

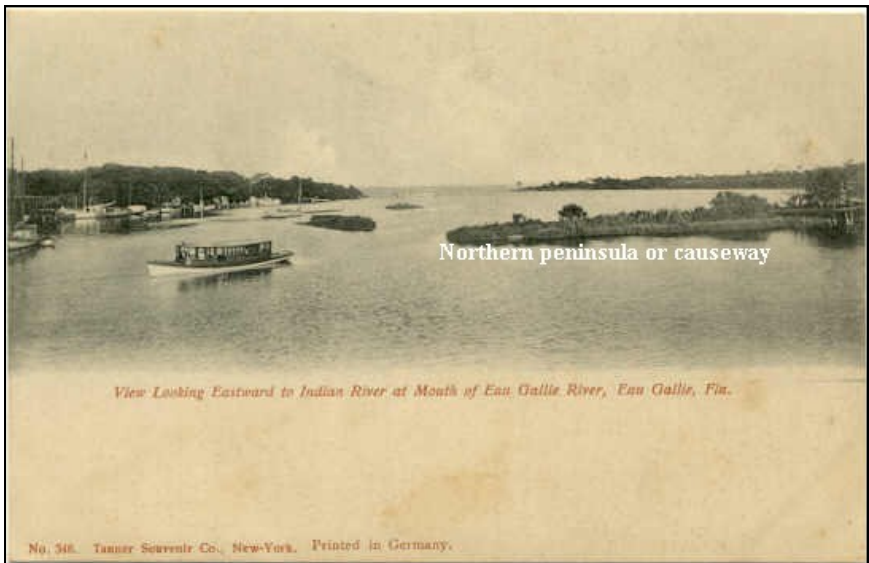
THE JOURNAL OF THE
BREVARD COUNTY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

THE INDIAN RIVER JOURNAL

Volume VII, Number 1

Spring/Summer 2008

**Brevard County Historical
Articles & Features
Organizations & Activities
Announcements & Reviews**



View Looking Eastward to Indian River at Mouth of Eau Gallie River
1906 Postcard
Story on page 5

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The Terryn House

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HOUSE MOVED FROM CANVERAL ON THE CAPE IN 1950 STILL IN USE

By
Roz Foster

When the Air Force bought all of the properties located on the Cape in 1950 the families were asked to relocate. Several families elected to move their houses to the area that became the City of Cape Canaveral. The Terryn's house and store, Whidden's Store, Seventh Day Adventist Church, and two Spanish-style houses belonging to the Praetorius family were among the ones that were moved from Canaveral on the Cape. The only structures left standing are the two Praetorius family houses and the Terryn house. This is the story of the Terryn family and the relocation of their house to the City of Cape Canaveral.



The 700 square foot house consisted of a living room across the front, two bedrooms and one bathroom on the left side, a small kitchen and a screened porch across the back.

Charlie Terryn moved from Chicago, Illinois to Pensacola, Florida, and came to Canaveral with the Whidden family in the late 1920s. Robert Mask came

from Georgia with his family and settled at Canaveral on the Cape in 1933. Charlie married Aline Mask in 1937. They started a family at Canaveral with the birth of their first daughter Myrtice in 1938. Son Charles was born in 1939, followed by Hazel in 1942 and Shirley in 1943.

Charlie homesteaded approximately 25 acres close to the river, on the east side of Cape Rd. and built a house for his family. With the help of Robert Mask, he built a house with a storefront for his mother, Prudence Ardelia and sister, Charlotte in 1942. It was approximately 30 feet long by two feet wide, constructed of heart pine lumber and sat on concrete block piers stacked two high. The 700 square foot house consisted of a living room across the front, two bedrooms and one bathroom on the left side, a small kitchen and a screened porch across the back. Six-inch-wide, "tongue and groove" board paneling made of heart pine covered the ceilings, and the same dressed the living room walls up to four feet in height. A small second bathroom was back-to-back on the left backside of the house, with an outside entrance for the convenience of customers. A 10ft x 10ft store was built onto the front of the house that sat on a concrete slab foundation at ground level. Long two over two windows placed opposite each other provided ventilation.

Prudence Terryn opened Terryn's Store and sold snacks such as candies, Cokes, cheese and crackers, peanut crackers, and a variety of chewing gum – Black Jack, Glove, Cinnamon and Juicy Fruit. She also sold Gulf gasoline and kerosene. If milk, bread, canned goods, and other staples, were needed, they could be purchased at Tolly Whidden's Store, about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile up Pier Road. Sinclair Gas was sold at Whidden's Store.

School bus drivers Dixie and Ben Lewis transported the six children that lived at Canaveral to school in Cocoa. Children played games, climbed trees, and young Charles played "butt head" with the goats, which was done very gently.

Charlie Terryn was engaged in the palmetto berry business on the Cape. He built drying frames four feet high from the ground for the berries, which were harvested in the fall. It was hard work - from dawn to dusk - cutting stalks of berries, stripping the berries into hampers, and hauling them to the drying frames. By spring they would be dried and ready for packing into burlap sacks and transported by truck to the Cocoa train station for shipping to various pharmaceutical companies. During the summer, Charlie worked with Robert Mask and neighbors heading shrimp at the fishing pier located at the end of Pier Rd. He also raised chickens, a cow and goats, which they milked. Charlie died in 1949, and is buried at the Cape Canaveral cemetery.

Prudence continued to live in the house and run the store up to 1950 when the Air Force bought all of the properties at Canaveral and the families had to move. Prudence moved without relocating her house and storefront. Aline, realizing that her own house was in worse shape than the one Prudence left behind, decided she would purchase Prudence's house and storefront, and paid Prudence between \$700 - \$800 for it.

Aline paid \$400 to have the house moved onto a 50 ft. by 125 ft. lot that was given to her by a generous lady named Mona Martin. The area was nothing but palmetto bushes, one sandy road, and lots of mosquitoes. A roadway was bulldozed through the palmetto bushes, the lot cleared, and the house moved to its new location in what became the City of Cape Canaveral.



Aline married George Erwin Farmer in 1953 and continued to live in the house at 313 Madison Ave. until her death in 2001 at the age of 80 years. The Terryn family sold the house in 2002 for \$50,000. It was remodeled, raising the storefront to the house level, updating the kitchen and bathrooms, and other cosmetic fixes. It sold for \$150,000 in 2004. A cozy cottage rental property, it still sits on concrete block piers, stacked 2 blocks high. The only difference is they are stuccoed and painted white. Can't beat a well-built house!

