land Boom in 1926. They embody a variety of significant architectural styles including Beaux Arts and Mission, but the predominant designs are simple masonry or frame vernacular.

In 1989, Titusville was selected as a Florida Main Street City. Participation in this highly successful self-help program, administered by the Bureau of Historic Preservation, brought about the historic preservation and economic revitalization of its "old downtown.". (60 acres, 21 buildings) (NRHP 1990)

Volume 1 of
The History of Brevard County
has information about Brevard prior to 1920

JT & KW Railroad and Indian River Steamboat Wharf
Built: circa 1886
Located: The East end of Broad Street, Titusville

When the Jacksonville, Tampa, and Key West Railroad line arrived at Titusville at the end of 1885, it opened a new era of transportation by linking with the Indian River steamboats in what was called the Tropical Trunk Line. The railway extended eastward down the middle of Titusville's Broad Street and out onto a wharf extending into the Indian River some 1500 feet. At the end of the wharf, passenger vessels of the Indian River Steamboat Company would dock and provide passage for visitors to settlements downriver. The JT&KW railroad depot occupied a site where the Baldwin Plaza shops are today.

In addition to enabling the convenient transport of people, the train terminal at Broad Street significantly expanded the export of Indian River citrus, pineapples, and seafood to northern markets. Titusville became a hub for both tourists and commercial trade. By 1893, Henry Flagler's Jacksonville, St. Augustine & Indian River Railway (later the Florida East Coast Railroad) reached Titusville and soon pushed ever southward, quickly ending the short-lived monopoly Titusville had enjoyed as the junction between the railroad and all points south.

Today, the unusually wide paved right-of-way of Broad Street hints at its past life, and a city-owned dock extends out into the lagoon near the site of the original wharf.

St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church
Built: 1887
Located: 414 Palm Avenue, Titusville
URL—http://www.stgabs.org/
Marker Coordinates: N 28 36.634 W 80 48.547

Photo from http://www.stgabs.org/

An outstanding example of the neo-Gothic architectural style is St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church built in 1887 on land donated by J. Dunlin Perkinson, a lay reader for the mission, and by Mary E. Titus, the wife of Colonel Henry Titus. The church was to have been accompanied by a cemetery. However, the town council opposed the idea of a graveyard within the town limits, and it was never pursued. The wood-frame church is known for its stained glass window of St. Gabriel's by Tiffany, which sends sparkles of light throughout the dark wood interior. In response to this gift the members changed the church's name from St. John's to St. Gabriel's in 1888. A bell, which is said to be the largest in Brevard County, was donated by the ladies of the church and installed in the steeple in 1892. (NRHP 1972)

Brevard County Courthouse

Built: circa 1912
Located: 506 Palm Avenue, Titusville
Marker Coordinates: N 28 36.616 W 80 48.548
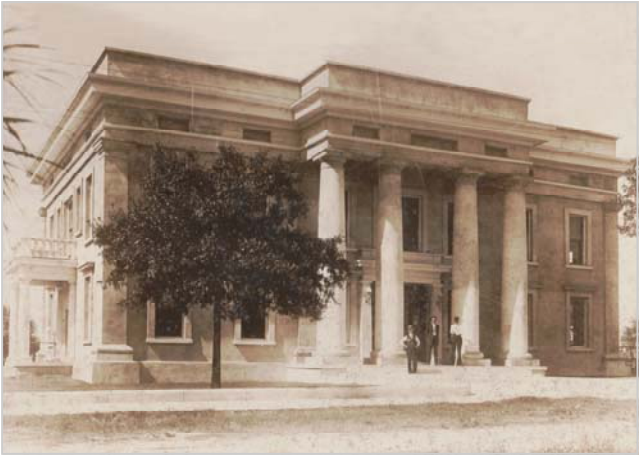
Circa 1930. From the BCHC Florida Today Collection.

Brevard County once encompassed parts of Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, Okeechobee, Osceola, Orange, and Volusia Counties. The courthouse was often moved, depending on the strength of various political factions. From 1875 to 1878 the courthouse stood at Lake View in Osceola County until it burned to the ground. In 1879, the county seat moved to Titusville where a two-story wooden courthouse, 20 ft. X 40 ft., was built by Peter Fisher and Andrew Froscher on land donated by Henry T. Titus.

Built in 1912, the present structure at 506 Palm Street replaced the old wooden courthouse. Early courthouse designs were influenced by the architecture and political ideals of Thomas Jefferson, who relied heavily on Greek and Roman precedents. This tradition is evident in the neoclassical Greek style, made of poured concrete by Lightman, McDonald & Company for a cost of $31,477.00.

The courthouse has undergone two extensive renovations since 1912. In 1925, in the midst of Titusville's first boom period, three large wings were added at a cost of $80,000 to provide office space. Three large flat roof additions were added on the sides and the rear façade, the front entrance doors replaced, and modern replacement windows installed. Another boom happened when Cape Canaveral was chosen as the location for America's Space Program. The staggering growth that accompanied this program prompted the construction of a second building. It is connected to the original courthouse using a covered walkway. Today the old courthouse continues to be used for court business.

Pritchard House

Built: 1891
Located: 424 South Washington Avenue, Titusville
URL—http://www.pritchardhouse.com
Phone: 321.607.0203
Marker Coordinates: N 28 36.619 W 80 48.455

James Pritchard was born in New York City on October 21, 1839. The family moved to Missouri, and when the Civil War began, he enlisted in the Confederate Army. He served as Captain of Company E, First Regiment, Missouri Infantry, and his father, John N. Pritchard, served as Colonel in the Union Army. In Galveston, Texas on January 15, 1867, he married Mary Haley Boye, daughter of Christian and Frances Delespine Boye of Key West, Florida.

2009 Amy Beckwith

The Pritchards and their three children came to Florida in 1876 and settled on the Delespine Grant, which Mary inherited from her grandfather, Joseph Delespine. At "Pritchard's Landing" they grew sugarcane and citrus., In 1886 when a hard freeze destroyed most of the crops, the Captain turned to selling real estate and moved his family to Titusville where they lived in a cottage on Palm Ave. He organized the Indian River State Bank in 1888, which was the first bank in Titusville, incorporated in 1889 and was located at the corner of Washington Ave. and Julia St. He served as president for 37 years.

Their eldest child, Frances Amelia, married Frank T. Budge in 1889 and moved to their own house. Frank owned a hardware store on Washington Ave., and when the couple moved to Miami, Captain Pritchard and son "Boud" bought the business named it James Pritchard and Son Hardware. In 1890 Capt. Pritchard built the first electric generating plant in Titusville and sold it in 1914 to Southern Utilities Co., and they sold it to Florida Power and Light Co.

In June 1891 on a lot purchased from Mary Titus, contractor Pleasant J. Hall began building the Queen Ann style house of heart pine. The Pritchard family moved into their new home in October 1891 with furniture, pictures and painted portraits they brought from Missouri. The original occupants of the house were Captain Pritchard, wife Mary, son "Boud" and youngest daughter Kate, Mary's mother, Frances Delespine Boye, and the family maid, Julia Stewart. In 1913 "Boud" married Lola Pauline Smith, known as "Miss Lovie" and they continued to live in the house until their deaths. Captain Pritchard passed away in 1926 and is buried in the family plot at Oaklawn Cemetery in Titusville.

Their daughter Mary Pauline married Frank Schuster in 1935 and raised their children, James, Johanna, and Polly in this house. It was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1990. Pritchard family members continuously lived in the house, with Mary Pritchard Schuster occupying the house until May 2005 when it was purchased by Brevard County Board of County Commissioners for historic preservation. The house and gardens are open to the public for tours, exhibits & programs as well as rental for weddings, private parties, and meetings. (NRHP 1990)

The Historical Commission works with many other groups and organizations in the community to preserve the County's history and archeology.

Windover Archaeological Site
Located: The vicinity south of Titusville

(16)

Restricted access

The Windover Archeological Site was discovered in 1982 during the development of the Windover Farms residential community southwest of Titusville. A backhoe operator found skeletal materials while removing peat from a small pond on the site. Construction of the road was rerouted, and three archeological investigations were conducted between 1984 and 1986. A pumping and dewatering system kept the location sufficiently dry for archeologists to excavate below the water table. This extremely significant Early Archaic burial site revealed human brain tissue and bones, textiles and artifacts dating from 4,000 to 6,000 years B.C. providing valuable information on the biology, diet, and environment of the inhabitants of this period.

A definitive exhibit explaining the discovery, excavation and significance of Windover is at the Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science in Cocoa. Although the site is not open to the public, visits to the burial pond and the surrounding eight-acre nature preserve can be arranged through the Museum. (NRHP 1987)

Titusville Negro School
Located: Wager St., Titusville
Marker Coordinates: N 28 36.400 W 80 48.800

(17)

Following temporary sites on Washington Avenue in 1883 and Dummitt Avenue in 1886, the Titusville Negro School was located on this site in 1915; it housed grades 1-8. The original building was burned in 1931, and a new eight-classroom frame building was erected; an auditorium was added later. The school grew to a 1-12 complex and the first students to complete high school here were graduated in 1938. After the new Gibson school was opened in 1957, the site was abandoned and the old building razed.

Brevard County overall is larger than the state of Rhode Island but has less land area.

In 1880, the population of Brevard County was 1,497.

Most rivers in the continental United States generally flow south. The St. Johns River, which runs through Brevard County flows north.

Spell House
Built: circa 1911
Located: 1200 Riverside Drive, Titusville
Not open to the public

(18)

The Spell House is one of Titusville's finest historic residences and an excellent example of the Queen Anne style. It is located in Sarah Gleason's addition to Titusville which was platted in 1911. Mrs. Willa Davis Spell purchased the lot from Gleason in 1911 for $550, and the house was built shortly after that. Mrs. Spell's husband, Dr. James C. Spell, was a physician and the first licensed pharmacist in Titusville. He built the Spell building in "old downtown" and operated the Banner Drug Store out of the corner storeroom. Dr. Spell was also Vice President of the Bank of Titusville. (NRHP 1990)

The Addison/Ellis Canal
Built: circa 1912
Located: 444 Columbia Blvd., Titusville
Marker is located within the Enchanted Forest Nature Sanctuary off of SR 405, 1/4 mile west of U.S. 1.
Marker Coordinates: N 28 31.983 W 80 48.150

(19)

Main Canal Entering Rock Cut, Depth 33 Feet.
Titusville Fruit & Farm Lands Co.,
Indian River City, Fla.
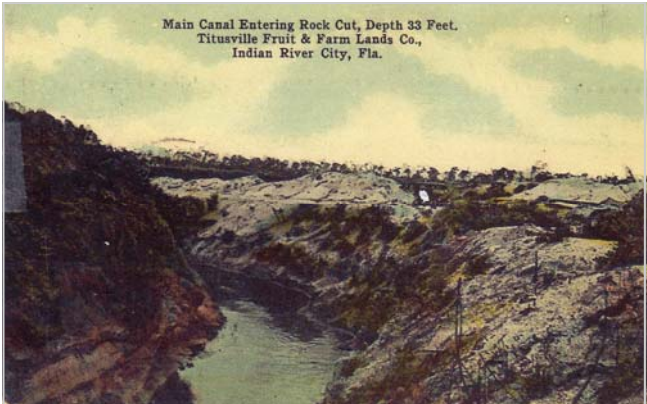
Post card from the collection of Doug Hendriksen

In 1911, Edgar W. Ellis and J.H. Beckwith put together a consortium of developers known as the Titusville Fruit and Farm Lands Company. They acquired 22,500 acres in the western portion of the old Delespine Grant with plans to drain marshland in the St. Johns River Valley, to make the land usable for agricultural purposes. By 1913, 43 miles of lateral canals had been dug and work began on the Addison/Ellis Canal, which led from Addison Creek to the outlying vegetable fields. The canal was intended to relieve flooding in the St. Johns River by diverting floodwaters to the lagoon and by transporting supplies and crops from the St. Johns River to the Indian River Lagoon, ending at Addison Point. The company extracted canal coquina rock and used it to pave roads to their fields. The marshland and sand ridges proved no problem for the equipment used, but a coquina rock ridge that runs north-south proved insurmountable, and the canal was never completed. The consortium went broke, and the project was abandoned. The canal never reached a useful depth, and construction ended just east of the scrub/coquina ridge in Addison Creek.

Merritt Island

Merritt Island was referred to as Merritt's Island as early as 1803 and as late as 1930. The post office was commissioned as Merritt Island on June 1, 1935. In John McIntosh's grant, it is described as "*An island in the Rio Ais, known by the name of the Isla de Punta de Piedra or by the Isla de Marrat, which name was given by the memorialist having a man of the same residing thereon.*" (Spanish Land Grants in Florida, vol IV, Con. M28b-c, M29)

Fort Ann U.S. Army Post

(20)

Built: December 1837
Located: The vicinity of North Merritt Island
Restricted access

Fort Ann at the location of the Old Haulover.....

　　　Fort Ann is among the earliest structures built in Brevard County and is the first known Federal outpost on the Indian River frontier. It protected U.S. troops engaged in the second Seminole Indian War, fought between 1835 and 1842. Soldiers of the 1st U.S. Artillery Regiment working under the supervision of Lt. James Irwin built this temporary post on the eastern shore of the Indian River not far from where the troops had hauled boats overland from Mosquito Lagoon.

　　　The structure had walls and bastions constructed from earth, and may have employed a protective stockade of logs similar to other period fortifications, though there is little documentation to confirm its exact physical nature. One account describing Fort Ann is found in the journal of U.S. Army Surgeon Jacob Motte, titled *Journey Into Wilderness*. Motte states that Lt. Irwin named Fort Ann for "the prettiest girl in Pennsylvania." Army records indicate the post was garrisoned by U.S. troops until it was ordered abandoned in April 1838.

　　　While short-lived, the establishment of this post supported a concerted effort to transport troops and supplies southward by water. It helped persuade the Army to conduct a survey a few years later for the construction of a canal at the Haulover. Today, Fort Ann is again Federal property, occupying a site protected as part of the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge on the Kennedy Space Center.

