



Cornerstone

Tampa Preservation, Inc.

Issue 1, 2008

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Office

2007 N. 18th Street
Tampa, FL 33605
248-5437

tpitampa@aol.com

TPI AWARDS 2008

Applications for Tampa Preservation's 2008 Preservation/Banner Awards are now available. Since 1982, Tampa Preservation, Inc. has been recognizing significant contributions to the preservation of Tampa Bay area historic resources through the Annual Award Program. The Award Program recognizes

outstanding historic preservation projects, programs and achievements by both individuals and organizations. Applications are available on the TPI website at www.tampapreservation.com or by calling (813) 248-5437. The deadline for 2008 is March 15. Awards will be presented in conjunction with the Renew Tampa conference on Friday, April 11.



TAMPAPRESERVATION.COM

TPI is pleased to announce the launch of its newly updated website at www.tampapreservation.com. There you will find back issues of *Cornerstone*, links to helpful preservation websites, and TPI membership and donation information. More features are planned, including uploading some of TPI's award-winning publications, so check back regularly for updates. Also, please feel free to make comments or suggestions on how to improve the site.

RENEW TAMPA

Tampa Preservation, Inc. is proud to be joining with the Tampa Bay AIA Architectural Heritage Committee in presenting the **Renew Tampa Conference and Exhibition** April 11-13 at the Berriman Morgan Cigar Factory in West Tampa.

The weekend—part of Florida Heritage Month and the local annual Florida Heritage CELEBRATION!—will explore the intersection of architectural heritage, green technology, and building restoration. It will include a comprehensive, practical program of educational lectures, how-to workshops, industry exhibitors, and historic neighborhood tours—all grounded in promoting good stewardship of historic structures, today and tomorrow.

Homeowners, architects, green-conscious builders, cultural historians, real estate developers, and community visionaries will learn how to formulate plans for maintaining historic homes, discover collaborative strategies for preserving landmark buildings, and explore environmentally sound technologies for making our community greener. The conference will also include exhibitors and offer valuable info about local resources, both public and private, that can help homeowners, developers, and city officials achieve their goals.

Framed by a *yesterday-today-tomorrow* philosophy, the conference will challenge participants to shape tomorrow's ideal built environment through architectural preservation and design that is environmentally sensitive.

For more information about the Renew Tampa Conference and Exhibition go to www.aiatampabay.com and link to the Architectural Heritage Committee or direct at www.ofc2ofc.com/ahc/tampabay/renewtampa1/default.aspx. We will also be posting updates on the Conference schedule as they become available on www.tampapreservation.com.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Tampa area preservationists were greatly saddened by the deaths of two great local preservation advocates, Victor Dimaio and Steve Gluckman this past winter.

Victor Dimaio was an Ybor City activist who also served on the Historic Tampa/Hillsborough County Preservation Board. His numerous projects inspired many followers and illuminated many of Ybor's great resources.

Steve Gluckman, a man of many talents, served his community as both a historian and archeologist. A founding member of the Old Seminole Heights Neighborhood Association, Steve was a ready advocate for the protection of Tampa's historic heritage.

The city is a better place because of these two preservationist's efforts. We hope their legacy will inspire other Tampa Bay area residents to support the preservation of the historic resources that make the area unique.

Nootchie Smith

TPI President



TPI PRESENTS AWARD TO DEL ACOSTA

Tampa Preservation, Inc. presented former City of Tampa Historic Preservation Manager Del Acosta with an Individual Achievement Award this past December. Mr. Acosta was honored for his commitment to the preservation of Tampa's built resources, inspiring and educating countless community and Board members of the value of historic preservation for many years. In his acceptance speech, he noted that the biggest current threat to existing historic resources that he saw was the lack of "authenticity" in remodeling work. He stated that just as antiques lose value when original components are removed, replaced or refinished, so too are Tampa's historic resources diminished when windows, doors, and other elements are replaced with improper design and materials. Mr. Acosta continues as an advocate of preservation through volunteering and as an educator for the good of Tampa's irreplaceable historic resources.

HENRY B. PLANT MUSEUM DEBUTS NEW AUDIO WAND TOURS

TPI Board Member, Robin Gonzalez, served as project director for the production of a new audio tour of the Henry B. Plant Museum. After careful research, lengthy editing, and creative recording, the Museum proudly announces the arrival of a 45 minute, hand-held audio wand tour. For a fee of \$4.00, visitors can enjoy the tour at their own pace and can browse the museum's exhibits in the order that interests them most. For more information, call Sally Shifke Monday - Friday at (813) 258-7302, or contact via email at sshifke@ut.edu.