LOCATING THE AIS INDIAN TOWN OF PENTOAYA ALONG THE INDIAN RIVER LAGOON, FLORIDA

by
J.F. Lanham and Alan Brech

Condensed from an article in *The Florida Anthropologist* by Lanham and Brech, 2007, with permission of the editors

A large archaeological site along the southern shore of the confluence of the Eau Gallie River and the Indian River Lagoon in Melbourne, Florida, closely matches the descriptions and location of the Ais Indian town of Pentoaya, first mapped by the Spanish in 1605. This site, which constitutes the western border of modern day Ballard Park in Eau Gallie, had not been recorded by previous investigators, and is now catalogued 8 BR 1978 in the Florida Division of Historical Resources' (FLDHR) Master Site File (FLMSF). In March 2007, the results of our investigations into the Pentoaya site were published in *The Florida Anthropologist*, the only peer-reviewed journal devoted to Florida archaeology. What follows is a condensation of that article; readers are encouraged to consult that publication for a more extensive treatment of the subject.

The Spanish in St. Augustine were quite happy to have concluded a genuine peace agreement with the Ais Indians of the Indian River Lagoon (IRL) in 1605. The Ais were the largest and most politically powerful tribe along the east coast of Florida, if not the entire southern peninsula itself, having recently eclipsed the once-powerful Calusa tribe of southwest Florida. Governor Ybarra boasted that his new agreement had allowed for the safe passage of shipwrecked Spaniards not just in the Ais area proper (from the Banana River Lagoon to the St. Lucie Inlet along the coast, and west into the Upper St. Johns River Basin), but even as far south as the Keys, formerly an area subject to Calusa hegemony. Securing safe passage for shipwreck survivors along Florida's east coast and preventing foreign powers and privateers from using the coast of Florida for safe harbors and resupply was of vital geopolitical significance to the Spanish. Most of their shipping lanes back to Spain passed through the Bahama Channel off the east coast of peninsular Florida, and most of their shipwrecks occurred along "the south shore" (*banda del sur*)—the stretch of coast from Canaveral to the Keys. Earlier peace agreements with the Ais had proved ephemeral.

Following up on this geopolitical gain, Governor Ybarra dispatched Lt. Alvaro Mexia in June 1605 to reconnoiter the "River of the Ais" (the IRL), mapping and logging its principal landmarks, towns and water routes so as to facilitate

future navigations. Mexia returned to St. Augustine in July 1605, and the results of his expedition were documented in the map he produced (two-thirds of which are shown in Figure 1) and the log of his voyage, called *The Derrotero*. Mexia's documents were first translated into English by Florida historian Charles Higgs, and were included as an appendix to Irving Rouse's 1951 *A Survey of Indian River Archeology*. Rouse relied on Higgs' spatial analysis of Mexia's map and log which Higgs had previously published in *The Florida Historical Quarterly* (1942: v. 21, no. 1), although he was not entirely satisfied by all of Higgs' interpretations.

Mexia's map covers the entire distance from St. Augustine to the paramount town of the Ais, which we intend to show in a later paper closely corresponds to the archaeological site known as Barker's Bluff, aka the Kroegel Mound (8 IR 84), just south of the modern town of Sebastian. Higgs' interpretation, which Rouse followed with some misgivings, places the town of Ais much further south, in the modern area of Vero Beach. Mexia's map lists only one other town by name in the area of the Ais, that of Pentoaya near the head of the northern IRL. Many smaller Ais villages or hamlets along the IRL are represented in Mexia's map by the generic "R," meaning *rancheria*, and implying something smaller and less populous than the *pueblos* of Ais and Pentoaya.

The log that accompanies Mexia's map explains that Ais towns along the IRL existed as seasonally paired towns, with the summer towns located along the mainland shore of the IRL, and the corresponding winter towns located along the barrier island shorelines of the lagoon. Rouse correctly placed the winter location of Pentoaya at 8 BR 98, 99 & 100 on the barrier island, just across from the southern tip of Merritt Island. A remnant of the Winter Pentoaya site constitutes part of modern-day Gleason Park in the town of Indian Harbour Beach. Most of the site had been removed for road-bed material long before Rouse investigated it in the late 1940's—it was reputed to have been 86 feet high in 1887 by Melbourne harbormaster William Scott. Pioneering archaeologist C. B. Moore excavated part of the site in the winter of 1895-6, retrieving several finely-wrought items such as metal badges and shell pendants (cf. the photographic plates at the end of Rouse's book).

Summer Pentoaya, however, had never been definitively located beyond a general agreement with Higgs that it must have existed in the town of Eau Gallie (annexed by Melbourne in 1969), presumably along the river of the same name where it empties into the IRL. Rouse briefly and tentatively identified two sites along Highway US 1 in Eau Gallie that may have been Pentoaya—8 Br 34 and 8 Br 35 (see Figure 2). Both of these sites however, revealed no artifacts and only a "trace" of shells during Rouse's brief inspection. Rouse assumed that

larger archaeological sites had once existed there, but had been removed or destroyed by development. Yet neither site—if indeed there ever were large sites there—has officially or unofficially been referred to as Pentoaya. The only information on these sites in the FLMSF is a photocopy of the single brief paragraph that Rouse devotes to each of them (reproduced with permission of the publisher in the March 2007 *Florida Anthropologist*).

8 Br 1978 is a much closer match for the Ais town of Pentoaya than either of Rouse's two sites for several reasons, including its location directly on the former shoreline of the IRL prior to the construction of Ballard Park in the 1930s (compare Figures 4 and 5 with Figure 2), whereas Rouse's Br 34 and 35 along Highway US 1 are about 800 meters from the present-day shoreline. The IRL is not readily visible from either of Rouse's two sites, whereas 8 Br 1978 still has a commanding view over a wide stretch of the lagoon, and, vice versa, only the latter site can be seen from the IRL. Mexia's ship log states that Winter Pentoaya and Summer Pentoaya sat "*rostro a rostro*" to each other, the literal translation of which is "face to face." Higgs' translation reads "directly opposite" and this softening of Mexia's descriptive language may explain why Rouse was willing to countenance these two "trace[s] of shells" 800 meters from the IRL as possibly being Pentoaya.

Even then, Rouse had to employ strictly modern geographical boundaries in order to make this correlation:

"[T]he winter site [Winter Pentoaya] can be identified as the Banana River shell heap (Br 98). *Eau Gallie* is just opposite and therefore on the spot where, according to Mexia, the inhabitants of Pentoaya lived during the summer" (Rouse 1951: 151 emphasis added).

Rouse's sites correspond to Summer Pentoaya only in that the modern township of Eau Gallie in which they occur is "directly opposite" Winter Pentoaya, not the sites themselves. Obviously, the geographic boundaries of modern-day Eau Gallie had no meaning to Mexia or the Ais back in 1605. Further evidence for a shoreline location for Pentoaya is that Mexia's map refers to this northern part of the IRL as "Pentoaya Lagoon," implying close proximity between the town and the eponymous body of water.

