

**THE RIVER
INDIAN JOURNAL**



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

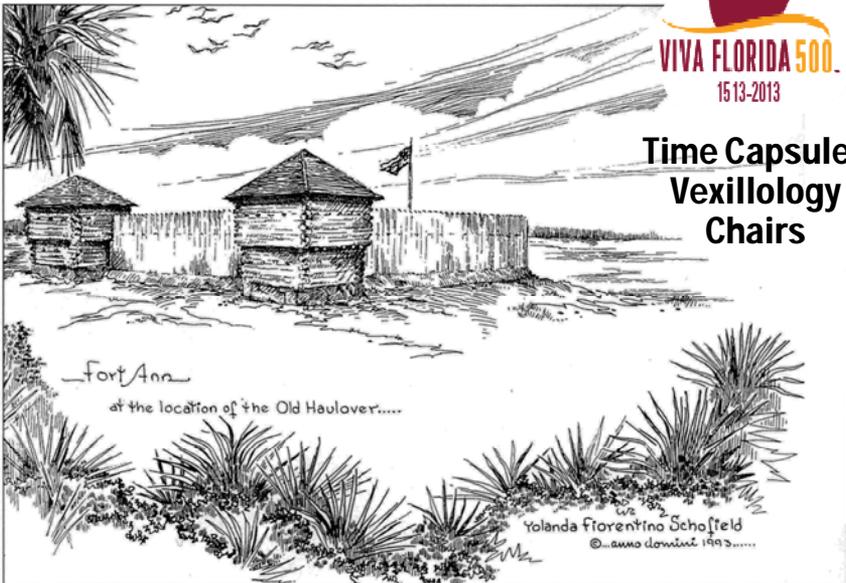
Volume XII, Number 1

Spring / Summer 2013

**First in a New Series
Lost Communities**



**Time Capsules
Vexillology
Chairs**



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

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WHAT'S INSIDE:

- 2 The thrill of the hunt:
Flags of Florida's "Space Coast"
Hank Gardner



- 9 Discovering the History of the
Bishop & Priest Chairs of
St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church, Titusville
Polly Schuster



- 13 Marking Time with Time Capsules
Ray Osborne

- 20 Explore Your History:
Lost Communities of North Merritt Island
Roz Foster



DEPARTMENTS:

Events	12
Coming Next Issue.....	27
About the Historical Commission.....	28
Museums in Brevard County	30
Historical Organizations	31
Online Services	32

THE THRILL OF THE HUNT: FLAGS OF FLORIDA'S "SPACE COAST"

HANK GARDNER

I have previously “dabbled” at writing about flags and flag-related items in my collection. In the last few weeks I have attempted a new path of discovery: exploring vexillology in my new home county of Brevard in Florida. That is, what flags fly over the county, its cities and towns? The journey has taken me from the year 1513 (when Spanish explorers planted the first European flag on the shores of the County’s beaches) to the moon. It was from the Kennedy Space Center (from which the area takes its name) that astronauts traveled to the moon and planted the U.S. flag on its surface. The county seal/flag depicts both scenes (see illustration above-right). The county flag is seen in the picture below, from the West Melbourne newsletter, *The Sun Newsletter*.



50th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE
KICKS OFF EVENTS



Along the way I have opened some doors, met some very helpful people in several municipal city halls, and made several serendipitous discoveries that have contributed to my knowledge of vexillology on the space coast.

I was well underway when I discovered a “treasure map” in the form of an article in the *Florida Today* (Gannett) newspaper, dated July 4, 2007. In it the reporter, Linda Jump, discusses the flag-adoption process of the city of Palm Bay; some of the info below is from

that article. The article in its entirety is available at the *Florida Today* website’s archives, for a reasonable price.

On the next page is a brief introduction to, and location of, the territory in question: my hunting grounds as described on the Wikipedia website.

Wikipedia has info on most of the cities, so I refer readers to that site as an addendum to this article. Most of the “space coast” is situated in Brevard County, originally named St. Lucie County, established on March 14, 1844 from a segment of Mosquito County.

I visited several city halls in person and contacted others by phone/email. The official websites of each city and the county also proved helpful. I “serendipitously” discovered a copy of the *Indian River Journal* (Fall/ Winter 2011 edition, which contains an article on flags) lying on the counter at one city hall: what a stroke of luck, the timing was perfect! Several of the cities have flags; several others have only a seal or logo. On many, the seal is the central element of the flag.

Space Coast

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Space Coast** is a region in the U.S. state of Florida around Kennedy Space Center (KSC), where NASA launched Space Shuttles until the last one on July 8, 2011 at 11:29 a.m.; and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, site of unmanned civilian and military space launches. Cities in the area include Titusville, Cocoa, Rockledge, Cape Canaveral, Merritt Island (unincorporated), Cocoa Beach, Melbourne and Palm Bay. Most of the area lies within Brevard County. It is bounded on the south by the Treasure Coast. It is bounded on the west and north by Central Florida and is economically tied to that region. It is bounded on the east by the Atlantic Ocean.



West Melbourne seals and flags

At right is pictured the old seal in black and white as depicted on old city news letterhead. Below that is the old flag (old seal on horizontal bi-color, white over green) flying below U.S. flag, and at the bottom is a colored letterhead and seal on the wall behind new council members.



In conjunction with the city’s 30th anniversary as an incorporated municipality, September 9, 1989, a logo and motto contest was held. On December 6, 1988 the council postponed the decision on a winner, according to the *City of West Melbourne Newsletter*, Vol. 1, No. 1, December 1988. The old slogan, as depicted in the letterhead to the right, was “Creating New Horizons”; on the old flag this was inscribed below a “mundane” picture of city hall, and the date of incorporation, 1959, appeared below the motto. In *The Sun Newsletter*, the publication of the city, for January 1990, the city manager writes about the change in the city logo and motto.