PICNIC IN THE PARK

The Henry B. Plant Museum and University of Tampa invites the community to bring lunch, coolers, chairs and blankets to enjoy an old-fashioned picnic in Plant Park on Sunday, March 16, from 11:30 – 2:30 pm. Complimentary Blue Bell Ice Cream and lemonade will be served. For more information, email Sally Shifke at sshifke@ut.edu or call (813) 258-7302.



PRESERVATION ROUNDTABLE

The Preservation Roundtable meets on the first Wednesday of every month at Union Station to share information regarding preservation related issues in the Tampa Bay area. Local government representatives and interested citizens are encouraged to attend in order to better coordinate local preservation efforts. For more information, contact TPI at (813) 248-5437 or tpitampa@aol.com.



THE FITZGERALD BUILDING, PORT TAMPA CITY

Submitted by Carol Curtiss

Port Tampa City, known earlier as Passage Point or Black Point, was established in 1893 at the end of a Henry Plant Railroad spur line. Early Port Tampa history revolved around the Plant System of railroads, hotels and steamships, serving as a steamship port to Cuba as well as home to several hotels. Absorbed by the City of Tampa in 1961, Port Tampa still has a small town atmosphere secluded from Tampa's city life. The area retains much of its historic charm with brick streets, 1926 marble Port Tampa City Library, quaint churches and historic homes. In addition, the area capitalizes on its environmental assets with Tampa's Greenways Trail and Picnic Island, featuring a beach, boat ramp, fishing pier, and bird sanctuary.

Within this setting is a threatened piece of architecture inherently tied with Port Tampa history known as the FitzGerald Building. The building was built by Captain James W. FitzGerald, a stockholder of the Peoples Line Steamers and Superintendent of Plant's steamship line. FitzGerald was captain of the steamboat H. B. PLANT from 1880 to 1886.

Captain FitzGerald arrived in the area that was to be Port Tampa City in 1885 and partnered with Charles W. Prescott of Erie, Pennsylvania. Together they purchased a section of land that they platted with the streets and blocks of the town, then chartered as Port Tampa City. Captain FitzGerald and Mr. Prescott, along with sea captain Henry G. "Harry" Warner, also formed the Port Tampa Building and Loan Association.

According to City of Tampa property records, the FitzGerald Building was constructed in 1890.

Approximately 1,300 sf, the brick building is two-stories high and has a pressed metal cornice. All indications are that it was built as the Captain's place of business, although no official documentation has been found. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Co. map of 1899 depicted the footprint of the FitzGerald Building as it stands today.

Mrs. FitzGerald died in 1904, Captain FitzGerald died in 1909, and the heirs retained ownership of the property until 1944. Thus, the FitzGerald family owned this particular piece of land for 51 years. The building then went through a succession of owners who utilized the building for various commercial and residential uses. One owner, with plans for a nightclub, gutted the building interior, but never completed the remodeling. The current owners, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Devoe, purchased the Fitzgerald Building in 1976, to use for equipment storage for their contracting business. The building has been vacant since the Devoe's retirement and is now in need of stabilization to prevent further deterioration.

A developer planned to purchase the property a couple of years ago, with intentions of demolishing the building; however due to the historic significance of the building, the demolition request was denied. The FitzGerald Building is the oldest surviving business structure in Port Tampa City and is worthy of preservation. The Devoes acknowledge the historic significance of the property and are supportive of the efforts to preserve the building; however, they are eager to sell the property. Local residents are working with the Devoes and community preservation groups to find ways to save this important historic Port Tampa building.

For more information, contact Carol Curtiss at Cabacur@aol.com or (813)831-1985.



STATE ARCHAEOLOGY PROGRAM RECEIVES NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY GRANT

Secretary of State Kurt S. Browning announced that the Public Lands Archaeology Program in the Bureau of Archaeological Research has been awarded a National Geographic Society research grant of \$19,800 to examine the Paleoindian component of Wakulla Springs Lodge site near Tallahassee. The Wakulla Springs Lodge site is the only known archaeological site that has yielded a distinctive type of artifact assemblage in an undisturbed context that likely dates to the first appearance of humans in Florida. The site was discovered by the late Florida State Archaeologist, Calvin Jones.

"Under the leadership of senior archaeologist Jim Dunbar, this project will make a significant contribution to Florida archaeology by helping to date the presence of its earliest occupants," said Secretary Browning. "This National Geographic Society grant will enable Dunbar and his team of archaeologists and research partners to investigate this important site with technology which was unavailable when the site was discovered in 1994."