The Pentoaya site proposed by us here and in *The Florida Anthropologist* last year has other attributes beyond location that make it a much better match for the town mapped and described by Mexia. Whereas Rouse and his local informant A. T. Anderson found only a trace of shells and no artifacts during their

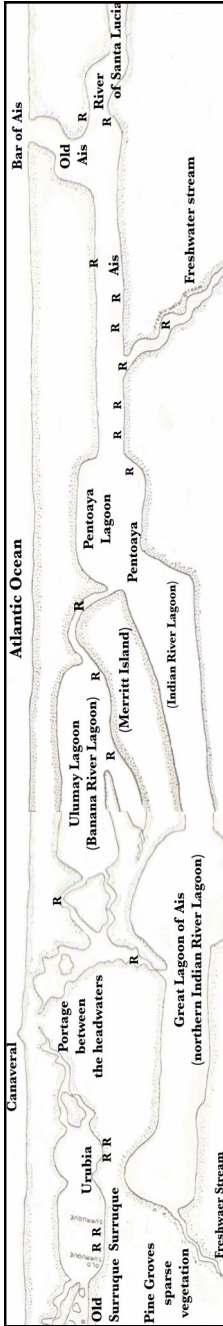


Figure 1 - Map of the Indian River Lagoon from Alvaro Mexia's Derottero (1605), traced and translated by Charles D. Higgs (in Rouse 1951:266). The left margin represents north-northwest while the right margin represents south-southeast. Higg's place names have been relabeled in their original position, with some minor deletions for clarity. A few modern place names have been added (in parentheses).

brief visits to 8 Br 34 and 35, artifacts, shells and bone are quite abundant at 8 Br 1978, as evidenced by the several boxes of artifacts casually retrieved by residents of that locale during gardening and construction activities. Numerous items are also eroding out of the road-cut for Thomas Barbour Drive that slices through the southern end of the site. Using these items from the road-cut as a convenient random sample, the authors found 2 of the 24 pottery sherds encountered (not collected)¹ to be check-stamped, indicating a significant Late Prehistoric component to the site; the collections from the local residents also contain check-stamped pottery and some early historic artifacts.

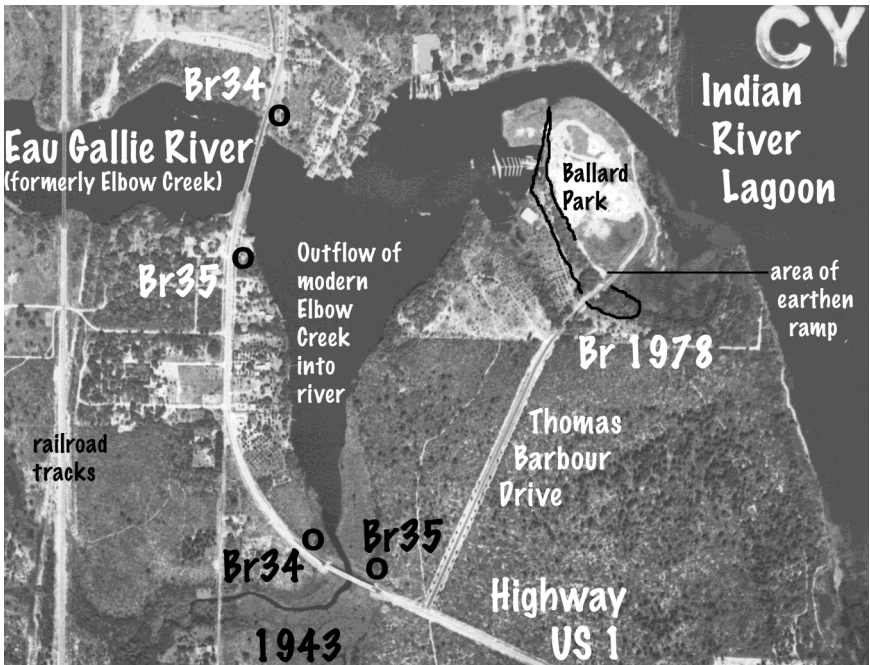


Figure 2 - Aerial photograph from 1943 showing the locations of 8Br34 and 35 according to the Florida Division of Historical Resources (in black type, bottom) vs. that given by archaeologist Irving Rouse (1951:111, in white type, top). Rouse's use of the archaic "Elbow Creek" to refer to the entirety of the now-renamed Eau Gallie River, plus the modern retention of "Elbow Creek" for the southern tributary of the Eau Gallie River, accounts for this discrepancy. The outline for 8Br1978, the Pentoaya site, has been left incomplete in the area surrounding the earthen ramp. Photo courtesy of the Brevard County Map Reproduction office in Viera.

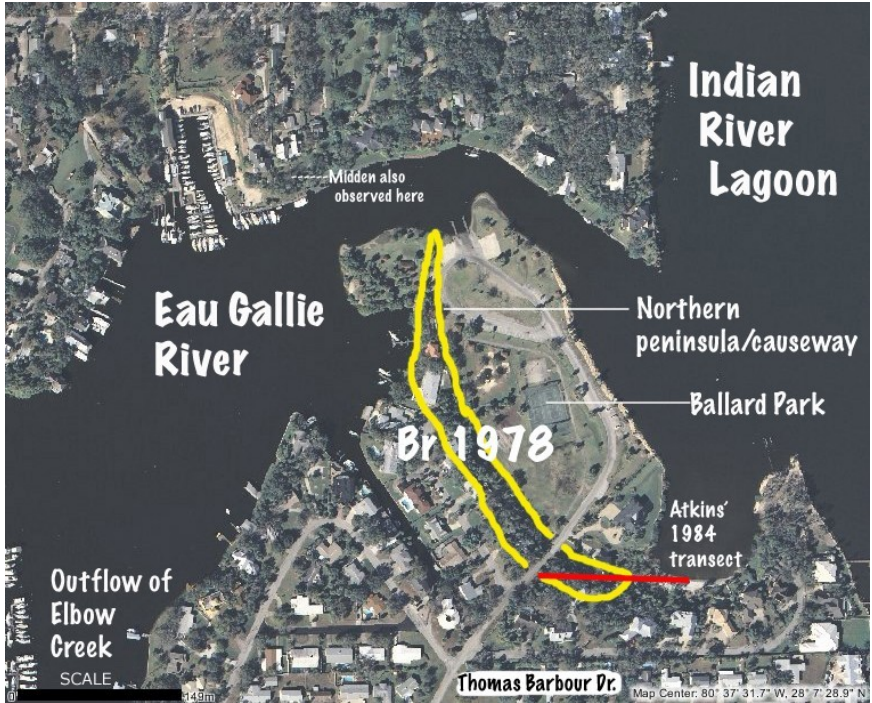


Figure 3 - April 2007 aerial photo of the mouth of the Eau Gallie River. Photo courtesy of www.labins.org (Florida Department of Environmental Protection).

