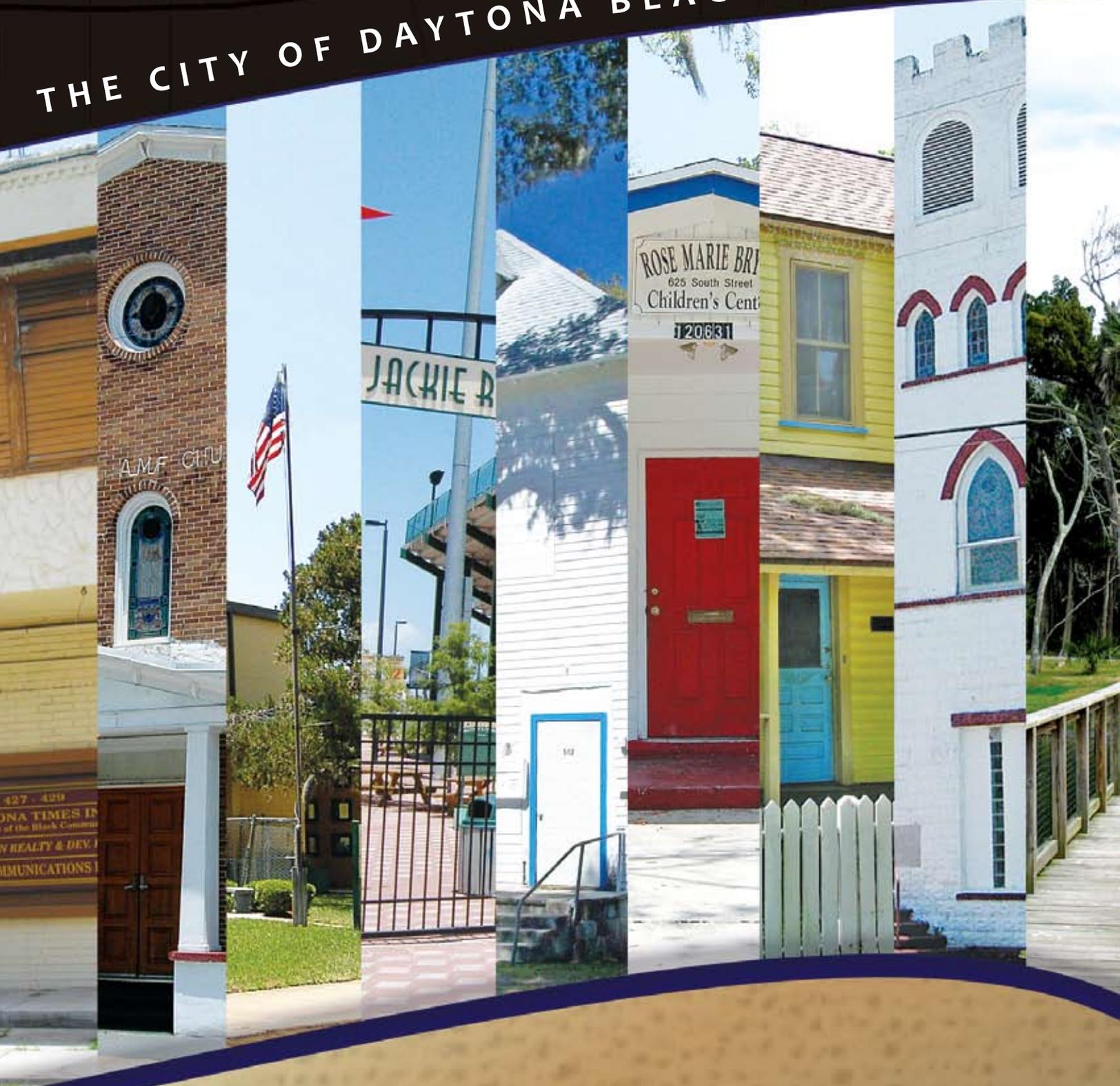


THE CITY OF DAYTONA BEACH

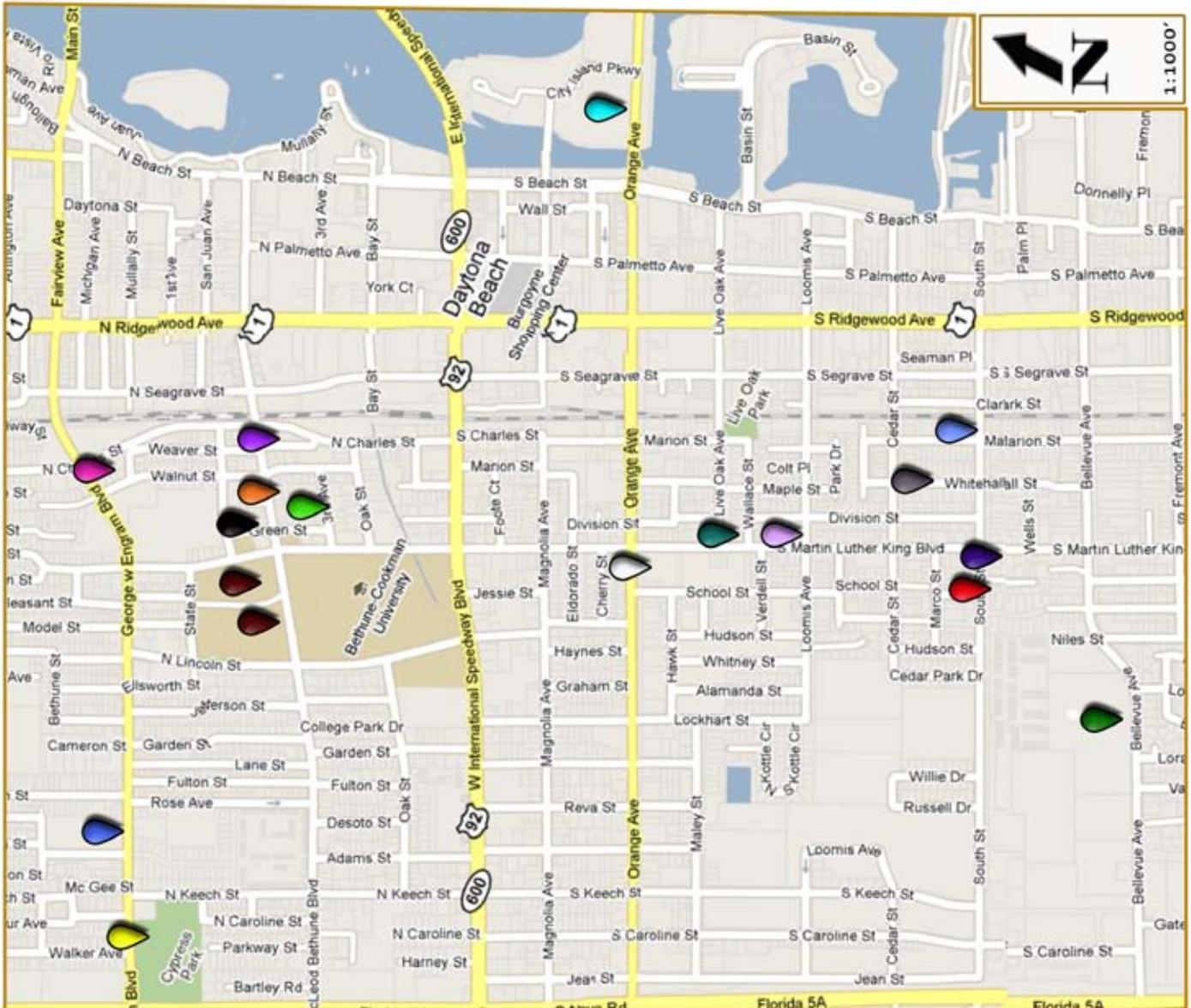


Black Heritage TRAIL

MIDTOWN



BLACK HERITAGE TRAIL MAP



- Samuel Butts Archaeological Park
- Mount Bethel Baptist Church
- Howard Thurman Home
- Rose Marie Bryon Children's Center
- Masonic Lodge No. 36
- Jackie Robinson Ballpark
- John H. Dickerson Community Center
- Mount Zion AME Church
- Daytona Times Building
- Bethune-Cookman University
- Mary McLeod Bethune Home & Gravesite
- Stewart Memorial (Richard V. Moore Center)
- New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church
- Daisy Stocking Park
- Campbell Hotel
- Bonner Elementary
- Cypress Street Park & Recreation Center
- Greater Friendship Baptist Church

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DEDICATION



This publication was inspired by and is dedicated to the late

Yvonne Scarlett-Golden (1926 - 2006)

Served four terms (eight years) as Daytona Beach Commissioner, Zone 5, and mayor, 2003-2006



Native Daytonan Yvonne Scarlett-Golden attended Campbell Street Elementary, Kaiser Laboratory and Campbell Street Senior High. She received a Bachelor of Science degree, with honors, from Bethune-Cookman College, and a Master of Arts degree in education from Boston University, where she was inducted into the Pi Lambda Theta Honor Society. In 1999, she received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Bethune-Cookman College.