Old Haulover Canal
Built: circa 1854
Located: The vicinity of North Merritt Island
Marker Coordinates: N 28 44.233 W 80 45.250

Located in the narrowest part of Merritt Island, the Old Haulover Canal linked the Mosquito Lagoon on the east with the Indian River on the west. In 1854, the federal government spent $5,000 to construct the canal based upon an investigation by Lieutenant Wright. The canal was located at this point as it served as a traditional crossover point for travel down the inland waterway and, until its construction, cargo was *hauled over* the island and then loaded on boats which continued southward. The canal was 3 feet deep and 10 to 14 feet wide and was constructed by the slaves of a local citrus grower. The Old Haulover Canal was abandoned in 1884 when the new Haulover Canal was built a little to the north. In the 30 years of its use, the Old Haulover Canal served as a vital transportation link in Florida's inland waterway system. (NRHP 1978)

Clifton Colored School
Built: circa 1890-1891
Located: North Merritt Island
Marker is located 2.8 miles north of the Haulover Canal on the Canaveral National Seashore, on the east side of U.S. Route 3
Marker Coordinates: N 28 45.033 W 80 46.150
Restricted access

Before the Clifton Schoolhouse was built, Butler Campbell and Andrew Jackson's children were home schooled by a black teacher, Mr. Mahaffey. The teacher was paid five dollars for each student, after examination by the County School Superintendent. Any locality claiming a school had to provide a public school house, select at least one trustee, and secure a certified teacher. In 1890-91, Campbell and Jackson decided to build a proper school. A neighbor, Wade Holmes provided a one-acre lot on the northwest corner of his property. The three men built a 12 x16 heart of pine structure that sat on coquina cornerstones about one foot off the ground. The west-facing front was fitted with a double-paneled door. Two sets of glass-paned windows were on the north and south sides. The roof was made of cedar or cypress boards. Campbell's children included Florida, Eugenia, Agnes, Henry, and Willie, who was Valedictorian in 1892. Jackson's children were Annie, Mary, Floyd, and Douglas, who was Valedictorian in 1893. Studies included reading, physiology, English, math and Latin. By 1910, the children were out of school or attending school elsewhere.
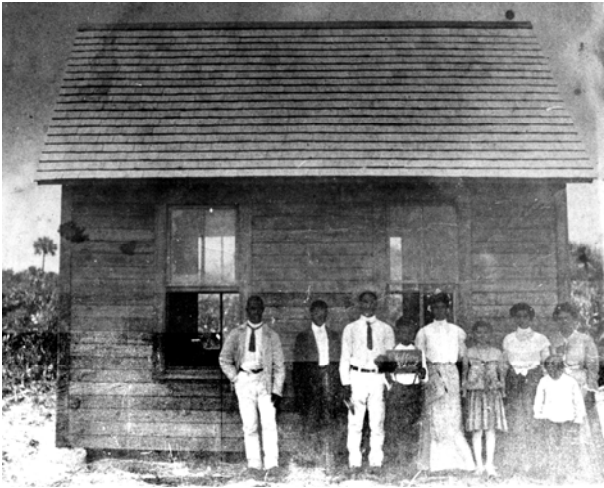
In 1924, Eugenia returned to Clifton and later lived in the structure. When NASA bought properties on North Merritt Island in the 1960s, the families relocated to other areas, and most of the houses were moved or demolished.

Dummett Grove

23

Located: Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge,
North Courtenay Parkway, North Merritt Island
Marker is located 5 miles north of Wilson's Corner (Jct SR 402) on
the Canaveral National Seashore, on the west side of the road
Marker Coordinates: N 28 42.583 W 80 43.817

Indian River oranges, one of Florida's most outstanding products were developed in the 19th century by Douglas Dummett. The Dummett family immigrated from the Barbados in 1807. By 1825, Thomas Dummett had acquired sugar plantations on the east coast of Florida. His son Douglas (B. 1806) established his plantation in this part of Merritt Island and began to grow oranges. Dummett used a new grafting technique later widely adopted in Florida. He grafted buds from sweet orange trees onto his sour orange trees. This method produced frost-resistant trees and was called top-grafting because budding began several feet above the ground. Unlike many coastal planters, Dummett did not abandon his property during the Second Seminole War (1835-42). He served as a captain in the "Mosquito Roarers," a Florida Militia company formed to protect property in this area from Indian raids. Dummett continued to cultivate what were regarded as East Florida's most valuable orange groves until his death in 1873. He also held elective and appointive political offices. The Dummett groves were damaged beyond recovery in the 1893 hurricane and the freeze of 1894-95. The property became part of Kennedy Space Center in 1963.

The house in this picture was known as Dummett's Castle, and it was moved to Titusville in an abandoned condition until it burned while occupied by vagrants. This house was built in 1881 on Dummett's original grove by the Castellucio's and is described on page 24 of Manning and Hudson's *History of North Brevard County*, due to its history and unique structure.

Launch Complex 39

24

Built: during 1962-68
Located: Kennedy Space Center
Restricted access

Launch Complex 39 was built between 1962 and 1968 at the northern end of Merritt Island on what is now the Kennedy Space Center. The complex was the site of the memorable launch of Apollo 11, — man's first voyage to the moon. Astronauts Neil A. Armstrong, Edwin E. Aldrin, Jr., and Michael Collins embarked on their lunar landing mission (Apollo 11) at 9:32:0634 a.m. EDT, on July 16, 1969. Apollo 11 was launched from Mobile Launcher 1, atop the elevated pad at Launch Complex A. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1973, the configuration of the Launch Complex has experienced modifications which were required for the Space Shuttle program. (NRHP 1973)

Photo by NASA—http://commons.wikimedia.org/

John H. Sams Homestead

25

Built: 1875
Located: 6195 N. Tropical Trail, Merritt Island
URL—http://www.brevardcounty.us/EELProgram/Areas/SamsHouseSanctuary
Marker Coordinates: N 28 28.338 W 80 43.037

The Sams family came to Brevard County from South Carolina in 1875 to take advantage of the 1860 Homestead Act. The family consisted of John Hanahan Sams, his wife Sarah, their five children, John's brother William Sams, and his sister, Catherine DeVeaux Sams.

Photo from http://www.nbbd.com/godo/sanctuaries/SamsHouse/index.html

The Sams Homestead consists of two buildings. The first, a single story home, was originally constructed in Eau Gallie on property homesteaded by John H. Sams in 1875. The family decided to move nearer to other relatives on North Merritt Island, and the house was dismantled and rafted up the Indian River in 1878 to the present site. It is the oldest dated structure on Merritt Island and a prime example of Florida vernacular construction. In 1884, Sams

was granted a homestead deed for 156 acres and by 1888, built the second two-story home adjoining the older house on the property. Sams served as Superintendent of Schools for the county from 1880 -1920 while growing citrus and pineapples. John H. Sams died in 1923. His descendants occupied the homes until 1995 when the land and structures were acquired by the Environmentally Endangered Lands program. Archeological excavations at the site discovered a prehistoric Native American occupation site that dates from approximately 5,000 BC to 1250 AD, and also a late Pleistocene fossil site.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church of Courtenay

Built: during 1888
Located: 5555 N. Tropical Trail, Merritt Island
URL—http://www.stlukesmi.org/stlukes/
Marker Coordinates: N 28 27.450 W 80 42.983

St. Luke's Episcopal Church of Courtenay was formed as a congregation by the Porcher, LaRoche, and Sams families. They settled on North Merritt Island after leaving Charlestown, South Carolina, in 1875 due to the loss of their homes and plantations in the Civil War.

Photo from http://www.stlukesmi.org/stlukes/

The first services were held in 1879 and as the membership grew services took place in a store building on the banks of the Indian River. In 1888 property was donated for the site of St. Luke's Episcopal Church. The church was built with $600 in donations. During the early years, the church did not have a vicar. Ministers traveled by boat from churches in Cocoa and Titusville to hold monthly services while members led weekly services. The Gothic Revival style wood-frame structure was built of hand-planed Island pine and cypress with a steep gabled roof and square bell tower. It is now a chapel for mid-week and special services. (NRHP 1990)

Bethel A.M.E. Church of Merritt Island and Community ("White Lilly") Cemetery

Originated circa 1895
Located: 4725 N. Tropical Trail, Merritt Island

Established in 1892, Bethel A.M.E. Church of Merritt Island was the first African Methodist Episcopal church on North Tropical Trail. The site for the church and cemetery was located on land James R. Ragan initially acquired in 1895 through the Homestead Act. The little wooden church sat on brick piers close to the road, and was referred to as "The Little Church on Courtenay." The pews were made of rough-hewn cypress, worn smooth from years of wear and lined with fans advertising an insurance company. In front of a small altar was the communion rail, a 4ft. section of 2x4 wood. For grove workers, it was a place to worship, get married and baptized, and a place to say whatever words needed to be said before being buried in the cemetery just outside. Rev. Lawrence Walton was one of the first pastors.
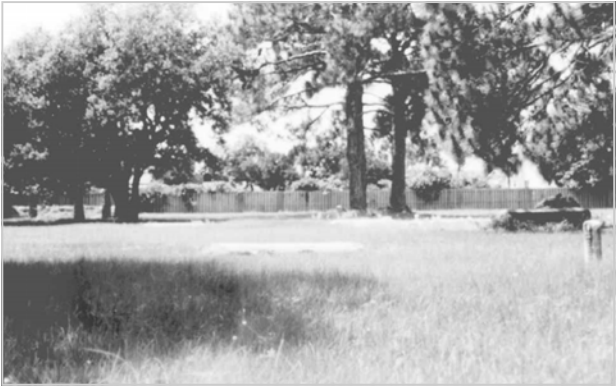
In 1959, a cornerstone was added, and Rev. L.R. Catlin, Jr. was the pastor. The congregation numbered 49 not including children. The church burned down in the spring of 1968, and property management was turned over to Mt. Olive A.M.E. Church. Originally known as the "White Lilly Cemetery," the cemetery dates back to the early 1900s and has many unidentified gravesites. Among pioneer families buried here are the Rev. Fred Gillins and members of the McDonald, Williams and Anderson families. The only evidence of where the church once stood are concrete footers of the brick piers, and nearby, the church cornerstone has been reset and stands as a testament to the past. Renamed the Bethel-Greater Mount Olive Church Community Cemetery and it is still in use, 1240 North Tropical Trail, Merritt Island.

(28) Merritt Park Place
Built: 1926
Located: SR520, SR3 and Tropical Trail, Merritt Island

Bordered by Merritt Avenue to the north, SR520 to the south, SR3 (Courtenay Parkway) to the east and Tropical Trail to the west. This area is the first planned neighborhood on Merritt Island and was established in 1926. Many of the buildings date from that era. In the 1980s, the area was zoned commercial and gradually became a mix of businesses and residences. By the 1990s, more businesses and professionals had moved into "The Park" and restored, rehabilitated and responsibly maintained their vintage properties. Some even built new construction to blend in with the older buildings. During this time, the area became a project of the Merritt Island Redevelopment Agency. All original sidewalks, underground piping and streets were renovated, and landscaping was installed along with street lamps, park benches, street parking and other amenities. "The Park" was rededicated in 2000.

"Unless Brevard County history lives in our present, it has no future."

Ulumay Wildlife Sanctuary
and Ais Indian Site
Site mapped in 1605
Located: 805 Sykes Creek Parkway, Merritt Island
(entrance at Old Audubon Rd)
URL—http://www.brevardcounty.us/ParksRecreation/Central/Ulumay
Marker Coordinates: N 28 22.267 W 80 40.800
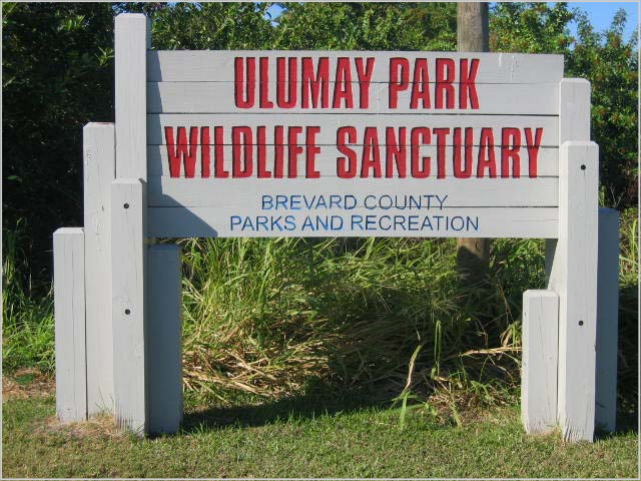
The present Ulumay Wildlife Sanctuary was the site of several Indian villages identified and mapped in 1605 by Alvaro Mexia, a young soldier from the garrison at St. Augustine. Quoted in Irving Rouse's Survey of Indian River Archeology, Mexia's diary says, "Here is the town of Ulumay, the first one of the Province of Ais. In the back of and adjacent to this town, there are many camps."

The shell mounds, which were all that was left of these villages, were used in the construction of roads long before their archeological significance was recognized. Local naturalist Johnny Johnson helped record what little was left of these sites while building trails for bird-watching. It was at his recommendation that the name Ulumay was chosen.

Ulumay Wildlife Sanctuary is a stark example of what has happened to most of Brevard County's archeological sites and should serve as a signal to preserve those sites that remain.

30

Last Naval Battle of
the Revolutionary War
Occurred: 10 March 1783
Located: Off the coast of Cape Canaveral
Marker Location: Veterans Memorial Center,
400 S. Sykes Creek Pkwy., Merritt Island

On 10 March 1783, shots were fired in an engagement between the *USS Alliance* and *HMS Sybil,* which were at sea off of Cape Canaveral, Florida in what became the last naval battle of the Revolutionary War. Ironically, the Treaty of Paris, which officially ended the war and recognized the independence of the United States of America, had been ratified five weeks before on 3 February 1783.

The *Alliance*, under Captain Barry, had received orders to sail to Havana, load a large quantity of gold and deliver it to Congress in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The treasure was to be used by Congress to fund the new country's first bank and reduce the war debt. *Alliance* arrived in Havana on 31 January 1783 and found the American warship, *Duc de Lauzun*, had already loaded the gold. Captain Barry decided to escort *Duc de Lauzun* to Philadelphia.

On 6 March 1783, the pair sailed from Havana. The following day they were chased by the Royal Navy frigates *Alarm* and *Sybil,* which they eluded.

On 10 March they encountered *Alarm* and *Sybil* again, which were now in the company of the war sloop *Tobago*. The two American ships headed southwest trying to avoid a fight that might put the gold in jeopardy. The British warships pursued the Americans. *Alliance* was pulling away, but *Duc de Lauzun* was losing ground. *Alarm* gave up the chase, but *Sybil* pressed on and began firing at *Duc de Lauzun*. Captain Barry maneuvered *Alliance* between *Sybil* and *Duc de Lauzun* in an attempt to draw fire. *Sybil* turned her guns on *Alliance*. Barry held fire until *Alliance* was within a stone's throw of *Sybil* at which time he let loose a broadside. Close-in fighting ensued for another forty minutes when *Sybil* broke off the fight and fled. The *Duc de Lauzun* made her escape, sailed north, and successfully delivered her precious cargo.

(31)

Field Manor
Built: circa 1880
Located: 750 Field Manor Drive, Merritt Island
URL—http://www.fieldmanor.org
Tours by appointment Call: 321.474.9142

The Field Family, headed by John Moss Field, arrived in Florida in 1868, coming by private conveyance and river boat from Macon, Ga. They settled on Merritt Island, with two of John Moss' sons, J.R. and Sam, homesteading property and playing leadership roles in establishing the community of Indianola. J.R. Field and his wife Eliza built Field Manor, a vernacular-farm style home, in 1880 from tall Merritt Island pine on their riverfront property, which once included over 320 acres. The family's citrus business thrived and expanded and in 1900, a small packing house was constructed on the property and utilized until the 1930s. Much of the equipment and tools used in this process are preserved there.

Field family descendants occupied the Manor house for three generations, and in 2013, upon the death of Alma Clyde Field, the family home, and remaining 45 acres were placed into the Field Manor Foundation. The Foundation is working to preserve the homestead, groves, and farmland. As their work progresses, Field Manor is set to become a working agricultural museum depicting the settlement of Merritt Island and showcasing the history and achievements of Indian River citrus farmers and their contributions to the economic growth and development of Central Florida. (NRHP 1997)

In 1880, the population of Brevard County was 1,497.