Additionally, there are several possible landscape features that may have been constructed prehistorically, including the thin peninsula or causeway that once jutted out to the north of the site (Figures 3, 4 and 5), the earthen ramp that leads up to the site along its eastern flank (Figures 6 and 8), and the earthen terraces just north of the ramp (Figures 7 and 9). These last two features, however, could be the results of modern development and/or midden removal, and not aboriginal constructions, and the thin peninsula or causeway jutting to the north could have been a natural land formation. The reason we cannot be definite about these features is that our investigations of the site did not involve any excavations, and the one previous archaeological investigation in this area, conducted on the southernmost extent of the site south of Thomas Barbour Drive in 1984 by Stephen Atkins (Figure 3), did not examine the main part of this site north of the road-cut where these features are found.

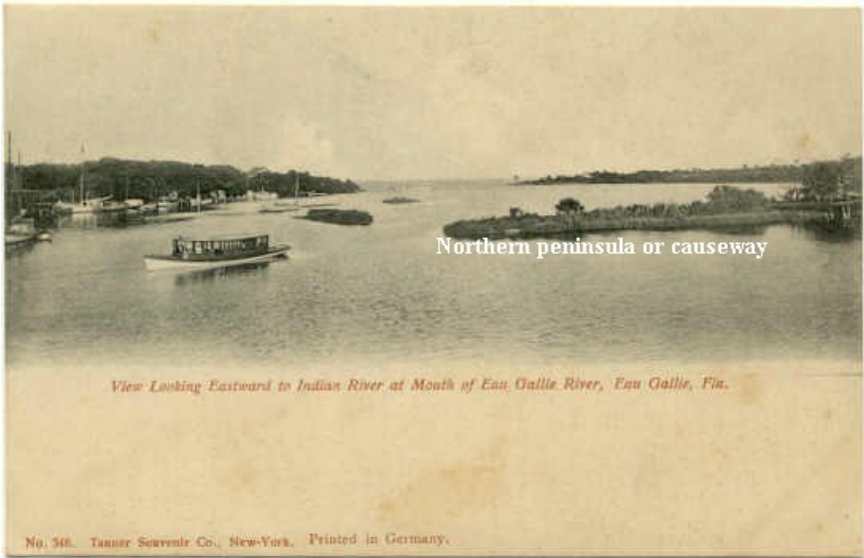


Figure 4 - Photograph of the mouth of the Eau Gallie River from a 1906 postcard, showing the peninsula or causeway that extended from the main part of the site north into the Eau Gallie River at its confluence with the Indian River Lagoon.

Excavation was not feasible given its private ownerships, nor was it warranted given that our research project was merely the identification of the site. Contrary to public perceptions, archaeologists are not necessarily hungry to excavate large important sites if those sites are not threatened by development and there is not a specific, pressing research question that needs to be answered. In fact, one of the dirty secrets of archaeology is that many large and important sites have been excavated without any written report being generated, thus making the results of those excavations unavailable to other researchers for decades, sometimes forever. And unlike most scientific investigations and experiments, archaeological investigations can never be repeated since the subject matter is literally destroyed by the physical processes of digging and sifting. Another problem is that curation space is severely limited.

Thus, archaeological excavation is never warranted without specific testable research questions formulated in advance², unless the site is threatened by imminent development or destruction. In our case, the Pentoaya site had been developed into a residential neighborhood back in the late 1950s and early 1960s, and our primary research question was merely the identification of this site as Pentoaya. Excavations into the site would not necessarily settle the

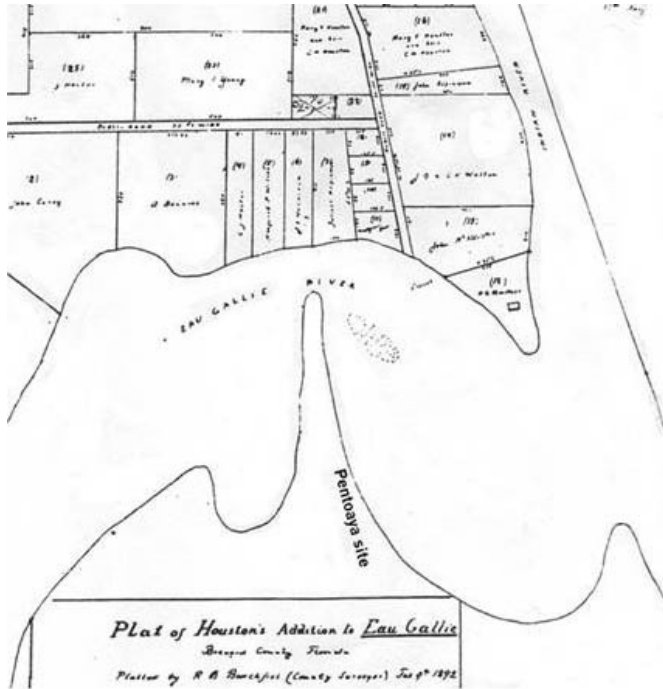


Figure 5 - Plat map from 1892 showing shoreline configurations near the proposed Pentoaya site, the location of which has been added for reference. Map courtesy of the Brevard County Mapping Office in Viera.

question of its identity in 1605, although finding "elite" non-utilitarian items and/or materials traceable to long distances away, would be suggestive of a major population center (relatively speaking) and the kind of chiefly leadership that often arises among larger populations of pre-industrial peoples. Fortunately, there are already such items in the private collections of the modern residents of Pentoaya, including a fragment of a greenstone celt and sherds from a broken bowl made out of steatite (soapstone, see Figure 11), the nearest source of which is in northern Georgia. Thus, this kind of information available from excavations would be redundant.