Scarlett-Golden began her teaching career in Florida, where she taught at the elementary, middle school, high school and college levels. She then accompanied her husband, U.S. Air Force serviceman Charles H. "Toby" Golden (deceased), to Taipei, Taiwan, where she joined the faculty of the Taipei American School. Upon returning to the United States, she and her family settled in San Francisco, where Scarlett-Golden worked for San Francisco's Unified School District, serving as a teacher/counselor and then principal of Alamo Park High School for 20 years. While at Alamo Park, she spearheaded a successful effort to rename the school in commemoration of Ida B. Wells, the anti-lynching and feminist crusader of the late 1800s and early 1900s. Ida B. Wells High School became the first high school in San Francisco's Unified School District to honor an African-American woman.

“...a valiant educator, educational leader par excellence and civil rights *trailblazer* who reflected the best thinking of our times”

Upon her retirement after 25 years in the city’s schools, San Francisco Mayor Frank Jordan declared May 22, 1992, as Yvonne Scarlett-Golden Day. A broad spectrum of community citizens proclaimed her academic excellence and principled leadership, and syndicated columnist Warren Hinckle wrote in the *San Francisco Independent* that Yvonne Scarlett-Golden was, “one of the great women of our time [who taught] kids, especially African-American kids, to gamble on hope when their main chance was despair, and to listen for the first robin of spring in the dead of winter.” Congresswoman Carrie P. Meek praised Yvonne Scarlett-Golden as “a valiant educator, educational leader par excellence and civil rights trailblazer who reflected the best thinking of our times [and stood] at the forefront of social change[,] ... stirring the soul of this nation regarding our moral responsibility to all Americans.”

Yvonne Scarlett-Golden received many awards and honors for her contributions and work with children, single parents, and elderly programs in our community. Her participation in organizations and advisory boards include:

- Founder and CEO, Community Resource Center of Daytona Beach, Inc.
- Board Member, Lively Arts Center Board of Directors, Daytona Beach, FL
- Board Member, The Sickle Cell Disease Association, Volusia County Chapter, Inc.
- Member, Women’s Advisory Council, Bethune-Cookman College
- Life Member: National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
- Member, Halifax Associates
- Trustee, Mount Bethel Baptist Church



CRITERIA

The criteria for placement of property on the Daytona Beach Black Heritage Trail shall be as follows:

1. Its character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage, archaeological or cultural characteristics of the African-American community.
2. Its location as a site of a significant African-American local event.
3. Its identification with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the development of the African-American community.
4. It should visibly retain those physical characteristics that were present during the period for which it or the associated person is significant.



INTRODUCTION

To most residents and visitors, Daytona Beach is best known as the “Birthplace of Speed,” or as the playground for rich and famous snowbirds of yesteryear. Mary McLeod Bethune and the school that she founded, now Bethune-Cookman University, are also quite familiar. But much of the city’s history, especially that of its African-American citizens, is little known and even less recognized. The Daytona Beach Black Heritage Trail is designed to illustrate the many aspects of the city’s black heritage, including those long neglected.

The Trail is far from a comprehensive assemblage of Daytona’s black heritage. Numerous personages and institutions that exemplified the contributions of black Daytona residents remain only in people’s recollections, photographs or documents. For example, the homes of John Tolliver and Thaddeus Gooden, Daytona’s two black founding fathers, are gone. Among the town’s earliest residents, Tolliver and Gooden were two of the 26 citizens who voted to incorporate the town of Daytona in 1876. Tolliver was particularly important to old Daytona’s development. At a time when prejudice and discrimination against African-Americans were on the rise following the collapse of Reconstruction, Tolliver was able to overcome those obstacles. Between 1879 and 1881 the town council repeatedly awarded him road-building contracts, the largest coming in 1881 when Daytona accepted his bid to construct a portion of Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona’s main thoroughfare which later became U. S. Route 1. Undoubtedly his expertise was widely respected; although, it helped that he underbid his closest competitor by \$100.

During the early 1900s, Daytona had an international reputation as an elegant resort and automobile racing capital, but what helped fuel Daytona’s engine of growth was its black majority. By 1905, in a city of 2,199 residents, there were 1,151 African-Americans. It was black labor that both enabled the tourist industry to function and supplied most of the workers who built the railroads which brought the visitors here. By the early 1900s, racial segregation throughout the South had become pervasive, and Daytona’s burgeoning African-American population was relegated to three communities west of the Florida East Coast Railroad tracks: Midway, Waycross and Newtown. These three neighborhoods, as Howard Thurman noted, “formed a closely knit community of black people, surrounded by a white world.” However, Thurman lamented that the enforced segregation of the races produced, “black and white worlds...separated by a wall of quiet hostility.” Despite that hostility, black Daytona was able to construct vibrant institutions and produce men and women of remarkable stature. The black citizens, churches, schools, parks, community centers and fraternal organizations that are represented on the Daytona Beach Black Heritage Trail testify to these accomplishments. As you visit the sites along the Trail, remember that they represent only a fraction of the whole. Much of Daytona’s black heritage no longer can be identified through surviving structures; much more remains to be discovered and documented.