Cape Canaveral

Cape Canaveral is the oldest place name in Brevard County. It is sometimes translated as "place of canes." Marjory Stoneman Douglas says, "The name Canaveral, meaning 'cane bearer' for the great reeds then in the swamp at the southward bight of the cape, appeared on Florida maps after 1520." She believes it was Spanish ship Captain Francisco Gordillo who named the cape for the Ais who used arrows made from cane.

(32) Cape Canaveral Air Force Station

Built: 1950
Located: Cape Canaveral
URL—http://www.patrick.af.mil/index.asp
Restricted access—Limited free & fee-based tours are available.
Search the Internet for information.

Cape Canaveral Air Force Station was selected for the site of a U.S. Missile Testing Range in 1947. Construction of this facility began in 1950, opening Brevard County's journey into the world of space exploration. The first missile, a German V-2 with an Army WAC Corporal second stage, was launched from the Cape on July 24, 1950. Cape Canaveral Air Force Station is nationally significant for its contributions to the U.S. manned space program as well as the unmanned exploration of space and its role of missile testing. It was at Cape Canaveral that the U.S. developed the facilities that led to the Mercury, Gemini and Apollo manned space programs and today's launches of scientific payloads. (1325 acres, 1 building, 6 structures, Launch Pads 5, 6, 13, 14, 17, 19, 26, 34 and Mission Control Center) (NRHP 1984)

Cape Canaveral Lighthouse

Built: during 1843-1848
Located: The Cape Canaveral Air Force Station
URL—http://www.canaverallight.org/
Restricted access—Limited free & fee-based tours are available.
Search the Internet for information.

Photo Credit: AmericaSpace / Jason Rhian

The original Cape Canaveral Lighthouse was built of wood. Construction began in 1843 and was completed in 1848. In 1853 Capt. Mills O. Burnham replaced Nathaniel Scobie as the lighthouse keeper. During the Civil War, Burnham sealed the beam mechanisms in crates and buried them in his Banana River orange grove to discourage Union ships from landing along the coast. In 1868, the lighthouse was rebuilt of brick and later reinforced with iron plates. In 1893, Congress appropriated funds for the beacon's relocation inland to its present site, and the move was completed in 1894. Burnham was the lighthouse keeper until his death in 1886. His descendants continued to run the lighthouse until 1952. The U.S. Coast Guard took over the lighthouse in 1939 from the U.S. Lighthouse Service. On December 14, 2000, the lighthouse was transferred to the 45th Space Wing of the U.S. Air Force.

Mission (Mercury) Control Center

Built: 1957
Location: The Cape Canaveral Air Force Station
URL—http://afspacemuseum.org/ccafs/mercurycontrol/
Restricted access—Limited free & fee-based tours are available.
Search the Internet for information.

The Mercury Control Center (later renamed Mission Control Center) was created during Project Mercury as a central control point for the entire mission. The blockhouse on Launch Complex 5/6 was still used as the launch control center, but once the mission took to the air, the Mercury Control facility took over to coordinate all aspects of the flight. Mercury Control was later renamed Mission Control when the Gemini Program got underway.

Photo from http://afspacemuseum.org/ccafs/mercurycontrol/

An adjoining area just outside the Mercury Control building came to be known as Press Site 2. So much public attention was focused on the manned missions, that every press organization was clamoring for permission to set up a camera or station a reporter close to the action. This press area was chosen because of its immediate proximity to the center of information, the Mercury Control building.

The press site had a semicircular ground area lined with telephone connections, an elevated platform for cameras, and a small building called the "fishbowl" which served as the public affairs control point for the press site. This press site continued in operation long after the Mercury and Gemini programs had wrapped up. It was ideally situated a safe distance from Launch Complexes 17, 19, 36, and other complexes on ICBM Road.

The Mercury Control complex was demolished in 2010, and a historical marker was approved at the 12 October 2010 meeting of the Florida Historical Marker Council, Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State.

The press site "fishbowl" is the only structure remaining from those early days of manned spaceflight. The adjacent alligator pond, which was a favorite of the attending press, is obscured by high underbrush and no longer visible.

Artesia Post Office

(35)

Built: circa 1950
Location: 8901 North Atlantic Blvd, Cape Canaveral
Coordinates: N 28 24.193 W 80 36.251
Not open to the public

The community of Artesia was once situated along the Banana River near what is now Port Canaveral. The town began appearing on U.S. Survey Maps in the 1880s (Baron 1893). Though locals frequently interchanged its name with the more recognized "Canaveral," the town of Artesia was sufficient enough to oblige its own post office, which was established in May of 1891 and operated therein until January of 1954 (Parker 2000). The site of the first Artesia post office was a well-known gathering place for the small coastal community. A 1993 News-Press article describes how the residents recalled the entire town converging there to watch Cape Canaveral's first automobile arrive by boat in 1915 (Reed 1993). By the late 1940s, the community had outgrown the small wooden structure and a larger concrete block building was built on the site. In the years that followed Cape Canaveral would continue to grow, eventually becoming a hub for maritime commerce and military endeavors. As these interests expanded, numerous communities around the Cape, including Artesia, vanished into a landscape that would become Port Canaveral, Kennedy Space Center, and the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (Parker 2000). The concrete building that housed the Artesia Post Office was eventually relocated to accommodate these developments. The structure now serves as a storage building and is no longer open to the public. BR02570.

William Chandler Log Cabin
Built: circa 1930-1935
Location: 122 Oak Lane, Cape Canaveral.

Not open to the public

According to census records, Orvin H. Chandler and his wife Caroline moved to Brevard County with their three children, William, Arvine, and Benedict between 1907 and 1910 (United States Census 1910). Initially settling in Georgiana as a fruit farmer, Orvin quickly realizes that Brevard County was ripe for investment and in 1912 he purchases several acres of land in the Teuten Subdivision in what was then Artesia (Lawyers Realty Title Company 1957). Over the years he subdivides the property, selling a portion to his eldest son William in 1922 and other sections to his daughter, Arvine, and youngest son, Benedict, in 1929 (Lawyers Realty Title Company 1957). By the 1930 census, all three siblings reside on their respective properties in what would eventually become the City of Cape Canaveral (United States Census 1930). While no definitive date of initial construction has been found for the Chandler's log cabin, sources indicate that the chimney and other additions were completed by William in 1935 (Chandler 2010). The cabin itself is relatively unique, constructed of whole cabbage palm logs; it is one of only two that remains in the state of Florida (Gross 2010). Built entirely by hand, it is characterized by its simple sheet metal roof, green mortar chinking, rough exterior logs and varnished interior walls (Chandler 2010). William, with his wife Gladys and daughter Billie, resided in the cabin for many years until they relocated to Cocoa for Billie's schooling (Chandler 2010). The property remained in the Chandler family until the late 1940s - early 1950s when it was sold to a postal employee, Alma Beecher and her husband Robert (Lawyers Realty Title Company 1957). William and Gladys Chandler continued to reside in the Cape Canaveral area until their deaths in the 1980s. Both were laid to rest in the Chandler family plot located in the Georgiana Cemetery, Merritt Island. BR1883

37 Carter / Fuller Mound Complex
Age: AD 600 to the 16th century
Location: 212 Center Street, Cape Canaveral.

Before modern construction, a complex of six burial mounds occupied this location. They were built by the ancestors of the prehistoric Ais tribe, a group who occupied the Cape Canaveral area at the time of European contact. Based on pottery styles and the presence of European materials discovered here, the age of these mounds ranges from AD 600 to the 16th century. In the 1930s, Dr. George Woodbury, under the direction of the Smithsonian Institute's Bureau of Ethnology and the Peabody Museum, initiated a series of archeological investigations into several American Indian mound sites near here.

Photo Bob Swenson

With the help of local laborers provided by the New Deal's Civil Works Administration, excavations on the properties belonging to the Carter and Fuller families revealed the remains of more than 100 individuals that included men, women, and children. The oldest identified mound in this complex contained a central burial pit containing the disarticulated remains of an estimated 20 individuals. Two intact burials were discovered near the opening of the pit. The remains of another 89 individuals, including those of twelve children, were recovered from one of the most recent mounds. Unlike those of the older mound, all of these skeletons were buried intact and were arranged in a circular pattern with their heads pointing towards the apex of the mound. The diversity of these burial patterns indicates that this community experienced a significant cultural shift over the centuries that they resided in Cape Canaveral. In addition to the burials, dozens of ornamental and utilitarian artifacts made of bone, shell, and stone were recovered. Many of these items are still housed at the National Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C. and the Peabody Museum in Massachusetts. BR90 - BR95

Cocoa

The Cocoa post office was established September 11, 1884. There are several stories on how the name was chosen. Several of them credit Captain R.C. May with choosing the name either for the Cocoplum plant which was abundant in the area or for Baker's Cocoa. One story is that the name was selected after Indian River City was rejected as too long. Another version is that there was an old sign advertising Baker's Cocoa on the dock, and it was the source of the name. Still another story says it was named for the Coco Palm, an early common name for the Sabal palmetto.

Volume 2 of
The History of Brevard County
has information about Brevard after 1920
See the inside back cover for more details

City Point Community Church

Built: 1885
Located: 3783 N. Indian River Dr., Cocoa
Marker Coordinates: N 28 25.264 W 80 45.139

Circa 2009

Known as City Point, this area was settled shortly after the Civil War by Confederate veterans, citrus grove workers, northern winter residents, and consumptives seeking a healthy climate. By early 1885, a board of trustees was formed consisting of William H. Sharpe, George W. Holmes, A.L. Hatch, John M. Sanders, and George E. Chester, to construct this building to be used for a public hall, school, and non-denominational church for both white and black residents. On land donated by J.C. Norwood, this building was designed by A.L. Hatch and built by John M. Sanders, who completed the work on November 1, 1885. This structure served as the beginning congregation for the following churches: the United Methodist Church of Cocoa, Church of Christ, Church of God, Primitive Baptist Church, Calvin Baptist Church, Indian River Baptist Church, Baptist Enterprise Church, and the First Apostolic Temple. The building was used as a school until 1924. Picnics, dances, political rallies, a precinct voting station and observation tower during World War II, were some of the many uses the community found for the building. (NRHP 1995)

Community Woman's Club

Built: circa 1950
Located: 5 Rosa L. Jones Drive, Cocoa
321.639.4193

On June 7, 1922, a group of women formed the Community Woman's Club of Cocoa (CWC). They became a part of the Florida Federation of Women's Clubs that same year. The 1922-23 membership roster of the CWC lists prominent women of Cocoa, Rockledge, Courtenay, Indianola, Orsino, Sharpes, City Point and Merritt. Dues were $2 per year and members met in private homes, churches or available public rooms. In 1934, CWC purchased the old Hughlett drugstore building on Delannoy Avenue and remodeled the building.

Photo by Leonard J. DeFrancisci

31

The Delannoy Clubhouse, built in 1888, was showing significant wear and in 1963, plans were underway to sell the building and buy a new lot. In 1964, the CWC was named in the will of Mrs. Gertrude M. Alford, a local benefactress. This inheritance enabled CWC to purchase the present clubhouse on June 8, 1966. The building, "Magnolia Hall," was originally built c. 1950 by the Central Church of Christ and housed the St. Mark's Sunday School in the 1950s. After alterations and repairs, the first meeting was held October 25, 1966. Dedication of the building and Open House was held April 9, 1967. The CWC is affiliated with the General Federation of Women's Clubs International with a charter to promote and develop the charitable and education interests of the community. The club meets at 9:30 am on the second Tuesday of each month from September through May. The building is also available for rent as an event venue.

(40) S.F. Travis Building

Built: 1907
Located: 300-302 Delannoy Ave.,
Cocoa Historic District
URL—http://travishardware.net/

Photo from http://seahorseontheloop.blogspot.com/2015/03/blog-post.html

The masonry vernacular storefronts of Cocoa are consistent with the design and materials of historical storefront architecture throughout the United States. Cocoa's S.F. Travis Building exemplifies this style of architecture with its flat roof and parapet, decorative brickwork, name panels, canopies and central entrances with obliquely placed display windows. The S.F. Travis Building was constructed in 1907 by Samuel F. Travis to house his expanding hardware business. It was extensively renovated in 1926 by the Travis Company. Two large display windows replaced the previous smaller ones; stucco siding was added to the storefront, and the original transom, which ran above the windows and entrance, was removed. A northeast corner second-story walkway connects the Travis Building to the building located at 298 Delannoy Avenue. The S.F. Travis Company has remained in operation to the present day, making it the oldest existing business in Cocoa.

(41) Hernandez Trail

Located: King Street at U.S. 1 Cocoa
Marker Coordinates: N 28 21.344 W 80 44.002

One-half mile to the west ran the Hernandez Trail used during the Seminole War. It connected forts along the East Coast to Ft. Dallas in Miami and across from Ft. Pierce and Ft. Capron to Ft. Brooke near Tampa. Brig. General Joseph M. Hernandez, born 1792 in St. Augustine, served as the first delegate to Congress and held some positions of importance in the Territory of East Florida. In 1837 under orders from General Thomas S. Jesup, he captured Indian Chief Osceola.

Porcher House
Built: 1916
Located: 434 Delannoy Avenue, Cocoa
URL—http://www.cocoafl.org/facilities/facility/details/1
Tours 321.639.3500 ext. 4

Photo from http://www.cocoafl.org/facilities/facility/details/1

The Porcher House was built in 1916 for Edward P. Porcher, a prominent grower of Indian River citrus in the early 1900s, inventor of patented citrus-handling equipment and leader in the citrus growers' associations. The grandest home in Cocoa at the time of its construction, it is a unique example of the twentieth century Classic Revival style interpreted in local coquina rock. Porcher and his wife, Byrnina Mona Peck, moved to Florida in 1885, first settling in rugged quarters in the Courtenay community on Merritt Island. Family history indicates that Mrs. Porcher was thoroughly involved in the construction of the home in Cocoa. The club, diamond, heart and spade designs in the Coquina on the portico, show her enthusiasm for card games. The building has been the Porcher family home, a hotel, a home for orphaned boys, Cocoa City Hall, and is owned and operated by the City of Cocoa, who maintains offices there and rents the building for special events. (NRHP 1986)

Harry T. Moore Center
a.k.a. Cocoa Colored School #102
Built: 1923
Located: 307 Blake Ave (formerly Avocado Ave), Cocoa

Photo from Google Maps

The Harry T. Moore Center, originally called the Cocoa Colored School #102, is the oldest school still standing in Cocoa. The school was built for students in grades 1-9. Brevard County did not have a high school for African American students until after 1940. The first one was built in Melbourne, which Cocoa's residents attended. In 1946 the school, now referred to as Cocoa Junior High School, added grades 10-12 and the resulting high school was renamed Monroe High School, after Jessie Ruth Monroe. She was a pioneer teacher who became one of the school's most respected principals. The building was in use until 1954 when a new school was built at 705 Blake Ave. The building was renamed the Harry T.

Moore Center, in honor of Harry T. Moore, who taught here from 1925-1927.

Construction on what was then the most elaborate colored school in the County was started in 1923 and completed at a cost of $9,000. The majority of the funds were donated by Henry White Cannon, a New York banker and a wealthy winter resident of Cocoa. Additional funding of $1,100 came from the Rosenwald Fund. The exterior walls are made of locally made cast concrete block construction, and many original details such as wood wainscoting, plaster walls, and trim remain.

