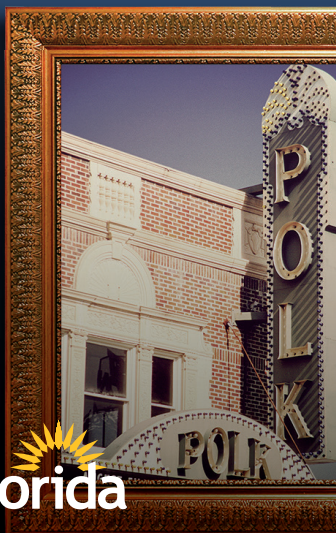




# CENTRAL FLORIDA **HISTORY & HERITAGE**

GUIDE TO  
POLK COUNTY



Visit  
**Central Florida**



WELCOME TO  
**POLK COUNTY**  
THE HEART OF  
CENTRAL FLORIDA

With a history that stretches back 12,000 years, our heritage is both rich and diverse. From the Paleo-Indians who first set foot on the Florida peninsula, to the intrepid pioneers who founded the cities we know today, many people have made their mark.

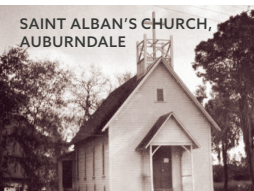
The Polk County History Center is a great place to begin your journey through time. Located in the Old Polk County Courthouse in downtown Bartow, the History Center has been enriching Polk County's future by preserving its past since 1998.

This guide has been prepared especially for those who want to step into Polk County's rich history. These pages will help you navigate the Polk County Heritage Trail, which explores more than 150 years of Polk County history and culture. Stops include historic homes, vintage hotels, museums and much more. From Frank Lloyd Wright to Civil War battles, there are many stories for you to uncover. You can devote one day or several days to the Heritage Trail, and the sites listed in this brochure are an excellent place to start.

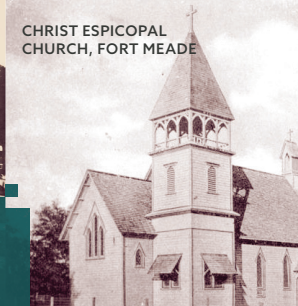
Visit [www.polkhistorycenter.org](http://www.polkhistorycenter.org) to find additional recommendations.

**SUGGESTED  
SINGLE-DAY TRIPS**  
ON THE HERITAGE TRAIL

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| ■ LAKELAND      | ■ HAINES CITY  |
| ■ MULBERRY      | ■ DUNDEE       |
| ■ POLK CITY     | ■ AUBURNDALE   |
| ■ LAKE WALES    | ■ LAKE ALFRED  |
| ■ FROSTPROOF    | ■ WINTER HAVEN |
| ■ BABSON PARK   | ■ BARTOW       |
| ■ DAVENPORT     | ■ HOMELAND     |
| ■ LOUGHMAN      | ■ FORT MEADE   |
| ■ LAKE HAMILTON |                |



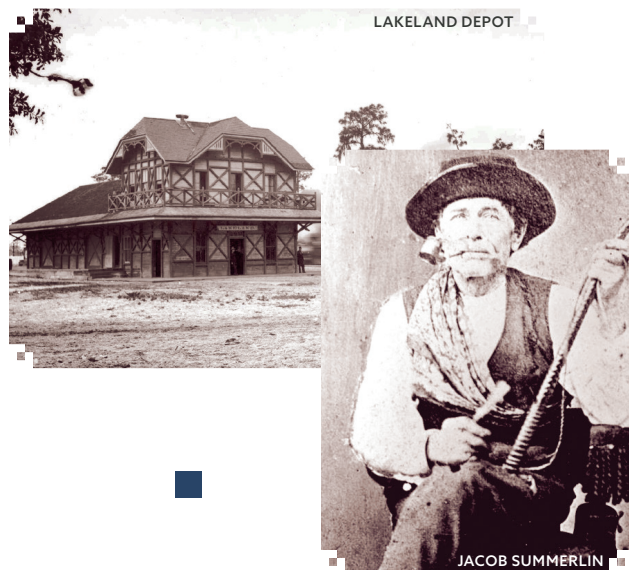




## THE POLK COUNTY STORY

Incentivized by the Armed Occupation Act, pioneers began moving farther south into Florida in 1842. An 1849 hurricane in Hillsborough County and the allure of Polk County's open grazing land pushed cattlemen and settlers alike into the center of the state. As immigration increased, the new Floridians established small farms, orange groves, one-room schools and churches. In 1861, Polk County (named in honor of former President James K. Polk) was signed into legislation.

In 1884, Henry B. Plant brought the South Florida Railroad through Polk County from Sanford to Tampa, generating explosive growth. Towns like Lakeland, Auburndale, Lake Alfred and Winter Haven rapidly developed along the new railroad. When the first commercial shipment of phosphate left the area in 1888, a new industry was born. By 1910, the population had reached more than 37,000. Shortly thereafter, paved roads and beautiful homes replaced the small log shacks that had characterized the early towns and villages. By the 1950s, Polk County had become the heart of Florida's politics and economy.



## HISTORIC ROOTS

Appropriately, the History Center has an interesting history of its own. The "Vintage Courthouse" in Bartow is actually the third in a line of county courthouses built on this land, which was donated by cattle baron Jacob Summerlin in 1867. Polk County's third courthouse was built in 1908 and used until 1987, when construction was completed on the county courthouse currently in use.

On September 9, 1989, the 1908 courthouse was added to the National Register of Historic Places. After 10 years and \$3 million in renovations, it reopened as the Polk County History Museum. Today, the History Center includes the museum, featuring both permanent and rotating exhibits, as well as the Historical and Genealogical Library – one of the largest collections of its kind in the southeastern United States.

We hope you enjoy the Polk County Heritage Trail. If you have any questions, the staff at the Polk County History Center will be happy to assist you.





# RESOURCES

Go to VisitCentralFlorida.com to enhance your history and heritage tour experience. The website includes: Fun Adventures and Attractions, Must Sees, Dining, Shopping, Outdoor Activities and lots more.

Interested in discovering more? Download the Florida Stories and Field Trip apps to your phone or mobile device. Florida Stories takes you on a guided tour of the historic districts in Bartow and Lake Wales while Field Trip notifies you of unique facts and additional historic landmarks along the way. Both apps are free and available from the iPhone or Google Play stores.

The Polk County History Center is your first stop for heritage information and contains a museum and research library. Historic sites listed in this brochure are also featured on Heritage Trail, a series produced for the History Center by PGTV. Visit polkhistorycenter.org to view the videos and find us on Facebook at facebook.com/polkcountyhistorycenter.