Samuel Butts Youth Archaeological Park

SAMUEL BUTTS YOUTH ARCHAEOLOGICAL PARK

750 Bellevue Avenue

For 20 years, Samuel Butts crisscrossed this site collecting artifacts of prehistoric humans and the bones of prehistoric animals. One of Daytona Beach's leading citizens and an amateur archaeologist, Mr. Butts found copious spear points, bone tools and pottery fragments of the Timucuan Indians as well as skeletal material from a mastodon that roamed Central Florida during the Ice Ages.

Realizing its archaeological significance, Mr. Butts registered the site with the Florida Division of Historic Resources in 1994, and the park was given its current name in 2004 by the City of Daytona Beach. Samuel Butts realized another important aspect of the park which bears his name. It is located in Waycross, the southernmost of Daytona's three historically black neighborhoods. He requested that the park, which includes a lake and is a habitat and sanctuary for aquatic life and migratory waterfowl, be dedicated to motivate youth to study the environment as well as the area's prehistory, natural history and cultural history.

MOUNT BETHEL INSTITUTIONAL BAPTIST CHURCH

700 South Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard

Founded in 1885, Mount Bethel's congregation initially worshipped on Fremont Avenue in a black neighborhood of Old Daytona known as Silver Hill. A few years later, the church moved to Church Street (now Marion Street). The church's first permanent structure on South Street in Waycross was erected during the early 1900s. The current Mount Bethel, built in 1921, is an elaborate Late Gothic Revival style church featuring a steeply pitched, front-facing gable roof and two corner towers. The building is constructed of rough faced concrete block, which adds to its Gothic appearance as does the side and corner wall buttresses and lancet windows. Mount Bethel is Daytona's oldest Baptist church, is the oldest church in Waycross and traditionally has had one of Daytona's largest black congregations. Its primary founder and first pastor was Joseph Brook Hankerson, who was elected Daytona's first African-American councilman in 1898. The renowned theologian and native Daytonan Howard Thurman was a member of Mount Bethel, as was Yvonne Scarlett-Golden, the first African-American mayor of Daytona Beach. From Mount Bethel's congregation grew several other Baptist churches, including Mount Zion and Shiloh Missionary.

Mount Bethel Institutional Baptist Church





Howard Thurman Home

HOWARD THURMAN HOME

614 Whitehall Street

Born on November 18, 1899, Howard Thurman lived in this home until he moved to Jacksonville to attend the Florida Academy Baptist High School, the closest high school available to black Daytonans in the 1910s.

Thurman received his undergraduate degree from Morehouse College, in Atlanta, Georgia in 1923 and was ordained a Baptist minister in 1925 after graduating from Colgate-Rochester Theological Seminary. In 1928, he returned to Atlanta to serve as director of religious life and professor of theology at Morehouse and Spelman colleges, and in 1932 was appointed dean of Rankin Chapel and professor of systematic theology at Howard University. While on sabbatical from Howard University, Thurman traveled to Burma, Ceylon, and India where he established a friendship with Mahatma Gandhi. Thurman was appointed dean of Marsh Chapel at Boston University in 1953, and after his retirement from Boston University in 1965, he returned to The Church for the Fellowship of All Peoples in San Francisco, America's first interracial church, which he founded in 1944. Thurman was the author of over 20 books and provided spiritual guidance for the civil rights movement. He was a mentor for many of the movement's key leaders including Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Vernon Jordan. Named a 20th century saint by *Ebony* magazine, Thurman was selected as one of America's 12 outstanding preachers in a nationwide poll conducted by *Life* magazine. He returned to Daytona Beach in 1963 to give the commencement address at Bethune-Cookman College. At that time, Daytona Beach officials organized a parade in Thurman's honor and presented him with a key to the city.

ROSE MARIE BRYON CHILDREN'S CENTER

625 South Street

Rose Marie Bryon came to Daytona Beach with her family in 1924 from White Springs, Florida. After graduating from Bethune-Cookman College, she embarked upon an illustrious teaching career in the public schools that spanned 42 years. In 1946, she organized the first Halloween party at the Cypress Street Recreation Center, where 253 children convened for Bible stories and refreshments. In 1947, she organized the Children's Crusade for Christ, which included a Boys Club, gardening and temperance leagues. She fought a yearlong battle in 1948 to equalize the pay of black and white teachers. At the time, black teachers earned only half as much as white teachers. An ordained minister in the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Ms. Bryon was inspired to build a community center that would help residents "remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy." Fundraisers, donations and a loan from the Federal Housing Authority in 1967 helped make the Rose Marie Bryon Children's Center a reality. Rose Marie Bryon raised one biological daughter, Joy, and 30 foster children, instilling in them a love for reading, education, volunteerism and the love of God.

