

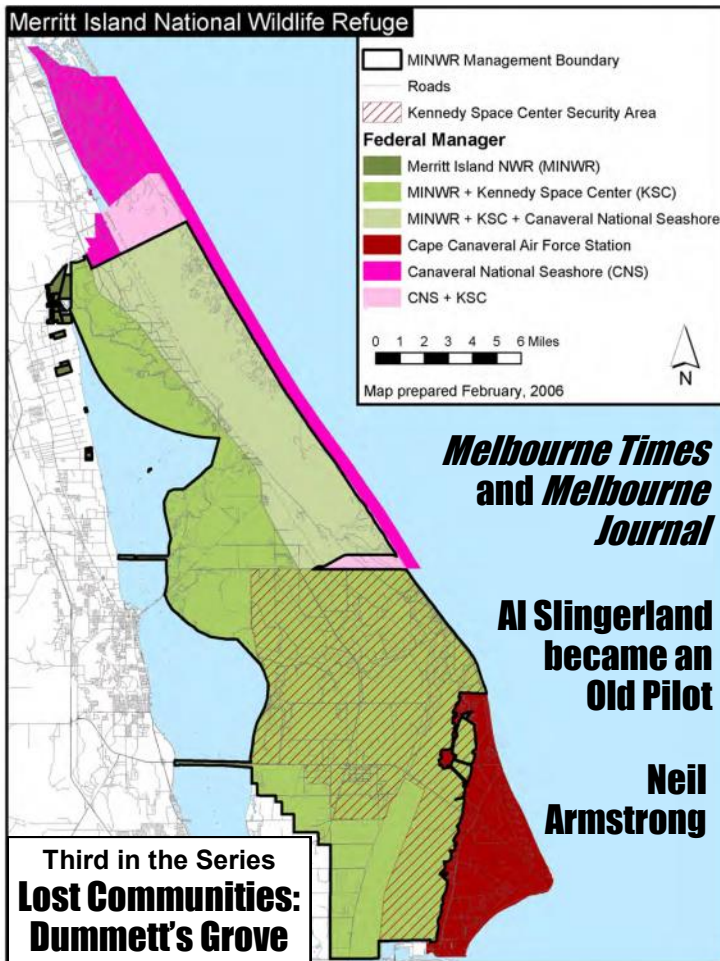
**THE RIVER
INDIAN JOURNAL**



**THE JOURNAL OF
THE BREVARD COUNTY
HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

Volume XIII, Number 1

Spring / Summer 2014



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THE INDIAN RIVER JOURNAL
THE JOURNAL OF THE BREVARD COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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THE INDIAN RIVER JOURNAL

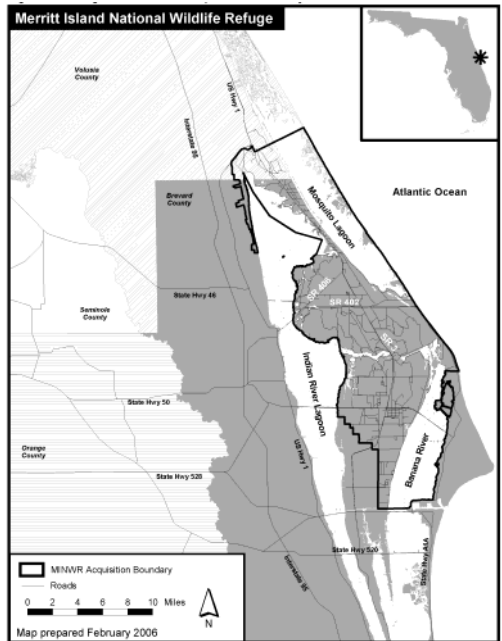
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THE MELBOURNE TIMES & THE MELBOURNE JOURNAL NEWSPAPERS

JIM GARMON

Microfilm of these newspapers, under the names *Melbourne Times*, *Melbourne Journal*, *Melbourne Times-Journal*, *The Daily Times* and *The Sunday Times* is available at the Central Brevard Library and Reference Center, Cocoa, Florida. This microfilm allows us to follow the *Times* through some of the name changes and consolidations that have occurred during its long life as a Brevard County newspaper.

The *Times* began publication in 1894, microfilming began with the October 31, 1923 issue and ended with an issue in 1970, with some gaps in the first two years. There is no microfilm of the first 29 years of publication.

The *Melbourne Journal* began publication in April 1926. It was consolidated with the *Times* in February 1927. Microfilm images of this newspaper are included in the *Melbourne Times* collection.

Much of the history of the *Times* and *Journal* can be learned from the images preserved on microfilm. Announcements of mergers, new editors and anniversaries of founding provide fairly reliable sources of information on the evolution of these newspapers and at the same time make interesting reading for anyone interested in the history of this area. This is a collection of articles found on the microfilm which shows the evolution of the papers, along with some history from other sources.

The Melbourne Times

Emmett David Oslin and Charles Robert Oslin
Editors and Publishers

First, some early history. *The Melbourne Times* was founded and published by the Oslin brothers, Emmett David Oslin, who started the paper on April 5, 1894, and Charles Oslin who continued publication of the paper when his brother moved to North Carolina in 1899. The paper was a four page weekly priced at \$1 a year.

The paper is listed in the *Ayer American Newspaper Directory*, 1897:

Melbourne; *Times*; Saturdays; Independent; four pages; 15X22; subscription \$1; established 1894; E. D. Oslin editor and publisher, circulation "more than 100, less than 1000"

The Melbourne Times

Stanley Stanton Lichty
Editor

In 1911 the paper was sold to Stanley S. Lichty. No microfilm of the paper at that time is available but the masthead of the first issue to be microfilmed, October 31, 1923, confirms that Lichty is still editor:

Published weekly by The Melbourne Times Company, Melbourne, Florida
Stanley S. Lichty—Editor
H. Johnson—Manager

Stanley and his wife Blanche are listed in the 1920 Federal Census, living in Melbourne, Florida. His occupation is editor, *Melbourne Times*. His birth place and age are listed as Iowa, age 50. In the 1930 Census his occupation is Manager, News Print, in the 1940 Census he is an insurance broker.

The Melbourne Times
Edward Taylor
Editor

Edward Taylor, former manager of the *Miami Herald*, bought the paper in July 1924. News of this sale is reported in an article published in the *Melbourne Times*, Volume 30, No. 22, July 16, 1924:

A business deal which may be considered of some importance by many has been recently concluded whereby the management of the *Melbourne Times* will soon pass into other hands. Edward Taylor, for the past seven years the business manager of the *Miami Herald*, has purchased from Stanley S. Lichty the controlling interest in the *Melbourne Times Company*, possession to be given on or about September 1st.

Mr. Lichty became the owner of the *Times* in 1911 and some months later formed the present cooperation. For the past ten years he has been in active charge of the publication and has seen it pass through all of the various stages of vicissitudes and growth until it has reached its present position in Brevard County. Under his guidance the *Times* has always stood for the clean things in journalism. It has consistently boosted Melbourne and stood behind the development and growth of Brevard County, the East Coast and the great State of Florida. Other business interest and ill health are his reasons for retiring from the active newspaper field at this time. He will continue to act as a director of the *Times* cooperation and will have an editorial announcement of his retirement later.