## HAPPY TRAILS!

We hope you enjoy the Polk County Heritage Trail. If you have any questions, the staff at the Polk County History Center will be happy to assist you.

### MAP LEGEND

- |              |        |          |
|--------------|--------|----------|
| Architecture | School | District |
| Cemetery     | Museum | Festival |
| Church       | Marker | Other    |



#### 1 BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HOLLAND HOUSE

590 E Stanford

Childhood home of Spessard L. Holland, former FL Governor and US Senator. (NRHP) Built in 1895.

#### 2 L.B. BROWN HOUSE

470 S Second Ave. • 863-944-6136

Possibly the only remaining house in Florida built and owned by a former slave. Museum open by appointment only. (NRHP) Built in 1884.

#### 3 OAKHILL HISTORIC CEMETERY

W Parker St. (between Dudley & S Mill)

Pioneers Buried Here: Readding Blount, Riley Blount, St. Parker, Gen. E.M. Law and Jacob Summerlin. (NRHP) Est 1848.

#### 4 FORT CARROLL

3350 FL-60 (at 91 Mine Road)

Approximate location of stockade-type depot established in 1841. The fort was abandoned that same year in favor of Fort Cummings (Lake Alfred).

#### 5 FORT FRASER

Intersection of U.S. 98 & C.R. 540A

Located on the Fort Fraser Trail, the marker commemorates the fort established by Gen. Zachary Taylor (2nd Seminole War).

#### 6 FORT BLOUNT

Intersection of Broadway and Main St.

Commemorates approximate site of the Blount Family home which was a refuge for settlers during the Third Seminole War.

#### 7 POLK COUNTY HISTORY CENTER

100 E Main St. • 863-534-4386

Home to permanent and rotating exhibits and the county's genealogical and research library. (NRHP) Built in 1908.

#### 8 BARTOW AIR BASE MUSEUM

5001 U.S. 17 #400 • 863-533-1195

Features WWII memorabilia. Formerly the Bartow Army Air Field. Built in 1940.

#### 9 SUMMERLIN INSTITUTE

590 S Wilson Ave.

Site of Polk County's first public school, founded in 1887. Original cornerstone on display, current structure built circa 1920s.

#### 10 SOUTH FLORIDA MILITARY COLLEGE

1140 S Broadway

Site of school founded by Confederate General Evander McIvor Law in 1895.

#### 11 NORTHEAST BARTOW HISTORIC RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT

Boundaries: Jackson Ave., 1st Ave., Church St. and Boulevard St.

27 historical buildings constructed in frame vernacular, masonry vernacular and various revival styles. (NRHP) Built 1886-1925.

#### 12 SOUTH BARTOW HISTORIC DISTRICT

Boundaries: Floral Ave., 1st Ave., Main St. and Vine St.

176 historical buildings built in a variety of styles, many by professional architects. (NRHP) Constructed between 1885-1941.

#### 13 BARTOW HISTORIC DOWNTOWN DISTRICT

Boundaries: Davidson St., Summerlin St., Broadway Ave. and Floral Ave.

Architectural styles include Masonry Vernacular and Classical Revival whose period of significance spans 1885 to 1935.



## HOMELAND



### 1 ALAFIA RIVER RENDEZVOUS

1000 Old Fort Meade Road • 863-603-3452

The Alafia River Rendezvous is one of the largest living history events in the southeast. Thousands gather each year to establish a camp on the site of the Florida Frontiersmen club property and reenact life before 1840.

### 2 KISSENGEN SPRING

2200 County Road 640

Popular recreation site from 1880s–1950s. Once discharged 20 million gallons per day into the Peace River.

### 3 HOMELAND HERITAGE PARK

249 Church Avenue • 863-534-3766

Historical park containing many of Polk County's oldest buildings.

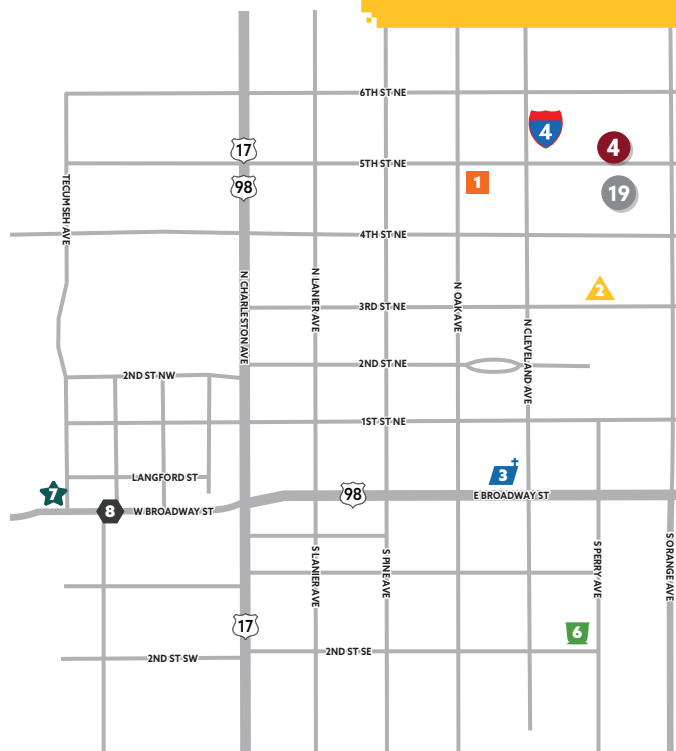


HOMELAND HERITAGE PARK

### HOMELAND HERITAGE PARK CHURCH



## FORT MEADE



### 1 W. HENRY LEWIS HOME

424 N Oak Avenue

This Queen Anne-style house was built for cattleman and citrus-grower W. Henry Lewis. (NRHP) Built in 1901.

### 2 HERITAGE PARK

410 3rd Street NE

Known as the Old Fort, the site was home and military headquarters for Lt. George G. Meade. A second marker commemorates Lt. Gen Thomas J. Stonewall as having served at Fort Meade (1850–1851).

### 3 CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

331 E Broadway

Oldest church currently in use in Polk County. (NRHP) Built circa 1887.

### 4 BATTLE OF BOWLEGS CREEK RE-ENACTMENT & HERITAGE FESTIVAL

1639 Frostproof Highway

Annual festival reflects Fort Meade's history, including Battle of Bowlegs Creek re-enactment.

### 5 FLORIDA FLYWHEELERS ANTIQUE ENGINE CLUB

7000 Avon Park Cutoff Road

Located on 240 acres, between Avon Park and Fort Meade. For fans of engines from the by-gone years. Festival held every February.

### 6 WILLOUGHBY TILLIS BATTLE SITE

2nd Street SE in City Park

Marks battle between Seminole Indians and Army soldiers led by Lt. Carlton.