The Wakulla Springs Lodge site is buried within a hill overlooking Wakulla Springs, where, as recently as November, mastodon remains have been identified. The deepest stratigraphic levels of the site, associated with Florida's first people, were never dated by Calvin Jones because radiometric dating techniques available to him were not yet perfected. The principal goal of this project is to date the site's earliest occupational level by employing the conventional carbon 14, radiometric method, if preserved organic material, necessary for the analysis, can be found. To counter this potential problem, Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL), a technique recently adopted by archaeologists, will also be utilized. OSL measures the radiation accumulation of buried sand to calculate the age of the archaeological levels.

The investigation team will be composed of staff from the Florida Department of State, Bureau of Archaeological Research as well as researchers from Florida Geological Survey, McMaster University in Canada, George Washington University, and the University of Texas. State agency partners in the project will include the Division of Recreation and Parks, Wakulla Springs State Park, and a survey crew from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Beaches and Coastal Systems. The Panhandle Archaeological Society at Tallahassee (PAST) and the Friends of Wakulla Springs State Park will provide project volunteers.

GREEN AND PRESERVATION

Excerpted with permission from "A Cautionary Tale" by Wayne Curtis from the Jan/Feb 2008 issue of *Preservation Magazine*

Preservationists and environmentalists have long shared many values. For starters, there's the drive toward stewardship and conservation of resources, whether cultural or environmental. Both groups subscribe to the precautionary principle, in which minimal intervention is always preferred to major overhauls.

Yet when it comes to green, the gulf between the two may be broadening. New green buildings, brimming with the latest in modern technology, are perceived to be on one side; the old buildings, full of quaint, inefficient technologies and drafty windows, are on the other. Which leads one to ask: Just how "ungreen" and energy inefficient are those older buildings?

Not very, it turns out. The reputation of older structures as energy sieves, in short, is simply not justified by the data. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, commercial buildings constructed prior to 1920 have an average energy consumption of 80,127 BTUs per square foot. For the more efficient buildings built since 2000, that number is 79,703 BTUs. (The energy efficiency of buildings constructed between these years was less enviable—reaching around 100,000 BTUs—reflecting the cheap oil and electricity of the thermostat age.)

"The original buildings had no choice but to be green," said Florida architect Steve Mouzon, founder of the New Urban Guild, at last fall's traditional building conference. "Otherwise, you'd die of heat stroke in the summer, or freeze to death in the winter." Houses in the South had high ceilings and louvered shutters; in the North, they featured thick walls and smaller windows. Sleeping porches provided coolness in summer, and woodstove-centered kitchens gave off warmth in winter. Today, new houses tend to be largely interchangeable wherever you live. Shutters, for instance, have become vestigial, totems from the past screwed into the sides of new houses that do nothing against the wind or sun.

"People often tend to think that historic buildings are inherently energy inefficient," writes Walter Sedovic, a preservation architect in Irvington, N.Y. "The opposite, though, is more likely to be true: that many historic buildings are inherently very energy efficient." As he put it when I contacted him: "Before sustainability had a name, traditional builders incorporated sustainable elements into buildings. Working in sync with the environment was the

norm, including siting, local materials, natural ventilation, shading, reflective roofing, cisterns, indigenous plantings—the list becomes long, and in many ways mirrors 'new' standards espoused today."

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USF/FLORIDA HISTORY CENTER

FLORIDA CONVERSATIONS LECTURE SERIES

Florida Conversations is comprised of informal lectures and discussions about all aspects of Florida, including history, politics, art, archeology, architecture, and literature. The series is presented by the Tampa Bay History Center and the USF Libraries' Florida Studies Center through a partnership to promote the study of this region and the state of Florida in general. Events occur on USF campuses, at the Tampa Bay History Center, county public libraries, and at other venues in the Tampa Bay area.

Florida Conversations is free and open to the public. It is underwritten by the Tampa Bay History Center Endowment Fund at USF with media sponsorship from *The Tampa Tribune*. For additional information, visit www.lib.usf.edu.

Sunday, February 24, 2008, 2:00 P.M.

In Their Own Words: Perseverance and Resilience in Two Florida Fishing Communities with Michael Jenson & Carlton Ward Jr.
Cosponsored with Weedon Island Preserve
Weedon Island Preserve
Cultural & Natural History Center
1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg

March 30, 2008, 3:00 PM

"Charla," a Chat with José Martí
A monologue written and performed by Chaz Mena
Co-Sponsored with the Florida Humanities Council
El Circulo Cubano de Tampa
2010 N. Avenue Republica de Cuba, Tampa
Reservations required: (813) 974-1198

Sunday, May 4, 3:00 PM

The Spirit of the Bay: A Whimsical Look at Tampa, St. Petersburg, and Clearwater with Steve Otto
Cosponsored with the Henry B. Plant Museum
Henry B. Plant Museum
401 W. Kennedy Boulevard, Tampa

HISTORIC OLD NORTHEAST SPRING GARDEN STROLL

A much-loved rite of spring, the Historic Old Northeast Neighborhood Association Garden Stroll returns to St. Petersburg on Sunday, May 4 from 12:00 to 4:00 PM. Visitors will have a rare opportunity to wander through a diverse selection of private gardens featuring lush landscape designs, native and exotic plants, creative patio designs, and unique water features and garden accessories.