Instead, we felt justified proposing that 8 Br 1978 was at least part of the town of Pentoaya based upon its unique fit with Mexia's map and description, the similarity of this site with other Ais/Late Prehistoric village sites along the mainland shore of the IRL (see Figure 8 for a comparison with 8Br50 at Tur-

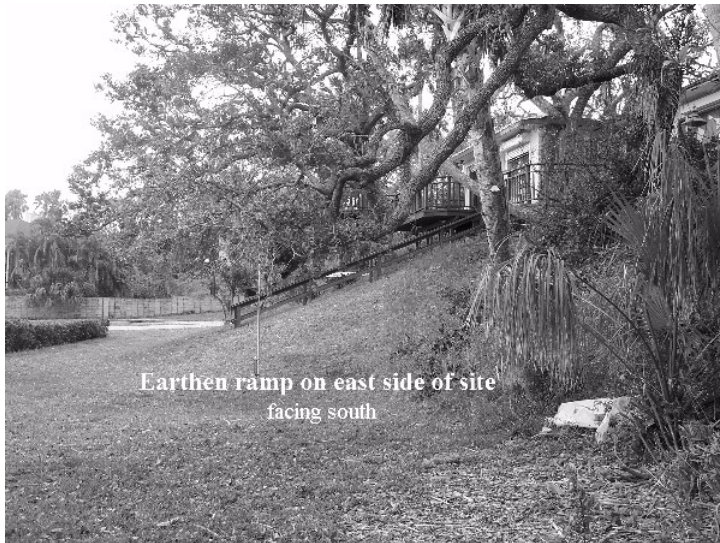
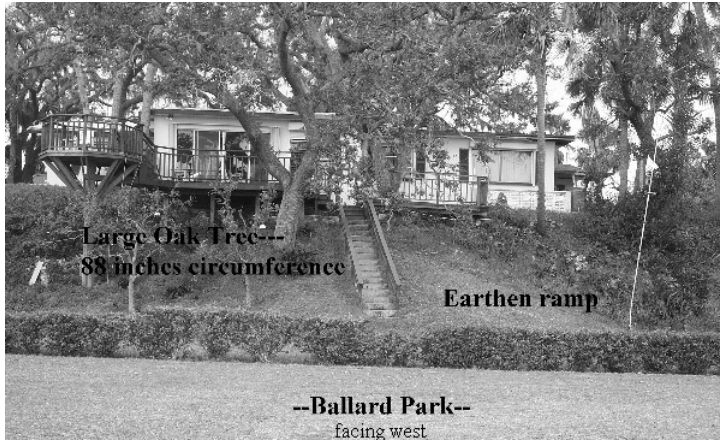


Figure 6 - Earthen ramp leading up to the main part of the Pentoaya site. The oak tree near the top of the ramp measured 88 inches in circumference. About 10 inches of fill has been added to the ramp since the maturation of this tree. The soil strata underneath the top layers may have been constructed prehis-

key Creek in Palm Bay), the abundance of artifacts and depths of deposits at the site, the presence of late prehistoric and early historic artifacts in local collections, and the possible earthwork features discussed below. In the absence of controlled excavations, it cannot be ruled out that Pentoaya may have straddled both shores of the Eau Gallie River, and indeed, cursory inspections of

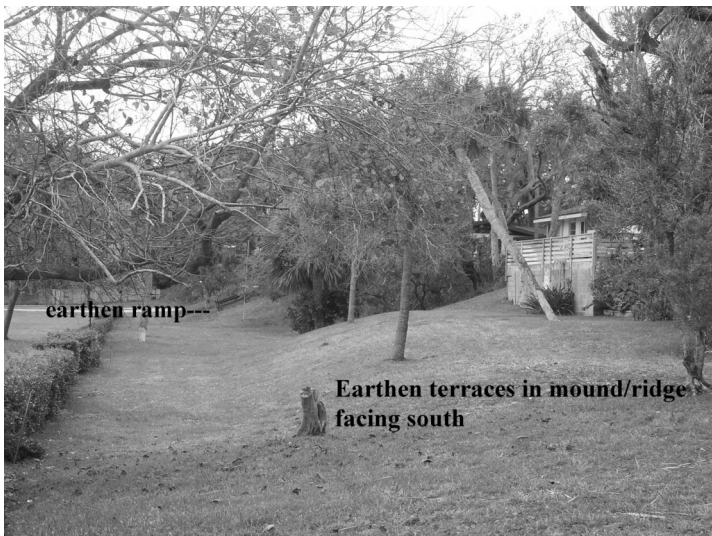


Figure 7 - Two views of earthen terraces in east side of the mound or sand ridge. The earthen ramp from Figure 6 is visible in the background of the bottom picture.

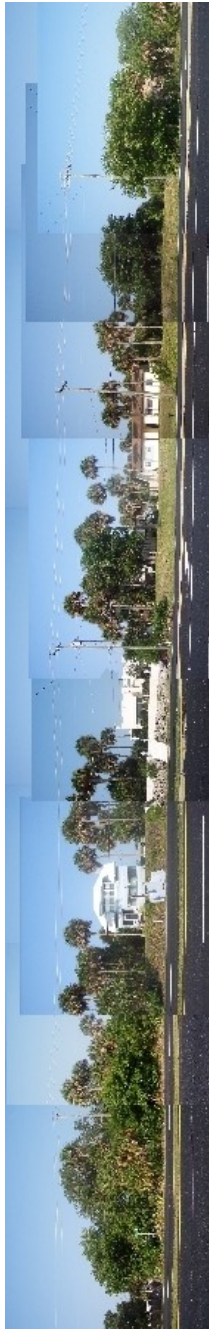


Figure 8 - Composite photographs of 8Br50 (top) located at the confluence of Turkey Creek and the IRL in Palm Bay, and 8Br1978 (bottom), the Pentoaya site, located at the confluence of the Eau Gallie River and the IRL in Melbourne. Both photographs were taken facing west, with an embayment of the IRL immediately behind the photographer. The linear distance of each photo is approximately the same—about 175 meters from the roads shown in the left margins of both photos to the right margin.

privately-owned land along the northern shore revealed some areas that appeared to be black-dirt midden (Figure 3). So far, our identification of this site as being Pentoaya has not been challenged in the peer-review system.

In lieu of excavations, we turned to historic documents, photos, maps, and local informants who live atop the site. Letters were sent to the residents of the eastern side of the site informing them that their properties were atop a large archaeological site that had never been reported, and asking the residents if they had any further information or contacts regarding their properties prior to and after development. Only two replies were received, both by residents who already knew that this was a large archaeological site. Both respondents graciously invited us into their homes to inspect the artifacts and bones that they had casually retrieved from their properties over the years. In turn, we sorted their artifacts into types, identified human remains, and separated all the various items into bags with labels identifying them and their time period of use.