### FORT MEADE HISTORICAL MUSEUM

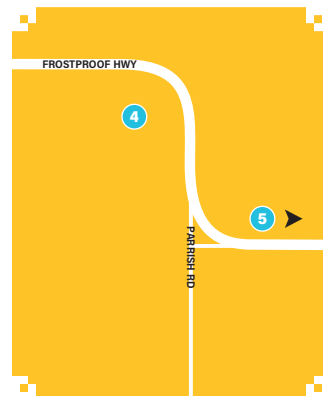
One Tecumseh Avenue • 863-285-7474

Local artifacts, including a historic train, are housed in Fort Meade's first school building.

### 8 FORT MEADE HISTORIC DISTRICT

214 W Broadway Street

Walking tour map of this historic district available at the Fort Meade Chamber of Commerce. (NRHP)



# LAKE ALFRED



## 1 BIGGAR BUILDING

115 Lake Shore Way

Lake Alfred's downtown retail center since the 1920s.

## 2 HISTORIC MACKAY HOME

276 Mackay Boulevard • 863-291-5272

Built by Scottish entrepreneur Alexander Mackay. Outstanding example of Craftsman style architecture. Built in 1915.

## 3 LAKE ALFRED HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

210 Seminole Avenue Houses Lake Alfred's historic display. Formerly the Lake Alfred Bank, built in 1925. Open Saturdays 11am-2pm.

## 4 UF CITRUS RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTER

700 Experiment Station Road  
863-956-1151

Oldest and largest off-campus research center in the UF's Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences. Originally named the Citrus Experiment Station. Built in 1917.

## 5 W.E. JONES BUILDING

160 Haines Boulevard

Formerly the Lake Alfred Citrus Growers Association Packing House. Built in 1922.

## 6 SOUTHERN GARDENS

255 E Main Street

Formerly the Lake Alfred Hotel. Built in 1917.

## 7 OAK GROVE CEMETERY

616 Experiment Station Road

Pioneer families buried here: Posey, Ohlinger and Mincey.

## 8 FORT CUMMINGS MARKER

185 S Lake Shore Way

Marker commemorates the fort established during the Second Seminole War. Named in honor of Col. Alexander Cummings of the Fourth Infantry.

# AUBURNDALE

## 1 AUBURNDALE CITRUS GROWERS ASSOCIATION PACKING HOUSE

214 Orange Street

This historic citrus packing house is Auburndale's only remaining historical industrial building. (NRHP) Built in 1920.

## 2 AUBURNDALE CITY HALL

One Bobby Green Plaza

Originally housed the police and fire departments, later used as everything from a library to the mayor's office. (NRHP) Built in 1927.

## 3 EARLY AUBURNDALE RESIDENCE

212 Howard Street

An example of the frame vernacular construction style, popular in the 1900s with self-taught builders. Currently a tea room and bistro. Built in 1908.

## 4 TRIANGLE BUILDING

102 Main Street

The only 1912 building to survive Auburndale's three downtown fires (1912, 1913 and 1915).

## 5 EPHRAIM MIKEL BAYNARD SECOND HOME/MUSEUM

208 W Lake Avenue • 863-965-5545

Former home of Auburndale's founder, restored in the 1990s by the city and students from Auburndale High School. Open by appointment only. (NRHP) Built circa 1894.

## 6 PATTERSON RETAIL BUILDING

208 E Park Street

Among the first masonry vernacular structures in downtown Auburndale. John Patterson commissioned construction after a 1916 fire destroyed the preceding wooden structure.

## 7 HISTORIC SEABOARD AIR LINE DEPOT

120 W Park Street • 863-965-5545

In 1960, SAL operated more than 4,000 miles of road from Richmond to Miami. By appointment only. Built in 1923.

## 8 FIRST FIRE ENGINE

100 Ariana Avenue

The 1925 American LaFrance fire engine was delivered to the city on June 23, 1925 via freight train. In 2001 the historic engine was placed on permanent display.

## 9 STREET ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

202 Ponotoc Street • 863-967-2130

Community-built church featuring three stained glass windows created by C.E. Langley in 1913. Built in 1898.

## 10 SPIRIT OF THE BUFFALO POW WOW

1052 U.S. 92 W

Held every January at International Market World, featuring Native American food, music and more.

## AUBURNDALE PARKS AND RECREATION BUILDING

119 W Park Street • 863-965-5545

Houses Auburndale's historic display. Open Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm.





# WINTER HAVEN



## 1 1940 PUBLIX SUPER MARKET

**197 W Central Avenue**

George W. Jenkins opened the first Publix Food Store on 4th Street NW in 1930. Ten years later he opened his dream store, the first freestanding, Publix Super Market, at this site. Built in 1940.

## 2 CYPRESS GARDENS AT LEGOLAND® FLORIDA RESORT

**One Legoland Way • 877-350-5346**

Original botanical gardens have been preserved. Must pay LEGOLAND® admission for access. Circa 1936.

## 3 WINTER HAVEN WOMAN'S CLUB

**660 Pope Avenue NW • 863-325-8411**

The Winter Haven Woman's Club was founded in 1913 under the direction of Dr. Mary Jewett. The historic clubhouse is now home to the Winter Haven History Museum. (NRHP) Built in 1923.

## 4 RITZ THEATRE

**267 W Central Avenue • 863-295-9900**

Hosted vaudeville shows and movies. Built in 1925.

## 5 INMAN PARK

**U.S. 17 at Avenue T NE**

Park and Memorial Garden on land homesteaded by Dr. Frederick W. Inman. In the mid 1880s, the Inman family established the Florence Villa Community & Frederick later served as first president of the Florida Citrus Exchange in 1909.

## 6 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

**637 6th Street NW • 863-294-3121**

Built to serve the influx of residents in the 1920s. The sanctuary was built with a Georgian façade in 1926.

## 7 INTERLAKEN HISTORIC RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT

**Boundaries: North shore of Lake Howard and the Southwest shore of Lake Mirror**

These 50 historic homes are prime examples of Colonial Revival architecture. (NRHP) Built circa 1910.

## 8 FLORENCE VILLA TRAINING SCHOOL

**762 Avenue O NE**

Constructed in 1924 to serve the African-American students in Florence Villa. Resources were provided in part by the Julius Rosenwald School Fund. In 1925 a fire destroyed the school and its furnishings.

## 9 1ST PUGHVILLE MARKER

**1601 3rd Street SE**

An early, predominantly African American neighborhood. Named for Reverend Charles Pugh, founder of Winter Haven's Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church.

RITZ THEATRE



WOMAN'S CLUB, WINTER HAVEN



CYPRESS GARDENS AT LEGOLAND® FLORIDA RESORT

# DAVENPORT



## 1 SWIMMING POOL

**3 S Allapaha Avenue**

A Works Progress Administration project. Built in 1939.