Rose Marie Bryon Children's Center





Masonic Lodge No. 36

MASONIC LODGE NO. 36

512 South Street

Built in 1884, historic Fraternal Lodge No. 36 served as a gathering place for black men to discuss the current events of the day, and provided programs and services to the surrounding community. Over the years the lodge has been home to 10 other Masonic Orders. The main purpose of the lodge was to make good men better.

Instilling moral values and job skills regardless of one's military, political or religious backgrounds allowed the Masons of Fraternal Lodge No. 36 to teach the importance of self-improvement, and that helping others is an obligation that makes a difference for the good of the world. It is currently one of the few black Masonic Lodges in Florida still operating as originally intended. The two-story lodge is an example of Frame Vernacular architecture—the common wood frame construction techniques employed by lay or self-taught builders. The building has a rectangular plan and a hip roof with a hip dormer. The original wood shingles have been replaced with composition shingles.

JACKIE ROBINSON BALLPARK

103 Orange Avenue

The Daytona City Island Ballpark opened on June 4, 1914. During the 1920s, a grandstand with a press box was built behind home plate to replace the original wood bleachers, and two additional covered sections of grandstands were added along the first base line, along with a viewing area reserved for blacks. An uncovered bleacher along the third base line was also built at this time. On March 17, 1946, Jackie Robinson integrated modern professional baseball while playing here in a spring training game for the Montreal Royals, the Brooklyn Dodgers' Triple-A farm team. Although Robinson had integrated the playing field, black fans were forced to cheer from the segregated viewing area. The next year, Robinson would integrate major league baseball when he was called up by the Dodgers. The ballpark, currently home to the Daytona Cubs (Chicago Cubs' A farm team) of the Florida State League, was renamed Jackie Robinson Memorial Ballpark in 1990. That year, a commemorative bronze statue of Robinson by Montreal sculptor Jules LaSalle was dedicated. The statue is located near the ballpark's entrance. In November 1998, Jackie Robinson Ballpark was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Jackie Robinson Ballpark





John H. Dickerson Community Center

JOHN H. DICKERSON COMMUNITY CENTER

308 South Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard

What is now the Dickerson Center originally housed Campbell Street High School from 1948 until 1962, when the high school moved to Keech Street and Campbell Street Elementary moved into the vacated building. Campbell Street Elementary School closed in 1969 to comply with the school district's desegregation plans, and the building was left vacant. It remained in a state of disrepair until 1975, when a group of citizens led by former Campbell Street Elementary principal John H. Dickerson, Sr., convinced the Daytona Beach City Commission to purchase the property and renovate the building for use as a community center.

Following Campbell Street Elementary School's closure in 1969, Dickerson was transferred to Holly Hill Elementary, where he served as assistant principal until his retirement in 1979, after 42 years as a school administrator. Before his appointment as principal of Campbell Street Elementary, Dickerson had served as assistant principal of Highlands Elementary and principal of both Campbell Street High School and Campbell Street Adult School. Upon his retirement, the building that Dickerson had been instrumental in saving was renamed in his honor. The Dickerson Center currently contains some administrative offices for the city as well as recreational facilities. It had also housed the Dickerson Library which moved into a new facility on Keech Street in August 2001. Besides having an illustrious career as a school administrator, John Dickerson had an extensive record of community service that included membership on several boards and councils, co-chairman of the Daytona Beach Development Project, president of the Halifax Area Council on Human Relations, and chairman of the Campbell Street Community Improvement Association. John H. Dickerson died on June 28, 1980.

MOUNT ZION A.M.E. CHURCH

449 South Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard

One of the area's oldest African-American churches, Mount Zion, was founded in 1888 and initially serviced the spiritual needs of the black settlement of Freemanville, which was located several miles south of Daytona, in the northeast corner of Port Orange. The church moved to South Street in Daytona around 1900 and to its present site in 1924. As the congregation grew, several additions and improvements to the church have been made. A gospel choir was organized in 1951, a new parsonage was dedicated in 1971, and the church administrative offices were renovated during the late 1990s.

Mount Zion A.M.E. Church





Daytona Times Building

DAYTONA TIMES BUILDING

429 South Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard

Currently the home of the *Daytona Times*, Daytona Beach's only African-American newspaper, the *Daytona Times* building was originally owned by Walter Peterson, a black surgeon. Dr. Peterson sold the building in 1970 to another black physician, John R. Parnell. In 1981, Dr. Parnell sold the building to Charles Cherry, who had founded the *Daytona Times* in 1978. Mr. Cherry, who moved to Daytona Beach in 1952, became one of the community's leading civil rights activists, participating in sit-ins, marches and labor strikes during the 1960s and 1970s to bring about racial integration and social justice. He served as president of the Volusia County branch of the NAACP in 1971, was president of the Florida NAACP from 1974 to 1984 and afterwards headed the local chapter again. Mr. Cherry was elected to the Daytona Beach City Commission in 1995 and served as a city commissioner until his death in 2004. Following Mr. Cherry's death, his two sons, Charles Cherry II and Glenn Cherry, took over the publication of the *Daytona Times* and the family's other black-oriented newspaper, the *Florida Courier*, located in Fort Pierce. The Cherry brothers own Tama Broadcasting, the largest privately black-owned media company in Florida, which consists of the *Daytona Times*, the *Florida Courier*, plus 11 radio stations in Florida, Georgia and South Carolina.