Again for the 50th anniversary celebration a newly redesigned seal and flag were introduced. According to an article in *Florida Today*, January 4, 2009, the flag that was legally hoisted for the first time the previous Saturday, was described as “silhouetted by a brilliant orange sun, a sandhill crane peers toward a new subdivision flanked by palm trees and live oaks.” The city was founded September 11, 1959 to thwart neighboring cities’ annexation attempts. A five-member



panel studied 15 designs submitted by the public in a contest. The contest drawing was “tweaked”, and a professional graphic artist created the final design. Promised prize money was not paid out to the winner of the design contest or the motto contest. The motto “Creating New Horizons” was not changed. The new flag is depicted to the right. I owe thanks to Diane Cutshaw for finding an unused, newly adopted West Melbourne flag for me to photograph.



As an addendum to this discussion of flags of West Melbourne, it is worthwhile to note that the City Council on February 5, 1991 approved the display of U.S. flags along U.S. 192—a main thoroughfare through the city—on national holidays. Most of the funds came from private donations and the city police agreed to place and remove the flags.

City of Palm Bay

One flag was found for the city of Palm Bay. Shown below, it was designed by Dr. Elaine I. Huggins and ordered in 1977; it was not officially adopted until December 3, 1981. It and other city emblems were found on the city’s official website under the heading “City Council / City Clerk.” Several mottos have been used: at the time of its incorporation “The city that cares”; in 1993 it was changed to “Progress through partnership”; in August 2003 it became “a perfect place to grow”. The city logo, adopted August 21, 2003, is a silhouette of three palm trees in the sand bordered by the sun and city bay, in teal blue and gold against a white background.



In 2007-2008 the subject of a new flag was raised at a City Council meeting. An inquiry into past minutes of city council meetings revealed the following progression toward a new flag. Dates, discussion and action taken are chronicled below. A follow-up call to the City Manager’s legislative office revealed that no action was taken on adopting a new flag after the possible designs were narrowed down to just two.

May 24, 2007 Mayor “asked if Council would be interested in redesigning the City flag. Residents expressed interest in assisting with the design of same. Council concurred. Mrs. Brooks felt a citizen committee should be created.”

Palm Bay, Florida

Coordinates: 27°59'52.52"N 80°40'12.03"W

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Palm Bay is a city in Brevard County, Florida, United States. The city's population was 103,190 at the 2010 census, making it the most populous city in the county. Palm Bay is a principal city of the Palm Bay–Melbourne–Titusville Metropolitan Statistical Area, which had a population of 543,376 at the 2010 census.



Motto: A perfect place to grow

June 7, 2007 Under *Discussion on redesigning the city flag* appears the following staff recommendation: “City Council provide direction to the administrative staff with regard to the City flag design.”

March 4, 2008 Under the heading *Flag Committee*, Butch Orend and Timmy Vee, members of the Flag Committee, presented two proposed designs for the City flag to Council. Council members expressed their opinions regarding the designs. The City logo was already being displayed throughout the City. It was felt the flag should have some historical representation of the City therein.

Council concurred to have the Flag Committee consider enhancements to both of the designs and resubmit them to the City Council in thirty (30) days, if possible, or within the time frame it took to do so.

The process above received press coverage on January 25, 2008 in *Florida Today*, once again by reporter Linda Jump. About two dozen designs were considered by the committee, which narrowed the list down to two finalists, one representing the city’s history and the other the city’s logo, each favored by different members of the committee.

City of Melbourne

Thanks go also to Sally Goltzman of Melbourne who performed a search of all city ordinances/codes/resolutions/ on the term “flag” and found nothing. Sally even had co-worker Ingrid Gaskin open the door to city council chambers so I could take a picture of the Melbourne city flag, a single sided design on a background similar to the French



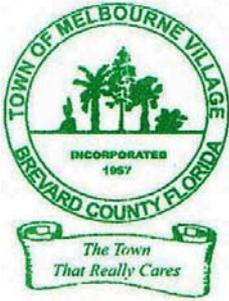
tricolor (reversed) and made of a taffeta-like material, embroidered seal. Most of the flags/seals portray some aspect of the area, its climate, flora/fauna nearness to rivers/ocean, history of space travel, etc.

Indian Harbour Beach

A visit to the City Manager of Indian Harbour Beach was a delight and yielded the picture below. About seven years ago commercial development led to the decision to create a flag for the city. This occurred about the same time that the city was celebrating its 50th anniversary. The design was determined by council and city manager, who quickly determined that the flag would be dark blue and gold, feature the city seal, with wording under the seal that would reflect the very nature of the city “where quality of life is paramount”. The flag is shown below left. (Exposure may distort the colors).



Melbourne Village



The next flag represents the tiny town of Melbourne Village. It was founded following WWII by three women from Dayton, Ohio, beginning with the American Homesteading Foundation, an idealistic, back-to-the-land movement. According to Wikipedia the town has a total land area of 0.6 square miles and a population just over 700. By population, it is the county’s smallest city, though this “honor” changes frequently. An email from Elaine Baker informed me of the flag’s presence in the town’s city

hall and the subject of the flag was raised at the town’s Historic Preservation Committee as a result of my inquiry. The seal is at the right. Compare the slogan “the town that really cares” to that of Palm Bay from its incorporation until 1993 “the city that cares”.



Palm Shores



Palm Shores is another small community. A few emails, and a visit to the town’s administrative building yielded the picture below. A few years ago the town placed banners along Highway US 1. The flag, below left, is based on those banners. Recent storms destroyed many of the banners. They will be replaced by seasonal banners; no decision yet has been made on future replacement of banners with the seal.

Satellite Beach

The city of Satellite Beach has a flag dating to a 1991 design contest for schoolchildren.



Cocoa Beach and Cape Canaveral

The cities of Cocoa Beach and Cape Canaveral do not have flags, just seals (the Cocoa Beach seal was seen earlier on the side of the Municipal building). The City of Cocoa Beach official government website provides access to the city charter/ordinances/codes and resolutions. I found several resolutions thanking people for the donation of flags (U.S. and POW/MIA). I found only one item relating to a municipal flag: that one dated February 5, 1976 in the City Commission (Council) minutes. Member Bob Fritz “questioned if a Municipal Flag had ever been considered and suggested some type of contest for a civic project”.



My search of subsequent minutes and contacts with city officials has led to no further mention of the subject. A seal, pictured at the end of this article, appears on the wall of the city municipal building.