## 2 CITY HALL

**1 S Allapaha Avenue • 863-422-4507**

Originally held all of city hall, as well as the police and fire departments. Home to Davenport historic display. Built in 1927.

## 3 WHOOLERY HOUSE, THE HOTEL

**301 W Maple Street**

Davenport's second-oldest remaining structure. Previously used as a home, boarding house and hotel. Now a tea room. Built in 1911.

## 4 DAVENPORT GARAGE AND BATTERY COMPANY

**2 S Allapaha Avenue**

A flat-iron style building, the garage was constructed in 1925. Featured three gas pumps, a mechanical area and a large showroom. First auto dealership and service station in Davenport.

## 5 COMMUNITY CENTER

**5 S Allapaha Avenue**

This meeting hall was the largest project in Davenport constructed with federal relief assistance. Built in 1935.

## 6 C.S. TAYLOR CANDY FACTORY

**203 W Bay Street**

Built in 1930 to house Sun Dial Citrus Candies. Sold and renamed Taylor's Tropical Sweets in 1935.

## 7 THE MART

**124 W Bay Street**

First tenants included Sun Dial Citrus Candies and Trumbles Hardware and Beer Parlor. Home to the Davenport Post Office from 1928-1970. Built in 1927.

## 8 LITTLE ZION CHURCH

**3333 County Road 547 N**

Davenport's oldest remaining, and perhaps first, church. Built circa 1913.

# LOUGHMAN

## 1 LOUGHMAN CIVIC CENTER

**6253 County Road 547 N**

Believed to have been built by the Everglades Cypress Lumber Company circa 1906.

## 2 POLK COUNTY LINE - EAST MONUMENT

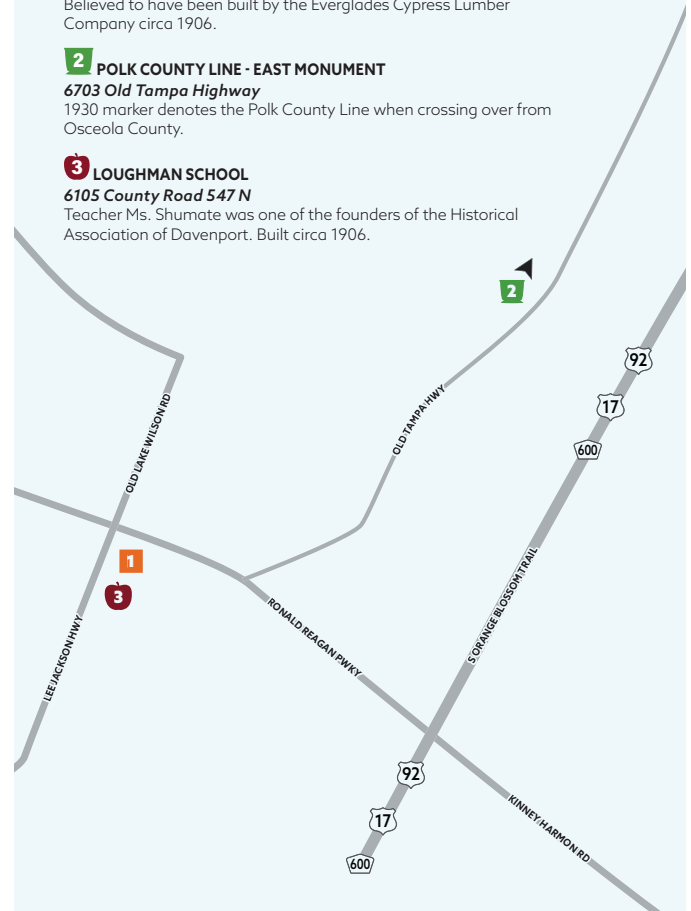
**6703 Old Tampa Highway**

1930 marker denotes the Polk County Line when crossing over from Osceola County.

## 3 LOUGHMAN SCHOOL

**6105 County Road 547 N**

Teacher Ms. Shumate was one of the founders of the Historical Association of Davenport. Built circa 1906.



## 9 DAVENPORT SCHOOL

**8 W Palmetto Street**

Davenport's sole example of classical revival style architecture. Part of the National Historic District in Davenport. Built in 1927.

## 10 WILSON PARK

**5 State Street N**

Wilson Park features markers commemorating Medal of Honor recipient, MSgt. James R. Hendrix and the historic Holly Hill Fruit Products, Inc. which is still in operation today.

## 11 HORSE CREEK FESTIVAL (BIENNIAL EVENT)

**1 S Allapaha Avenue**

Celebrate Davenport, originally named "Horse Creek," and all things Florida. Held each November during odd numbered years. [horsecreekfestival.org](http://horsecreekfestival.org)

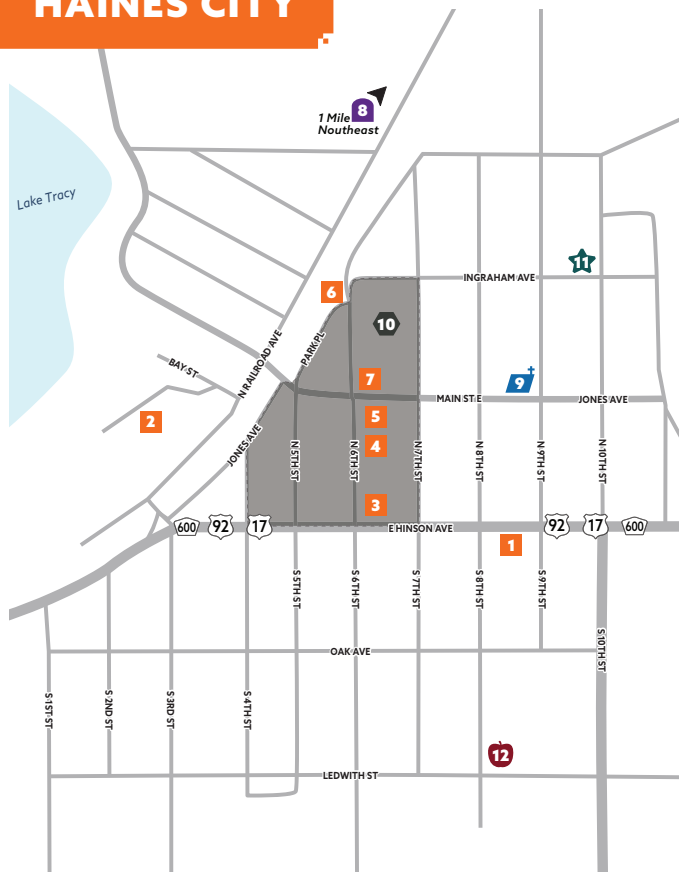
## 12 HISTORIC DISTRICT

**1 S Allapaha Avenue**

Walking tour map of this historic district available at the Davenport City Hall. (NRHP) Constructed between 1900-1949.