Ticket prices are: \$10 advance, \$15 day-of.

This year the ticket price includes admission to Sunken Gardens on the day of the stroll. Sunken Gardens, a 4-acre botanical garden is located in the neighborhood at 1825 4th Street North. Bill O'Grady, Supervisor of Educational Programming at Sunken Gardens will be at one of the private gardens to answer all of your Florida gardening questions.

For further information see www.honna.org or call 727-825-0479.

ON THIS VERY SPOT



For a fun cultural history website, check out

www.onthisveryspot.com.

Highlighting locations where events historic and no-so-historic took place, the site refers to itself as the world's first Reverse Travel

Guide!TM The site allows you to look up famous people, things, or events, and find places around the world related to them. (A search for Elvis-related sites brings you to National Register-listed Weeki Wachee Springs, among others.) In addition, visitors can submit sites of interest to promote their own community resources.

CITY OF TAMPA PRESERVATION NEWS

First Lady Laura Bush, Honorary Chair of the Preserve America initiative, recently designated the city of Tampa as one of the nation's newest Preserve America Communities. Mayor Pam Iorio received the letter announcing the city's selection and is expected to receive a certificate of designation signed by Mrs. Bush.

The Preserve America initiative is a White House effort to encourage and support community efforts to preserve and enjoy America's priceless cultural and natural heritage. Tampa's commitment in preserving, protecting and promoting its historic resources was instrumental in its selection. In order to be considered, the city had to show that its program satisfied a number of criteria as well as demonstrated a strong level of community involvement in preservation and education about the city's history and culture.

The goals of the initiative include a greater shared knowledge about the nation's past; strengthened regional identities and local pride; increased local participation in preserving the country's cultural and natural heritage assets; and support for the economic vitality of our communities.

Communities designated through the program receive national recognition for their efforts. Benefits include the eligibility for Preserve America Grants, which support research, planning, marketing, interpretation, and training efforts; notification to state tourism offices; and listing in a Web-based directory that showcases Tampa's preservation efforts and heritage tourism destinations. Preserve America Communities are also featured in National Register Travel Itineraries and in "Teaching with Historic Places" curricular materials created by the National Park Service.

"Preserve America Communities demonstrate that they are committed to preserving America's heritage while ensuring a future filled with opportunities for learning and enjoyment," Mrs. Bush said.

For additional information, contact Historic Preservation Manager Dennis Fernandez at (813) 274-7984. For more information about the initiative and its programs, visit www.preserveamerica.gov.

EL PROGRESSO DE YBOR GROCERY STORE

The City of Tampa is currently soliciting applications for the sale and rehabilitation of the historic El Progreso de Ybor Grocery store building (c. 1908) and its accompanying brick warehouse (c. 1938). The buildings were relocated in January 2008 as part of the FDOT I-4 improvement project to the corner of Columbus Drive and N. 10th Street. Once a common building type within the Ybor City community, the two-story grocery building still retains the wood display shelves and features a wrap-around porch at the second-floor living level. The new site includes an adjacent lot suitable for parking. For more information, contact Wanda Thompson, Real Estate Division at (813) 274-8915 or go to http://www.tampagov.net/dept_Real_Estate/information_resources/Request_For_Proposals.asp.



HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PRESERVATION NEWS

by Elaine Lund, HC Historic Preservation Program

Hillsborough County's archaeological resources include prehistoric campsites, burial mounds, shell middens, quarries and manufacturing sites for tools, along with historic archaeological sites, such as Fort Foster. Scattered artifacts, usually tools or fragments of pottery, are the most common indicators of an archaeological site. Most of the identified archaeological resources in Hillsborough County date from the Archaic Period (7500-500 BC). The second most common type of identified archaeological resources in this County dates from the historic periods.

Fort Foster State Historic Site, part of Hillsborough River State Park, is considered a historic archaeological site. While the original fort buildings are no longer standing, there remains a wealth of historic artifacts in the ground. Fort Foster, established in 1836 and abandoned in 1849,

safeguarded the Fort King Military Road Bridge over the Hillsborough River during the Second Seminole War. Today the park contains a replica of the fort and an interpretive center.