City of Titusville

Brenda Evans, Records Manager for the City of Titusville was most helpful in providing the following information along with a picture of the city's flag. I quote directly from an email to her from Jim Thomas, who was asked for this information on my behalf. (Typing errors have been corrected.)

Seal of the City of Titusville, Florida, description: starting at the top of the seal and reading around is the legal description separated by triangles, which symbolize the old area of the three cities: Titusville, Whispering Hill, and Indian River City. In the center of the drawing at the top is an orange representing our citrus industry and symbolizing the sun. At the left is a representation of the contemporary area in a causeway heading toward the Cape. Titusville being the closest to the North Gate and the NASA Causeway, and in a missile aiming toward the sky, which will always be a part of our history and growth. At the right is representation of the historical area in a fish, which is one {of} our oldest industries and one of our greatest sports, and in an arrow aiming toward the sky, which acknowledges our oldest inhabitants: the Ais Indians. In the center foreground is Sand Point surrounded by the famous Indian River

and out of which grows three palms from a common trunk, for the old three cities that have now become one. The date of founding is embedded in Sand Point.



The seal on a white background forms the flag. Slight modifications have been made to the seal over the years. The flag was presented at a city council meeting on September 22, 1987 by Ron Heimann, President of the Titusville Rotary Club along with Darrell Hardister and Ken Pinson. They hoped the flag would be displayed at City Hall. See illustration (note flag is shown reverse side of two-sided design.)

NASA

Various flags of NASA and the space program are seen at right below.

Conclusion

An historic marker at Ponce de Leon Park shows how this story began, oddly an appropriate place to end. Man on the moon with flag is a continuation, not the end of the journey.

I hope the pictures will at least stimulate interest and perhaps further investigation. As with most trips the journey was the real pleasure, not just the destination! Perhaps others will make similar journeys (either physically or via electronic means) to discover the vexillological treasures around them. *IRJ*



Want to know more about Brevard County History?

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Go to the inside back cover for details

DISCOVERING THE HISTORY OF THE BISHOP & PRIEST CHAIRS OF ST. GABRIEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH TITUSVILLE, FLORIDA

POLLY SCHUSTER

May 2013 marks 125th anniversary of the completion of the construction of St. Gabriel's and of the first service held in the church. Over this span of 125 years the church has been blessed with many memorial gifts. Some gifts are highly visible and leave no doubt as to the donor or the person in whose honor the memorial is given. The Mills Burnham window for example, clearly identifies Mills Burnham as the keeper of Canaveral Light House for 36 years, provides his date of death and age, and that the window was given in his memory by his children and grandchildren. Other memorials such as the Bishop and Priest chairs, are not quite as obvious, and have an aura of mystery about them. At first glance, one might not notice the Bishop's Chair in the sanctuary of St. Gabriel's. This beautifully handcrafted chair is reserved for use by a Bishop,



and is carefully set to the side except during visitation, at which time it is placed in front of the altar. Unlike the ornately carved Bishop's chair, the priest's chair is plain and rests directly behind the altar where it is used at all

services. An article in the March 23, 1973 issue of the *Star Advocate* credits the Bishop's chair as being in memory of Bishop Huntington. However, the Diocesan historiographer for the Episcopal Church Diocese of Central Florida disputed that statement, as there was not a Bishop Huntington who fit in the date range on the chair, either with birth and death, or time as a Bishop. And so the quest began to find the true history of the Bishop's chair.

On March 2, 1900, *The Florida Star* published an interview with Mr. William Hindle, in which he told the *Star* about a bishop's chair he was making for a local congregation. The *Star* reports:

“It is a memorial chair from a family in New York, and has engraved on it the dates 1853-1893. The word ‘Huntington’ and a large star are also engraved on it, making it a very handsome chair. A priest's chair is also under construction. It is as yet a secret to which congregation they will go, and a great deal of interest is manifested in them, but they are to arrive at their destination by March 10th, and the secret will be revealed.”

One look at St. Gabriel's bishop's chair leaves no doubt that this is the chair made by Mr. Hindle, for on the back of the chair is engraved, “Huntington” and the dates “1853-1893”. This is supported by an article in the Friday, March 16, 1900 edition of the *Indian River Advocate and East Coast Chronicle* reporting that Mr. William Hindle of Cocoa, shipped a bishop's chair and a priest's chair to St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church on Tuesday (March 13). Mr. Hindle missed his deadline of March 10, but did deliver in time for The Right Rev. William Crane Gray, bishop of the Southern Jurisdiction of Florida, to occupy the bishop's chair that same Tuesday evening, as he administered the rite of Confirmation upon Miss Emma Wright.¹ Validation can be made that the chair is the original chair by viewing the chair maker's mark and date on the underside of the bishop's chair; W. Hindle, Builder, Cocoa, FL, March 1900. The priest's chair is clearly a match to the bishop's chair.

The builder of the chairs, Englishman William Hindle, immigrated to the United States in 1884 and made his way to Florida, at least by 1886, when St. Mark's Episcopal Church was built in Cocoa.² Historical accounts of the building of St. Mark's credit Hindle and William Booth with designing and installing the church's woodwork, naming both as early settlers in Cocoa.³ On December 9, 1891, William Hindle wed Minnie Joyner at St. Gabriel's. When the wedding was reported in the December 11, 1891 edition of the *Indian River Journal*, the groom was described as “a gentleman well known and highly respected on the Indian River”. An undertaker by trade, Mr. Hindle founded Wylie-Baxley Funeral Homes in 1894.^{4,5}