## HAINES CITY



### 1 POLK HOTEL

**801 Hinson Avenue**

Built by Ralph B. Polk during the 1920s boom, closed in 1930. One of Polk County's largest historic hotels. Built in 1926.

### 2 HAINES CITY CITRUS GROWERS ASSOCIATION

**8 Railroad Avenue**

Formed in 1909 as an agricultural cooperative by six local growers, second oldest co-operative in Florida, and the first citrus processing plant in America.

### 3 PARIS BUILDING

**600 Hinson Avenue**

Fondly remembered by long-time residents as a drugstore with a soda fountain. Built in 1923.

### 4 THE CONSOLIDATED ARCADE

**29 N 6th Street**

One of Haines City's three original arcades. Note the two balconies within the second-story facade. Built in 1925.

### 5 THE GATEWAY CLUB BUILDING

**47 N 6th Street**

Built as a social club during the land boom, later converted to a naturopathic hospital. Currently a Masonic Lodge. Built in 1923.

### 6 THE TRAIN DEPOT

**One Park Place**

The third train depot to be built on this site. Built in 1923.

### 7 RAILROAD PARK

**100 N 6th Street**

Once home to the Leisure Lodge, constructed for social gatherings by the Village Improvement Society. Est. 1916.

### 8 OAKLAND CEMETERY

**602 Avenue M SW**

Founded by African American Baptists on land donated by Harvey B. Angle. Founded circa 1902.

### 9 STREET MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**102 N 9th Street**

Built by hand by Civil War veteran Samuel Hodgman. Haines City's only remaining 19th-century building. Built in 1892.

### 10 DOWNTOWN HAINES CITY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

**Boundaries: Hinson Avenue and Ingraham Avenue, 4th Street and 7th Street**

Downtown's historic commercial area with 20 historic buildings. (NRHP) Constructed between 1913-1937.

### HAINES CITY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

**1001 Ingraham Avenue • 863-207-6752**

Houses Haines City's historical display.

### 12 CENTRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

**801 Ledwith Avenue**

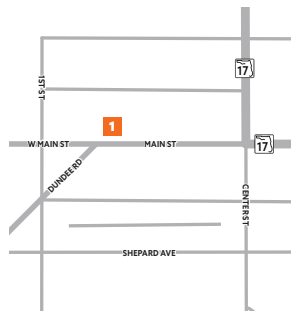
Designed in the Mission Revival style by architect E.C. Hosford. (NRHP) Built in 1925.

## DUNDEE

### 1 M. KAMPSER HISTORIC DUNDEE DEPOT MUSEUM

**103 Main Street**

The Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Depot welcomed visitors to Dundee. (NRHP) Built in 1912.



## LAKE HAMILTON

### 1 LAKE HAMILTON WOMAN'S CLUB

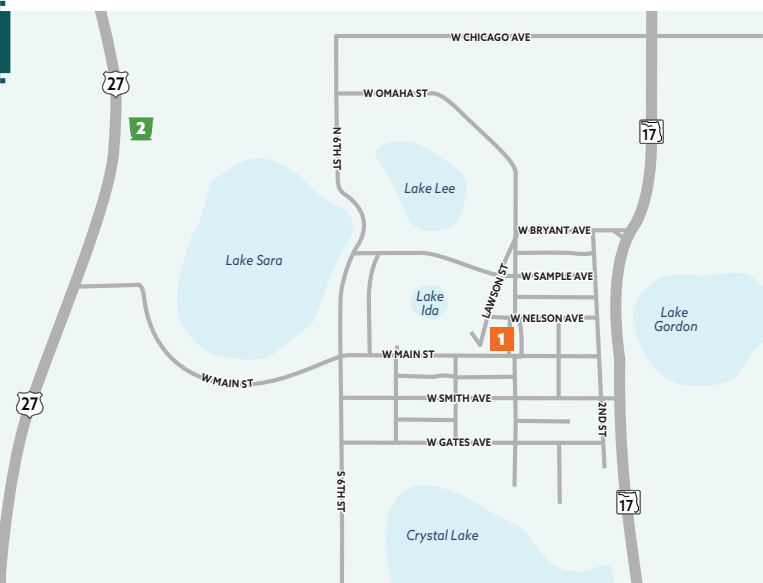
**85 N Omaha Street**

Designed by Tampa architect B.C. Bonfoey, who also built Ybor City's Cuban Club. Built in 1924.

### 2 CHIEF CHIPCO MEMORIAL (IN SAMPLE PARK)

**U.S. 27 N of State Road 542**

Marker honors Chief Chipco and his 1855 Seminole Indian Village. Located on private property, call 863-676-2518 to schedule a visit.



# LAKE WALES



## ★ LAKE WALES DEPOT MUSEUM

325 S Scenic Highway • 863-676-5160

The museum showcases a variety of artifacts related to the early history and development of Lakes Wales. (NRHP) Built 1928.

## 2 LAKE OF THE HILLS COMMUNITY CLUB

47 E Starr Avenue

Has served as a community social center and voting place since 1926. (NRHP) Built in 1926.

## 3 BOK TOWER GARDENS, SINGING TOWER & PINWOOD ESTATE

1151 Tower Boulevard • 863-676-1408

Edward Bok commissioned world-renowned artisans to design tower's surrounding gardens. One of the highest points in peninsular Florida. (NRHP and NHL) Built in 1929.

## 4 RHODESBILT ARCADE

230 E Park Avenue

The Rhodesbilt Arcade, one of the city's most distinctive buildings, stretches between Park Avenue and Stuart Avenue and offers entry from either street. Mediterranean Revival Style. Built in 1926.

## 5 POLK STATE COLLEGE J.D. ALEXANDER CENTER

152 E Central Avenue

Completed in the 1920s, the building once served as Lake Wales City Hall. It was constructed in a Mediterranean Revival style and has since been renovated for educational use by Polk State College. (NRHP)

## 6 POLK STATE COLLEGE LAKE WALES ARTS CENTER

1099 State Road 60 • 863-298-6883

(Former Church of the Holy Spirit) Excellent example of Spanish Mission architecture. (NRHP) Built in the 1920s.

## 7 AME CHURCH

241 C Street

The (African Methodist Episcopal Church) AME Church was first built in Lake Wales in 1918 as a wooden structure. Three more structures followed in 1923, 1928 and 1961. The current building was renovated in 1971.