After the closing of the school, this building has been used by the Child Care Association of Brevard, the Head Start Program and currently houses the Cocoa Police Athletic League. The City of Cocoa acquired the property in 2014 and is undertaking needed renovations and restoration. Future uses include an African American Cultural Museum.

The Florida Division of Historical Resources has determined this site as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

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(44) ## Monroe Center
a.k.a. Monroe High School
Built: 1954-55
Located: 705 Blake Ave (formerly Avocado Ave), Cocoa

The Monroe Center – originally Monroe High School -- was built in 1954-55 as one of three segregated high schools serving Brevard County. The school was named after Jessie Ruth Monroe, a pioneer, teacher, and principal of Cocoa Junior High School, an earlier segregated school in the community. The original address was 705 Avocado Street. The street was renamed after Virgil Blake, a prominent activist in the community who resided on the Street. Virgil Blake was the father of Richard Blake, who served as principal of Cocoa High School for 22 years and as a councilman in the City of Rockledge. Richard Blake is the grandfather of Michael Blake, who was elected the first Black Mayor of the City of Cocoa in 2004. The facility served Black children in grades 7 through 12 from throughout Central Brevard until 1966-67, when area public schools were integrated. The school had a distinguished reputation and was the alma mater for several community leaders in education, government, industry, and the arts.

Photo from Google Maps
The Monroe Center is now home to the Emma Jewel Charter Academy. http://emmajewelcharter.net/

The Florida State Legislature passed legislation in 1854 creating Brevard County. The Governor didn't sign the bill until early 1855 and thus started a creation-year controversy which is still debated today.

HISTORICAL ORGANIZATIONS

Brevard County Historical Commission
Central Brevard Library & Reference Center, 308 Forrest Ave., Cocoa, FL 32922

Brevard Cultural Alliance
2725 Fran Jamieson Way, C-307, Viera, FL 32940
http://www.artsbrevard.org/

Brevard Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 1123, Cocoa, FL 32923-1123—http://www.flbgs.org/

Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation
P.O. Box 1978, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920
http://www.canaverallight.org/

Civil War Round Table of Central Florida
P.O. Box 255, Sharpes, Florida 32959-0255

Cocoa Beach Pioneers
580 South Brevard Ave., Cocoa Beach, FL 32931-2529 (321.783.8389)

Cocoa Beach Resident Historians
c/o City Clerk's Office, City of Cocoa Beach, P.O.Box 322430, Cocoa Beach, FL 32932-2430 (321.868.3286)

Daughters of the American Revolution Chapters
Abigail Wright Chamberlin – Melbourne, Cape Canaveral – Cocoa Beach
Commodore John Barry – Melbourne Beach, Indian River – Titusville
Philip Perry – Cocoa
Rufus Fairbanks – Satellite Beach
For specific contact information for these chapters and the Florida State Society, Historic Preservation Committee see http://fssdar.com

Florida Historical Society
435 Brevard Ave., Cocoa, FL 32922—http://www.myfloridahistory.org/

Florida Historical Society Archaeological Institute (FHSAI)
2201 Michigan Ave., Cocoa, FL 32926 (321.632.1830)
http://www.myfloridahistory.org/fhsai

Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN)
74 King St, St. Augustine, FL 32085 (904.392.8065)
http://www.flpublicarchaeology.org/ecrc/

Genealogical Society of North Brevard
P.O. Box 897, Titusville, FL 32781-0879
http://www.nbbd.com/npr/gsnb/index.html

Grant Historical Society
P.O. Box 44, Grant, FL 32949

The Historical Society of North Brevard
301 S. Washington Ave., Titusville, FL 32789
http://www.nbbd.com/godo/history/

Indian River Anthropological Society
Chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society
P. O. Box 73, Cocoa, FL 32923-0073—irasarchaeology@yahoo.com
http://www.nbbd.com/npr/archaeology-iras/

The Mosquito Beaters
George "Speedy" Harrell, President 435 Brevard Ave., Cocoa, FL 32922

National Railway Historical Society
Florida East Coast Chapter, P.O. Box 2034, Cocoa, FL 32923-2034
http://www.trainweb.org/fecnrhs/

North Brevard Heritage Foundation, Inc.
Roz Foster, President, P.O. Box 653, Titusville, Fl. 32781
http://www.nbbd.com/npr/preservation/

Preservation & Education Trust, Inc.
1219 Rockledge Drive, Rockledge, FL 32955

Rockledge Heritage Foundation
11 Orange Avenue, Rockledge, FL 32955 (321.632.2712)

Sons of the American Revolution
Ben DuBose, 950 Falls Trail, Malabar, FL 32950 (321.952.2928)

South Brevard Historical Society
P.O. Box 1064, Melbourne, FL 32902-1064
http://www.southbrevardhistory.org/

Town of Melbourne Village Historic Preservation Commission
Jean Henderson, Secretary (321.724.0070)

MAP OF BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

20 thru 23

1 thru 3

4 & 5

6

24

7 thru 19

25 thru 31

32 thru 34

35 thru 37

38 thru 47

54 thru 56

48 thru 53

57 thru 60

79

61

62

80

63 thru 78

89

81 thru 88

90

91 & 92
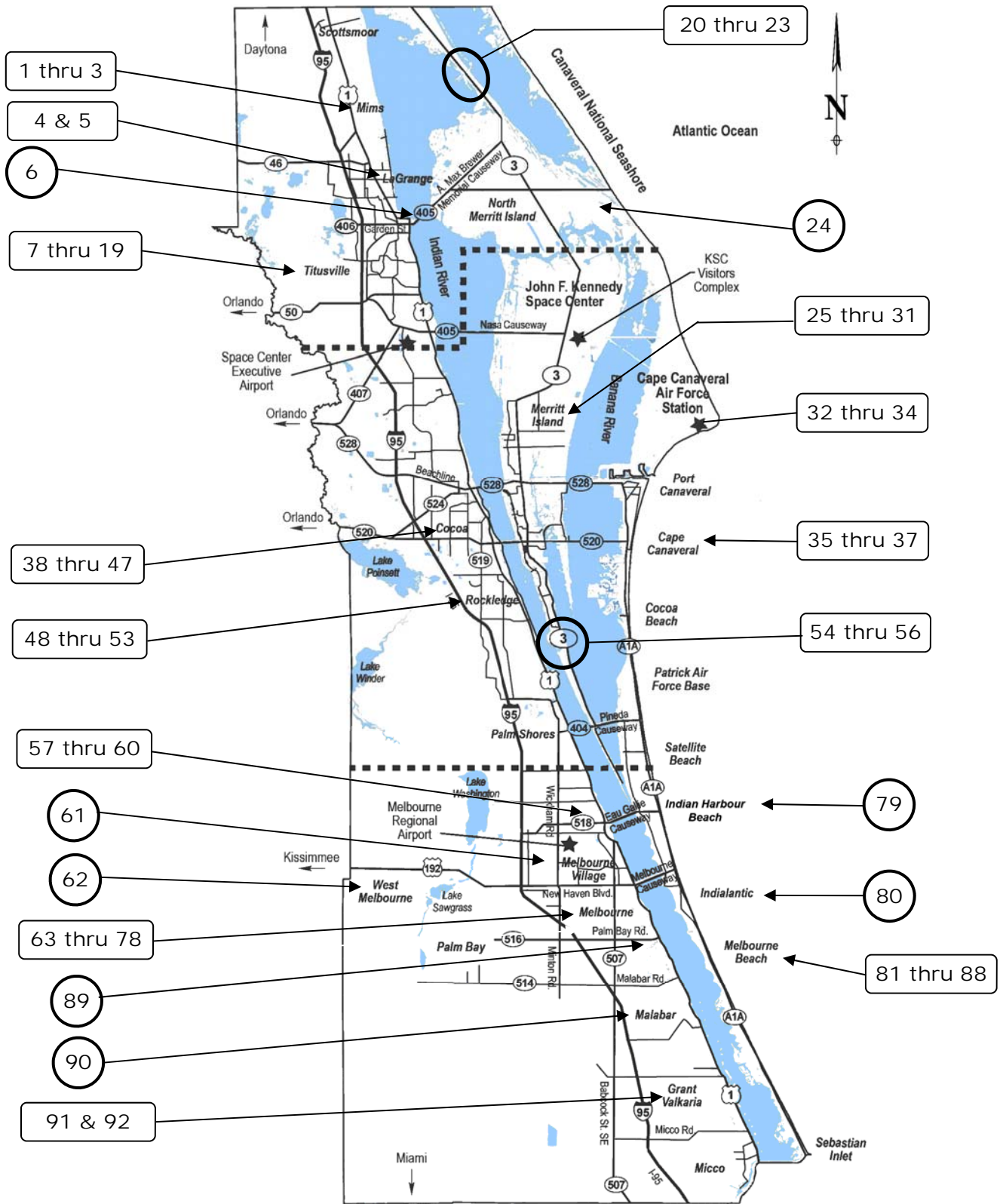
Please remember that some sites are not open to the public but can be viewed from the street. Also, some sites are in restricted areas and cannot be seen at all.

36

37

MUSEUMS IN BREVARD COUNTY

Air Force Space & Missile Museum
Space Launch Complex 5&6, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, FL
http://www.afspacemuseum.org

American Police Hall of Fame & Museum
6350 Horizon Dr., Titusville, FL 32780
http://www.aphf.org/museum.html

Brevard County Historical Records Archive
Central Brevard Library & Reference Center, 308 Forrest Ave., Cocoa,
FL 32922—http://www.brevardcounty.us/HistoricalCommission/Home

Brevard Museum
2201 Michigan Ave., Cocoa, FL 32926
http://myfloridahistory.org/brevardmuseum

Eastern Florida State College Planetarium & Observatory
Eastern Florida State College, 1519 Clearlake Rd., Cocoa, FL
http://www.easternflorida.edu/community-resources/planetarium/

Florida Surf Museum, Cocoa Beach
4275 N. Atlantic Ave., Cocoa Beach, FL 32031
http://www.cocoabeachsurfmuseum.org

Foosaner Art Museum
1463 Highland Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935
http://www.foosanerartmuseum.org/

The Grant Historical House
5795 Highway 1, Grant, FL 32950

The Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Cultural Center
2180 Freedom Ave., Mims, FL 32754
http://www.brevardcounty.us/ParksRecreation/North/MooreMemorial/
CulturalCenter

Historic Rossetter House Museum & Gardens
1320 Highland Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935
http://www.rossetterhousemuseum.org/

Liberty Bell Memorial Museum
1601 Oak Street, Melbourne, FL 32901—http://www.honoramerica.org/

Library of Florida History
435 Brevard Ave., Cocoa, FL 32922—http://myfloridahistory.org/library

The North Brevard Historical Museum
301 S. Washington Ave., Titusville, FL 32782
http://www.nbbd.com/godo/history/

Old Town Hall History Center
Ann Downing, Public Relations, 2373 Oak St., Melbourne Beach, FL
32951

Ruth Funk Center for Textile Arts
150 W. University Blvd., Melbourne, FL 32901
http://textiles.fit.edu/

U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame
6225 Vectorspace Blvd., Titusville, FL 32780
http://www.kennedyspacecenter.com/astronaut-hall-of-fame.aspx

U.S. Space Walk of Fame Foundation & Museum
308 Pine St., Titusville, FL 32796—http://www.spacewalkoffame.com/

Valiant Air Command Warbird Museum
6600 Tico Road, Titusville, FL 32780 — http://www.vacwarbirds.net/

Veterans Memorial Center & Council
400 South Sykes Creek Parkway, Merritt Island, FL 32952
http://www.veteransmemorialcenter.org/

As hard as we try to keep these lists accurate with up-to-date information, it seems that changes occur that we don't know about until after publication. If you know change is needed, see an error or have an addition to what we've presented here, please let us know. Our contact information is given on the inside back cover.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Built: circa 1886
Located: 4 Church Street, Cocoa
URL—http://www.stmarkscocoa.org/

The St. Mark's Episcopal Church at 4 Church Street in Cocoa, Florida was constructed in 1886 in the Florida Gothic style as St. Michael's. The church was designed and built by Gabriel Gingras with assistance from William Booth and William Hindle.

Photo from http://www.stmarkscocoa.org/

The original wood construction building provided seating for 100 members. Just as parking space is important to members attending services at the present day St. Mark's, sailboat mooring space was essential in 1886 and was provided on church property on the banks of the Indian River. The first service was held on Christmas day in the unfinished building. This event was Cocoa's first community Christmas celebration and included the first community Christmas tree.

The mission bell, "Michael," was cast in 1888. In 1890, the church's name was changed from St. Michael's to St. Mark's, in recognition of the help given by St. Mark's Church in West Orange, New Jersey.

Members gave seven of the stained glass windows before the dedication in 1893. The windows are dedicated to an original member or a relative of an original member.

With close attention to maintaining the core integrity of the original structure, the church was renovated in 1925. The new interior woodwork was designed to match the original as closely as possible. It was at this time that the building took on a Spanish look with a coat of stucco on the entire exterior. In 1994, the church expanded again, and great care was taken to preserve the original architectural style. Today the church continues to serve its membership with services and a thriving day school.

Library of Florida History
Built: 1939
Located: 435 Brevard Avenue, Cocoa
URL—http://www.myfloridahistory.org/

Photo from http://www.myfloridahistory.org/
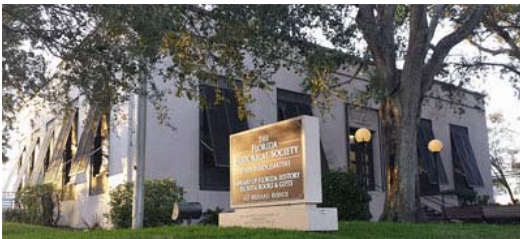
The Library of Florida History is located in a former post office facility built by the WPA in 1939. The three-story structure has a full basement, main floor, and mezzanine.

The library is a part of the Florida Historical Society that serves the entire state. The collection houses thousands of books, old maps, photographs, journals and private papers, newspapers, and genealogies.

The Florida Books & Gifts, a store offering items relating to Florida History, is operated on the premises. The library and store are open to the public on Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Derby Street Chapel

47

Built: 1924
Located: 121 Derby Street, Cocoa
URL—http://www.cocoabaptist.org/chapel
Marker Coordinates: N 28 21.059 W 80 43.571
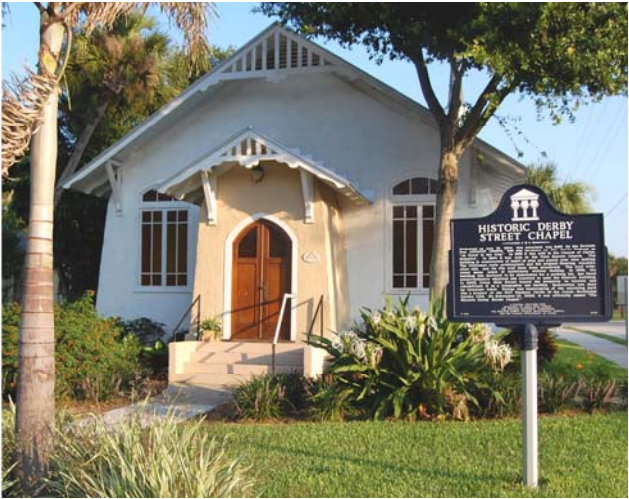
Dedicated on July 13, 1924, this structure was built by the Seventh Day Adventist Church, and was heralded by *The Cocoa Tribune* as an honor to the City. The Seventh Day Adventist Evangelist Alonzo Bruce Russell was the architect and builder .