BETHUNE-COOKMAN UNIVERSITY

640 Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Boulevard

Daytona Educational and Industrial Training School for Negro Girls was founded by Mary McLeod Bethune in 1904. The school at first consisted of a two-story frame building owned by John Williams, a black carpenter. The rent was \$11 per month, but Mrs. Bethune only had \$1.50 to offer as down payment. On October 4, 1904, the school opened with just five little girls whose parents paid \$.50 a week tuition. Mrs. Bethune scavenged the city dump heaps and refuse piles of resort hotels for supplies and clothing for her students. Packing crates and boxes were used as furniture, upturned baskets served as chairs, and the little girls slept on a castoff double bed with a mattress of donated corn sacks that Mrs. Bethune had sewn together and stuffed with Spanish moss. Groceries consisted of donations from generous neighbors or were purchased from the proceeds of sweet potato pies baked by Mrs. Bethune and sold to black railroad workers.

The school soon moved to the only available location, the city dump. Selling her famous sweet potato pies, Mrs. Bethune was able to obtain the \$5 down payment for the property. Mrs. Bethune impressed several wealthy white vacationers and winter residents with her strong will, spirit of sacrifice and ambitions for the school. They, in turn, provided the financial resources that enabled the school to develop. The school's early benefactors included oil baron John D. Rockefeller, James N. Gamble (of Procter and Gamble fame), sewing machine innovator Thomas White and author Harrison Rhodes. In 1923, the school affiliated with the Methodist Church and became a co-educational junior college after merging with Cookman Institute of Jacksonville, Florida. In 1942, Bethune-Cookman College became a four-year institution, and in 2007 the school became Bethune-Cookman University.

Bethune-Cookman University



Photo Credit: Bethune-Cookman University



Photo Credit: Bethune-Cookman University

Mary McLeod Bethune Home and Gravesite

MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE HOME AND GRAVESITE

640 Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Boulevard

The Bethune home was built in 1915 and is located on the campus of Bethune-Cookman University. The home contains fascinating memorabilia and artifacts from Mrs. Bethune's illustrious career. Having founded Bethune-Cookman College and serving as its first president, Mrs. Bethune was an internationally renowned educator. However, her accomplishments ranged far beyond the college and the field of education. In 1935, she founded the National Council of Negro Women, and also that year she was awarded the NAACP's prestigious Spingarn Medal for distinguished merit and achievement. In 1936, Mrs. Bethune became the highest ranking African-American administrator in the federal government after being appointed director of the National Youth Administration's Office of Minority Affairs by President Franklin Roosevelt. In 1945, she was chosen by the U.S. State Department to serve as an official consultant at the San Francisco Conference, where the United Nations Charter was drawn up and signed. Among the home's highlights is the guest bedroom where her close friend, first lady Eleanor Roosevelt, stayed when visiting Daytona Beach. Mrs. Bethune lived in the home until her death on May 18, 1955. The grave and memorial are located just west of the home on the university's campus. The home was declared a national historic landmark by the National Park Service in 1975.

STEWART MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH

(Richard V. Moore Center) 554 Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Boulevard

Stewart Memorial Methodist Church was founded in 1893 by Reverend Thomas H.B. Walker. It is not known where the church held its first meetings; however, a small, white building on the corner of Second Avenue (now Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Boulevard) and Spruce Street was later purchased. Stewart Chapel was built at that location around 1895 with funds donated by the Reverend M. L. Stewart, a retired Methodist minister who wintered in Daytona.

The building was named in his honor. In the 1920s, the original structure was demolished and construction began on a new building. Completion of the new building was delayed by a storm in 1926 which damaged the partially finished walls. The two-story building, finally completed in 1936, contained a sanctuary, choir room, Sunday school, dining room, kitchen and pastor's study. The delay caused by the 1926 storm resulted in a basement being added to the original plans. Initially the basement provided space for church services while the building was being completed, and later it was used as a dining room. Stewart Memorial moved to a new facility in 1973, and the vacated structure was sold to the city of Daytona Beach and converted into the Richard V. Moore Community Center. Dr. Moore was president of Bethune-Cookman College from 1947-1974, and continued to work as a tireless civic leader until his death in 1994.