## 8 SPOOK HILL

Intersection of Dr. J.A. Wiltshire Avenue and 5th Street

Park your car at the bottom and experience the mysterious force that seems to defy gravity and rolls your car uphill backwards.

## 9 ROOSEVELT SCHOOL

115 E Street

A Works Progress Administration project built in 1937, it is Lake Wales' only remaining example of a school built for children of African American heritage.

## 10 LAKE WALES PIONEER DAYS

N Lakeshore Boulevard

Lake Wales Pioneer Days celebrates the history of Lake Wales, Polk County and Florida. The annual festival is held on the shores of Lake Wales the last weekend in October. Crafts, music, storytelling, educational exhibits.

## 11 THE LAKE WALES HISTORIC DISTRICTS

*The Lake Wales Historic Corridor encompasses sites instrumental to the history and development of the area.*

A detailed architectural tour brochure of the numerous historic districts is available at the Lake Wales Depot Museum and the Lake Wales Chamber of Commerce.

BOK TOWER GARDENS



DEPOT MUSEUM





# FROSTPROOF

## 1 RAMON THEATER

15 E Wall Street • 863-635-7222

Built by Frank and Vera Thompson, the theater provided entertainment from vaudeville to movies. Detailed map of all Frostproof historic sites available upon request. Built in 1925.

## 2 CITIZENS BANK & ARCADE

2 E Wall Street

Bank organized in 1920 with John Maxcy as president. Built in 1925.

## 3 FROSTPROOF ATLANTIC COASTLINE RAILWAY DEPOT

118 E Wall Street

Later formed part of the CSX Transportation system. Built in 1912.

## 4 SILVER LAKE CEMETERY

Maxcy Quarters Road

Land for the cemetery was donated by Walter H. Overrocker. Also known as Silver Hill Cemetery. Founded circa 1915.

## 5 FORT CLINCH HISTORIC SITE MARKER

County Road 630, 1.3 Miles West of State Road 17

Several soldiers connected with Fort Clinch later gained prominence as generals in the Civil War. George G. Meade surveyed for the fort; Ambrose P. Hill was the fort's adjutant and assistant quartermaster; Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson scouted in the area.

## 6 FROSTPROOF HISTORICAL MUSEUM

210 S Scenic Highway • 863-635-2523

Housed in Frostproof's first public library. Open Saturdays 1pm-4pm year round; Tuesdays and Thursdays 1pm-4pm October-May. Built in 1922.

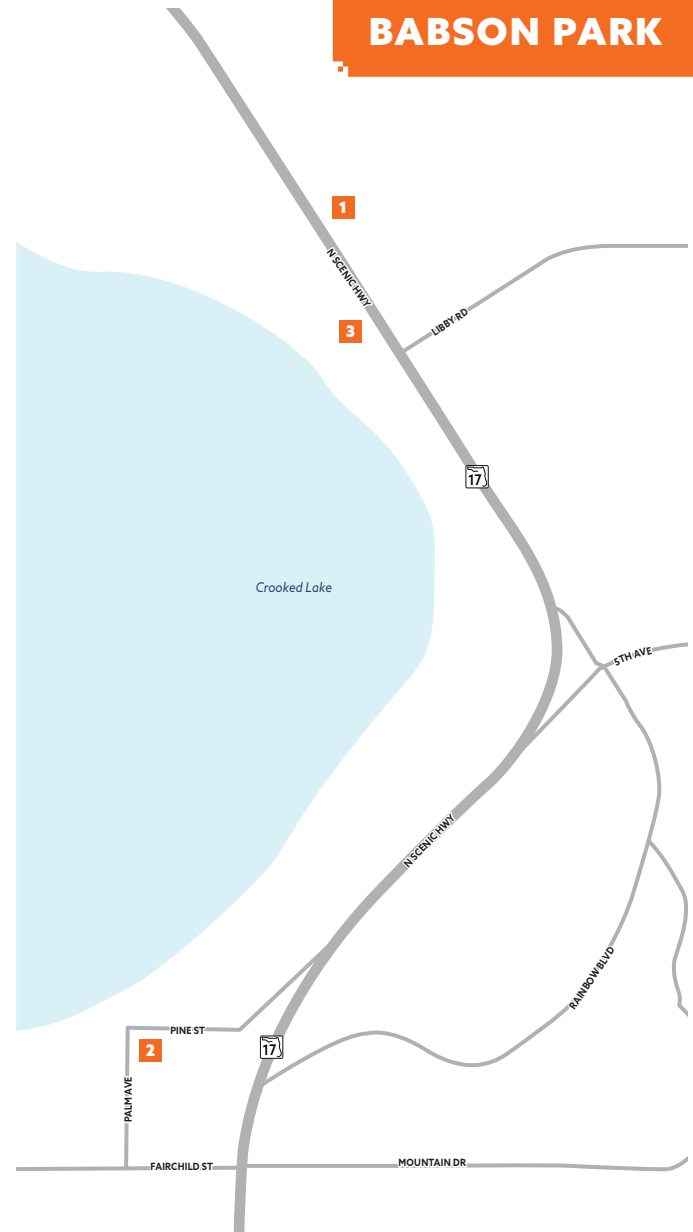
## 7 OLD FROSTPROOF HIGH SCHOOL

111 W 1st Street

Great example of Mediterranean Revival architecture built during the Florida land boom. (NRHP) Built in 1926.



# BABSON PARK



## 1 BABSON PARK WOMAN'S CLUB

1300 N Scenic Highway

One of the last remaining buildings from the town's early development. (NRHP) Built in 1931.

## 2 HILLCREST LODGE

HILLCREST HEIGHTS, INCORPORATED  
241 Palm Avenue

First and second lodges were destroyed by fires in 1917 and 1929. The third lodge still stands. Built circa 1929.

## 3 WEBBER INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

1201 N Scenic Highway • 800-741-1844

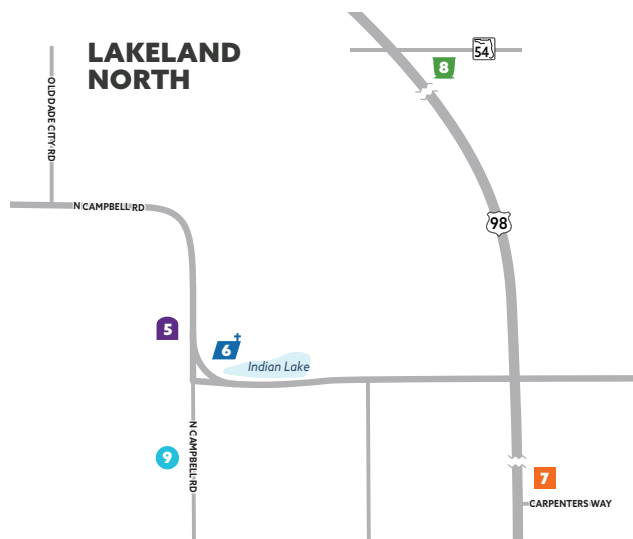
The administrative building known as "Old Main" serves as the President's and Alumni office and was once used as a finishing school for women. "Old Main" was constructed in 1927 and is original to the campus.