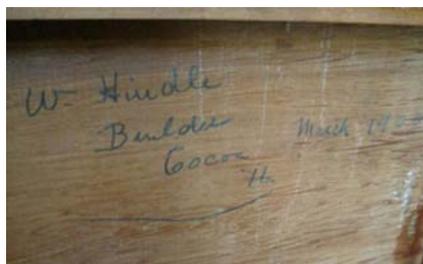
Research shows the donor of both chairs was the Reverend J.T. Huntington of Hartford, Connecticut, who gave them to St. Gabriel's in honor of his deceased son, John W. Huntington.⁶ John was born in New Haven, Connecticut, but due to a chronic disease had been primarily residing in Aurantia, Florida for the 8 years prior to his demise. While known to be in ill health, Mr. Huntington's

death came as a shock to his friends. John Huntington was not a bishop; he was a regular attendee of St. Gabriel's. It is understandable though, that since the chair is a Bishop's chair, and there was no documentation on file, some may have assumed he was a bishop. On the Sunday before Mr. Huntington's passing, he was present for services and "sang in the choir with unusual power". The next morning, he was seen in Titusville looking better than he had in years and went hunting the day before his death. John Huntington had deep religious feeling and it was noted in his obituary that he was "one whose true merit, gentlemanly bearing and kindly spirit won for him the respect of everybody with whom he came in close contact."⁷ It was also reported he left behind "a host of friends who held him in the highest esteem".⁸

John Huntington's father was a very highly respected Episcopal priest of Hartford, Connecticut where he was professor of Greek at Trinity College.⁹ The Rev. J. T. Huntington also holds a place in St. Gabriel's history as one of the first priests at the mission. In January 1889, *The Florida Star* announced that Rev. Huntington would be visiting for a few months and during his stay, would take charge of St. Gabriel's (Jan 13-April 13). The newspaper praised him for his excellent sermons and congratulated the church on securing his services during that time. The Rev. Huntington was a frequent guest in the area and after death of John, Rev Huntington and his son Harry (Harwood) continued to spend time here at their winter home at Lyratta. Harry went on to be a priest and held services at St Gabriel's that were very well attended. *RRJ*



Carving on back of Bishop's chair



Builder's mark on the underside of seat

¹ *Florida Star*, Friday, March 2, 1900.

² 1900 United States Federal Census; Census Place: *Rockledge, Brevard, Florida*; Roll: 166; Page: 1B; enumeration District: 24; FHL microfilm 1240166

³ Florida Historical Marker: St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Cocoa, FL

⁴ 1900 Census.

⁵ Wylie-Baxley Merritt Island Funeral Home, *History of Wylie-Baxley Merritt Island Funeral Home*,

http://www.wyliebaxleymerrittisland.com/dm20/en_US/locations/70/7095/history.page

⁶ *Indian River Advocate and East Coast Chronicle*, Friday, March 16, 1900.

⁷ John W. Huntington Obituary, *East Coast Advocate*, November 24, 1893.

⁸ *East Coast Advocate*, December 1, 1893.

⁹ *Advocate*, November 24, 1893

Polly is a Titusville resident and a descendant of the Pritchard Family.

EVENTS

- March 23, 2013—City of Cape Canaveral Heritage Day. The public is invited. <http://www.cityofcapecanaveral.org>
- May 3-5, 2013—St. Gabriel's 125th Anniversary Celebration. The public is invited. <http://www.stgabs.org>
- May 23-26, 2013—The Florida Historical Society Annual Meeting and Symposium. Visit <http://www.myfloridahistory.org/cruise> for details.
- There are several organizations in the state that are planning for the quincentenary of Juan Ponce de León's landing in Florida. These will happen in 2013. Find information at the following sites:
<http://utbunitedthirdbridge.com/pdleon-schedule.php>
<http://www.vivaflorida.org>



MARKING TIME WITH TIME CAPSULES

RAY OSBORNE

Time capsules have always been a popular project when celebrating the anniversary of a nation, state or a city. With the 500th anniversary of the European discovery of the State of Florida there are a number of new time capsules planned across the state this year. Viva Florida 500 a governmental initiative for the state's celebration has a program whereby time capsules have been distributed to all the major county library systems across the state including one for the Brevard County Central Library in Cocoa. The City of Cape Canaveral is also sealing a commemorative 50th anniversary time capsule on May 16, 2013 for people of the future to open on the city's 100th anniversary in 2063.



Back in 1976 during America's Bicentennial numerous time capsules were sealed around the nation including one at the Florida Application Center at Patrick Air Force Base. (See page 18.) The time capsule, a water-tight and sealed container, can be scheduled to be opened in any number of years, some ranging as short as 10 years, while some, such as the "Crypt of Civilization" at Oglethorpe University in Atlanta, Georgia, which is scheduled to be opened in 6 thousand years.

Time capsules come in all shapes and sizes. The most unique from our area is the time capsule for Titusville's 100th anniversary. Sealed during the celebration in 1967 this capsule was cleverly designed by an engineer to look like a Gemini space capsule.

A primary purpose of these capsules is to store items for the people of the future, telling them about the people of the time period when the capsule was first sealed. Care is taken that the contents are not only meaningful but will stand the test of time. It is fascinating to learn what items are discovered in recently opened capsules. Letters from well-known people usually are a popular content item. A 5000 year capsule in Flushing, New York by Westinghouse has letters from Albert Einstein. The City of Cape Canaveral time capsule has letters from Astronaut John Glenn (see page 19), President Jimmy Carter, TV legend Barbara Eden (see page 16) and Clara Ma, a young 18 year old whose essay named the Mars rover- Curiosity.

Historical related items such as books on local history make excellent content items and even this particular *Indian River Journal* with this article is planned to be placed in the City of Cape Canaveral time capsule. Other items can include photos, digital media, clothing items, medals, newspaper articles, etc.

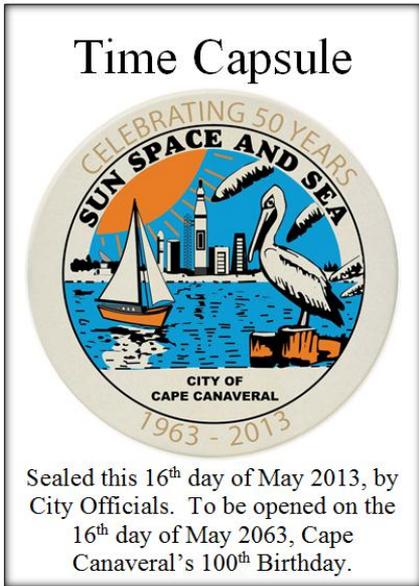
Readers are encouraged to save a copy of this *Indian River Journal* and place it in a historic archive or even a time capsule so that it too may be found by people of the future and thereby passing forward the information of Brevard's time capsules.