In 1955, it was sold to the Church of Christ, Scientists. In 1964, it was sold to the First Baptist Church. The building is constructed of heart pine and stucco over wire lath. The Craftsman-style architecture and the original flooring, windows, altar rail, and tin tile roof have been preserved. The roof withstood many years of hurricanes without leaking. In 1996, the building was destined to be demolished for a parking lot, but local preservationists objected and resolved to save the historic building. In 2003, Cocoa Main Street leased the property to restore and rehabilitate it as a community use facility. The restoration was done by volunteer labor. Design and landscaping of the adjoining park were a project of the Dirt Daubers Circle of the Cocoa-Rockledge Garden Club. On September 27, 2005, it was officially named The Historic Derby Street Chapel.

Rockledge

Rockledge was officially founded on August 7, 1887, making it the oldest incorporated municipality in Brevard County. Rockledge was named by Gardner Hardee "for the ledge of rocks running along the river."

Rockledge Drive National Register Historic District

48

Built: circa the late 1800s, early 1900s
Located: 15--23 Rockledge Ave., 219--1361 Rockledge Dr., and 1-11 Orange Ave., Rockledge
The drive is very narrow with height and width constrictions.

Rockledge Drive is among the most scenic, historic roads in Florida. It winds some two and one-half miles in a north-to-south course from the city limits of the cities of Rockledge and Cocoa on the north to Park Avenue on the south along the west bank of the Indian River Lagoon. Palm, oak, citrus and pine trees line both sides of the narrow two-lane road adding to the attractiveness of the area. The buildings along Rockledge Drive represent a high concen-

tration of significant historical and architectural resources. The district also includes short sections of both Orange Avenue and Rockledge Avenue. There are ninety-nine contributing structures; the majority are single family dwellings dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The homes along Rockledge Drive all face the Indian River, which was the primary source of transportation during the period when the majority of structures were built. Several of the original large boathouses, built during the late 1800s, have survived and are located opposite the residences on the east side of Rockledge Drive. The Barton Avenue and Valencia Road Historic Districts branch off Rockledge Drive. (520 acres, 100 buildings) (NRHP 1992)

Lawndale, the H.S. Williams House

(49)

Built: 1880
Located: 1219 Rockledge Drive, Rockledge
Visit Facebook at "Lawndale – The Hiram Smith Williams House"
Marker Coordinates: N 28 19.872 W 80 42.934
Open to the public—Summer 2016

Photo by Alex Santos

Hiram Smith Williams completed Lawndale in 1880. Williams had moved his wife and young son, Sydney, from Alabama to Rockledge in 1874 to escape the devastation in the aftermath of the Civil War. Although originally from New Jersey, Williams had served for the Confederacy during the Civil War, keeping a detailed diary that has been published under the title "This War So Horrible". Williams was trained as a carriage maker and was also a well-known writer, a strong community leader and one of the first Indian River Citrus growers in the area, shipping his fruit under the Lawndale label. He served as the first postmaster of Rockledge (1875-1881), County Treasurer (1879-1883), and as State Senator for two terms beginning in 1884. Lawndale is one of the last remaining examples of Queen Ann style architecture in the county and retains all of the original architectural integrity of the interior and exterior. The irregularity of plan and variety of color and texture such as the shingles found on the tower characterize the Queen Ann style. The high and multiple roofs and the round turret are also predominant in this period. Williams was a strong proponent of education and established one of the first schools in the county on the second floor of this home. It is a contributing structure in the Rockledge Drive National Register Historic District. The home was purchased by Brevard County and is being restored. Once completed, the house will be opened as a living history house museum exhibiting life in Brevard County in the late 1800s.

"Unless Brevard County history lives in our present, it has no future."

Barton Avenue Chapel and Heritage Center
(the former St. Mary's Catholic Church)

Built: 1917—1940
Located: 56 Barton Avenue, Rockledge

This property consists of four historic structures, including the original St. Mary's Catholic Church, which is the sole surviving religious structure from the period of historic development of Rockledge. The church hall, a two story rectory, and a carriage house with attached outdoor privies were all built between 1917 and 1919 and retain most of the original architectural detail. Craftsman and Bungalow influence of that period can be seen in the metal shingle roof, triangular knee braces, exposed rafter tails, novelty shingle gables, narrow lap-siding; diamond window muntins and simulated stone concrete block foundation. The interior of the church contains the original heart pine floors, decorative pressed tin ceiling and beaded board wainscoting. The fourth structure is a single story rectory completed in 1940, which exhibits simulated slate shingles and lap siding typical of that period. The City of Rockledge purchased the property in 2006. The church hall has been restored and is available for public use through the City of Rockledge. These buildings are contributing structures in the Barton Avenue National Register Historic District. (NRIS #92001046)

Barton Avenue National Register Historic District

Built: Late 1800s
Located: at the intersection of Barton Avenue and Rockledge Drive to 56 Barton Avenue

This District is the first subdivision in Rockledge, recorded in 1889. The district has 26 historic structures; the predominant architectural style is Frame Vernacular with elements of Folk Victorian, constructed in the late 1800s. Most are two stories with balloon frame structural system, steeply-pitched gable roofs, and foundations of masonry piers. Typical exterior wall materials are horizontal weatherboard and drop siding. Ornamentation is decorative woodwork, including a variety of patterned shingles, turned or chamfered porch columns, exposed rafter ends, decorative trusses, and spandrels. There are also several examples of Craftsman or Bungalow constructed in the early part of the 20th century. They are built with low-pitched roof lines, wide overhanging eaves, and large porches. Most of these are one or one and one-half story. (NRHP 1992)

Valencia Historic District
Built: circa the 1920s
Located: 14--140 Valencia Rd.,
and 24--28 Orange Ave., Rockledge
Marker Coordinates: N 28 20.200 W 80 43.033

Valencia Road   Rockledge, Florida

The Valencia Historic District was developed during the Florida Land Boom of the 1920s. The Valencia Homes Company was formed in 1924 by local businessmen C. Sweet Smith, Charles D. Smith, L.S. Andrews and Horace R. Bruen. The company acquired a 22-acre tract of land that was formerly the site of the Plaza Hotel and occupied in part by an orange grove. In March 1924, the company platted the subdivision and named it after the type of oranges that grew there, and for a region in Spain. They built impressive entry gates, a waterworks, paved roads, and installed light posts and tropical landscaping. Each lot was 25 feet wide, and most buyers purchased at least two lots to build on. Each sale agreement required that the homes constructed must cost $4,000 or more and that they be of Spanish, Moorish or Italian architectural design. The official architect for Valencia was Richard W. Rummell, Jr., who designed many of Brevard County's most impressive buildings. All of the contributing homes were built between 1924 and 1926 and are excellent examples of the Mediterranean Revival style. (100 acres, 50 buildings, two objects) (NRHP 1992)

Juan Ponce de León is believed to have landed in the vicinity of Melbourne Beach in April 1513, twenty-one years after Columbus's discovery of the West Indies.

Rockledge Municipal Building
Built: 1926
Located: 11 Orange Ave, Rockledge

53

The Municipal Building is a Mediterranean Revival masonry structure completed in 1926. Although simple in design, it is an important part of the history of the City of Rockledge. It is located in the center of three residential National Register Historic Districts on the banks of the Indian River Lagoon. Designed by locally acclaimed architect Richard Rummell, it is a symbol of the emergence of Rockledge into the 20th Century when much of Florida was in the midst of a boom period. The building contained the complete municipal services for the prospering City of Rockledge and continued to function as City Hall for over 60 years. The double bi-fold wooden doors are the entrance to the two-bay fire truck garage that houses the original 1926 LaFrance fire truck, which has been maintained by the city in pristine condition. The decorative spindles of the windows and doors on the east half of the building were the entrance to the city library. Upstairs a large meeting room was used for all types of community services. The building also accommodated a small apartment, utilized by the only employee of the fire department.

Georgiana

Historically, the area was used for citrus and pineapple cultivation. There were 24 homesteaders recorded in the settlement in 1889. The early subdivision was divided into narrow strips from the Indian River to the Banana River. A footpath (today's Old Settlement Road) was opened along the Indian River to connect the post office and riverboat landing.

Georgiana Community Center
Provost Hall
Built: circa 1910
Located: 3950 Old Settlement Road, Merritt Island
Marker Coordinates: N 28 17.317 W 80 40.633

54

Provost Hall was originally constructed in 1910 as the Georgiana Club house on land provided by Charles B. Provost and his wife, Gertrude Breese Provost. Until their grandchildren, Charles D. Provost and his sister, Mary Virginia Provost Katz, gave the hall to the Georgianna United Methodist Church in 1992 the Georgiana Club house was used for community functions. These functions included the children's Christmas Eve party; the Georgiana Club meeting and card party fund-raiser; Memorial Day services; and the Fall Youth party and dance.

During WWI, it was the focus of many Georgiana Red Cross Auxiliary Unit (GRACU) functions to sew items for the war effort. A fund-raising mid-winter ball was held on March 1, 1917, by the GRCAU with the KMI military school orchestra providing the music. The Club house was packed to capacity with people from all over Brevard County. The Club house was also the voting precinct for Georgiana residents for many years beginning in the 1930s. Presently, Provost Hall plays a vital role in the ministry of Georgianna United Methodist Church and its WAVE (Wave of the Future) Youth Groups.

The Georgiana Community Center located at 3950 Old Settlement Road is one of only eight historic buildings remaining in the Georgiana community. The wood-frame vernacular structure was constructed in 1910. It is easy to imagine the importance this building had in the south Merritt Island community, which grew around the pineapple and citrus industry started by its first inhabitant, Dr. William Wittfield.

A botanist and horticulturist, Dr. Wittfield moved to the area in 1869. His pineapple plantation and exotic plant collection on nearby Honeymoon Hill (called *Fairyland*) attracted turn of the century tourists and scientists. By 1889, all of the property in the original settlement had been purchased, and 25 families were living in the village, which consisted of a grocery and hardware store, post office, tin shop, a Methodist church, a schoolhouse, community center, and about twelve residences. Pineapple and citrus stretched from the Indian River to the Banana River.

Architectural features of the one-story building include a hip roof, double hung windows, asymmetrical facade, and an end porch covered by a shed roof. Alterations to the original structure consist of aluminum siding over the original exterior wall fabric and elimination of the fireplace and its chimney.

Georgianna
United Methodist Church
Built: 1886
Located: 3925 S. Tropical Trail
north of S. Courtenay Parkway, Merritt Island
URL—http://www.georgianna.org/
Marker Coordinates: N 28 17.318 W 80 40.525

Photo from http://commons.wikimedia.org

The Georgianna United Methodist Church was established in the early 1880s by settlers of South Merritt Island. Services were held in the homes of these settlers led by retired local ministers and circuit preachers. The original church building, located in the early community of Georgiana on S. Tropical Trail, was constructed by members of the church on land donated by a homesteader. The primary material used in the building was pine brought by sailboat from St. Augustine. The first service held in the new sanctuary was on Thanksgiving Day in 1886. The growing congregation supported the additions of Murray Hall in 1959, the Allie and Ken Hall Education Building in 1971 and a new sanctuary facility in 2009.

Georgiana Railway
Built: circa 1892
Located: Merritt Island
(near Georgianna United Methodist Church)
Marker Coordinates: N 28 17.318 W 80 40.563

In 1892, Frank Cass Allen, a Georgiana merchant, began building a 0.6-mile standard-gauge railway with steel rail and wood ties across Merritt Island at this location, connecting docks on the Indian and Banana rivers. It was part of his private water/rail venture to accommodate tourists, especially northerners, who began flocking to the Atlantic beaches following the completion of a mainline railroad into Titusville in 1885. Allen wanted to improve upon the one-and-only 45-mile boat trip around the southern tip of the island to reach the beaches south of the Cape. His 10-mile route across the Indian River to Georgiana by boat, the island by rail, and the Banana River by boat took about an hour. One 10-ton steam locomotive is documented, apparently replacing an earlier one. Allen built an open 50-passenger car using commercial railroad wheels. The line began in mid-December 1893, and by April 1894, over 700 had visited the beaches.

Financial problems and poor maintenance defeated the railway, and, in mid-1894, it was replaced by a wagon route at Lotus, two miles farther south. The locomotive and passenger car were sold at public auction on March 2, 1896. Rail and other rolling stock were not part of this sale.

Eau Gallie

A post office was established at Arlington in 1871 with John Houston as the first postmaster. The name Arlington was rejected because there was already a post office by that name. William Gleason suggested Eau Gallie for a river in his former home state of Wisconsin. Although often said to come from the French and Indian words for Rocky Water, research in Wisconsin reveals that the name there is derived from the French Riviere aux Galle for Rocky Crossing. (Rentmeester, 1992) Eau Gallie and Melbourne merged city government and services in 1969.

57 William H. Gleason House

Built: around 1884
Location: 1736 Pineapple Avenue, Melbourne
Not open to the public

The William H. Gleason House was built around 1884 by the principal developer of the Eau Gallie community, William H. Gleason. Gleason, a land developer, became the first elected Lieutenant Governor of Florida under Governor Harrison Reed in 1868.

The Gleason House is an outstanding local example of the Queen Anne style, and many of the defining characteristics of the style are seen in its design. Among those features are the irregular floor plan, the use of a variety of siding materials, the tower, the sawn and turned decorative wood elements, and the irregular roof silhouette.

The two-story house is an example of balloon frame construction with a full attic and situated on a coquina/brick pier foundation. The hip roof is surfaced with asphalt shingles and supported with paired, decorative routered pillars. The front porch extends along the width of the first floor and has Chinese Chippendale style balustrade and decorative scroll work below the frieze railing. The primary paneled wood entrance door is of the Eastlake design and has a light in its upper half and is surmounted by a transom.

The secondary entrance door consists of a wooden double door with glass top panels. Both doors possess their original hardware. A small diamond-shaped window is located on the south wall of the entrance bay. The projecting bay then continues through the second story and terminates as a polygonal tower with a conical roof. Four, double hung wood windows are spaced around the tower. A portion of the tower is surfaced with decorative shingles. (NRHP 1997)

The Florida State Legislature passed legislation in 1854 creating Brevard County. The Governor didn't sign the bill until early 1855 and thus started a creation-year controversy which is still debated today.

Roesch House

58

Built: circa 1901
Located: 1320 Highland Avenue, Melbourne
URL—http://www.rossetterhousemuseum.org/history/roesch

The Roesch House was originally the residence of William R. Roesch, an early pioneer and the first mayor of Eau Gallie. Roesch also served as a Justice of the Peace, City Councilman, Notary Public, postmaster, and editor of *The Eau Gallie Record.*

Caroline Rossetter purchased the house in 1945 and used as a storage facility for furniture and family belongings. Miss Rossetter donated the house to The Florida Historical Society in 1992.