# LAKELAND

## LAKELAND OVERALL



## LAKELAND NORTH



### 1 HENLEY FIELD

**1125 N Florida Avenue**

Named for Clare Henley, who promoted Lakeland's association with professional baseball. (NRHP) Built in 1922.

### 2 PUBLIX FIELD AT JOKER MARCHANT STADIUM

**2301 Lakeland Hills Boulevard  
863-686-8075**

Spring training home of the Detroit Tigers. Named for former Parks and Recreation Director Joker Marchant. Built in 1966.

### 3 FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE/CHILD OF THE SUN-FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT

**750 Frank Lloyd Wright Way  
863-680-4597**

Home of the largest collection of Frank Lloyd Wright buildings. (NRHP and NHL) Built between 1941-1958.

### 4 HISTORIC POLK THEATRE

**121 S Florida Avenue • 863-682-7553**

Designed by Italian-born immigrant J.E. Casale. Features Venetian piazza backdrop, twinkling stars and stage trap door. Elvis Presley performed here in 1956. (NRHP) Built in 1927.

### 5 SOCURUM CEMETERY

**3125 W Socrum Loop Road**

Pioneer families buried here: Hancock, Lanier, Sherouse, Mizell, Bryant and Prine. The Socrum area was one of Polk's earliest communities. Founded circa 1850.

### 6 BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

**3125 Socrum Loop Road W • 863-858-5525**

Bethel Baptist church congregation first met on this site in 1851. Performed baptisms in "Indian Pond" until 1951. Socrum interpretive marker at site. Built in 1928.

### 7 THE CARPENTERS' HOME

**771 Carpenters Way**

The Carpenters' Home was a union-provided retirement home for members of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America from 1929-1976. Excellent example of Mediterranean Revival style. Built in 1927.

### 8 POLK COUNTY LINE - NORTH MONUMENT

**U.S. 98 and County Road 54**

1930 marker denotes the Polk County Line when crossing over from Pasco County.

### 9 KATHLEEN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY HERITAGE DAY

**8950 N Campbell Road • 863-858-6583**

Annual celebration occurring on the third Saturday of March to celebrate and promote the people and traditions of the Kathleen Area. Including the communities of Galloway, Gibsonia, Green Pond, Griffin, Kathleen, Providence, Socrum and Winston. [www.kahsotsocrum.com](http://www.kahsotsocrum.com)

### 10 LODWICK SCHOOL OF AERONAUTICS

**2220 N Lake Avenue**

Owned and operated by Albert Irvin Lodwick, it was the first primary flight school to open in the Eastern Flying Training Command. Graduated over 7,000 American and British pilots between 1940-1945.

### 11 POLK COUNTY LINE - WEST MONUMENT

**1199 County Line Road**

1930 marker denotes the Polk County Line when crossing over from Hillsborough County.

### ★ POLK MUSEUM OF ART

**800 E Palmetto Street • 863-688-7743**

The museum focuses largely on contemporary art but also exhibits Pre-Colombian artifacts from many cultural groups in present-day Mexico, South and Central America. The objects date from circa 800 BC to circa AD 1500.



TERRACE HOTEL, LAKELAND



FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE



## LAKELAND WEST



### AEROSPACE DISCOVERY AT THE FLORIDA AIR MUSEUM

**4175 Medulla Road • [flsna.org/ace](http://flsna.org/ace)**  
Florida's "Official Aviation Museum and Education Center" features a dynamic display of aircraft and engines. Exhibits highlight pioneers such as Howard Hughes, early air racers and countless Floridians who have influenced the world of aviation.

### WINSTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**3415 Swindell Road**  
One of Lakeland's "strawberry schools." Children went to school in the summer and used winter months to harvest strawberries. (NRHP) Built circa 1928.

### CENTRAL AVENUE SCHOOL

**604 S Central Avenue**  
One of the county's few surviving school buildings built before 1948. (NRHP) Built in 1926.

### OLD LAKELAND HIGH SCHOOL

**400 N Florida Avenue**  
Currently Lawton Chiles Middle Academy, the building designed by E.C. Hosford was built in 1927. (NRHP) The site previously served as the location for Lakeland's earliest school.

### LAKE MORTON HISTORIC DISTRICT, SOUTH

**Boundaries: Lake Morton Drive, Palmetto Street, Ingraham Avenue, Johnson Avenue, Frank Lloyd Wright Way, Belmar Street and Tennessee Avenue** 760 buildings within 50 blocks. Prominent styles are Frame Vernacular, Craftsman and Bungalow. (NRHP) Constructed between 1900–1942.

### LAKE MORTON HISTORIC DISTRICT, EAST

**Boundaries: Orange Street, Ingraham Avenue, Palmetto Street, Lake Morton Drive and Massachusetts Avenue**  
215 historical buildings, mostly residences. (NRHP) Constructed between 1900–1940.

### BILTMORE-CUMBERLAND HISTORIC DISTRICT, SOUTH

**Boundaries: S Ingraham Avenue, E Lime Street, Bartow Road, Hollingsworth Road and McDonald Place.**  
Predominantly Masonry Vernacular construction. Blending of street patterns is reminiscent of the City Beautiful movement. (NRHP)

### MUNN PARK HISTORIC DISTRICT

**Boundaries: E Bay St., N Florida Ave., E Orange St. and E Main St.**  
Named after Lakeland founder, Abraham Munn. (NRHP) Constructed in the early 1900s.