Mr. Taylor needs no introduction to the readers of the *Times* in this community. His success as active manager of the *Miami Herald* is well known to them. Before entering upon his successful career with the *Miami Herald* Mr. Taylor was engaged in the banking business, having been connected for many years with the Corn Exchange Bank of Chicago. Since coming to Florida he has taken an active part in the work of the Florida Press Association, and also of the Florida Dailies

Association, having served as president of both. He has a large acquaintance throughout the state and knows its possibilities and needs. It will be his aim to use every endeavor to carry out the program of visioning and helpfulness for this community. He has purchased a home in Melbourne and will move his family here as soon as he has closed out his business interest in Miami.

Melbourne Journal
John Franklin Schumann
Editor

In 1926 a new newspaper began publishing in Melbourne. The first issue of this new paper, *The Melbourne Journal*, is dated April 11, 1926. The masthead reads:

Published Tuesday and Friday afternoons and Sunday morning
J. C. Brossier, President
J. F. Schumann, Editor
E. C. Green, Business Manager

The president, J. Clement Brossier and his wife Evelyn are listed in the 1930 Federal Census in Orlando, Orange County, Florida. Occupation—Publisher, Daily Newspaper

The Editor, J. F. Schumann and his wife Blanche are listed in the 1930 Federal Census in Orlando, Orange County, Florida. Occupation—Editor, Newspaper

Neither Brossier nor Schumann were new to the Florida newspaper business, having founded the Vero Beach Journal in 1925.

The first issue of the *Journal* carried on page 1 a note describing the difficulty of beginning a new newspaper from scratch:

Melbourne Journal, Volume 1, No. 1, April 11, 1926:

Getting Started

Installing and starting a new newspaper is a good deal like trying to get a balky horse started. You can never tell when it is ready to go. We thought the plant was ready a week ago, but it was suddenly discovered that there were missing parts of a linotype, and the factory more than a thousand miles away. Delay was necessary. The paper is being issued today with but one linotype operating.

It was the original purpose to issue a daily. This now seems inadvisable. In the first place, we discover that the streets are not marked nor are houses numbered. This would make delivery by newsboys very uncertain and unsatisfactory. Melbourne has grown to be a city so rapidly that here is one job that has not yet been done. Nor does the time seem propitious for starting a daily. Though we have put in the equipment for a daily, and have purchased the daily service and will

get the Associated Press news by wire daily, we shall only publish three times a week until fall when we will publish a morning daily. Publication days will be Tuesday and Friday and Sunday morning. This with the two issues a week by the Times will give the people a paper five days a week during the summer.

Owing to the uncertainty of the arrival of the parts for the other lino-type the Tuesday paper will be omitted this week. The next issue will be Friday. Thereafter it will appear three times a week.

Will appreciate the sending in of news items to the office either by phone or by letter.

PUBLISHER

And in a page four editorial, they greet their potential Melbourne customers:

Melbourne Journal, April 11, 1926:

ANNOUNCEMENT

The *Journal* enters the Melbourne field of journalism for the double purpose of rendering a service to the public and for building up a business for the publishers. Melbourne and its adjacent country is an inviting field; it is a growing field.

There is every reason to believe that Melbourne will make even greater progress during the next three years than it has made during the past three years. If it does, we shall quickly go into the 10,000 class. With the wonderful river and ocean beach here, this locality is very popular with the tourist and this popularity will increase as we enlarge our hotel and apartment service.

Back of the city, however, is that ever ready and everlasting asset that forms the backbone of industry in America—agriculture. These fertile stretches of land afford a support to a city and a source of revenue that builds general prosperity, River and ocean and climate combined with a wealth of back country, give ample assurance of a great city here.

To this field the *Journal* comes as a new publication, not to tramp on the toes of any, but to help promote every commendable enterprise. We are here to co-operate in everything that will be for the good of the community, and to boost every worthy cause. Likewise we shall discourage those things that are detrimental to a community and hurtful to individuals.

We believe that the public schools and churches are two institutions that serve a community's highest interests and to these we shall give our loyal and whole-hearted support. We stand for the things that are clean and upright and honest in a community. Believing that in thus standing we shall be able to help the masses of people, we shall ad-

here to the best principals of clean journalism, giving to every man and woman and child a fair deal. We are here to serve, not to dictate, and shall be ever ready to hear suggestions.

To the publisher of the *Melbourne Times* we extend the hand of fellowship and shall treat him as a co-worker and a friend in the hope that together, we shall do great things for Melbourne.

Melbourne Journal, April 16, 1926:

Acknowledgement

Newspapers are called upon so often to throw bouquets at others that publishers may be pardoned for now and then tossing them at each other.

It is with a sincere sense of appreciation that we acknowledge the greeting extended us by the publisher of the *Melbourne Times*. Knowing Ed Taylor as we do, we appreciate it more because we know that it was the expression of his big heart. We want to assure him again, that it will be a pleasure to operate in this field as a co-worker with him for the present splendid city and the greater city that is yet to be. And we want to help keep the splendid county of Brevard before the world that it may receive that attention it is deserving of. To these ends we shall labor and for county-wide good will.

JOURNAL PUBLISHER

Melbourne Times and *The Melbourne Journal* are consolidated,
becoming the *Melbourne Times-Journal*

The last issue of the *Melbourne Journal* is dated February 4, 1927

The last issue of the *Melbourne Times* is dated February 8, 1927.

The first issue of the *Melbourne Times-Journal* was published February 11, 1927.

The masthead reads:

Melbourne Times-Journal

“The Peoples Paper”

Published Tuesday and Friday afternoons

at The Journal Building,

Waverly Place, Melbourne, Florida

J C. Brossier, President

J. F. Schumann, Editor

E. C. Green, Business Manager

Tom Smith, City Editor

There is no comment published in either paper of this consolidation.

Anniversary of Founding

Thirty-five years after the founding of the *Times*, on April 12, 1929, the *Melbourne Times-Journal* reprints an article from the *Orlando Sentinel* commemorating the anniversary:

A SPLENDID ACHIEVEMENT

Last week the *Melbourne Times-Journal* published an anniversary edition that was unique at the same time exceedingly informative.

Thirty-five years ago was published the first issue of the *Melbourne Times*, the first permanent newspaper in that locality. Melbourne was then a village of small wooden houses on the banks of the Indian river. It took vision for a man to start a newspaper in the Melbourne of thirty-five years ago. But that vision has been justified in the fact that the *Times* has functioned for thirty-five years and faithfully served a community that has developed a modern city of 6,000 that has finally spanned the river and developed one of the most beautiful ocean resorts on the East Coast.

This anniversary edition is unique in that it reproduces a number of buildings that were prominent in the riverside village on that day. This reproduction had been accomplished by pen sketches from which to make plates. These buildings, in contrast with the modern buildings of Melbourne today, as shown in this special edition, tell the story of progress of which every citizen of the "Midway City" is so justly proud.

The article goes on to heap glory on the city of Melbourne, ending with:

The *Times* has been consolidated with the *Journal* and is now published as the *Times-Journal* in one of the best equipped offices between Daytona and Palm Beach. ...

The *Melbourne Times-Journal* and the *Melbourne Sentinel* are consolidated, becoming the *Melbourne Times*.

Royal Howard Berg
Editor

R. H. Berg becomes the editor on May 9, 1930 when the *Melbourne Sentinel* and the *Melbourne Times-Journal* were consolidated. This union is announced by the editor:

*An Index of Indian River Journal Articles is
available on our website.*

AN ANNOUNCEMENT

With this issue of *The Melbourne Times*, I join the forces especially working for the advancement and constant betterment of this favored section of Florida.

Inasmuch as the welfare of Florida is the concern of every loyal Floridian, I like to sing the praise of every town and of every county in the state. Each has something to be proud of; each does something worthy of emulation. But—I have chosen Melbourne.