The Roesch House is an excellent example of turn-of-the-century frame vernacular construction in Florida. Many original architectural details remain intact including the exterior shiplap siding, fish-scale shingle ornamentation, two-over-two double-hung sash windows and the interior knob-and-tube electrical wiring.

Photo from http://www.rossetterhousemuseum.org/history/roesch

James Wadsworth Rossetter House

59

Built: circa the 1860s and 1904
Located: 1320 Highland Avenue, Melbourne
URL—http://www.rossetterhousemuseum.org/
Marker Coordinates: N 28 07.733 W 80 37.540

The exact year in which the Rossetter House was built may never be known. Family legend has it that the original two-story (rear) portion of the house may have been built before the Civil War. The house is located on property once owned by Eau Gallie pioneer John C. Houston. James Rossetter purchased the property in 1904 and completed a two-story (front) addition shortly after that. Rossetter was a successful businessman who owned vast citrus groves, raised cattle, helped develop the fishing industry in So. Brevard Co., and had an interest in the Standard Oil Company. The house is a wood frame structure with a two-story verandah enclosed by a balustrade spanning the west facade. The entrance is highlighted with a transom window and sidelights, and the interior is enhanced by heart pine floors, walls, and ceilings. Rossetter's two daughters Caroline and Ella maintained the architectural and historical integrity of the house and donated it to The Florida Historical Society in 1992.(NRHP 2005)

Photo from http://www.rossetterhousemuseum.org/

Winchester Symphony House
Built: late 1890s
Located: 1500 Highland Avenue, Melbourne

Photo by Leonard J. DeFrancisci

The Brevard Symphony Orchestra House is a classic example of the Florida "cracker" frame vernacular style common in the Eau Gallie area in the late 1800s. The wood-frame house, known by its broad porch with decorative scroll supports, was built in the late 1890s for the William Treutler family. It is believed that the Treutler family never lived in the house, leading to local folklore that the house was built as a winter residence and may have been rented to various families. Dr. Creel, a prominent area physician, purchased the house in the mid to late 1940s and used the lean-to as his office. This historic home was purchased in June 1984 and, due to the contribution of Dr. Elizabeth M. Winchester, was renamed The Winchester Symphony House in 1987.

Today the newly renovated house is the headquarters for the Brevard Symphony Orchestra's administrative staff and provides meeting rooms for the Board of Directors, BSO Guilds and committees. The Winchester Symphony House is located in the historic and cultural section of Eau Gallie.

Melbourne Village

Melbourne Village was founded in the 1940s by the American Homesteading Foundation (AHF) as an intentional community based on the idea of creating a community of self-sufficient homesteads. The Town incorporated in 1957 and developed into a more "standard" model of a bedroom community for the space industry and support professionals, with a very active and fairly powerful home owner's group in the AHF.

Melbourne Village Community Center
Built: circa 1941-1944
Located: 6100 Hall Road, Melbourne Village
URL—http://www.melbournevillage.org/community-house-2.html
Marker Coordinates: N 28 05.083 W 80 39.883

The community house is a World War II barrack style structure. Built in the mid-1940s at the Banana River Naval Air Station (Patrick Air Force Base), it was moved in May 1948 to its present location in Melbourne Village. There it became a crucial and integral part of everyday life as a community center. It served as the heart for all of Melbourne Village's social activities from official town hall meetings to silk screen projects and square dancing. It was also the birthplace of the University of Melbourne which later moved to the present day location of Melbourne's Florida Institute of Technology.

In 1957, Melbourne Village constructed a new town hall, and the community house became the location for the Official Men's Club of the Village.

Melbourne Village's community house is one of only two such barracks known to exist in the state of Florida. It has undergone restoration and is now used as a craft center, classroom, and auditorium.

West Melbourne

The City of West Melbourne was created in 1959 to avoid annexation into the City of Melbourne and to prevent the levying of ad valorem taxes.

(62) Union Cypress Railway

Built: 1912 – 1932

Located: Tallwood Park on Hollywood Blvd, West Melbourne

This 18.5-mile standard-gauge railway was built to carry logs from the vast cypress/pine holdings of George W. Hopkins, at Deer Park, to the Union Cypress sawmill just south of Melbourne. Two new and seven used steam locomotives would eventually ride the 50-lb rails, crossing the St. Johns River on a 2,850-foot wooden trestle south of Lake Sawgrass. The trestle was the first direct route across the St. Johns for 80 miles south of Enterprise, preceding the Kissimmee Highway (U.S. 192) by six years. Melbourne to Kissimmee travel was now only 53 miles, compared to a previous 128 miles by rail or 153 miles by road. The railway opened up the vast prairie lands along the St. Johns for settlement and carried much of the regional commerce: cut timber, naval stores, livestock, and farm produce as well as people and the material of their daily lives. Trains ferried automobiles across the marsh on flat cars when floods closed the Kissimmee Highway. Logging and Railway operations ceased after Hopkins died in January 1925. Foshee Manufacturing Co. took over in March 1928 and operated until forced to quit in late 1932 due to a declining lumber market in the Great Depression. Only the skeletal St. Johns River trestle remains today.

Melbourne

Cornthwaite John Hector arrived at Crane Creek in 1878. He had come from Melbourne, Australia, where he had operated a small mercantile store and hotel. He bought land from Peter Wright at the mouth of Crane Creek and built a store. When a post office was established in 1880 at Hector's store, several names were suggested. Mrs. Grace Goode Hoag was eight years old at the time. She remembers that her mother, Jessie, gave her three broom straws of different lengths—a long straw for Melbourne, a medium one for Fountain Heights, and a short one for Villa Ridge. A straw was pulled by Hector from Grace's little fist—the long straw and the settlement was named Melbourne. Mail was brought from Titusville twice a week by Peter Wright on his cat boat *Nellie*.

(63) Summer-Time Ais Indian Town of Pentoaya

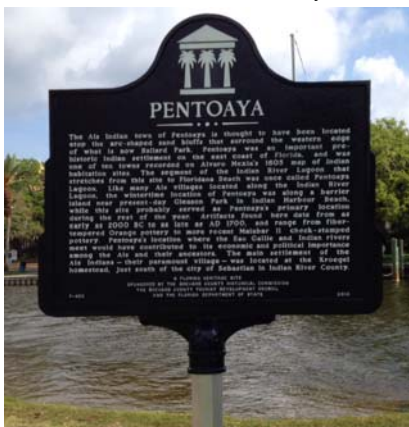**Located**: Ballard Park, 924 Thomas Barbour Drive, Melbourne
Marker Coordinates: N 28 07.518 W 80 37.488

The Ais Indian town of Pentoaya is thought to have been located atop the arc-shaped sand bluffs that surround the western edge of what is now Ballard Park. Pentoaya was an important prehistoric Indian settlement on the east coast of Florida and was one of ten towns recorded on Alvaro Mexia's 1605 map of Indian habitation sites. The segment of the Indian River Lagoon that stretches from this site to Floridana Beach was once called Pentoaya Lagoon. Like many Ais villages located along the Indian River Lagoon, the wintertime location of Pentoaya was on a barrier island near present-day Gleason Park in Indian Harbor Beach, while this site probably served as Pentoaya's primary location during the rest of the year. Artifacts found here date from as early as 2000 BC to as late as AD 1700 and range from fiber-tempered Orange pottery to more recent Malabar II check-stamped pottery. Pentoaya's location where the Eau Gallie and Indian rivers meet would have contributed to its economic and political importance among the Ais and their ancestors. The main settlement of the Ais Indians — their paramount village — was located at the Kroegel homestead, just south of the city of Sebastian in Indian River County.

64 Tropical Haven Community Center Melbourne Naval Air Station Recreation Hall

Built: 1942
Located: 1205 Eddie Allen Road, Melbourne
Marker Coordinates: N 28 05.484 W 80 37.839

Photo by Jamie Cox

In 1942, Melbourne was chosen by the government as one of the several sites in Florida for a pilot training base for the U.S. Navy. The base was built quickly, mostly using wood construction. This large building with a curved roof-line housed recreation facilities for the base and still serves the Trailer Haven (later Tropical Haven) community with its theater, library, kitchen, meeting rooms, and post office. Large courts for shuffleboard, a traditional Florida tourist sport, adjoin the building on one side.

All other construction in Melbourne was stopped during the building of the base, and its presence created a lasting effect on the community. After the war, the Naval Air Station property was turned over to the City of Melbourne. Its wooden buildings and returning personnel contributed to the growth of the area. Trailer Haven was erected at the heart of the former base, and the Rec Center became its community hub. Trailer sales were made from models parked on the front lawn.

Other buildings at the airport came to house a public school, a roller-skating rink, a local theater, and even the Melbourne City Hall for a time. Several industries, including Radiation, Inc. (later Harris), DBA (later Titan Systems), HETRA, and FIT Aviation, used the old base facilities. One by one the old buildings were torn down as airport, industrial, and mobile home use expanded. Today, the Airport Authority owns and operates Trailer Haven. This building is the last remaining structure of the Naval Air Station.

65 Florida Power and Light Company Ice Plant

Built: during 1926-1927
Located: 1604 S. Harbor City Blvd., Melbourne

Not open to the public

The Florida Power and Light Company (FPL) Ice Plant was built on the Dixie Highway (now Harbor City Blvd., U.S. 1) near Seminole Ave., in 1926- 1927. The steel frame, tile block, and stucco building was the most modern and one of the last ice plants constructed by the FPL and cost approximately $100,000. The ice plant began providing ice in August 1927 to Melbourne residents, the Indian River agricultural and fishing industries. At first, the plant produced 50-tons of ice every 24-hours; it was designed for a capacity of 150-tons. This plant did not generate electricity for the community. Electricity had been provided by the Brevard County

Power Co. in Cocoa since October of 1924. (The Brevard County Power Co. was purchased by FPL on April 1, 1926.) In 1941, after a reorganization of FPL, the plant was leased to City Ice and Fuel Co. of Chicago. The production of ice was continued until 1977. The plant is an example of the Modernistic architectural style typical of the commercial and industrial buildings of the 1920s. It was the first building in Melbourne to be placed on the National Register of Historic Places. One of the original compressors is still in the building.

The building is now being used for commercial office space. (NRHP 1982)

<table><tr><td>66</td><td>

Green Gables / Wells House
Built: 1896
Located: 1501 S. Harbor City Blvd., Melbourne
URL—http://www.greengables.org/

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Not Open to the Public

Photo credit: http://www.greengables.org/

Built in 1896 as a home for inventor and industrialist William T. Wells and his family, the house is an early effort at building a Queen Anne residence. It pre-dates the Strawberry Mansion by about ten years. The original structure was a classic American Four-Square house with a wrap around porch and an observation deck on the roof. A bathroom with distinctive diamond shaped windows is on the second floor above the kitchen and contained one of the first bathtubs in Melbourne. Within a few years, Wells added a tower in the Queen Anne spirit. Bay windows were added on the west side, first on the first floor and then on the second.

Detailing around the porch and other areas reflects the tendency to use square cuts in decorative features on early Melbourne homes. Green Gables represents the transition of Melbourne from a pioneer settlement to a modern city.

Green Gables is still owned by members of the original family and was used until it was damaged by the 2004 hurricanes. There is a plan to save Green Gables; please visit the Green Gables at Historic Riverview Village, Inc. website to learn more. (NRHP 2016)

First Congregational Church
of Melbourne

Built: 1893

Located: 1824 S Harbor City Blvd., Melbourne

The First Congregational Church of Melbourne had its beginnings in 1887 when Edward Branch and his wife Abbie began to hold regular Bible study and worship meetings. In December 1887, five men and seven women signed a covenant that was the first step toward construction of a church building. In 1892, local businessman W. H. Powell donated a corner lot on Second Street (Strawbridge) and Washington Street (U.S. Hwy 1) for a church.

Photo by Jamie Cox

The church, a frame building with a steeple, was designed by R. J. Anderson, a local builder, and was completed in 1893 at a cost of $2,065. Records show that exactly $2,512.12 was collected for the church's construction. The leftover funds were used to start an organ fund. The first church service was held on Sunday, July 2, 1893. In 1929, the church was greatly expanded by four large stucco-covered additions, and in 1959 stained glass windows were added.

Between 1960 and 1999 the building served as the United Church of Christ – Congregational. On January 3, 2000, the building was sold to His Place Ministries East Coast, Inc. for continued use as a church.

Holy Trinity Episcopal Church

Built: 1886

Located: 50 W. Strawbridge Avenue, Melbourne
URL—http://www.holytrinitymelbourne.org/
Marker Coordinates: N 28 04.800 W 80 37.404

The Holy Trinity Episcopal Church was organized in June 1884, at the home of Richard W. Goode. Four acres on the south bank of Crane Creek, where the church was originally built, were given to the congregation by Lucy Boardman for its church and rectory. The church was completed in 1886.

Photo by Leonard J. DeFrancisci

The first service was held on December 27, 1886, with the Rev. Dr. William Porcher DuBose presiding. In 1897, the church was moved to a site closer to the members on the north side of Crane Creek on land donated by William and Nora Stanford Wells. The church was blessed by gifts, most notably the church belfry and bell given by Jessie S. Goode in 1923 and the oak wood for the carved altar provided by Charles John Frazer and Margaret Campbell in 1932. The old church building was moved in 1963 to its present site next to the newer sanctuary currently used by the congregation.

(69) The Mansion
(formerly Nannie Lee's Strawberry Mansion)
Built: 1905
Located: 1218 East New Haven Avenue, Melbourne
URL—http://www.thebigmansion.com

John and Nannie Lee arrived in Melbourne in 1904 and began construction in 1905 of the house which is now known as The Mansion. Nannie Lee took an active interest in community affairs, and the house was the site of numerous social, religious and civic functions. For many years, Nannie Lee's nearest neighbors were the Beaujeans, who operated the Atlantic Ferry service, which crossed the river five times daily from Melbourne Harbor to the Melbourne Beach Pier. Claude Beaujean was an accomplished boat builder and carpenter whose talents contributed to the beauty of the Strawberry Mansion's staircase, bay window and gingerbread trim making the home an excellent example of the Queen Anne architectural style.

These qualities have survived the years and remain among the individual charms of the Strawberry Mansion, which opened as a restaurant in 1981 and closed in October 2006. After renovations, *The Mansion* opened on January 18, 2012, under new ownership.

(70) Henegar Center
Built: 1919
Located: 625 East New Haven Avenue, Melbourne
URL—http://www.henegar.org/

Photo by Leonard J. DeFrancisci

The Henegar Center for the Arts is one of Brevard County's oldest public buildings. Its cornerstone is dated A.D. 1919. The building at 633 New Haven Avenue was finished in 1920, and the first high school class of 13 graduated May 12, 1921. Known as the Melbourne School, it housed all the grades. Its neo-classical archi-

tecture mirrors the prosperity of the early 20s. Melbourne area architect, William Melvin Christen, designed the building.

On March 12, 1963, the school's name was changed to the Henegar School in honor of long-time teacher and principal, Ruth Henegar.