### LAKE HUNTER HISTORIC DISTRICT

**Boundaries: Central Avenue, Greenwood Street, Ruby Street and Sikes Boulevard**  
The first post-World War II neighborhood to be designated a historic district. (NRHP)

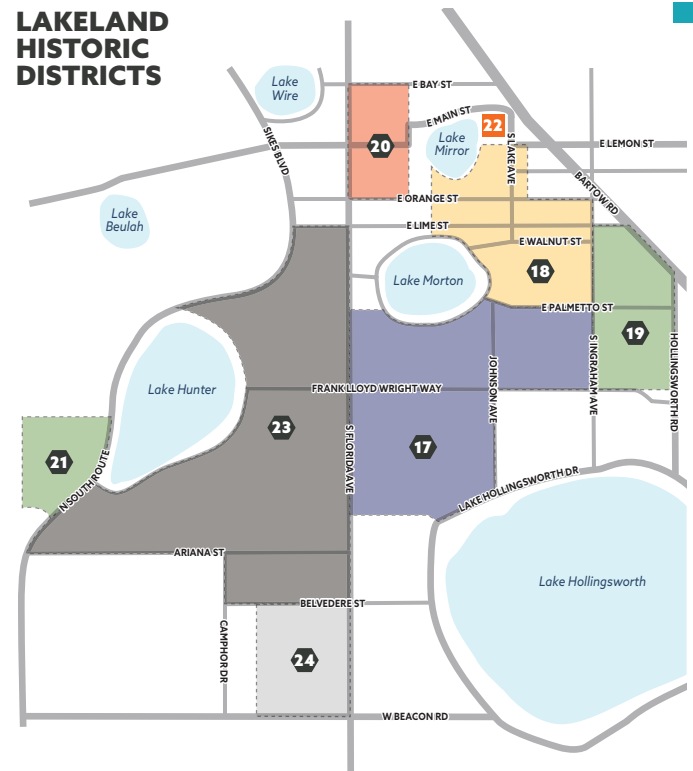
### LAKE MIRROR PROMENADE

**702 E Orange Street**  
Florida's most significant example of the City Beautiful Movement. Designed by Charles W. Leavitt and constructed between 1926–1928. (NRHP)

### DOWNTOWN LAKELAND



## LAKELAND HISTORIC DISTRICTS



### DIXIELAND HISTORIC DISTRICT

**Boundaries: Walnut Street, Florida Avenue, Lake Hunter, Hartsell Avenue and Belvedere Street**  
Named "Dixieland" because it was the first development south of downtown. Mostly bungalow style architecture. (NRHP) Constructed in the early 1900s.

### BEACON HILL ALTA VISTA HISTORIC DISTRICT

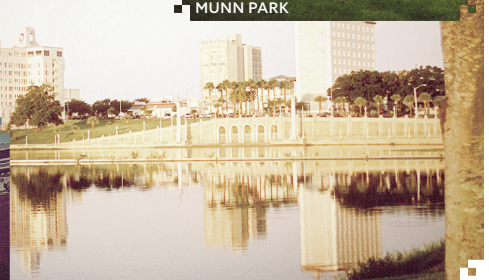
**Boundaries: S Florida Ave, W Beacon Rd, W Belvedere Street and Cherokee Trail**  
Contains 215 historical buildings, mostly residences. An early middle-class neighborhood. (NRHP) Constructed between 1900–1940.



LAKE MIRROR PROMENADE



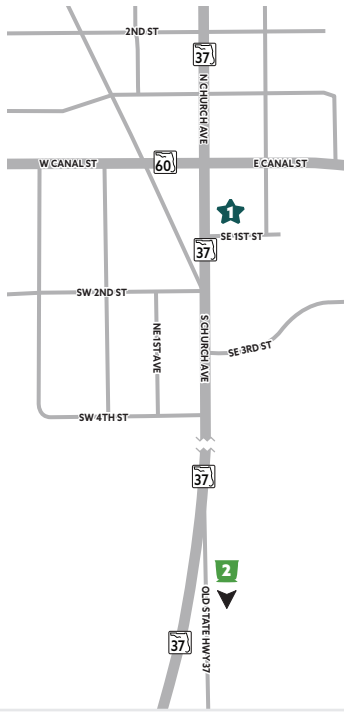
MUNN PARK



# MULBERRY

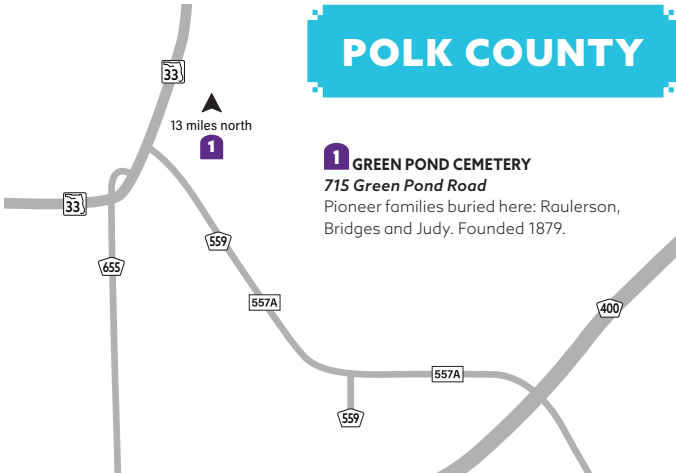
**MULBERRY PHOSPHATE MUSEUM**  
101 SE 1st Street • 863-425-2823  
Includes prehistoric bones and artifacts excavated during the mining process.

**2 PIERCE**  
5000 Old Highway 37  
Location of the phosphate mining town of Pierce, one of many company-owned mining communities that once populated Polk. By the 1950s workers could commute and the mining towns ceased to be necessary.

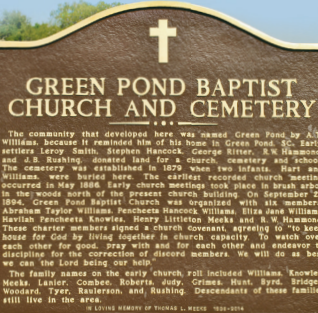


## POLK COUNTY

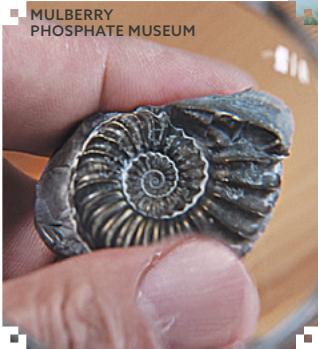
**1 GREEN POND CEMETERY**  
715 Green Pond Road  
Pioneer families buried here: Raulerson, Bridges and Judy. Founded 1879.



### GREEN POND CEMETERY



MULBERRY PHOSPHATE MUSEUM



## SUGGESTED DRIVING TOUR ON THE HERITAGE TRAIL

Historically, Polk County is the epicenter to one of Florida's largest agricultural industries, citrus.

A partnership between the Florida Citrus Hall of Fame, Visit Central Florida and the Polk County History Center's History & Heritage Trail inspired the creation of the Citrus Label Tour of Polk County. This driving experience explores marketing citrus through the labels that once adorned the wooden crates used to ship fresh fruit to northern markets in the early 1900s.

Enlarged reproductions of these vintage labels are currently on display at historic sites in Auburndale, Bartow, Davenport, Fort Meade, Haines City, Lake Alfred, Lake Wales and Lakeland.

Contact the Polk County History Center or visit [PolkHistoryCenter.org](http://PolkHistoryCenter.org) and select the History & Heritage Trail icon for more information and a tour map.





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