Unfortunately for us, the owner of the property with the large earthen ramp did not respond to our letter of inquiry. Out of politeness, we did not follow up. We did obtain permission from his landscaper to measure the circumference of two oak trees growing on his property, one of which grows directly out of the earthen ramp (Figures 6, top, and 10, top). The purpose behind measuring their circumference was to get an approximate idea of the age of the ground surfaces beneath and around those trees. It used to be thought that oak trees grew about one inch in circumference per year, although nowadays biologists and arborists are much more cautious about assigning definite ages to oak trees based on size and circumference alone. Nevertheless, a large oak tree is proof positive that the ground surfaces in that immediate vicinity have remained undisturbed for at least as long as the lifespan of the tree. The tree shown in the center of the top picture in Figure 10 measured 132 inches in circumference; the one in the bottom photo was even wider still, despite the nearby presence of a house built only 55 years ago. The size of these trees, and the appearance of similar climactic vegetation in early aerial photos of the site suggests that much of this site has remained undisturbed despite the modern residential constructions thereon.

The tree growing out of the ramp in Figure 6 measured 88 inches, which is not quite large enough to definitively state that this tree (and therefore, the ramp beneath it) predated the modern construction period of the late 1950s and early 1960s, although the old one-inch-per-year assumption would indicate such. To get a more informed visual assessment of the age of this tree we contacted local arborist Ed Mischevsky, who conservatively estimated that it was at least 60 years old. Given the property owner's lack of response to our letter, we did

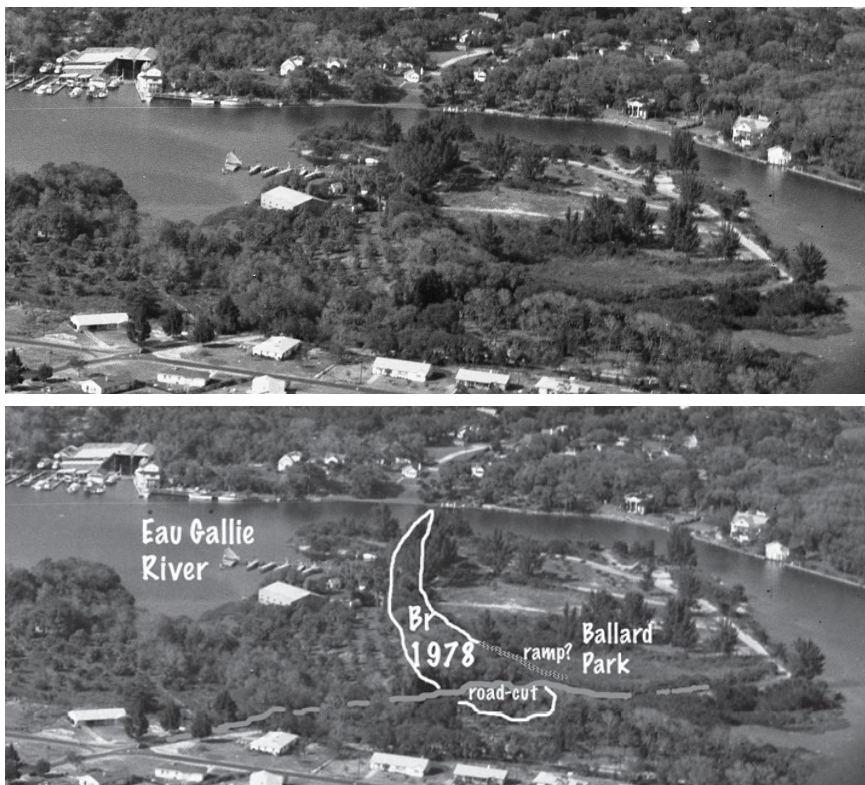


Figure 9 - Duplicate aerial photographs of the Pentoaya site from 1956, facing north, with features highlighted in the bottom version. The site can be seen in the center of the picture as an arc of higher elevation and higher canopied trees (white highlight). The road-cut for Thomas Barbour Drive appears as a dark jagged line of shadow in the foliage shown in the bottom third of the picture (highlighted in gray). The shape of the land or canopy on the east side of the site just beyond Thomas Barbour Drive (highlighted in a checked pattern) gives the appearance of an even larger earthen ramp than what currently exists there. Photo courtesy of the Brevard County Historical Commission.

not accompany Mischevsky, who surprised us by being able to obtain permission from the property owner to drill core samples from the tree, as well as examine the top layers of soil surrounding the tree. Mischevsky's core samples were inconclusive due to the species (oak) and the poor health of the tree—even healthy oaks can lack definite tree ring growth patterns. His probing of the ground cover on the ramp next to this tree revealed a top layer of fill some 10 inches deep, beneath which was an older ground surface which contained



Figure 10 - Large oak trees on the Pentoaya site suggests that some of the original ground surfaces may be intact, despite modern residential development. The tree in the center of the top photo measured 132 inches in circumference. Co-author J. F. Lanham (left) and Pentoaya resident Eugene H. Eley (right) inspect an even larger oak tree on a neighbor's property.

shell. Our absence from Mischevsky's inspections precluded us from determining whether this shell-bearing strata was midden or marl, or whether it had laminated layers indicative of modern re-deposits.

Based on the historic photos and the 1892 plat map (Figure 5), the Pentoaya site was originally an arc-shaped midden measuring over 380 meters in length when measured along its curvilinear distance, with a total area of over 1.8 hec-



tares. A thin peninsula of land very reminiscent of the causeways frequently constructed by prehistoric Native Americans once extended out from the main part of the site quite far towards the northern shore of the Eau Gallie River (see Figures 4 and 5). The earliest artifacts from the site are fiber-tempered pottery sherds and the fragments of the steatite bowl (Figure 11), both of which can date as early 4000 years ago, and as late as 2500 (i.e., 2000 B.C. to 500 B.C.) Artifacts from all subsequent periods are present at the site, including St. Johns and Glades pottery (both dating from 2500 to 300 years ago, and check-stamped pottery (c. 1200 – 300 years ago). There is also a round nodule of historic iron from the Eley collection which may have been a spent projectile (Figure 11, bottom).

The geology and hydrology of the site—its position at the confluence of the fresh-water Eau Gallie and the brackish IRL—obviously had much to do with the frequency and intensity of its prehistoric occupations. Aquatic confluences are often the sites of major population centers among prehistoric societies all over the world, the Western Hemisphere included. Yet similar confluences of mainland creeks and the IRL exist further south of Pentoaya, and none of them hosted a “pueblo” during the time of Mexia’s visit,

Figure 11 - Artifacts casually retrieved from the Pentoaya site by its modern residents. Top photo: steatite (soapstone) sherds, probably from a large stone bowl; Middle photo: fiber-tempered pottery sherds, the earliest kind of pottery in North America; Bottom photo: iron nodule, possibly a spent projectile, from historic times.

only “rancherias.” What was it about the Eau Gallie River that Crane Creek and Turkey Creek lacked? One can never discount historical happenstance, but, barring that, one likely possibility is that the proximity of the upper drainages of the Eau Gallie River to the Upper St. Johns River Basin—a mere eight kilometers away to where it widens into Lake Washington, the location of the large Cabbage Mound site³—as well as the proximity of the Winter Pentoaya location to the confluence of the Banana River Lagoon and IRL, made the Eau Gallie River a natural nexus of prehistoric trade, communication, habitation, and perhaps political influence.