For a sound investment and as a home for my family, I have selected this pleasing town, and we come with the earnest desire to help in every cause that is to increase the happiness and prosperity of our new friends and neighbors.

The friendliness and helpfulness I have already encountered here are delightfully encouraging. They make me feel that *The Times* is to have an opportunity to be of service in a big and happy way.

May I ask, please, for suggestions as to ways in which this paper can serve the community? I am eager to make the acquaintance of readers of *The Times*, and to learn from them what they like, and what they do not like, to find in the columns of their home newspaper.

Depending upon the good will and cooperation of our paper's friends, I pledge our best endeavors for community wellbeing and progress.

R. H. BERG

The masthead of the issue of the following week reads:

The Melbourne Times

Published every Friday at Melbourne, Florida by the Midway City Publishing Co.

Established April 5, 1894, Consolidated February 11, 1927 with *The Journal* and May 9, 1929 (sic) with *The Sentinel*.

R. H. Berg—Editor and manager

H. B. Moore—City Editor

The masthead says that the *Times-Journal* and the *Sentinel* were consolidated in 1929; this was corrected in later issues to 1930.

Melbourne Times, May 16, 1930, Page 1:

Consolidation of newspapers Given Expression of Approval

Announcement of the merging of the *Times-Journal* and the *Melbourne Sentinel* into one newspaper for Melbourne to be known as *The Melbourne Times*, has brought forth many expressions of approval from leaders in civic affairs, business and professional men of the city.

Consolidation of the newspapers, in the opinion of many, is a sound economic move which will prove of great benefit to Melbourne. Citing more harmony, concentration of effort, cooperation, efficiency, a better newspaper, and calling the move a progressive and constructive step, expressions of men prominent in business circles are given as follows:

Here follows comments of 25 business and professional men of the community, including J. W. Houchins, former owner of the *Melbourne Sentinel*, who says:

“The merger was the right thing to do. Under the business strain Melbourne is now experiencing, this was a hardship on the merchants and on each paper, when the business was divided. With the cooperation of *The Times* and the *Sentinel* and the people of Melbourne, this will be of benefit to the town and the newspapers. I want to thank the people of Melbourne on behalf of the owners of both papers, for their support.”

J. W. Houchins, the former owner of the *Melbourne Sentinel*, is buried in the Melbourne Cemetery. The inscription says: Houchins, J. W. 1880-1941. An Internet search for more history of the editor and for more information on the *Melbourne Sentinel* newspaper produced no results.

May 16, 1930, *The Melbourne Times*, page 4:

New Opportunities, New Teamwork

It is exceedingly gratifying to *The Times* to know that it is to go into ALL the homes of Melbourne and Melbourne's neighboring towns. By acquiring the *Melbourne Sentinel's* good will and subscription list, *The Times* is given the privilege of serving everybody who is interested enough in the welfare of his community, and in the news of his neighbors, to subscribe for his home paper.

“Home”—*The Times* desires to be just that. It wants to be a trusted, welcome friend, and a public servant doing its best to help in every cause that will make for the betterment of this section of Florida, and of Florida as a whole.

Coming as he has a stranger, the publisher of *The Times* is thinking of his new townspeople as his friends. He knows no factions. He has no share in any quarrel. He believes, moreover, that the only kind of factionalism that is of benefit to anybody is the sort that is built on the basis of friendly rivalry, in which each partisan group strives to outdo the other in contributing to the public good.

Melbourne has a fine reputation for progressiveness, a fine reputation for sane and intelligent management of its civic affairs. And while such a reputation is carried about on the tongues of this town's kind

friends, Melbourne itself—the men and women who call this community home—has sense enough to know that Melbourne is only beginning to do the big things that it is capable of doing, and which lie in the path it is traveling.

The Melbourne Sentinel's readers will miss the coming of their favorite paper. *The Melbourne Times-Journal's* readers will also miss the familiar columns of the paper they have read so long. The new *Times* can only express the hope that it can fill the places of both the old papers, and at the same time bid for individual friendliness for itself.

With all of us pulling on the same rope, with all of us ready to lend a hand for every worth-while enterprise, it will be possible to make the coming months stand forth as a period of achievement and of pleasing satisfaction.

Perry Publishing Company

Sometime in 1946 the paper is sold to the Perry Publishing Company. The masthead of the issue of June 7, 1946 is the first to display the phrase "A John H. Perry Newspaper".

Royal H. Berg, Sr., continues as Editor. His son Robert Brewster Berg is Manager.

The *St. Petersburg Times* reports on March 3, 1955 that the *Melbourne Times* has a new editor:

Kury Becomes Editor Of Melbourne Paper

MELBOURNE—Frederick H. Kury had become editor and publisher of the *Melbourne Times* which publishes daily and Sundays here, it was announced yesterday.

Kury, a veteran newspaperman, until recently was vice president and business manager of NEA Services, Inc., and formerly was owner and publisher of the Ogdensburg, N.Y., *Advance-News* and the *Adirondack Daily Enterprise*, Saranac Lake, N.Y.

The *Melbourne Times* is owned by John H. Perry who also owns a number of other newspapers and radio stations in Florida.

The masthead reads:

The Melbourne Times
 Frederick H. Kury, Editor and Publisher
 Fred L. McFarlin, Business Manager
 Pearl S. Leech, Managing Editor
 Established in 1894
 A John H. Perry Newspaper

The Melbourne Times becomes *The Daily Times*
and *The Sunday Times*

August 7, 1955. An announcement on page 1 of the *Daily Times* tells the story of this name change:

Our New Name

Keeping pace with the great developments of Brevard county and the growing community spirit in the municipalities that comprise this area, *The Melbourne Times* today changes its name.

First of the new mastheads appears today at the top of page 1. Hereafter this newspaper will be known as *THE DAILY TIMES* and *THE SUNDAY TIMES*, designating the weekday and Sunday editions.

The Daily Times and *The Sunday Times* are the only daily newspaper published in Brevard county. Our newspaper is especially designed and edited for this area and is not a hastily designed makeshift of foreign newspapers aimed to attract an unsuspecting reader or advertiser.

The Daily Times and *The Sunday Times* have no other purpose but to serve Brevard County and its citizens. We do not solicit any subscribers or advertising outside the county. If we can do the job of serving this area, our effort will be well spent.

You will note below the logotype on page 1 that we have named larger incorporated cities in the county as those places we serve. But our service and coverage is greater than the named communities. We ARE the only paper published for every community in Brevard county and the only newspaper published on a daily basis that has no other interest but rendering service to the citizens of Brevard.

We pledge our efforts to support everything that is good for every city and community in the county.

Back to "Melbourne Times"

Tuesday, November 4, 1969. Melbourne and Eau Gallie are consolidated and become the city of Melbourne. The next day, the *Times* becomes the *Melbourne Times* again, issuing the following statement:

The Times Joins City In Adopting New Name

This is the day on which a new city's birth and name are announced. Its leaders have been elected and its future is about to unfold.

The people have spoken.

Eau Gallie and Melbourne, each nearly a century old, are as of now completely and permanently united into one city... the largest in the county.

This is the will of the people, who also selected the name for Florida's newest and Brevard's largest city.

This newspaper, having been in the communications business continuously for more than 75 years, has gone on record at every opportunity to record any type of merger...consolidation...unification which would enhance the political and financial status of the area in question.

It is with much pride that we salute those voters who have seen fit to put community interest above and beyond self interest.

Volunteer service rendered by the interim council has been noted and commended.