Stewart Memorial Methodist Church





New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church

NEW MOUNT ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

515 Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Boulevard

Black Baptists in Daytona initially attended Mount Bethel Baptist Church, founded in 1885 in Waycross, a black community on the city's south side. In 1898, Mount Zion Baptist Church was organized in Midway to meet the needs of the city's rapidly growing north side African-American population.

Church members first met in an enclosed portion of a saw mill. However, under the leadership of Mount Zion's first minister, Reverend Walter Jones, a small structure resembling a house was soon erected. After a fire heavily damaged this structure, a new building was completed in 1910. Continued growth and prosperity led to the construction of the current building during the 1940s under the leadership of Reverend George O. Sumner. A distinguishing characteristic of the church edifice is the numerous ornate stained glass windows. During the late 1960s, the church purchased additional property, and a new parsonage was constructed on Oak Street. The Education Building, which housed the Sunday school and auxiliary activities, was completed in 1989 and dedicated in memory of Reverend George Sumner.

DAISY STOCKING PARK

550 Third Street

Daisy Stocking Park is named after Daisy Hardy Stocking, one of Daytona's foremost humanitarians and medical practitioners. Born in Florence, South Carolina, on October 24, 1888, Daisy Hardy came to Daytona in 1916 at the behest of fellow South Carolinian and Scotia Seminary alumni Mary McLeod Bethune. Having trained as a registered nurse at Lincoln Hospital and Home in New York, Ms. Hardy supervised McLeod Hospital on the campus of Daytona Normal and Industrial Institute (now Bethune-Cookman University) from 1916 to 1918. Following their marriage in 1918, she assisted Dr. John T. Stocking in his medical practice, but she continued to serve her community. Daisy Stocking organized the Volusia County Tuberculosis Association and served as a volunteer nurse for the Girl Scout camp for four years and led the Girl Scout program for more than 15 years. For 22 years she chaired the board of directors of Sara Hunt Orphanage, which flourished from 1924 to 1970. During World War II, Daisy Stocking chaired the Negro Division War Bond Drive and served as Nurse in Charge of the First Aid Station. At various times she also served on the board of directors of the Community Chest Fund and United Fund. To honor her decades of service to humanity, the Chicago Committee of 100 presented her with the Good American Award in 1963. In 1964, she was inducted into the Methodist Hall of Fame in philanthropy, and that same year the National Council of Negro Women named her Woman of the Year. In 1967, Daisy Stocking was named the local Civitan Senior Citizen of the Year. In 1971, three years after her death, Daytona Beach City Commission created Daisy T. Stocking Park, located one block south of Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Boulevard.

Daisy Stocking Park





Campbell Hotel

CAMPBELL HOTEL

Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Boulevard and Walnut Street

During the Jim Crow era, African-Americans wishing to sleep over in Daytona Beach had limited options: stay with a friend or relative or in a black boarding house or hotel. Owned by Minnie Wiggins Campbell and Leigh Campbell during the 1950s, the Campbell Hotel was one of the few black hotels in Daytona. The structure, also known as the Engram building, housed the Stardust night club as well. It was not until after the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act that blacks would freely be admitted to the many hotels, motels, restaurants and clubs that populated Daytona Beach. With integration, however, establishments such as the Campbell Hotel quickly passed into history.

BONNER ELEMENTARY

868 George W. Engram Boulevard

Bonner Elementary School, formerly known as Cypress Street Elementary School, was built in 1926. Initially, it consisted of a two-story block and stucco building with two brick wings. The school's name was changed in 1954 to honor its first and longest-serving principal, Evelyn Bonner, who headed the school from 1927 to 1959. Before her tenure at Cypress Street Elementary, Ms. Bonner taught at Campbell Street Elementary for 16 years. Following her retirement, Ms. Bonner continued to visit the school almost daily until her death in 1977 at the age of 85. In 1996, the National Park Service added Bonner Elementary to the National Register of Historic Places. Bonner Elementary School was one of several Volusia County Schools closed in 2008. The building currently houses Chiles Academy, a charter high school for teen parents and their children.

Bonner Elementary





Cypress Park and Recreation Center

CYPRESS PARK AND RECREATION CENTER

981 George W. Engram Boulevard

Created in 1929, Cypress Street Park, which included Kelly Field, gained considerable attention in 1946 as a spring training practice field for the Montreal Royals, a minor league team for the Brooklyn Dodgers. On March 17, Jackie Robinson, a new member of the Royals, integrated professional baseball in a game at City Island Ball Park between the Royals and the Dodgers. But throughout that spring, the Royals and the Dodgers practiced at Kelly Field, much to the delight of the neighborhood's black residents.