Long unused as a place of learning, the building was renovated by donations from members of the community, civic and business leaders, those who attended school in the complex and by the State of Florida. The facade was altered. Otherwise, the building remains much as it was originally. The Brevard Regional Arts Group (BRAG) supervised the restoration. The building was deeded to BRAG by the Brevard County School Board. The center has a 450 seat theater, a soundproof rehearsal stage, offices, meeting rooms, artist's studios and exhibit space for organizations and clubs.

The old Melbourne High School building that was to the east was also renovated and was part of the Henegar Center for the Arts. In the Spring of 2015, the Melbourne High School building was sold to a private developer and has been demolished to make room for construction of a residential and commercial building.

(71) Brothers Park
Built: circa 1920
Located: The corner of Church and Race St., Melbourne

Brothers Park began as the site of the school for Black children of South Melbourne. The two-story Melbourne School was built between 1920-1921 by Brevard County on land donated by John S. Stone, a pioneer landowner.

In December 1953, the two-story educational building burned to the ground leaving only the band room standing. It now serves as the Recreational Building at Brothers Park.

After the school had burned, a group of citizens including Reverend H.G. McMillon, Reverend W. Stafford, Harry Lawrence and Norman Coates spoke with Woodrow Darden, County School Superintendent, and efforts were directed toward making the old school site a community park. With the assistance of W.S. Fenner, Melbourne City Commissioner, the property was turned over to the City of Melbourne by the County School Board.

School Board member Dale Jacobus suggested that the park be named "Brothers Park" in honor of Wright Brothers, one of the first settlers of what is now Melbourne. The Civic League of South Melbourne accepted Brothers Park as one of its projects and helped to pay the expenses of its programs and activities. In 1986, the park was further enhanced with the assistance of the Brothers Park Association's rehabilitation program. The City of Melbourne generously provided funds for a full-time director and staff to develop and operate an excellent recreational program. Brothers Park was rededicated on June 6, 1986, and continues to meet the recreational needs of the citizens of the South Melbourne area.

Florida Air Academy
Built: early 1920s
Located: 1950 S. Academy Drive, Melbourne
URL—http://www.flair.com/

    Built in the early 1920s, the Florida Air Academy complex, formerly a military academy for young men and women in Melbourne, began as part of an exclusive residential development called Magnolia Park, built in the Spanish style of architecture. It was designed by Ernest Kouwen-Hoven, the developer of Indialantic-by-the-Sea and builder of the first wooden causeway bridge connecting Melbourne to Indialantic.

    The main hall, built in 1924, was once the home of Mr. Kouwen-Hoven. It later became the Lincoln and Belcelona Hotels. It was sold to Jonathan Dwight in 1961 for the Academy. Dwight Hall, pictured above, was built in 1926 as a private residence in Magnolia Park and is now used for Academy offices. The Spanish style of these buildings is characterized by the stucco exteriors, clay tile roofs, arched windows, and exotic elements, such as the dome at the top of the tower of Dwight Hall.

    In 2015, the Florida Air Academy changed its name to Florida Preparatory Academy and had transitioned away from its roots as a military school. Instead, it has focused on academics and student leadership.

Florida Institute of Technology
Built: founded 1958
Located: 2841 Country Club Rd., Melbourne

Photo from http://commons.wikimedia.org

A 37-cent donation, given to Florida Institute of Technology founder Jerome P. Keuper (1921-2002), would launch one of the most remarkable stories in American higher education. Keuper, a scientist, working at Cape Canaveral, founded Florida Tech in 1958 to meet a critical need for scientists and engineers in America's race for space. Florida Tech quickly attracted the world's foremost rocket scientists and engineers to its halls. It awarded its first honorary doctorate in 1962 to astronaut Virgil Gus Grissom. Among its first visiting professors were the legendary rocket scientist Wernher von Braun and Edward Teller, the father of the hydrogen bomb. Over the years, Florida Tech expanded its course offerings to take advantage of its unique location where the land, sea, sky and space come together. It has done so while maintaining recognized excellence internationally, and its ties to the space program. It counts among its graduates five astronauts, including two who flew together on Space Shuttle Discovery in December 2006, Joan Higginbotham and Sunita Williams.

(74) Little Red Schoolhouse

Built: 1883
Located: Botanical Garden of Florida Institute of Technology
off of Babcock St. on the Pioneer Trail of the Garden, Melbourne
URL—http://garden.fit.edu/

The Garden is open Monday–Sunday: Sunrise to Sunset

Photo credit: http://garden.fit.edu/

Melbourne's oldest surviving schoolhouse was built in 1883 when Mr. John Goode donated land a short distance south of Fountain Heights. The schoolhouse served children of the earliest families living in the area. The two teachers were Miss Maude Goode, daughter of John Goode, and Miss May Valentine. White children attended in the morning and black children in the afternoon. A hand-operated water pump stood outside the door, and inside long benches served as desks for the students, who wrote on slates.

About 1916, a new school building was erected in what is now downtown Melbourne. So the little red schoolhouse was not used anymore, and it sat empty. In the early 1940s, the city of Melbourne moved it to the grounds of the Melbourne Elementary and High Schools on New Haven Avenue. In 1970, the schoolhouse was restored and relocated to the Botanical Garden of FIT.

(75) Florida Tech Anchorage, Couch House

Built: circa 1941
Located: 1216 River Drive, Melbourne

Not Open to the Public

This house was the home of Roy O. and Florence Couch, completed in 1941. It was boasted in the October 20, 1939, issue of the *Melbourne Times* that this "$15,000 residence [would] be the last word in modern construction."

Roy Couch was an active member of Melbourne's civic affairs and founder of Couch Manufacturing Company, maker of turbine pumps.

Florida Institute of Technology purchased the property in 1968. It is now a dormitory, known as Robert's Hall, and a park,

known as the Anchorage. Roberts Hall accommodates eight student rooms and has served as the primary residence for the crew of the rowing team. Over the years, the Florida Tech crew team has amassed 21 national championships in the sport. The Anchorage is a beautifully wooded 3.5-acre park in which the house is located.

Union Cypress Sawmill

(76)

Located: near the intersection of Mill and Lipscomb Streets, Melbourne

The Union Cypress Co. was Melbourne's first big industry, bringing employment, growth, and development to the region. Their big cypress/pine sawmill was a three-story, all -steel structure about 50 by 150 feet. Five, 150-horsepower boilers provided power. Its power plant supplied Melbourne's first electricity. The company's railway to Deer Park provided the first direct route across the St. Johns River for 80 miles south of Enterprise. Some 40,000 feet of lumber and 45,000 shingles could be produced daily from the cypress/pine holdings of George W. Hopkins, which had a market value over $2 million in 1911. Lumber not used locally was shipped out via the Florida East Coast Railway. The company-owned town of Hopkins had some 69 buildings within its industrial, residential and commercial areas. The big mill burned in August 1919 and was replaced by a smaller pine mill. Construction of a new cypress mill began in late 1924 but halted after Hopkins died in January 1925. Foshee Manufacturing Co. leased the now-idle mill and railway in March 1928, but even with plenty of timber left, had to close in late 1932 due to a declining lumber market in the Great Depression. Less than a handful of original buildings exist today.

Peter Wright Homestead Site

Built: circa the 1870s
Located: The South side of Crane Creek, Melbourne

(77)

A former slave, Peter Wright, arrived in Melbourne around 1867. Wright received his homestead patent in 1874 for 78.05 acres which encompassed roughly the land between the FEC railroad tracks and the Indian River, south of Hibiscus Ave. and north of Prospect Street. Wright's first homestead was built at the top of the Trysting Steps at the north end of Front St. He sold this property in 1878 to Thomas Fish. Wright and his wife, Leah, then built a larger homestead, as shown on the "Plan of the Home Plantation of Peter Wright surveyed June 26, 1879, by J. Francis Le Baron" on the south side of Crane Creek, where the Roy Couch house now stands.

Peter Wright was locally renowned as a boatman and guide. He and his brother, Dick, delivered mail by boat; Dick in his boat "Nelly" and Peter in his boat "Mist". Peter hauled the mail from Titusville (then Sand Point) to Melbourne while his brother brought the mail from New Smyrna to Titusville via the Mosquito Lagoon and the Haulover Canal. With the advent of steamboats and railroads Peter, and the other dedicated pioneering sailboat mailman's careers came to an end.

By 1885, Wright sold his interests in the Melbourne area and moved to Rockledge, where he is listed in the 1885 census as a fruit grower.

From 1906 to 1915 Peter Wright owned and operated a livery stable in Cocoa. Peter Wright passed away in 1925 while traveling to Miami. He is buried in Cocoa.

A little north of the Historic Trysting Steps location, there is a tribute to Peter Wright. On the bluff overlooking the Indian River, a gazebo has been built along with an engraved plaque set into a large rock.

The Brevard County Historical Commission has undertaken a number of projects, including:

Publication of an official Brevard County History
   (3-volume set)
Designation of Historical and Archaeological Landmarks
Publication of a booklet identifying the Landmarks
Preservation of early newspapers, maps and records
Collection of individual oral histories on video
Publishing of a journal entitled: *Indian River Journal*
Publication of History Videos about Brevard County

Melbourne Bone Bed
10,000-20,000 Years Before Present
Located: Crane Creek, Brevard County

While there is much interest in historic buildings and the stories of the people that surround them, there is little thought given to the underlying soil sediments and the stories they reveal. The Anastasia and Melbourne Formations underlie the entire Indian River Area. They represent the Pleistocene Epoch covering from one million to 10,000 years ago. Fossil evidence of now-extinct animals that lived in Brevard County during the Pleistocene includes Giant Ground Sloths, Giant Armadillos, Saber-toothed Cats, Camels, Giant Beavers, Tapirs, Mastodon, Mammoth and Giant Bison.

During the Anastasia interval, the sea covered the modern Indian River area at a depth shallow enough to permit the growth and deposition of sea shells. These deposits of sea shells, broken and worn by wave action, are mixed with sand and clay and in some places have become consolidated into coquina and sandstone. In this layer, the bones of sea animals such as whales, turtles, and manatees are often found. The sea subsequently withdrew, and the land was eroded by wind and water, producing the Anastasia-Melbourne interval.

The next rise in sea level covered part of the exposed area. This is the Melbourne Formation, which contains deposits of land animals as well as shell and sea animals.

The Melbourne Bone Bed refers to deposits of fossil bone within the Melbourne Formation, which began about 20,000 years ago. The earliest discovery in this formation in Brevard County was at a site along a small tributary of Crane Creek in 1922. At a nearby site on the Melbourne Country Club golf course, geologists found human remains along with fossil animal bones. The human skull came to be known as Melbourne Man and generated a controversy that was argued by geologists and archeologists for more than 30 years. The skull was exhibited at the 1925 meeting of the Paleontological Society of America and studied at the Smithsonian Institute. More recent finds have settled the question, and it is agreed today that early Native Americans lived alongside the last of the large Pleistocene mammals in Florida. Current thought dates Melbourne Man as long ago as 10,000 to 8,000 BC.

Indian Harbour Beach

The City of Indian Harbour Beach was developed as a residential community in support of the growing space industry and activities at nearby Kennedy Space Center, from which man first traveled to the moon.

(79)

Winter-Time Ais Indian Town of Pentoaya

Located: Indian Harbour Beach
Marker Coordinates: N 28 08.617 W 80 35.783

In 1605 Florida's Spanish Governor Pedro de Ybarra sent Lt. Alvaro Mexia on a diplomatic mission to the Ais Indians. Mexia recorded his passage from St. Augustine down the coast to the principal Ais Indian town near present-day Vero Beach. At the confluence of Ulumay Lagoon (Banana River Lagoon) and the Great Bay of Ais (Indian River Lagoon), Mexia reported the location of the winter-time Ais Indian Town of Pentoaya. He recorded that the 17th-century town of Pentoaya was located directly opposite the western mainland, near the confluence of the Eau Gallie and the Indian Rivers. The Winter-Time Town of Pentoaya was located between this park and the Banana River Lagoon, to the west. It consisted of a complex of shell middens, mounds, and a causeway, which divided the small lake seen from this marker. Little remains of these mounds as the shells found in them were used as roadbed material early in the 20th century.

In 1903 President Roosevelt dedicated Pelican Island as the nation's first wildlife sanctuary.

The present day area of Brevard County is 1557 square miles. In 1855, it was 7000 square miles and was Florida's largest political division.

In 1837, while with the U.S. Army, Joseph Marion Hernández was ordered to build a road between St. Augustine and Fort Capron, located near present-day Fort Pierce. Today it is called the Hernández–Capron Trail. See page 32.

"Unless Brevard County history lives in our present, it has no future."

Indialantic

Indialantic started in 1915 when Ernest Kouwen-Hoven moved to Melbourne and purchased a strip of beachside land lying between the Indian River and the Atlantic Ocean. He envisioned this property as becoming an exclusive beachside resort. This one-square-mile became known as "Indialantic-by-the-Sea" The first map of this area was recorded in 1916.

(80) Indialantic Casino
Built: 1923
Located: Southwest corner of James H. Nance Park
201 North Miramar Avenue (State Route A1A), Indialantic
Marker Coordinates: N 28 05.533 W 80 34.000

The two-story Mediterranean Revival style building was designed by architect William Christen and developed by Herbert Earle. It opened on December 22, 1923, and boasted shops, an Olympic-size saltwater pool, a tall diving tower, and wading pools. The casino became a center for social activity in the Melbourne area, offering rooms for winter guests and space for club meetings, socials, and galas, such as wedding receptions, banquets, and cotillions. Special events included a Midnight New Year's Eve dinner, a Fourth of July celebration, and the Miss Melbourne and Miss Florida Beauty Pageants of 1925. Weekly rates in 1924 for ocean-view rooms (including board) were $20 for singles and $35 for doubles. The casino's pool was used for training World War II military personnel from the Banana River Naval Station. Following a major renovation in 1942, Karl Abbott purchased the casino in 1944 and changed its name to the Bahama Beach Club. From 1949 until it was acquired by the Town of Indialantic in 1967, the building was an exclusive private club. Following a period of decline, the building was razed in 1970.

Melbourne Beach

In 1883, a Yankee veteran, Major Cyrus Graves, began buying government land comprising present-day Melbourne Beach for the modest sum of $1.25 an acre. He and others who formed a stock company planned a resort that would fully equal or surpass Palm Beach and Daytona Beach, which at that time were also in the planning stages. In the meantime, he and other investors successfully went into the business of growing pineapples on their beach property.

(81) Woman's Club of Melbourne Beach

Built: 1920
Located: 509 Ocean Ave., Melbourne Beach

On March 15, 1915, a group of 22 women met to form a club in Melbourne Beach, "to promote sociability," Mrs. A.F. Miller was elected president. The club was named "The Rambler's Club" after a club of the same name in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The first project undertaken by the Rambler's Club was the laying of concrete sidewalks on Ocean Avenue from the river to the ocean. In March 1918, the women, to reduce expenses, met with shovels and wheelbarrows and graded part of the ground so that concrete could be laid.

The first lot on which to build was offered by Mr. Kent, President of the Melbourne Beach Improvement Company on February 26, 1919, and was accepted at the March 11, 1919, meeting.

On March 27, 1919, by Resolution, The Melbourne Beach Improvement Company leased lots 4, 5, 6, 7, 14, 15, 16 and 17 of Block 1, Wilcox Plat, to the Melbourne Beach Woman's Club. The grounds were to be free to the public and to remain a Woman's Club or Community House at all times.