Newly elected officials who will mastermind the initial efforts of the new city are to be congratulated. Theirs is an unique responsibility. Once established, this new city will gain the support and strength she needs, but proper alignment of budget, services and personnel are vastly important and they will be handled by the elected officials.

The Times never has personal gain behind its push for consolidation of effort and governmental agencies. It recommended no appointees and endorsed no candidates.

The one purpose behind its endorsement of unification was simple: logic.

The day had passed when astute taxpayers welcome services in layers and taxes in pyramid.

Duplication is passé in towns where progress is prized.

There is no manner in which to retain status quo.

Always there are two choices: move forward with pride or regress with embarrassment.

The voters of Eau Gallie and Melbourne put their vote where their pride was: in a bright future of strength, importance, financial expedience and managerial efficiency.

Having gone all out to support the idea of united effort The Times management is following suite. The voters have named their new city.

Commencing with this date, this newspaper will be known by that name, also. (emphasis is the author's)

This is the only newspaper published in South Brevard.

It will continue its dedicated coverage of all South Brevard.

But it is a privilege to salute the voters who saw beyond today and tomorrow to envision the years to come **and this newspaper, out of respect to the fact it is located at an address in Brevard's largest city, will be known now by the name its voters selected at polls yesterday.** (emphasis is the author's)

It is a good name. We are proud of it...and proud of the way in which it was selected...by the people...and for the people.

The title on page one of this issue again reads "*Melbourne Times*", a name last seen almost 15 years ago.

The coverage of the microfilm of the *Melbourne Times* ends in 1970. The paper is still owned by the Perry family.

The masthead of the last issue filmed, April 30, 1970, reads:

Frederick L. McFarland, President
Homer Pyle, Editor
Jack Harris, Managing Editor
John H. Perry Associates

In a July 23, 1999 interview Allen H. Neuharth discusses the purchase of three Brevard County newspapers by the Gannett Co.

After describing the 1966 purchase of the *Cocoa Tribune*, and then the Titusville's *Star-Advocate*, Neuharth replies to the question "So you did not buy the *Melbourne Times*?" "Not at that time. No, it stayed in the Perry chain until it suffered. What happened to it was what we had said might happen to the *Cocoa Tribune* and the *Star-Advocate*. They were hurt in their daily circulation by the new newspaper, by *Today*. The Perry people decided sometime later to convert it back to three times a week, I think, then to a weekly. Then we bought it from them."

Gannett bought the paper in May 1970.

The rest of the history of the paper is told by Weona Cleveland, who was on the staff of the *Times* from Dec. 31, 1971 until the day Gannett took it all over to *Florida Today* in 1985. She was a reporter for *Florida Today* until she retired in January 1987, and then worked as a free-lancer for both *Florida Today* and *The Times* up until just a few years ago.

This is her reconstruction of the events covering the post 1970 history of the *Times*:

"Gannett purchased *The Melbourne Times* in May, 1970 (while it was a daily) and in 1973 changed the name to *The Evening Times*. It was still a daily. Gloria Biggs became the first woman editor and publisher of a Gannett daily newspaper with her appointment to that post of *The Evening Times* in 1973.

In 1975 *The Evening Times* became a weekly, the name was changed to *The Times* and Lucille Kahn became editor and publisher. She held that post until 1978 when Sandra Baker became editor and publisher. She held that post until 1985, when the entire staff of *The Times* was transferred to *Florida Today* newspaper, the office of *The Times* in Melbourne was closed, and publication of *The Times* was transferred to the building which housed *Florida Today* on U.S. 1 north of Melbourne.

The Times continued to be published as a weekly (with basically a staff of free-lancers) until just about three or four years ago. It just sort of faded away without any special notification to the public.”

References

Historic Markers Across Florida

Melbourne Times

Location: Front of Times Building, 2015 S. Waverly Place, Melbourne.

County: Brevard

Waymark: None

Text:

“Emmett David Oslin founded the *Melbourne Times* in a small shop on Front Street in 1894. The four-page newspaper was printed on a hand press and subscription price was \$1 per year. That same year the lighthouse at Cape Canaveral was built.

Around 1914 the *Melbourne Times* moved to the Myles Building on New Haven Avenue, west of the railroad tracks. About four years later it again moved a few doors west.

In 1920, the newspaper built a two-story concrete block building on Vernon Place, where it was published until merger with the *Melbourne Journal* took place in 1927. It then moved to a building on Waverly Place, just north of the present building.

Sponsored by: *Melbourne Times*”

Neuharth, Allen H. (1990). *Confessions of an S. O. B.* New York: Plume

Published interview with Allen H. Neuharth, University of Florida, Florida Newspaper Oral History, <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/UF00005522/00001>

Microfilm collection, Central Brevard Library and Reference Center, Cocoa, Florida

N.W. Ayer & Son's American newspaper annual and directory *IRJ*

THERE ARE OLD PILOTS THERE ARE BOLD PILOTS BUT, THERE ARE NO OLD-BOLD PILOTS

BY WEONA CLEVELAND

Al Slingerland had many stories to tell me when I interviewed him in June, 1976. His stories began in such places as Howe's Cave, N.Y. (where he was born), Schenectady (where he learned to fly), Schoharie, N.Y. (where he had an aviation "close call") and then to Vero Beach and Melbourne (where he brought his airplanes and his love for flying). Slingerland was 65 years old when we spoke in his Satellite Beach home, accompanied by one of his flying students - Sidney Platt.

He began his flying career in 1934 when he was 23 years old. His father, before him, had been an early aviation enthusiast, had built his own airplane and had been a parachute jumper in the early days of "barnstorming" aviation.

Slingerland had logged about 150 hours of flight time when he decided in 1934 to take a SM8-A Stinson and a Piper Cub to Vero Beach to set up his business of teaching flying, taking passengers up for sight-seeing, and putting on air shows. He chose Vero over Melbourne because the field at Vero had a hanger and the field (airport) was better maintained. From Vero he could also bring his shows to Fellsmere and to Melbourne and other small East Coast communities. "All you needed was an open field," he said.

It was from the Vero airport that Slingerland made his first (and only) parachute jump from a Stinson aircraft, during an air show.

Ralph Allen, a resident of Rocky Water Camp in Eau Gallie, finally convinced Slingerland to move his aviation business to the Melbourne airport, which had just recently been established on the land where it is now located. (Moved from the cow pasture along Hwy. 192 west of Melbourne.) Allen also introduced Slingerland to Sidney Platt and Hollis Bottomley as well as Dick Bortiz, Ross Calvin, Bonnie Brandow, Gwen Owen, John Vandewater, Sam Ashley and Dollie Massey, all of whom became his flight students. Slingerland also married Brandow and Platt married Gwen Owen.

The Melbourne airport, in 1934, was a 3,500 foot strip of sand along the Florida East Coast Railway tracks and another 2,000 feet of sand running roughly east and west. Platt recalled when you came in for a landing the sand would blow in your face, and Slingerland remembered that he used to land the Piper Cub at night, easily, "because the sand shone white in the moonlight and I could judge my height by the trees."

In 1937, Slingerland departed Melbourne for a time to fly 40-B Boeing aircrafts in the Honduran Air Force. While he was gone Wes Raymond taught flying locally. Slingerland came back to Melbourne in 1938 and owned a Taylorcraft and a Bird. He did his own maintenance on the planes. While he was in

Honduras, the Melbourne airport acquired lighting and aviation had become a much-publicized "sport." Newspaper accounts show that Al Vorkeller and Walter Reich were local men, each trying to gain "control" over the Melbourne airport. Melbourne was the international headquarters for the "Flying Alligators," an association of pilots and and plane owners. Sikorsky, inventor of the helicopter, was initiated into the organization at the Melbourne airport, and for some of the initiation ceremonies, Zack Moseley, originator of the comic strip Smiling Jack, would come up from Stuart, to be master of ceremonies.