The Time Capsules of Brevard County Florida – Sorted in date to be opened order.

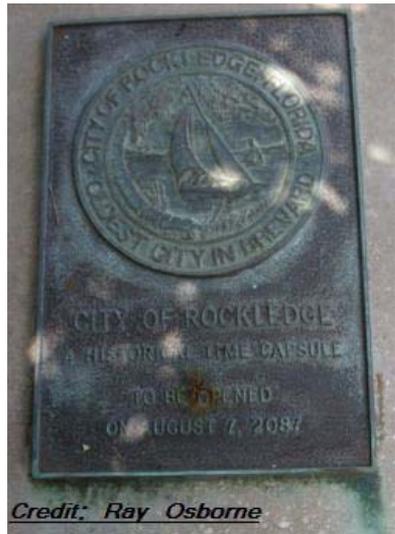
- 2015-February, Doubletree Hotel in Cocoa Beach sealed in 2001. Contents unknown.
- 2017-May, Titusville's 100th anniversary sealed in May 1967. Designed as a Gemini space capsule, opening date is unknown but many historians intend it for the city's the 150th anniversary in 2017.
- 2037-September, Port Canaveral, Terminal 6, contents include historic books and a time line of time-capsules. Sealed September 2012.
- 2048-September, Cocoa Beach Library, Cocoa Beach sealed Sept. 27, 1998. Contents include digital media.
- 2045-August, City of Cocoa 150th birthday. Sealed August 2009 with the completion of new city hall. Underneath a clock tower. Items include pictures and letters of city officials.
- 2061, Kennedy Space Center Visitors Center “We Made History” time capsule containing shuttle memorabilia.
- 2063-May 16th, City of Cape Canaveral's 50th Anniversary. Letter from John Glenn, Jimmy Carter, Barbara Eden, Clara Ma and items from city's anniversary. (see photos)
- 2064, Mercury monument tablet sealed in 1964. Contains artifacts related to Project Mercury, including photos, film footage, capsule blue-prints, John Glenn's Marine Corps pilot's wings.

- 2075-July, USAF Technical Applications Center, Cocoa Beach Tri-centennial. Sealed in 1976 for American Bicentennial. Quote on plaque states: "Contents preserved for the use by patriotic citizens."
- 2075-July 4, Third Century America Exposition time capsule, buried at the KSC Visitors Center.
- 2087-August 7, City of Rockledge. Date sealed and contents unknown.
- 2092, Liberty Bell Museum, Melbourne 600th Anniversary of Christopher Columbus, contents unknown.

Written and compiled by Ray Osborne. Author and historian for the City of Cape Canaveral. *IRJ*



Label for Cape Canaveral Time Capsule



City of Rockledge

FROM THE DESK OF

Barbara Eden

Hello there!

It is 2063 as you read this, however as you know, it is 2013 as I write this.

So many things could be said here. So many messages and thoughts rush through my heart and mind as I sit here, contemplating. So much will have changed by the time this capsule has been opened. As you have seen, there are letters from astronauts, former presidents and other people who have a significant link with NASA and our Space Program. You may be asking: Why is a letter from Barbara Eden here? Then again, you may already know why.

As you read this, it will have been almost one hundred years since my link with NASA began. Let me tell you a tale of magic and fantasy that is completely true.

On a freezing cold morning on a California beach in 1964 I filmed a pilot of a new television show called 'I Dream of Jeannie.' I was the genie and my wonderful costar Larry Hagman starred as the perpetually befuddled and usually antagonized NASA astronaut, Anthony Nelson. I had no idea that morning, in the frigid, salty sea air that I would soon find myself in the company of men who walked on the moon. For five full and wonderful years I had the joy and exhilarating pleasure of not only watching our brave astronauts let slip the surly bonds of Earth and take that giant leap for mankind. I also had the thrill of being a part of the excitement of NASA itself.

You see, because our show focused on a NASA astronaut who secretly had a genie, we found ourselves as indirect public liaisons for NASA. At that time, instant gratification was not possible and NASA could only move as quickly as scientifically allowed. Our fantasy television show had so much more freedom. So every week the nation watched Jeannie and Major Nelson, while NASA geared up for more real life missions and adventures.

Much to our excitement, NASA welcomed us with open arms as we visited the facilities in Cape Canaveral Florida and Johnson Space Center in Houston. I had the pleasure and honor of meeting with many of the very astronauts we all watched with our breath held tightly, as the blurry footage came in from outer space.

Letter from Barbara Eden for the 50th Anniversary of the City of Cape Canaveral Time Capsule.

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

It was a joy and an honor to view and tour the facilities, meeting not only the men who found science in dreams; but the men who flew into the stars!

NASA, the home of men and women who would ultimately secure a place in our hearts and the history of our great nation, holds a special place in *my* heart. It was exciting to sit inside space capsules and shuttles. It was humbling when I attempted to successfully land on the moon in a simulator. My crash landing was a personal affirmation of how much skill and knowledge our brave astronauts have.

As we recently watched the news and viewed photographs coming to us all the way from Mars, I thought back about those moments, years ago when Neil Armstrong first set foot on the moon. I feel a deep appreciation and fondness for NASA, our astronauts and their achievements, to this day.

I have high hopes that as you read this even more noble and courageous people have continued to take NASA and our Space Administration even farther into the stars.

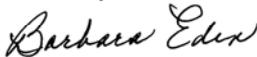
Perhaps there has already been manned Mars landing as you read this?

In closing, it has been fifty years since I wrote this to you, and it is my strongest hope that the love, respect, admiration and support for NASA from my generation and many others since, has remained just as strong and tireless. Support for those who looked up to the stars above my head then, to those who look up to the stars above your heads now.

Always remember, as each day brings new possibilities, that each night brings new dreams, dreams that NASA has proven in my time, *can* become reality.

May you all continue to strive for what began so long ago and carry on into new horizons.

Most Sincerely,



Barbara Eden

*Landmark Guides to Historic Brevard County
are available.*



UNITED STATES SENATOR (RET.)

