

Current Goals of the Sarasota County Historical Commission

- Expand public awareness of Sarasota County's history and the Historical Commission
- Approve and establish at least two new historical markers per year
- Collaborate with other historical and preservation organizations
- Adopt-A-Marker campaign
- Support a history museum
- Support a history week



Five Points, 1890s

Photo courtesy of Sarasota County History Center

Become Involved!

- Apply to become a member of the Historical Commission
- Propose a historical marker
- Adopt a marker
- Volunteer at the History Center

To learn more about Sarasota County history, visit the Sarasota County Visitor Information Center and History Center Museum, located at the Historic Chidsey Library Building, 701 North Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, Florida.



Catch of the day, early 1900s

Photo courtesy of Sarasota County History Center

Research materials are available at the Sarasota County History Center.



Sarasota County Historical Commission
Sarasota County History Center
6062 Porter Way
Sarasota, Florida 34232
941-861-5000
www.scgov.net



Sarasota County Historical Commission

- The Historical Commission promotes the preservation and study of Sarasota County's history.
- The Historical Commission serves in an advisory capacity to the Sarasota Board of County Commissioners on matters related to the placement of historical markers and the acceptance of grants and donations by the History Center.
- Members, appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, are volunteers who have knowledge of and a passion for local history.
- Appointees serve four-year terms and may be reappointed for one additional four-year term. Residency in Sarasota County is required.
- The Historical Commission has one student representative who serves for one year.
- Regular meetings, announced through public notices, are held once a month and are open to all interested persons. Call 861-5000 for more information.

"Let us cherish this moment of paradise, relish these years of sun and beauty, and do what we can to keep it pristine."

John D. MacDonald, October 1985, Siesta Key



Sea oats along Lido Beach, 1940s
Photo courtesy of Sue Blue

Sarasota County Historical Marker Program

The Historical Marker Program recognizes historic sites, persons, and events that are significant in the areas of archaeology, architecture, traditional culture, and local, regional, state, and national history.

Criteria for Commemoration:

- Historically significant sites must be at least 50 years old and historical events must have occurred at least 50 years ago.
- Individuals still living cannot be considered for commemoration.

Historical markers are located in visible, safe locations throughout the county.

Any individual or group may propose a marker. The Marker Proposal form is available at the Sarasota County History Center, 6062 Porter Way, Sarasota.

Marking Our History

- Bidwell-Wood House, Pioneer Park, 1250 12th Street, Sarasota
- Robert L. Taylor Community Center, 1845 34th Street, Sarasota
- Historic Dearborn Street, 300 W. Dearborn Street, Englewood
- Lido Casino, 400 Ben Franklin Drive, Lido Beach, Sarasota
- Little White Church, 4826 McIntosh Road, Sarasota
- Miakka School, 1342 Myakka Road, Old Miakka
- Osprey School, 337 North Tamiami Trail, Osprey
- Owen Burns/Burns Court Herald Square, Intersection of S. Orange and S. Pineapple, Sarasota
- Venice Municipal Airport, 200 Miami Ave. East, Venice
- Warm Mineral Springs, North US 41, Ortiz Blvd. to San Servano, North Port

For a complete listing of all markers, go to <http://www.scgov.net/HistoryCenter/Resources/documents/markerbrochure.pdf>