Al Slingerland & Sidney Platt, photo from Weona Cleveland.

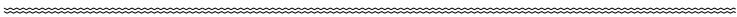
Miami had a big air show every winter and often, pilots on their way to the show, would stop in Melbourne. Slingerland said the Melbourne airport was one of the busiest fields in the entire state in the mid-1930s.

There were some interesting "incidents" during the time Slingerland flew and taught locally. He piloted a Stinson to Jacksonville with Art Thornton, C.H. McNulty and Gene Tucker as passengers. On the return trip he thought his gas tanks were full, but it turned out the plane had a defective gauge on one tank. When he switched over to the tank he thought was full, the engine sputtered. He looked for a place to land. He chose a tree nursery. "The wheels went in between the rows of trees," he recalled. No damage was done to the plane, so Slingerland got five gallons of gas and took off again - without his passengers.

At one point Slingerland became involved in big plans to build what was known as the Standard airplane to be used for crop dusting. The Geiger building on the south side of Melbourne was the location for manufacturing the aircraft, but plans to build never materialized because of lack of money. This was toward the end of the Great Depression and the money situation "was very tight," said Slingerland.

In the late 1930s Slingerland went to Fort Pierce to get his license renewed and wound up flying to Costa Rica and Panama in a Stearman. While on the ground in Central America the termites got into his aircraft. He worked as a co-pilot for a Panamanian airline to get enough money to get back to the states. After that he flew for American Airlines, had flight schools at Fort Lauderdale, ran a boat rental business at Marathon, went to work for Piper Aircraft at Vero Beach, and retired to Satellite Beach in 1973.

When I asked Slingerland if he had ever experienced any "close calls" during his aviation career, he had a difficult time recalling anything that he really thought might qualify, but then he said, "The first airplane I owned was an OX-5 Commander which I had bought for \$300. I tried to land the Commander at Schoharie (N.Y.) in a valley, after dark. I followed the creek and I knew as soon as I crossed the creek I had to drop it in. I dropped it in from pretty high and broke an aileron." *IRJ*



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Historical Records Archive of the Historical Commission has a lot of reference material in its collections and could prove to be a valuable research source. The Historical Records Archive is normally open for research during standard business hours. Please call first to ensure that someone will be there to assist you. The Archive can be reached by telephone at 321-633-1794.

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Third in a Series

EXPLORE YOUR HISTORY: LOST COMMUNITIES OF NORTH MERRITT ISLAND

ROZ FOSTER

DUMMETT'S GROVE—"GOOD HOPE"

Perhaps the most famous Haulover area resident was Captain Douglas D. Dummett (Dummitt) who was born January 1806 in Barbados. His father Col. Thomas Dummett of the British Marines had been a wealthy sugar planter on the island of Barbados when an uprising occurred when the British passed the Abolition Act in 1807. According to legend he hid in a sugar hogshead on board one of his own ships as it escaped and set-sail for the United States with his family and slaves. One account is written that the Dummett family lived in Connecticut for six years before moving to Florida in 1825. The cold climate of the north was not enjoyable after living in the tropics, and a Spanish gentlemen visiting from Florida easily persuaded him to visit the Territory which had become a new addition to the United States in 1821.

In 1825 it was published in the St. Augustine East Florida Herald that Colonel Thomas Dummett purchased the plantation of Messrs. John Addison and John Bunch near the Tomoka River and their ninety slaves where he planned to establish a large sugar cane plantation and mill. He built the sugar mill and a log house with a thatched palmetto roof where he and his family of 11 children lived happily for several years. At the outbreak of the Second Seminole Indian War in 1835, the Dummett's were living on the east side of the Hillsborough River at New Smyrna. Their house was burned and the plantations destroyed by the Indians and they were forced to flee by canoes to St. Augustine. Col. Thomas Dummett died at St. Augustine in 1839. His family continued living in St. Augustine and some of his daughters married into the aristocratic and military families of St. Augustine.

Douglas Dummett was the most colorful and adventurous member of the Dummett family and turned his agricultural interests to cultivation of oranges rather than sugar cane. The site chosen by Dummett was a narrow strip of high land with abundantly rich soil near the "Haulover". On the west was an arm of the Indian River, now known as Dummett Creek; on the east was a broad lagoon separating Merritt Island from the fringe of land that in turn lies between the lagoon and the ocean. Warm tidal waters near and on both sides of the grove are believed to provide a margin of safety from freezes of from five to eight degrees of temperature.

Sometime during the early 1800s, (possibly 1818) Douglas sailed back to the area near the "Haulover," bringing with him some bud wood from Spanish sweet-orange trees of rare quality found in the vicinity of the old Jones orange

grove near New Smyrna, that were possibly planted by the Turnbull colonists in the late 1760's. Dummett had wild sour-orange trees on his land and budded the sweet-orange slips onto them. Because the bud union was at least 3 feet off the ground and the trees were budded and not seedlings, the Dummett trees survived the devastating freeze of 1835, thus establishing the famous Indian River Groves. That freeze was so severe that ice formed along the shore of the St. Johns River at Jacksonville. Citrus groves along the Indian River were killed back to the ground and the famous Indian River Orange would have been lost, except for the survival of a few trees in the Dummett Grove.

By 1828 Dummett was able to ship his first crop of fruit commercially, which consisted of 500 barrels of oranges. He took the utmost care in preparing his fruit for shipment by schooner from St. Augustine to eastern markets in Baltimore, New York and Boston. All oranges were wiped by hand after being picked; they were packed in barrels between layers of dried Spanish moss.

Capt. Dummett owned a huge cypress log dugout sailing canoe, named the Carolina, in which he transported his barrels of fruit to market. It was jointly designed and built by Capt. Douglas Dummett, Custom House Officer at New Smyrna, and Capt. Mills Burnham, Cape Canaveral Lighthouse Keeper. It was used by them in an official capacity between Cape Canaveral and St. Augustine. Built by Dummett's slaves on his plantation about 1830, it measured 29.8 ft. in length and 4 1/2 ft. in width and 2 ft. 4 inches deep. The ribs were made of natural crook live oak and all the metal work, nails, rivets, bolts and rings were solid copper. The boat was provided with a center board and cat rigged with a sail. Dummett later became sole owner and after his death it became the property of Andrew Jackson, a slave that worked for Dummett. Jackson used the boat on his property at Allenhurst for hauling oranges out to a vessel anchored in the bay. He would haul as high as fifty crates of oranges per load.



Knowing how valuable to history the canoe was, Jackson took very good care of it over the years, and in 1930 presented it to the Florida State Museum in Gainesville for safe keeping. It is presently displayed at the Museum of Florida History in Tallahassee.

Shortly after Dummett's Grove escaped destruction from the 1835 freeze, the Second Seminole Indian War of 1835-1842 threatened the region with more destruction. When the Florida Militia was formed, Dummett was commissioned Captain of Company B, mounted men of the 2nd Reg, 2nd Brigade. He lead the "Mosquito Roarers", a local militia formed to protect homesteaders from Indian attacks along the coast and the plantations of the Halifax and Tomoka Rivers. The most important battle was at Dunn-Lawton plantation in which Dummett was seriously wounded in the neck but survived.