JOHN GLENN
OHIO

To the People of 2063:

Way back here in what is now ancient history to most of you – our year of 2013 – it is hard to foresee what might occur in many different areas between now and your year of 2063.

I am sure that communications have gone far beyond the individual cell phones that are commonplace today. I am sure that transportation has advanced beyond the automobiles and aviation we know in our time. I am sure that space flight has progressed beyond low earth orbit and our research on the International Space Station, and has gone far beyond the moon and, I hope, Mars.

In our day, I can see our participation in the space program as being indicative of how much effort we are willing to put into being truly competitive in research and science. Those areas, I hope, will have led us to retain our international pre-eminence through the 50 years into your future at Cape Canaveral and other places.

We have just celebrated the 50th anniversary of our first orbital space flight on February 20, 1962. I hope that advances over the 50 years from now until your time will be not only more spectacular, but will result in even more research that will benefit our nation and everyone right here on earth.

To those of you in 2063 – good luck and best regards!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Glenn".
John Glenn

JG/kd

First in a Series

EXPLORE YOUR HISTORY: LOST COMMUNITIES OF NORTH MERRITT ISLAND

ROZ FOSTER

Introduction

Located on North Merritt Island and that spit of land known as the “Canaveral Peninsula”, adventure seeking pioneers and homesteaders once lived over 100 years ago. As recently as 1962 there were approximately 17 towns, settlements and hamlets scattered across North Merritt Island and Canaveral, comprised of a reported 400 people, mostly farmers and citrus growers. Between the Indian and Banana rivers, among moss covered oak trees and over grown graveyards can be found remains of crumbling foundations and coquina driveways, abandoned citrus groves and shrubs gone wild from neglect. Only the memories of the now vanished communities with names like Shiloh, Clifton, Allenhurst, Haulover, Wilson, Jamestown, Wisconsin Village, Heath, Happy Creek, Orsino, Courtenay and Indianola remain with us today.

In the 1950s and 60s the government purchased several thousand acres including 40 miles of beachfront properties to make way for NASA’s Kennedy Space Center and the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. Along with the displacement of the homesteaders, many descendants of the original pioneer families’ homes, businesses, fish camps and restaurants were bulldozed. The land was to be used for spaceport facilities and some left for safety “buffer” zones, and some for nature conservation. Although the locations of those “ghost towns” were within government land boundaries, some roads are open for public travel and lead to prime hunting and fishing areas of the Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge.

I have compiled these accounts of Brevard history from many published books, manuscripts, diaries, letters, newspaper articles, maps, oral histories, Brevard & Volusia County records, and many other resources. I have validated some of the misconceptions that have been previously recorded, but not all.

In addition to my compilation I have incorporated several articles as they were written. During 1960, articles were published in the Titusville (Florida) Star-Advocate about the early communities of North Merritt Island written by “Island-Hattie,” providing us with a “snapshot” and an insight to the people, places and communities of the area. For several years historian Weona Cleveland wrote many stories about people and places in Brevard County compiled from her interviews and research.

In this segment I am going to talk about early settlements of North Merritt Island and explore who the people were, the places and events that made up the fabric of these communities that have been lost in time.

Pioneer Communities of North Merritt Island: A Sense of Place

Prior to the early 1880s Merritt Island was as wild and almost as unsettled as it had been from the time it was occupied by the Ais Indians and early Spanish and English explorers. There were no wagon roads—only old Indian trails through the thick scrub, palmetto and timber. The wilderness was almost impenetrable with no roads or bridges, and no transportation in or out of the area except by sailboat or on foot.

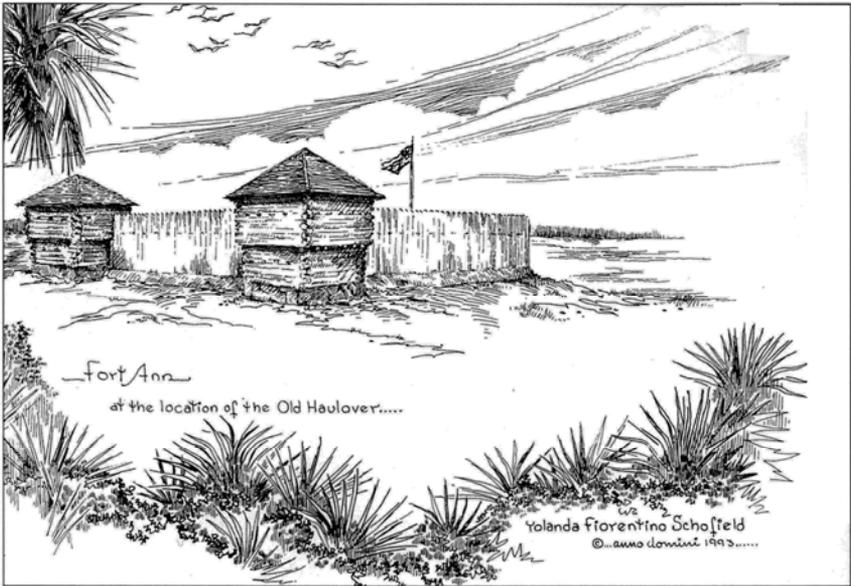
The few families who moved here before 1880 lived in palmetto shacks. These were simple log frames with palmetto covering the entire structure, except for the door and sometimes an opening for a window. Some were built of logs with planks hewed out by hand for floors and with roofs made of palmetto mats. Few had glass windows, and wooden shutters were used to cover the door and windows during storms and Indian attacks. The first wood houses in the area were built with lumber salvaged from a wrecked schooner that was carrying it as cargo and washed ashore during the 1880 hurricane. People living nearby crossed the lagoon to the beach and rafted as much as they needed to the most convenient point near their homes, and carried it the rest of the way on their backs.