Florida's archaeological resources, the material remains of past human life or activities, date back approximately 10,000 years. An archaeologist can study the way found artifacts are placed in relationship to one another and to the natural environment to determine information about the way past people lived. By studying the context of the site, an archaeologist can determine what people wore, what kind of food they ate (and how they got the food), who they interacted with, and other details about how they lived. Because much of this information can only be determined by the context in which the archaeological resources are found, it is important to provide a high level of protection for these irreplaceable resources.

In Florida, it is illegal to dig for artifacts without the landowner's permission, and digging for artifacts on state lands without a permit is a third degree felony. It is also illegal to knowingly disturb, buy, or sell human remains. Florida Statutes govern the treatment of unmarked human burials. Due to the sensitive nature of these sites, the locations of archaeological resources are exempt from the Sunshine Law.

Projects that receive state or federal funding, such as road widening projects, must survey for archaeological and historic resources before work begins to ensure that these resources will not be negatively affected by the projects. This also applies to projects that take place on state and federal lands, such as parks.

Florida's rapid and intensive land development poses additional challenges for these often "invisible" sites. Unfortunately, archaeological resources are often not discovered until they have been negatively affected by development activity. A cultural resource assessment survey of a development site prior to construction activity can determine whether significant archaeological resources are present.

One of the goals for 2008 of the Hillsborough County's Historic Resources Review Board (HRRB) is to identify archaeological resources in the unincorporated County that are eligible for Landmark designation. Landmark-eligible archaeological sites will be listed in the County's Historic Resources Inventory.

Once listed in the Historic Resources Inventory, these archaeological sites will receive some protection. The HC Land Development Code requires that when development permits, development orders or other development approvals affect or abut the properties on the Inventory, the HRRB can review and comment on the applications. The HRRB's comments are not binding, but are an opportunity to work with the property owner to provide the best possible outcome for significant sites. Upon Landmark designation, a Certificate of Appropriateness from the HRRB is required before archaeological resources can be altered. When making a decision on an archaeological resource, the HRRB considers methods to avoid, reduce or mitigate adverse effects on the archaeological features, while taking into account the current needs of the owner.

Property owners of Landmarked sites in unincorporated Hillsborough County are eligible for a variety of benefits, including a preservation plan for the long-term maintenance of their Landmarked property, and economic incentives, including matching grant funds for HRRB-approved projects and a property tax exemption for the value of HRRB-approved improvements. Landmark sites are also eligible for a transfer of development rights, which may reduce the taxable value of the property.

Conservation easements allow property owners anywhere in Florida to protect their archaeological resources, regardless of whether they are listed in the National Register of locally Landmarked. A conservation easement restricts the use of their land through the property deed, protecting the archaeological site from development activity. This restriction can lower property taxes and estate taxes. Additionally, property owners can receive a federal income tax deduction if they donate an easement for conservation purposes in perpetuity to a qualified organization such as an historical society or a land trust. Conservation easements can be written to address the unique needs of the individual property owner.

Owners of property that contains archaeological resources can also seek Archaeological Landmark designation from the State of Florida. This designation provides extra protection to sites that are eligible for listing in the National Register. A permit from the State is required before anyone is allowed to dig at a State Archaeological Landmark.

TPI MEMBERSHIP



For the past thirty-five years, Tampa Preservation, Inc. has worked to protect the quality of life in our communities, to encourage revitalization in the Tampa Bay area and to broaden understanding of historic preservation as a positive force for responsible economic growth. Your membership and support of this valuable organization enables us to continue successful programs while reaching out to grow in the future years.

TPI needs your support to:

- **Advocate local preservation efforts within the community where you reside.**
- **Encourage elected officials and local residents to support preservation.**
- **Provide financial support, which allows us to continue fulfilling our mission.**

We encourage and welcome support from corporations, organizations and individuals that care about preserving our heritage. If you are already a member, please pass this form along to someone interested in preserving Tampa's unique architectural and cultural heritage.

Please complete this form and return it with your tax-deductible check (made payable to Tampa Preservation, Inc.) to:
Membership, Tampa Preservation Inc., P.O. Box 18061,
Tampa, FL 33679-8061

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____
E-MAIL _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

_____ \$25.00 Individual	_____ \$100.00 Business	_____ \$500.00 Corporate
_____ \$35.00 Family	_____ \$100.00 Contributing	_____ \$1,000.00 Sustaining
_____ \$50.00 Non-Profit	_____ \$250.00 Supporting	