Throughout the late 1830's and 1840's conditions remained unsettled and the plantations and groves along the coast were abandoned. After the war Dummett was employed as an appraiser for the Union Bank at Tallahassee and was justice of peace for Mosquito County. In 1843 and again in 1845 he served as a member of the House in the Florida Legislature and later served as first collector of customs for the port of New Smyrna.



*"The chimney--all that remains--
of the old Dummitt cabin near
the Haulover Canal"*

WC-9.tif

Dummett built the original house on this land and developed a homestead and citrus grove known as "Good Hope" south of the old Haulover canal. His home in the grove consisted of three wings and a well that was enclosed within one of them. The family cooking was done in a thatched shed apart from the house. There was no glass in the windows and shutters were used in case of rain or storm.

The only remains of this house today are the chimney and the coquina rock well thought to have been built by Turnbull's Minorcan colonists.

He lived a solitary life at "Good Hope"- Dummett's Grove as it became known - with his common law mulatto wife, Leandra Fernandez and their three illegitimate daughters, Louisa, Kate and Mary. His only son, Charles Dummett was born August 18, 1844 and died April 23, 1860 at the young age of 16. One account of his untimely death is believed that he was on a hunting trip when he stumbled and his gun fired and he was accidentally killed. He is buried in a tomb grave that is in the center of a narrow road in New Smyrna.

Following the Civil War, a report was made in 1866 to Mr. Thomas W. Osborn, an officer of the Freedman's Bureau, revealed that Capt. Dummett was the father of three illegitimate children - two daughters and a son - "all with dark complexion." In his hand written will, dated August 16, 1871, Dummett acknowledged his 3 illegitimate daughters to whom he left half of his estate and the other half to his sister, Anna. The will was witnessed by signatures of Henry T. Titus and Miles O. Burnham.

By 1869 his grove was referred to as the largest in Florida, with more than 1,300 bearing trees that produced over 700,000 oranges.

Capt. Douglas Dummett passed away March 27, 1873 at Dr. Whitfield's house on South Merritt Island, where he had gone to seek medical attention during his last illness. As he had wished, his dear friend Dr. Whitfield buried him under a large oak tree on his estate known as "Fairyland." Capt. Dummett was 67 years of age at the time of his death and half owner of the Dummett Grove, and the other owners were the heirs of Gen. W.J. Hardee. In his will, Capt. Dummett left each of his 3 daughters and his sister Anna their own plot of land, but the seven acre grove was kept intact, and used for many years as bud wood for scores of today's Indian River groves. The grove was later purchased from the Dummett and Hardee heirs for the sum of \$18,000 by a Mr. George W. Schuyler of New York.

Florida's orange culture is said to have been re-established from this grove, producing world renowned "Indian River Oranges." More damage to the groves was caused by the 1884-85 hurricanes and the 1894-95 freeze, but most of the groves survived again. Some of Dummett's original trees still existed as recorded by the WPA Guide to Florida - 1939 Edition, the largest being 4ft. in circumference and 30 ft. high.

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DUMMETT PLANTATION
BURIED TREASURE- LEGEND OR FACT

During the Second Seminole War 1835-1842, there was an incident here that began a treasure hunt that is still going on. The Dummett family established a large prosperous citrus plantation in the 1830's and they were still here when the war began. Plantations all along the east coast were being destroyed by Chief King Philip's warriors, so the Dummett's decided to pack up and leave. Legend has it that they could not take everything, so they buried a chest of silver and valuables on the grounds of their plantation. Soldiers began using the ruins as a camp, and there were several skirmishes with the Indians. When the fighting was over, Dummett sent two men to dig up the chest. Did eccentric Mr. Dummett bury other chests that he did not tell anyone about? *IRJ*

COMING IN THE NEXT ISSUE

The Duke & Duchess of Castellucia and "Dummett's Castle"

DUMMETT Q & A

- What is the correct spelling of his last name, Dummett or Dummitt? Either is correct, his signature on documents is difficult to read and may be either.
- Was the buried treasure ever fully retrieved and at what plantation was it buried? I don't know, and it was at the Tomoka Plantation location.
- Is Dummett's grave marked where he was buried? – No, although several have tried to find it and put a marker on it over the years.
- Are there any of Dummett's orange trees still located in the groves? Probably not, although some trees were still there in the late 1950s and early 1960s. There are still many sour orange trees.
- What is the difference between Dummett Grove, Creek and Cove? Dummett Grove refers to the 7-acre grove of oranges trees he planted, Dummett Creek refers to the small creek that runs inland from the Indian River, and Dummett Cove is the small cove for docking boats on the Indian River side – 3 different locations and different things all on Dummett's property.
- Are Dummett's chimney and the old coquina well still intact? Yes, the chimney has been repaired/restored, and the well was filled in years ago by the MINWR staff for safety.

MERRITT ISLAND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE HISTORY AND PURPOSES

SUBMITTED BY ROZ FOSTER

Source: Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan and Environmental Assessment - November 2006.

By 1962, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration had purchased most of the northern portion of the barrier island known as Merritt Island in order to launch rockets into space. Located adjacent to the U.S. Air Force's Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, the new site was named the John F. Kennedy Space Center. Sufficient lands to serve as safety and security buffer zones in order to launch the heavy lift booster rockets for manned space exploration were acquired through fee title purchases, condemnation, and negotiation with the State of Florida for state lands and waters. On August 28, 1963, the Fish and Wildlife Service entered into a cooperative agreement with NASA to establish the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, where space operations have priority. In this initial interagency agreement, NASA transferred management authority to the refuge for only a portion of the Kennedy Space Center's lands and waters. This agreement authority was expanded in the latter 1960s and by 1972 it included all nonoperational areas of the space center. A new updated agreement between NASA and the Service was signed by both parties in May 2002. The most recent agreement reflects the changes in operations of the two agencies and the coordination procedures that have occurred over time.

On April 2, 1975, Congress established the Canaveral National Seashore. This act transferred management responsibility of Playalinda Beach and approximately 1,000 acres north of the Gomez Grant Line to the National Park Service. At the same time, approximately 34,345 acres in and around Mosquito Lagoon were designated as a joint management area between Park Service and the Fish and Wildlife Service. Natural resource management of much of the joint jurisdiction area remained under refuge management, while the Park Service assumed management of all cultural resources in this overlap area. Generally, the Seashore manages those areas in the refuge/Seashore overlap east of the beach or sand road and the refuge manages the remainder of that overlap.

Due to its nature as an overlay of the Kennedy Space Center and its unique location and resources, the refuge has two traditional purposes, as well as an additional purpose stemming from legislation that created a unit of the National Park Service. Recognizing the high migratory bird benefits served by the lands and waters of the refuge, the Service administratively designated Merritt Island Refuge in 1963 under the provisions of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act, outlining a primary purpose of these lands and waters:

"... for use as an inviolate sanctuary, or for any other management purpose, for migratory birds."

16 USC §715d (Migratory Bird Conservation Act)

Further reading of the Migratory Bird Conservation Act also recognizes benefits to other species, including those designated threatened or endangered:

“... to conserve and protect migratory birds ... and other species of wildlife that are listed ... as endangered species or threatened species and to restore or develop adequate wildlife habitat.”

16 USC §715i (Migratory Bird Conservation Act)

The refuge’s primary purpose applies to all lands and waters managed by the refuge, regardless of when they were added to the refuge (see Figure 1). Since the refuge has management agreements with NASA and the State of Florida, the lands and waters under those management agreements are also subject to the conditions of those agreements.