In the beginning, women cooked on outside fireplaces. Neighbors were few and far between, and you had to be self-sufficient and depend entirely on the river and wildlife for food. Meat was plentiful – wild turkeys, quail, ducks and deer roam the countryside 15 to 20 in a herd. Fish was so abundant that when a cast net was spread, it was so full fishermen needed an extra pair of hands to hoist it to shore or boat. Men wore broad-brimmed hats, sometimes woven from palmettos and long-sleeved collarless shirts as protection against the clouds of mosquitoes. Canvas leggings and heavy shoes – called Brogan’s, were worn to protect them from spiny pineapple slips, saw palmetto and snakes.

Fort Ann – 1837

Fort Ann was built in 1837 under supervision of 1st Lieut. James R. Irwin of the 1st U. S. Artillery Regiment to protect U. S. Troops engaged in the Second Indian War that was fought 1837 – 1842. He named it for “the prettiest girl in Pennsylvania.” It was located on the eastern shore of the Indian River on the south side of and between the Haulover Canal and Granny Cove. It was built to control use by Indians and traders who hauled their boats over the land and to protect military supplies that were transported from the Mosquito Lagoon to the Indian River.

Lieut. Irwin was ordered to superintend the erection of some type of fortification at the Haulover, capable of being defended by one company. This is his description of the area:



“Our course was South, towards Mosquito Lagoon, and the destination a place called the Haulover at the southwestern extremity of the lagoon; and so called from its being a strip of land nearly a mile wide, which separated the lagoon from the Indian River, over which the Indians were accustomed to drag their canoes from one water into the other.”

“The site of our camp was an open prairie, upon a strip of land, which may easily be found by looking at any map of Florida, presenting one unbroken expanse of scrub-saw-palmetto from 2 to 4 feet high, and entirely bare of trees, except where here and there a palmetto tree waving high, tossed its umbrella-shaped head in sulky loneliness. On one side, Indian River, which is 6 miles in breadth at this spot, rolled along its majestic and expansive stream towards the ocean, a distance of 90 miles; its opposite and distant shore presenting a wilderness of cyprus and pine forests, scarred from the invading plough share, or the axe of the woodman; their impervious wilds, where the deer browsed in the wolves cried to each other in undisturbed and savage communion, as yet untrodden by human foot, except by that of the roaming Indian. On the other side of us, the placid waters of Mosquito Lagoon displayed its silvery surface, in which the blue sky, pure, deep, unspotted, lay mirrored; the clearness of its waters disclosing to view its finny inhabitants were shooting with quick glance, showed to the sun their waved coats, dropp’d with gold.”

Although there is little documentation to confirm how the structure was actually built, it was probably similar to other fortifications, with earthen walls and

bastions and a protective log structure. Woodburne Potter recalled that all forts in Florida were of similar construction and gave the following account in his book *The War of Florida*:

“The Pickets,” he explained, “are made by splitting pine logs about eighteen feet in length into two parts, and driving them upright and firmly into the ground close together, with the flat side inwards; these are braced together by a strip of board nailed on the inside. The tops are sharpened and holes are cut seven or eight feet from the ground for the fire arms. A Range of branches extends around the work about three feet high, from which the fire is delivered.”

The fort was used for one year in a concentrated effort to transport troops and supplies southward by water and abandoned in 1838 as documented by Army records. It later helped to persuade the Army to conduct a survey for the construction of a canal at the haul over.

The following gives a written report of the survey in a letter from Jacob E. Blake to William J. Worth, St. Augustine, December 11, 18xx that was documented in the Territorial Papers of the United States, Charter Volume XXVI, Florida Territory, 1839-1845, page 803-805:

“General; In obedience to your instruction of the 10th Ultimo I have the honor to report that I left this place on the 15th with a Sergeant and twelve men of the 8th Infantry, arrived at the Haulover on the afternoon of the 19th and immediately commenced the survey of the neck of land dividing Indian River and Mosquito South Lagoon with a view to determine the practicability of cutting a canal to connect the waters of the two streams, and thus remove the great source of toil and difficulty experienced by all settlers and other passing from North to South by the inland route from Smyrna to the mouth of the Indian River.”

“By an inspection of the Map of Florida it will be seen that there is a direct inland route by water from the mouth of Mosquito River three miles from Smyrna, running parallel to the Atlantic Ocean by means of Mosquito and Indian Rivers with the exception of a narrow neck of land separating the two at a point designated on the Map as Ft. Ann. At this point, for years previous to the war, Indians, traders and others were compelled to haul over their canoes, goods and supplies from one stream to the other, when an interrupted navigation again presents itself running in the seasons of high water almost entirely to Key Biscayne. During the progress of the war lately brought to a close a large force of regulars and militia varying from 800 to 1000 men was stationed for some weeks at this point with a view mainly in forwarding supplies of provisions forage and materials required by the Army operating on the main land to the Westward, these supplies, etc., etc., being brought a few miles South of Smyrna in transports and steamboats, afterwards taken in small boats & scows to the “Haulover” and thence carried by wagons across to Indian River, to be thence again boated across to the main land and down the river in

the direction of Fort Pierce. I have no data at my command at present upon which to base a calculation of the expense of this kind of transportation, but from the large force so long employed there, the wagons, mules and necessary forage, together with the supplies for the troops, to say nothing of the necessity of the withdrawal of such a force from the fighting strength actually in the field, I hazard little in asserting that the expense of deeping up such a force to overcome the difficulty arising from the interposition of this narrow neck of land must have cost the Government in six months twenty times the expense of cutting a canal from one stream to the other, and thus dispensing with the great expense of transporting forage and supplies for the teams & men required to forward provisions, ammunition, etc., etc., to the Army on the main land, besides relieving from such harassing service a large body of troops and rendering them avail for actual service in the field. Since the termination of the war this has been the general route for all settlers on Indian River St. Lucie, Key Biscayne & Lake Worth. The bar at the mouth of Indian River does not admit at high tide the passage of vessels drawing more than eight feet; this together with the dangerous nature of the bar itself, shifting its position nuance of heavy weather, the absence of pilots, and exposed during the prevailing Easterly winds to the whole sweep of the broad Atlantic, renders the inland communication preferable at all seasons, notwithstanding the time and labor lost in hauling over land the boats & supplies of those seeking land & settlements in the Southern portion of the Territory. With this pass opened and made to admit the passage of boats and scows drawing not more than three feet water there will be no difficulty of moment in the way of settlers desirous of locating on the rich land on Indian River & St. Lucie, well adapted for the cultivation of sugar, cotton, limes, lemons, Pine apples, bananas, plantains, yams, etc., etc., etc., and blessed with a climate remarkable for health, but now rendered almost useless."