In 1949, a recreation hall was built at Cypress Street Park. Designed as an auditorium for Daytona Beach's African-American community, the city built the Cypress Street Recreation Center so that the new Peabody Auditorium, located on the beachside, could be reserved for whites. At that time, southern communities adhered to the "separate but equal" doctrine established by the Supreme Court in 1896—separate facilities for blacks and whites were permitted as long as they were equal. However, when Peabody Auditorium opened in 1949, a black organization, the West Side Business and Professional Men's Association, sued the city demanding that blacks be admitted, pointing out that the Cypress Street Recreation Center contained half the seating and cost one-tenth as much to build as Peabody. In 1952, the federal district court in Jacksonville, Florida ruled that blacks had to be admitted to public performances at Peabody Auditorium.

GREATER FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

539 George W. Engram Boulevard

On April 6, 1900, Reverend E. Thompson and 12 spiritual followers congregated at the home of Deacon and Sister Cromartie on Second Avenue (now Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune Boulevard) and formed what was to be later known as Friendship Baptist Church. During the 1930s, the church, which had faced Spruce Street, was reconstructed to face the main thoroughfare, Cypress Street (now George W. Engram Boulevard). Also during the 1930s, Mother Hunt, who headed an orphanage on Cypress Street, donated the church bell that is still used.

During the early 1960s, the church was renovated, afterwards acquiring the name Greater Friendship Baptist Church. In February 1980, the church was almost destroyed in what was referred to as "The Big Fire." While the congregation worshipped at Bethune-Cookman College, local churches helped raise money to repair the damage. The renovated church reopened in March 1982.

Greater Friendship Baptist Church



Photo Credit: Greater Friendship Baptist Church



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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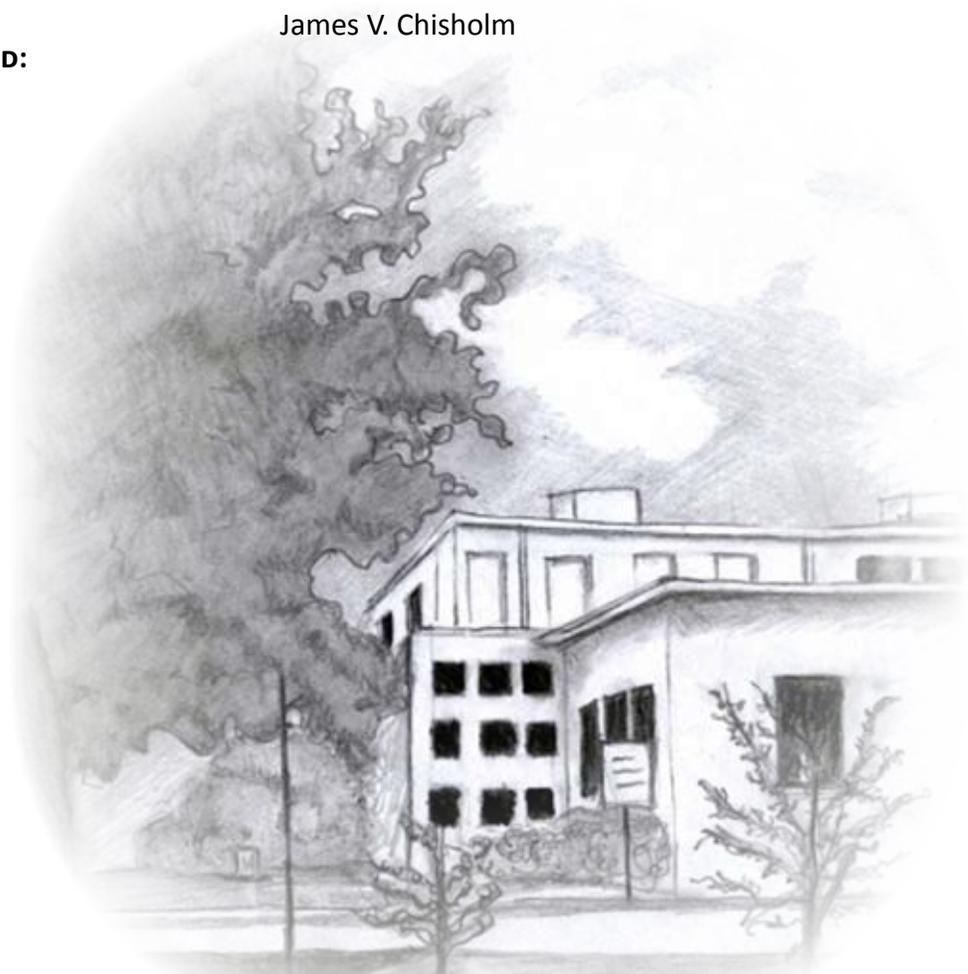


Illustration Credit: Bonnie Morris

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A Trail of African-American History in Daytona Beach, FL