In 1995, under the authority of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, the refuge and its partners began purchasing additional lands and waters in the northwest corner of the refuge, the Turnbull Creek area:

“(1) to protect, enhance, restore, and manage an appropriate distribution and diversity of wetland ecosystems and other habitats for migratory birds and other fish and wildlife in North America; (2) to maintain current or improved distributions of migratory bird populations; and(3) to sustain an abundance of waterfowl and other migratory birds consistent with the goals of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and the international obligations contained in the migratory bird treaties and conventions and other agreements with Canada, Mexico, and other countries.”

16 USC §4401(2)(b)
(North American Wetlands Conservation Act)

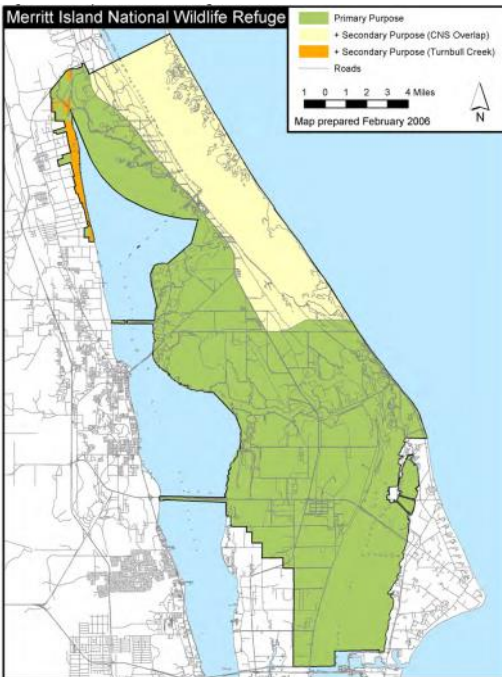


Figure 1

This secondary purpose applies only to those lands and waters of the Turnbull Creek area of the refuge (Figure 1), whether owned by the Service or managed under some sort of agreement as part of the refuge. However, the primary purpose also applies to the lands and waters of the Turnbull Creek area. Again, since the refuge has management agreements with the State of Florida for lands and waters in the Turnbull Creek area, those lands and waters are also subject to the conditions of those agreements.

Congruent to the discussion of the traditional purposes of the refuge is the congressional enabling legislation in 1975 that established Canaveral National Seashore as a unit of the National Park Service. Congress established a national seashore partially on new lands and waters and partially as an overlay of NASA's Kennedy Space Center on lands and waters that were already being managed as part of Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. In the legislation, Congress outlined that the majority of the overlay portion of the Seashore would be managed as a refuge.

The overlay area encompasses approximately 34,345 acres and includes southern Mosquito Lagoon. The figure on the cover shows the complex land ownership and management picture for this area. The Seashore was established "... to preserve and protect the outstanding natural, scenic, scientific, ecologic, and historic values ... and to provide for public outdoor recreation use and enjoyment of the same ... the Secretary shall retain such lands in their natural and primitive condition, shall prohibit vehicular traffic on the beach except for administrative purposes, and shall develop only those facilities which he deems essential for public health and safety" [16 USC 459(j)]. This language applies much as a wilderness designation might apply, making this a secondary purpose for the 34,345 acres in the overlap area.

SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS OF THE REFUGE

The refuge holds several special designations. The State of Florida has designated numerous national parks, a national memorial, national wildlife refuges, state parks and recreation areas, state preserves and reserves, and other waters as Outstanding Florida Waters for their exceptional ecological values and water quality. The Merritt Island Refuge was designated an Outstanding Florida Water in 1979. In 1997, the refuge was designated under the Magnuson-Stevens Act as Essential Fish Habitat to conserve and enhance the habitats necessary for fish to carry out their life cycles. In 1994, Brevard County designated the refuge an Honorary Historic Landmark. Managed by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Great Florida Birding Trail is a collection of sites throughout Florida that serve as excellent bird watching sites and/or bird education opportunities. Due to the refuge's importance to resident and migratory birds, the refuge was designated in 2000 as one of three gateways to the eastern section of the Great Florida Birding Trail, which generally extends from the Florida-Georgia border in Nassau County to south of Fort

Pierce and from the Atlantic Ocean to west of Ocala. Also in 2000, the refuge was listed as a candidate Marine Protected Area for its protection of estuarine waters. Since the Marine Protected Area system is currently being designed, this designation holds the potential to benefit and/or constrain refuge management activities. Further, the State of Florida has also expressed concern regarding the impacts to management of such a designation. The Service is working with the Department of the Interior, the President’s Marine Protected Area advisory council, the state, and other agencies regarding the designation of marine protected areas. In 2001, the American Bird Conservancy recognized 500 sites worldwide as Globally Important Bird Areas, including 183 national wildlife refuges, such as Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge. *LRJ*


***HISTORIC BREVARD
LANDMARK GUIDE***

The Landmark Guide provides the location and a brief description of some of the historical landmarks in Brevard County. We have included the GPS coordinates for those that have historical markers. We don’t have all of the historic locations in there yet, but we’re working towards that end. In the meantime enjoy the 80 plus that we have documented. Get your copy free of charge through the Brevard County Historical Commission by writing or calling us.


Brevard County Historical Commission
Central Brevard Library and Reference Center
308 Forrest Ave.
Cocoa, FL 32922
Telephone: 321-633-1794

**HISTORIC BREVARD
LANDMARK GUIDE**


YOUR GUIDE TO
HISTORIC LANDMARKS
IN
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA



Pritchard House
Built 1891
Page 18





Rockledge
Municipal Building
Built 1926
Page 41



Community Chapel
of Melbourne Beach
Built 1892
Page 63

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NEIL ARMSTRONG A MAN NEVER AS GREAT AS HE WAS GOOD

BY JEFF BOSTON

Centuries from now, what will be known of man's history? Our nation's descendants will still know of the Declaration of Independence from the 18th century and the Civil War from the 19th century. However, it is a miraculous mission accomplished in the 20th century that the whole world will still know and care about for all its wonder: man on the moon.

People (and robots?) on Earth (and elsewhere?) will know that man's foremost odyssey ascended from our "Space Coast" and days later reached its apex with an awe-inspiring moment, accompanied by an ad-libbed announcement for the ages: "That's one small step for (a) man, one giant leap for mankind." It was a conception articulated by the American astronaut who took that step and helped make the impossible possible, a man never as great as he was good – Neil Armstrong.

Since age 2, Armstrong had a love for flying. In 1942, he began working toward his goal of procuring a pilot's license, which he accomplished a few years later – before earning his driver's license. At age 20, he was a full-fledged Naval Aviator and soon helped counter communist aggression in the Korean War, where he flew dozens of combat missions, most in 1952. In 1962, Armstrong moved from air to space with his acceptance into the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's 2nd astronaut class. By 1972 he had worldwide fame, but remained an unassuming patriot until dying in 2012 at age 82.

After serving his country in war, the space race, and the lunar landing (definitively ending the space race with the Soviet empire in the midst of the Cold War), iconic Armstrong joined Bob Hope's 1969 tour for those serving in Vietnam (and for two weeks in 2010 he visited troops overseas, including in Afghanistan). The self-described nerd was and is held in high regard on Main Street, and for years was in high demand on Madison Avenue, where he confined his considerable clout and real appeal to the exclusive benefit of American companies. Soon, the agreeable and conscientious engineer retreated from his fame and would-be fortune. The reason for doing so is that Neil Alden Armstrong did not like being a novelty and wanted to hold onto something he relished that too many have relinquished (through both the individual's furtive exercising of free will and the government's further excising of freedom): privacy. He valued the liberty of being let alone.