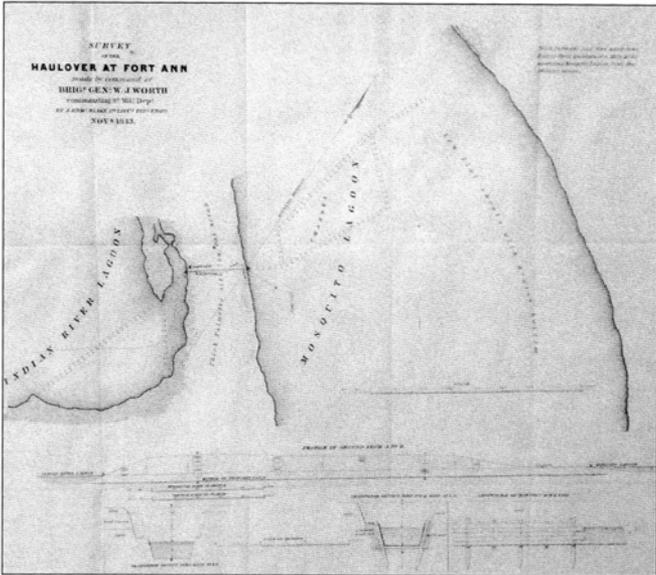
Following is the geological and construction report accompanied by a map that was generated by the completed survey:

"From the survey just completed a map of which accompanies this report, it appears that the distance across from Indian River to Mosquito South Lagoon, is by careful measurement 725 yards, rising abruptly at a distance of 150 yards from Indian River to 8 ½ ft., at the highest point of land above the level of the water, thence gradually descending to 6 feet, 525 yards from the same point, again abruptly descending into the space of 100 yards to the level of the water in the two streams, with a narrow ridge of 1 ½ feet of red sand, 3 feet of Hard Coquina and the remainder of the distance to the bottom of the canal through shell & sand easily yielding to the pick & a bed of small shell as readily yielding to the spade. Through this distance an ordinary excavation of the required depth to give 4 feet to the depth of the canal is all that is required. A section of canal through this portion of the work is exhibited on the map in the section through E. F."

“The remaining distance 300 yards is composed entirely of white sand; in digging down to the level of water in the two streams the sand mixed up with water partakes of the character of quicksand, the excavation filling up almost as soon as made, and the banks constantly liable to fall in. In order to guard against such fatal results, it is proposed to box in the entire distance through the quick sand by driving piles 8 inches square & 12 feet in length, at a distance of 12 feet apart, riveting the sides with two inch plank, and to remove every possibility of the canal filling up either by the falling in of its banks or by the pressure of the sand and water at the sides of the canal forcing up the sand from the bottom it is also contemplated to cover the bottom with two inch plank in such a manner as to render the whole free from all liability to fill up & the canal at all times passable. Nevertheless, it is believed, that the constant passage of boats, and the nature of the bottom, grass & soft mud with patches of sand, together with the current formed by the difference of the level in the water of the two streams, depending entirely upon the nature & direction of the winds, will with slight difficulty deep open a passage sufficient for boats drawing 2 to 3 feet of water.” *LRJ*

(Ed. Note: For more information on Ft. Ann, refer to History of Brevard County, Vols. I & III. See inside back cover for purchase information. This is the first installment of a series about the lost communities of North Merritt Island. See the next issue for the next installment.)

From History of Brevard County, Volume III, page 19
 Survey of Haulover, 1838, courtesy of Jim Ball



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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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.

COMING NEXT ISSUE

Lost Communities of North Merritt Island

ROZ FOSTER

The next installment will feature the Haulover Canal:

“The Spanish used the area as early as 1606, and slid boats over the ground covered with mulberry tree bark. Early settlers used rollers and skids to drag schooners across. One incentive in constructing a canal was the establishment of a mail run from new Smyrna to Miami in 1850. Since there was no canal at that time, two boats were required one on each side of the isthmus of land.”

A Brief History of the *Advocate*, a Newspaper With Many Names

JIM GARMON

“The history of the *Advocate* newspaper can best be documented by quoting the words of the editors and publishers of the paper as they appeared in the newspaper throughout the years of its existence. The following articles, published in the *Advocate* and other Florida newspapers, describe and document the path the paper took from its beginning in 1890 to the present.”

Plus more photos from our NASA Collection



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*

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT
BREVARD COUNTY HISTORY?**

Purchase a set of

The History of Brevard County

See the inside back cover for more details

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

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*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/>

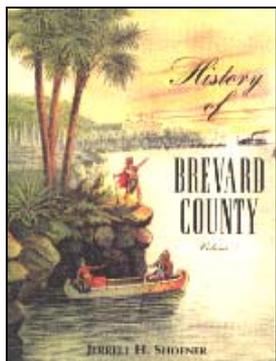
The State Archives of Florida

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<http://dlis.dos.state.fl.us/barm/fsa.html>

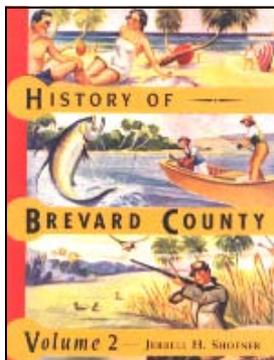
Try as we might to keep the previous lists accurate with up-to-date information, it seems that changes occur that we don't know about until after publication. If you know of a needed change, see an error or have an addition to what we've presented, please let us know. Call us at (321) 633-1794.

THE HISTORY OF BREVARD COUNTY

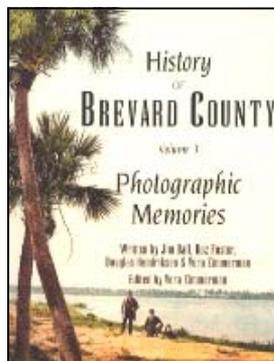
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