By all accounts, the IRL area has not received the archaeological attention it deserves, not only in terms of the quantity of excavations and reports generated from this area, but also relative to the kinds of anthropological and archaeological issues that could be profitably investigated here. One issue that we explored in *The Florida Anthropologist* was that of “political complexity”—i.e., the extent to which larger villages in the Ais domain ruled over smaller ones, and the extent to which the Ais ruled over their neighbors. It used to be orthodox among social theorists that true political complexity can only arise among agricultural populations, since only agriculture can produce the reliable abundance of food needed to support chiefs, their retinues, and the craftsmen who fabricate elite high status goods. Archaeological research in southwest Florida by William Marquardt and Randolph Widmer, however, has shown that estuaries (where oceans meet large freshwater outflows, including lagoons such as the IRL) contain enough natural biological productivity to support the populations and political structures normally “achieved” only by agricultural peoples. It is now recognized that the non-agricultural Calusa people who inhabited and ruled over southwest Florida at the time of Spanish contact constituted a politically complex chiefdom, and that their prehistoric ancestors were also hegemonic over their neighbors at various periods in time.

Similarly, the Ais seemed to have exercised a similar level of political and economic control over their neighbors to the south, as shown in the 1696 shipwreck narrative of Jonathan Dickinson, and also by the remarks of Governor Ybarra, who wrote that his 1605 peace treaty with the Ais had secured the safe passage of Spanish shipwreck victims as far south as the Keys, formerly an area of Calusa hegemony. The Pentoaya site by itself—without archaeological excavation—would seem to be evidence of a complex political structure among the Ais since it constituted a “pueblo” to Mexia, but was clearly subordinate to the pueblo known as Ais, and encompassed within the territory of the latter. Many prominent prehistorians who have commented on the issue of political complexity among the Ais (Doran, Dickel, Hann) have concluded that the Ais were similar to the Calusa in that regard, at least by the 17th Century.

Jerald Milanich, however, the unofficial dean of Florida archaeology, made a case in 1998 that the Ais were not truly a complex political chiefdom, but rather one in which villages ruled over themselves and only formed temporary confederations during times of stress or opportunity, formations which appeared to the Spanish to resemble a chieftainship. Milanich argues that the Ais were not like the Calusa in that the political power structure of the Calusa possessed longevity and inheritability, whereas the Ais chiefdom and other historically documented chiefdoms among the Florida natives were ephemeral and the consequences of special circumstances.

We argued in response that the 91 (+) years which constitutes the minimum historically documented duration of Ais political hegemony along the east coast of Florida—from Governor Ybarra’s 1605 treaty to Dickinson’s 1696 account of Ais’ dominance over the Jobe to the south—presented an insurmountable problem to Milanich’s thesis of temporary confederations posing as chiefdoms. Three or four generations of political leadership are likely to pass within a 91(+) year time span, satisfying the criterion of the inheritability of political power, and perhaps also the criterion of longevity. Certainly 91 (+) years is not “temporary” by the political standards of today, or even the Middle Ages or further back in time. The question of whether the Ais were a hegemonic political chiefdom prior to contact with Europeans and their goods remains unresolved but we believe that the burden of proof is on those who claim a special pleading—in this case, that the political structure among the Ais and their neighbors at the time of sustained Spanish contact was somehow different than what it was prior to that contact.

Unfortunately, the two sites which could be most profitably compared against Pentoaya—Ais to the south and Winter Pentoaya on the barrier island—have both been obliterated by development, as have many of the prehistoric mounds, earthworks and village sites along the IRL and the Upper St. Johns River. 8Br50 in Palm Bay (Figure 8, top) is probably the best-preserved Late Prehistoric village site in the general area of Pentoaya, part of which has been acquired by the City of Palm Bay, who seem in no hurry to archaeologically examine or preserve their acquisition. Blind development continues to threaten and destroy the few remaining sites in the IRL area. Despite Florida statutes which dictate that state permits, monies, lands, or assistance will not be granted unless consideration is given to the potential archaeological and historical resources contained on the lands in question, state permits are routinely granted in the IRL area without any consideration for the history or prehistory of the land under development.

Given the recent trends towards high-impact, multi-story development along the IRL, the previous residential development of the Pentoaya site in the 1950s and 60s has served to protect the site, in a sense. The veering of Highway US 1 700 meters to the west probably also helped protect the site from early 20th century development, even as it kept it out of the notice of Irving Rouse and his local informant A. T. Anderson back in the 1940s. The Pentoaya site proposed by us in *The Florida Anthropologist* offers one of the best opportunities for archaeologists and prehistorians to investigate the relatively intact remains of an important Ais town, one with roots stretching back at least 4000 years. Very little archaeological work has been done in the IRL area, and there is so much about the Ais and their ancestors that remains unknown, and too much information has already been lost to the ravages of development. If preserved in its present state, the Pentoaya site should offer future archaeologists a refreshing exception to this unfortunate historical pattern in the Indian River Lagoon.

Notes

1. Readers are strongly discouraged from collecting prehistoric artifacts, also known as looting. Archaeological information comes almost entirely through the context in which objects are found, not the objects themselves.
2. Researchers can and should devise new research questions as their projects develop, of course, but it is always necessary to devise testable and important research questions in advance of excavations.
3. The Cabbage Mound site on Lake Washington in Melbourne was excavated by the Indian River Anthropological Society in 1994 – 1997.

Images in this article used by permission from the editors, Deborah Mullins and Andrea White, of *The Florida Anthropologist*.

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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 Historical Records Archive is located in the Byrd Plaza at 801 Dixon Blvd., Suite 1110, Cocoa, FL 32922. The Archive can be reached by telephone at 321-433-4415.

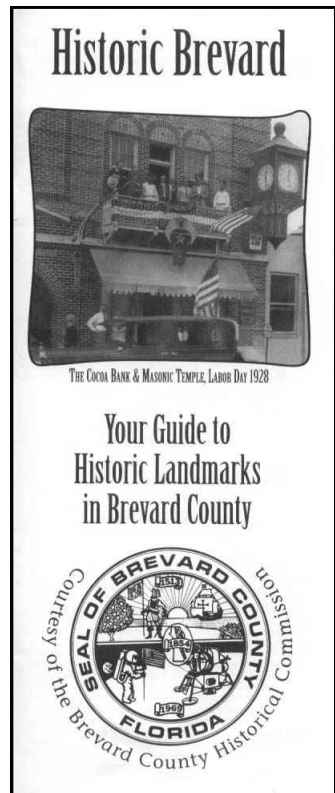
Landmark Guide To Historic Brevard County

The Landmark Guide Provides the location and a brief description of some of the historical landmarks in Brevard County. We haven't gotten them all in there yet but we're working towards that end. In the meantime enjoy the 53 we have documented. Get your copy free of charge through the Brevard County Historical Commission by writing , calling or emailing us.