Though he shunned the spotlight the last four decades of his life, Armstrong remained interested and involved in what built Brevard County – America's space program. The dismantled NASA has its place in history engraved, but appears placed for the figurative grave. In 2010, in a high profile letter, earnest Armstrong argued against White House willingness to abandon America's

leadership mantle after decades of daring on the final frontier. Armstrong died dreaming that NASA would again tap man's power and soar, even though it was tempered by a sap in manpower, gutting the agency's core.

Fellow legend John Glenn described the living Armstrong as "exceptionally brilliant" and "the one person on Earth, I'm truly, truly envious of." The hero is gone, but his legacy shines like the sun, and forever he shall be known as The Man on the Moon. For all his greatness, he remained a man of humility and integrity, increasingly rare character traits that have always made him so endearing, and now, so extraordinary. Neil Armstrong – a man never as great as he was good. *IRJ*

ABOUT THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Brevard County Historical Commission was established in 1963 by ordinance of Brevard County to "*collect, arrange, record, and preserve historical materials*" and to perform other functions such as obtaining narratives of the early pioneers, marking historical locations throughout the county, and recording historical information.

The Historical Commission is made up of fifteen members appointed by the County Commissioners. Each of the five County Commissioners appoints three members to sit on the Historical Commission.

We store our collections at our Historical Records Archive located at Central Brevard Library and Reference Center, 308 Forrest Ave., Cocoa, Florida 32922. The collections are normally available to the public during regular business hours. Please call in advance at 321-633-1794, to schedule an appointment to view our collections. We are attempting to put our collections online, however, to date we haven't reached that goal.

The Historical Commission holds regular monthly meetings at the Archive. The public is always encouraged to attend. Please call the Historical Commission's office at for a schedule of our meetings.

We have undertaken a number of projects, including:

- Publication of an official Brevard County History
- 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 The Indian River Journal

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

LIST OF HISTORICAL COMMISSIONERS

The list includes all of the Commissioners who have served through the years.

David Anderson	Fred Hopwood	Orlando Ramirez
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Kim Carmen	Bud Knoderer	George Smith
Cheryl Carson	Betty LaRoche	Bob Stevens
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Doug Hendriksen*	Charlie Powell	
Lynn Hollenbeck	Karen Raley	

*We have Landmark Guides to Historic Brevard County available
Contact the Commission office for your copy.*

MUSEUMS

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>

BCC Planetarium & Observatory

Brevard Community College, 1519 Clearlake Rd., Cocoa, FL
<http://www.brevard.cc.fl.us/planet/index.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 of Art and Science

1463 Highland Ave., Melbourne, FL 32936 <http://www.brevardartmuseum.org/>

Brevard Museum of History and Natural Science

2201 Michigan Ave., Cocoa, FL 32926 <http://www.brevardmuseum.org/>

Cocoa Beach Surf Museum @ Ron Jon Surf Shop

4275 N. Atlantic Ave., Cocoa Beach, FL 32031
<http://www.cocoa beachesurfmuseum.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.brevardparks.com/hthvm/index.php>

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://www.myfloridahistory.org/>

Old Town Hall History Center

Ann Downing, Public Relations, 2373 Oak St., Melbourne Beach, FL 32951

The North Brevard Historical Museum

301 S. Washington Ave., Titusville, FL 32782 <http://www.nbbd.com/godo/history/>

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 Museum

4 Main St., Titusville, FL 32796-3567 <http://www.spacewalkoffame.com/>

Valiant Air Command Warbird Museum

6600 Tico Road, Titusville, FL 32780 — <http://www.vacwarbirds.org/>

Veterans Memorial Museum

400 South Sykes Creek Parkway, Merritt Island, FL 32952
<http://www.veteransmemorialcenter.org/>

HISTORICAL ORGANIZATIONS

Brevard County Historical Commission

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

Brevard Cultural Alliance

2725 Fran Jamieson Way, Building B, Room 104, Viera, FL 32940

<http://www.artsbrevard.org/home.php>

Brevard Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 1123, Cocoa, FL 32923-1123 <http://www.flbgs.org/>

Brevard Heritage Council

P.O. Box 31, Cocoa, FL 32923 <http://brevardheritagecouncil.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, mmayorjoe@aol.com

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

Mrs. Bill H. Keller, 336 Rio Villa Blvd., Indialantic, FL 32903 321-773-6271

Florida Historical Society

435 Brevard Ave., Cocoa, FL 32922 <http://www.myfloridahistory.org/>

Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN)

Florida Historical Society, 435 Brevard Ave, Cocoa, FL 32922

321-690-1971—<http://www.fpaneastcentral.org/>

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

Dave McDonald, President P. O. Box 542022, Merritt Island, FL 32954-2022

<http://www.nbbd.com/npr/archaeology-iras/>

The Mosquito Beaters

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

<http://www.mosquitobeaters.org/>

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/>

HISTORICAL ORGANIZATIONS (CONTINUED)

Preservation & Education Trust, Inc.

1219 Rockledge Drive, Rockledge, FL 32955 <http://www.petrust.org>

Rockledge Heritage Foundation

11 Orange Avenue, Rockledge, FL 32955—321 632-2712
http://rockledgeheritage.org/_wsn/page4.html

Sons of the American Revolution

Ben DuBose, 950 Falls Trail, Malabar, FL 32950. 321-952-2928

South Brevard Historical Society

Carol Andren, Pres. 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

ONLINE SERVICES

Brevard County Historical Commission

<http://www.brevardcounty.us/HistoricalCommission/Home>

Brevard County Historical Maps

<http://fcit.usf.edu/florida/maps/county/brevard/brevard.htm>

Florida Historical Museums

http://www.floridasmart.com/attractions/museums_hist.htm

The Florida Historical Society

<http://www.myfloridahistory.org/>

The Florida Memory Project

An interactive Web site of Florida history, photos and letters
<http://floridamemory.com/>

Public Records Management

Services to state and local governments
http://dlis.dos.state.fl.us/index_RecordsManagers.cfm

Services to Genealogists

Researching your family history at the State Archives of Florida
<http://dlis.dos.state.fl.us/barm/fsa.html>

The State Library of Florida

Collecting, preserving and making available the published history of Florida
<http://dlis.dos.state.fl.us/stlib/>

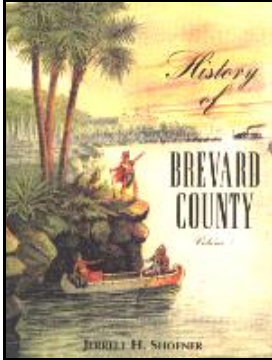
The State Archives of Florida

Preserving the past and present for future generations
<http://dlis.dos.state.fl.us/barm/fsa.html>

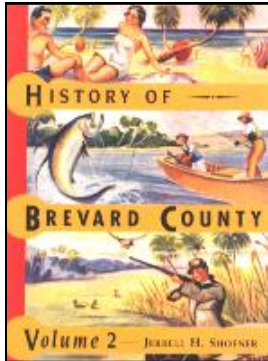
Try as we might to keep the previous lists accurate with up-to-date information, it seems that changes occur that we don't know about until after publication. If you know of a needed change, see an error or have an addition to what we've presented, please let us know. Call us at (321) 633-1794.

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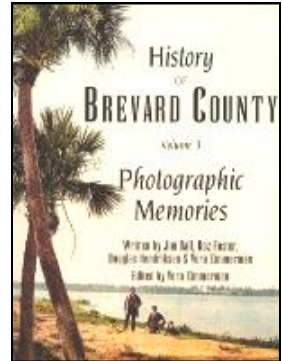
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