A community dinner was given on the Pier on March 13, 1919. The first Constitution and By-Laws were read and accepted April 8, 1919. On February 5, 1920, the cornerstone was laid for the Woman's Club Building. One hundred guests were served a sumptuous dinner at Myrtle Cottage, which is the present house on the Northeast corner of Oak and Ocean Avenues.

January 19, 1920, a party was held at Villa Marine on the Southeast corner of Ocean, and Riverside Dr. to announce plans for the Woman's Club and $1,050 was raised that night. Between February and April 1920, $5,420 had been deposited in the Building Fund. On April 19, 1920, it was voted to change the name of the Rambler's Club to the Woman's Club of Melbourne Beach. It was again voted on and passed along with the motion to incorporate. The first meeting held in the new Club House was on January 3, 1921.

The Women's Club, now known as the Community Center, still has the original pine paneling, oak flooring and enclosed bookshelves plus two fireplaces.

Ryckman House
Built: 1890
Located: 507 Ocean Ave., Melbourne Beach

The historic Ryckman House is a two story cottage built of native pine and cypress. The main floor originally contained a large living room plus a small kitchen area and two bedrooms upstairs. Additionally, there was a comfortable wrap-around porch on the east side. It was built for the Jacob Fox family but in 1908, it was acquired by Garrett E. Ryckman, one of the original investors in the Melbourne Beach Improvement Company. The Ryckman family frequently spent time in the house and eventually the daughter, Ruth Ryckman, made it her home for many years. She bequeathed the house and grounds to the town of Melbourne Beach.   The building now is a House Museum surrounded by a spacious community park.

Today, the white-and-green building is the oldest surviving house in beachside Brevard County. Neale, Rick; Florida Today; (Nov 30, 2012)

Community Chapel of Melbourne Beach
Built: 1892
Located: 501 Ocean Avenue, Melbourne Beach
URL—http://www.mbchapel.org/

Photo by Morgan Grosskreutz

The oldest church of the county's barrier island, the Community Chapel of Melbourne Beach was built in 1892 under the supervision of Mr. R. W. Beaujean on land donated by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Whiting in 1890. The chapel is a wood-frame structure with a gabled roof topped with a belfry trimmed with wooden louvers and surmounted with a cross. The children of the chapel began a fund to purchase the bell in 1928. The bell was purchased in 1931 and the belfry erected. The chapel survived fires, floods, hurricanes, and financial hardships and is a visible testimony to the persevering and generous spirit of its members. It is a non-denominational chapel. (NRHP 1992)

Myrtle Cottage
Built: 1888
Located: Ocean Ave., Melbourne Beach

Constructed on this site in 1888, Myrtle Cottage was built by Mrs. Hannah Cummings and her daughter Grace, and was the first house in the area known as Melbourne Beach. The house's construction was made difficult by the lack of roads or docks, and while it was being built the Cummings family camped on the beach at the nearby House of Refuge, a shipwreck lifesaving station. After its completion, the family lived in the large house and took in boarders, including Major Cyrus Graves, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Whiting, Mr. Alfred Wilcox, and others who helped found Melbourne Beach. Myrtle Cottage was always an important part of the community. Church services and Sunday school classes were held there until 1892 when the Community Chapel was built. However if repairs were needed to the chapel

or inclement weather threatened, church services and classes were temporarily held in Myrtle Cottage. In later years, the house served as a rooming house for students from the Florida Institute of Technology. In 1982, the house caught fire and burned to the ground as a large number of people watched in dismay. There are still residents of Melbourne Beach, who fondly remember the "Grand Old Building."

Myrtle Cottage was situated just east of the present Community Chapel in what is now the chapel parking lot.

Melbourne Beach Pier
Built: during the winter of 1888-1889
Located: The Western end of Ocean Avenue, Melbourne Beach

Photo from http://commons.wikimedia.org

The Melbourne Beach Pier was built between 1888 and 1889 by the Indian River and Atlantic Railway Company. It was constructed of wood planks and pilings in a method used in the late 1800s; the pier is the oldest known example of such piers on the Indian River. After the pier had been built, a railroad was laid from the ferry landing on the dock and across the barrier island 7/10 of a mile to the ocean beach to provide access to the Atlantic Ocean by a pushcart and later by a motorized car. A ferry service operated by the Beaujean family between 1889 and 1923 and the railroad provided the most practicable access to the island, and excursion boats from the mainland communities often brought winter tourists to dock at the pier. The community's first post office was located at the east end of the pier providing daily mail service in 1894. The building of the toll bridge between Melbourne and Indialantic in 1921 ended the pier's importance for island access and today the pier is used for recreational purposes. (NRHP 1984)

The Old Town Hall History Center
Melbourne Beach

Built: 1908
Located: 2373 Oak St., Melbourne Beach
URL——http://www.melbournebeachfl.org/Pages/MelbourneBeachFL_BComm/historycenter
Marker Coordinates: N 28 03.015 W 80 32.983
Open Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
For information, call (321) 952-7322

This building was constructed in 1908 facing the Indian River Lagoon in the area now known as Ryckman Park in Melbourne Beach. It initially held offices of the Melbourne Beach Improvement Company. The officers, Capt. Rufus Beaujean, son Donald Beaujean, and Lawrence Ryckman made plans for the town which included the pier, lot sites, streets, and a railway which ran from the Indian River to the Atlantic Ocean. Eventually, the building became the Melbourne Beach Town Hall and Post Office. In 1953, a new Town Hall was built, and this building was floated down the river to the area now known as Spessard Holland Golf Course. When the Golf Course was constructed , the building was moved to the point of land between Oak Street and Hwy A1A where it was used as a community center. In 2001, the County scheduled it for demolition, but two citizens questioned this action and requested time for rehabilitation. After many discussions, petitions, student letters, etc. the County agreed to lease the building to the Town of Melbourne Beach. A committee enlisted the help of volunteers. The residents and the County completed the project. In May of 2007, the building opened as a History Center.

Smith Family Cracker House

Built: 1899
Located: South A1A, Mullet Creek (Melbourne Beach)
URL-http://www.honestjohnsfishcamp.com/home.html
Marker Coordinates: N 27 56.300 W 80 29.533
Not open to the public

Located at Honest John's Fish Camp, 750 Mullet Creek Road, Melbourne Beach, this is a typical cracker "I" house. Documentation, researched through the National Archives, indicates the two-story wood house was constructed in 1899 and has remained at its original location these past 100 years. Settlers Robert T. (Uncle Bob) and Elizabeth (Aunt Bessie) Smith were the original residents. In 1904 their son, Honest John Smith, their third child, was born in the house. Today his children John R. Smith and Barbara Smith Arthur own the house. The house was built on coquina pilings to allow air circulation beneath the structure and to prevent flooding from hurricanes. There are two large rooms downstairs separated by a stairway and two bedrooms upstairs. A dining area and bathroom were built on the existing porch

over fifty years ago. The original shake shingle roof remains on the house in good condition beneath the current metal roof.

The Smith Family Cracker House is built of Heart of Pine lumber. Lapboard siding is used throughout the exterior, and the interior floors are tongue and groove construction. The porch wraps around the house on three sides. A walkway connects the main house to the kitchen, a separate building. The kitchen was built away from the main house in case of fire and because of the heat. A cistern, which served as the family water supply, is located beneath the main house.

Also on the property is a train station rafted over from Micco and used as a packing house for citrus raised by Uncle Bob Smith. The barn, built for the family horse, Buckskin, is still standing and was later to become the net house as the four Smith sons, Charner, John, Bill, and Elmer, became commercial fishermen. The sugar cane mill, around which Buckskin walked to turn the large sugar cane crushing rollers, is also located on site.

(88) Juan Ponce de León Landing
Discovered in 1513
Located: 4005 Highway A1A at Juan Ponce de León Park,
(6.2 miles south of US Hwy 192) Melbourne Beach
URL—http://www.brevardcounty.us/ParksRecreation/South/PonceDeLeon
Marker Coordinates: N 28 00.608 W 80 31.816

Juan Ponce de León sailed with Columbus on his second voyage to the New World. Ponce de León went on to be Puerto Rico's first Governor. During that time, he heard stories from the Natives about an island called Bimini that had a lot of gold. After he had been relieved as governor, he petitioned the King of Spain to grant him a charter to explore the area north to look for the island of Bimini. The island called Bimini was later to be known as Florida. King Ferdinand granted the voyage charter. There is no mention in the charter about a "Fountain of Youth" which was a story created by a Spanish historian 15 years after Ponce de León had died.

In April 1513, during "Spanish Easter Season" known as "Pascua Florida." Ponce de León sailed along the coast of what would become Brevard County, naming it Florida. He went on to become Florida's first Governor and Chief Justice.

● Peck, Douglas T., *Ponce De León and the Discovery of Florida: The Man, the Myth, and the Truth,* St. Paul, MN, Pogo Press, 1993

Palm Bay

What is today Palm Bay was originally named Tillman in 1887. It was named for John Tillman who had come to Turkey Creek from Georgia in 1870. He and his partners, M.J. Culpepper and J.B. Creech, had orange groves, a vegetable farm, and a packing house. In the early 1920s, The Melbourne-Tillman Drainage District was established. In 1925, the residents of Tillman met to charter a town. Hoping to capitalize on the Florida land boom, they wanted a name that gave an image of a tropical paradise to stimulate property sales. Lock Davidson suggested Palm Bay.

(89)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

Built: 1914
Located: 1425 Miller Street, Palm Bay
URL—http://www.st-joe.org/millerstreetchurch.html

Photo by Leonard J. DeFrancisci

St. Joseph's Catholic Church was built in 1914 in the American Gothic Style, using native pine and cypress obtained from the Union Cypress Saw Mill located in Hopkins, which is now part of South Melbourne. The church was built with the labor and funds of the early settlers under Father Gabriel Rupert's leadership. Following the dedication of the church, 78 children received the Sacrament of Confirmation while only four families lived within proximity of the church at the time. In 1923, the members built a rectory as a residence for the priest and in 1924 Father Patrick Bresnahan was appointed the first resident priest of St. Joseph's. Early church services were attended by residents of Melbourne and Eau Gallie who arrived by horse and buggy or by boat, and it is said that the primitive road conditions often kept parishioners from attending services. (NRHP 1987)

"Unless
Brevard County history lives in our present,
it has no future."

Malabar

The Town of Malabar got its name and 1st official Post Office on December 24,1883 when R. A. Ward was appointed Postmaster by President Chester A. Arthur.

(90)

Malabar School
Built: 1927
Located: 1490 Marie Street, Malabar

Not Open to the Public

  The Malabar School, a four-classroom masonry and stucco building, was erected by the Brevard County Board of Public Education in 1927. It was used as a school until the mid-1930s when Malabar children began going to Melbourne schools. Grades 1-6 met in a single downstairs room. There were six rows of desks, and each row constituted one grade. The teacher was Miss Louise Rogero. Miss Rogero graduated from Eau Gallie High in 1922, earned her degree at Florida State, and taught in the rural schools of Brevard County.

  During the 1940s, the building became Nan's Chateau, a restaurant and nightclub. In the mid-1970s, Eli Leone opened Malabar Millworks here. In 1991, Brevard Hardwoods opened in the old schoolhouse and did considerable restoration and repair to the structure. Brevard Hardwoods moved out in 2012, and the building was sold. It is listed on the Brevard County Register of Historic Places.

  The Malabar School is located adjacent to the Sand Hill Trailhead, part of the Trails and Greenways program of Brevard's Environmentally Endangered Lands program. The trail is on the 395-acre Malabar Scrub, which connects to the 100-acre Cameron Preserve. Future connections are planned with EEL's 300-acre Jordan Scrub, also in Malabar, and Lakehorn Scrub, which is in Grant-Valkaria.

Volume 1 of
The History of Brevard County
has information about Brevard prior to 1920
See the inside back cover for more details

The Historical Commission publishes a journal of Brevard County history twice a year. It is filled with information about the county. Contact the Commission office to receive your free copy.

Grant-Valkaria

Since the 1880s, the villages of Grant and Valkaria have existed in harmony within the borders of Brevard County. Effective July 25, 2006, these two communities were joined by referendum and act of law into the single Incorporated Town of Grant-Valkaria.

(91)

Grant Station
Jorgensen's General Store

Built: circa 1894
Located: 5390 U.S. Highway 1, Grant-Valkaria
URL—http://www.historicgrantstation.com/home.html
For information, call 321.610.7642

The Historic Grant Station was first built by Louis Benson around 1894 who operated the store for a few years and then sold it to Lars Jorgensen, hence the name "Jorgensen's General Store." Once Jorgensen took over, he still ran the building as a general store, yet it also served as a post office, telegraph office and trading post. The building was one of the earliest commercial properties in Grant and is the only remaining one in this community.

In 1956, Lars Jorgensen's daughters sold the store to Mr. and Mrs. John Swiger. They continued to run the building as a general store and served the needs of Grant's residents. They named the store "The Towne & Country Shop." In March 1962, after the death of Mr. Swiger, the old store stood empty. But the closing was not for long. In 1995, Robert and Lisa Knoblauch restored the shop as "The Grant Grocery.,"

In October 2011, Chris Pozgar purchased "The Historic Grant Station" and has done many renovations to the building. It is currently operating as Rib City. The Historic Grant Station has expanded from just the building to 3 acres of land. Grant Station is also home to Island Paddle and Station Works. (NRHP 1999)

After 1855, the county started to lose the less populated western and southern territories. Today's counties of St. Lucie, Okeechobee, Martin, Indian River, as well as parts of Highlands, Palm Beach, and Polk were all part of early Brevard.

In 1887, western Brevardians organized Osceola County. As these territories were split off, the county narrowed down to only include the original heart of old Brevard County, the Indian River.

92 Bensen (Grant) Historical House

Built: 1916
Located: 5795 U.S. Highway 1, Grant-Valkaria
Marker Coordinates: N 27 55.354 W 80 31.294
Tours — 321.723.8543

Built in 1916, the Grant Historical House is described as a Florida "cracker" wood-frame structure with an aluminum shingled pitched roof and front and back porches to catch the cooling breezes of the Indian River. Atley Bensen built the house for his wife Clara Christensen Bensen, a school teacher who taught in Grant and on Merritt Island. Known as a hard-working, generous and shy lady, she was an active member of the Grant Woman's Club that organized the social events in early Grant. The Christensen and Bensen families were leading pioneers in Grant and were involved in commercial fishing and other business activities of the area including the operation of the Grant Grocery Store, which opened in 1894. Restored by the Grant Historical Society, the Grant Historical House shows the community spirit of those pioneer days.

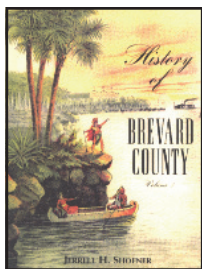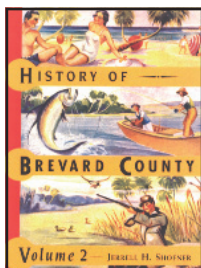# NOTES

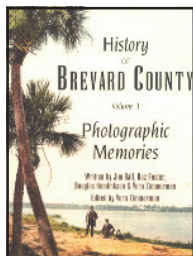# The History of Brevard County

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