Brevard County Historical Commission
801 Dixon Blvd., Suite 1110
Cocoa, FL 32922

Telephone: 321-433-4415

Email: steve.benn@brevardcounty.us



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 801 Dixon Blvd., Suite 1110, Cocoa, Florida 32922. The collections are normally available to the public during regular business hours. Please call in advance at 321-433-4415, 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 321-433-4415 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 Indian River Journal

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

*We have Brevard County History Books available
See the inside back cover for details*

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

GOODBYE ALL

By

Ed Bradford

Former Chairman, Brevard County Historical Commission

For those of you that don't already know it, my wife and I have relocated to Georgia. Our children and grandchildren live in Georgia and our hearts pulled us in that direction.

It was with regret that I resigned as Chairman and gave up my seat on the Brevard County Historical Commission. I met a lot of wonderful people during my time there.

My wife and I had gotten involved in community affairs almost from the day we set foot in Florida. We enjoyed every minute we lived there. We loved Florida and especially Brevard County. Our time there shall always be a fond memory.

I take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you. Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your world. We shall miss you all.

EDITOR'S NOTE

When Ed Bradford resigned in order to move to Georgia, Dr. David Paterno became Chairman of the Brevard County Historical Commission. We welcome Dave to this position, again (he has served as Chairman in the past), and wish him the best.

Try as we might to keep the following 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. Our address is Brevard County Historical Commission, 801 Dixon Blvd., Suite 1110, Cocoa, FL 32922 or by telephone at 321-433-4415

ONLINE SERVICES

Brevard County Historical Commission

<http://www.brevardcounty.us/history/>

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.florida-historical-soc.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>

MUSEUMS IN BREVARD COUNTY

Air Force Space & Missile Museum

Space Launch Complex 5&6, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, FL

Alma Clyde Field Library of Florida History

435 Brevard Ave., Cocoa, FL 32922

American Police Hall of Fame & Museum

6350 Horizon Dr., Titusville, FL 32780

BCC Planetarium & Observatory

Brevard Community College, 1519 Clearlake Rd., Cocoa, FL

Brevard County Historical Records Archive

801 Dixon Blvd., Suite 1110, Cocoa, FL 32922

Brevard Museum of Art and Science

1463 Highland Ave., Melbourne, FL 32936

Brevard Museum of History and Science

2201 Michigan Ave., Cocoa, FL 32926

East Coast Surfing Hall of Fame

4275 N. Atlantic Ave., Cocoa Beach, FL 32031

The Grant Historical House

5795 Highway 1, Grant, FL 32950

The Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Cultural Center

2180 Freedom Ave., Mims, FL 32754

The Historic Rossetter House

1320 Highland Ave., Melbourne, FL 32935

Liberty Bell Memorial Museum

1601 Oak Street, Melbourne, FL 32901

North Brevard Historical Society Museum

301 S. Washington Ave., Titusville, FL 32782

U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame

6225 Vectorspace Blvd., Titusville, FL 32780

U.S. Space Walk of Fame Museum

4 Main St., Titusville, FL 32796-3567

Valiant Air Command Warbird Museum

6600 Tico Road, Titusville, FL 32780

Veterans Memorial Museum

400 South Sykes Creek Parkway, Merritt Island, FL 32952

HISTORICAL ORGANIZATIONS

Brevard County Historical Commission

801 Dixon Blvd., Suite 1110, Cocoa, FL 32922

Brevard Cultural Alliance

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

Brevard Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 1123, Cocoa, FL 32922-1123

Brevard Heritage Council,

c/o Alma Clyde Field Historical Library, 435 Brevard Ave., Cocoa, FL 32922

Canaveral Lighthouse Foundation

P.O. Box 1978, Cape Canaveral, FL 32920

Cocoa Beach Pioneers

580 South Brevard Ave., Cocoa Beach, FL 32931-2529, 783-8389,
mmayorjoe@aol.com

Florida Historical Society

435 Brevard Ave., Cocoa, FL 32922

Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN)

1311 North US Hwy. 1, Bldg. 1/210, Titusville, FL 32796. 321-433-5042

Genealogical Society of North Brevard,

P.O. Box 897, Titusville, FL 32781-0879

Grant Historical Society

P.O. Box 44, Grant, FL 32949

Indian River Anthropological Society,

Tom Pender, President, 3365 Heather Dr., Titusville, FL 32796

The Mosquito Beaters

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

National Railway Historical Society,

Florida East Coast Chapter, P.O. Box 2034, Cocoa, FL 32923-2034

North Brevard Historical Society

301 S. Washington Ave., Titusville, FL 32789

Old Town Hall History Center,

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

Preservation & Education Trust, Inc.,

P.O. Box 560823, Rockledge, FL 32956-0823

Rockledge Heritage Foundation

Amanda Mitskevich, 27 Barton Ave., Rockledge, FL 32955

Sons of the American Revolution.

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

South Brevard Historical Society

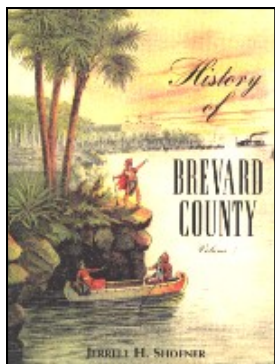
Betty Preece, President, P.O. Box 1064, Melbourne, FL 32902-1064

Town of Melbourne Village Historical Preservation Commission,

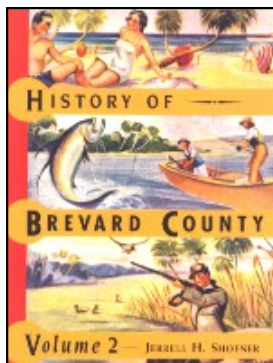
Jean Henderson, Secretary, 724-0070

The History of Brevard County

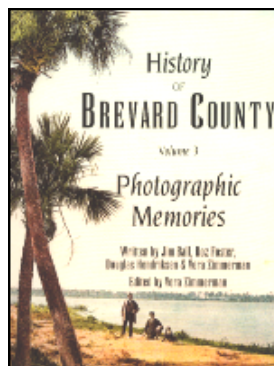
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