

Chapter 1

Historic Preservation

Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan

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Chapter 1 Historic Preservation

Introduction

Historic Resources are the visible or tangible record of past human occupation of the land. They give the area in which they are found a sense of place, lending it singularity and distinction, while contributing to the variety of the physical environment. Historic Resources establish social continuity through their links with the past. These resources include buildings, districts or groups of buildings, historic and prehistoric sites and archaeological materials.

The visible remnants of the past, buildings and historic neighborhoods, acquire over time a symbolic usefulness in a community by setting it apart from other locations. Archaeological materials are finite and non-renewable and in most cases constitute the only source of information about that part of a locality's history for which there is no written record. Furthermore, they often increase our understanding of historic sites by providing information missing from historic documents.

Historic Resources must be identified and evaluated if they are to be protected. Those which are judged significant deserve private and public consideration and effort to insure their preservation.

To some, historic buildings are looked at as wasteful, inefficient worn out buildings that no longer serve a viable purpose. However, when viewed from the standpoint of the driving principles of sustainability; environment, economy and social/community, historic preservation makes a significant contribution.

Preserving historic structures is good for the environment. For example, reusing buildings keeps them out of the landfill. Nationally, more than half of a typical landfill's content is comprised of construction materials.

Energy and resource conservation is another consideration. The embodied energy that is already invested in the existing materials and construction of a building is wasted if it is torn down. Additional energy is wasted in the act of demolition, and finally, more energy is consumed manufacturing new materials and constructing a new building.

Preserving historic structures is good for the economy. Since the materials are already in place in a historic structure, restoration work is much more labor oriented than is new construction. Therefore, restoration projects create more jobs than equivalent new construction. According to a recent study, entitled “Economic Impacts of Historic Preservation in Florida”, 123,000 jobs were generated in Florida in 2000 as a result of historic preservation construction activity.

Nationally, heritage tourism is the second most popular form of tourism. People love to learn about the history of the place they are visiting. In Florida, more than \$3.7 billion was spent on heritage tourism in 2000, again according to “Economic Impacts of Historic Preservation in Florida”.

Every community has a unique development history. Historic structures reflect this unique character. Communities that respect and retain their historic buildings also preserve their unique sense of place. In so doing these communities truly stand out and new development is required to retain the scale of the existing community.

Social equity is a serious issue for Sarasota County. Historic buildings can be a great source of affordable housing. In many neighborhoods, modest houses that have simple detailing are located on small lots. Due to the simplicity of the structures, they are affordable to rehabilitate and still have wonderful features like wood floors, solid plaster walls, detailed woodwork and excellent flow through ventilation. The difficulty in these special neighborhoods is that once they are “discovered”, gentrification often occurs.

The fundamental purpose of any preservation program, particularly the historic preservation element of a local comprehensive plan, is to promote the protection of Historic Resources that are considered, by responsible authorities and property owners, important to the community.

The following sections of this Chapter provide information on legislation affecting Historic Resources; an analysis of the existing procedures employed by the County for identifying, evaluating and protecting these resources; and an examination of preservation incentives. The last section, the Historic Preservation Plan, sets forth specific policies that Sarasota County should pursue in order to protect and preserve its cultural resources. An appendix with four sections accompanies the Historic Preservation Chapter.

Definitions

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE: A location that has yielded or may yield information on history or prehistory. An archaeological site contains physical remains of the past. An archaeological site may be found within archaeological zones, historic sites, or historic districts.

BUILDING: A structure created to shelter any form of human activity. This may refer to a house, barn, garage, church, hotel, packinghouse, or similar structure. Buildings may refer to a historically or architecturally related complex, such as a house or jail, or a barn.

CULTURAL RESOURCES SURVEY: A scientific investigation designed to locate and examine Historic Resources. The results of such an investigation is compiled into a written report that contains the following at a minimum: project description, archival research, description of the research design, description of archaeological fieldwork activities, description of historical fieldwork activities, results and conclusions, Florida Master Site File forms for all resources identified and a Florida Master Site File Survey Log Sheet.

FLORIDA Master SITE FILE (FMSF): A listing of Historic Resources maintained by the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, Bureau of Archaeological Research.

HISTORICAL COLLECTION OR ARCHIVES: A repository of materials related to the history and culture of a locality, including the records of individuals, organizations, and institutions of Sarasota County. The records include, but are not limited to, artifacts, photographs, manuscripts, maps and government documents.

HISTORIC DISTRICT: A grouping of two or more buildings, structures, sites, objects or other real or personal property.

HISTORIC RESOURCE: Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, object, or other real or personal property of historical, architectural, or archaeological value.

HISTORIC SITE: A single lot or portion of a lot containing an improvement, landscape feature, or archaeological site, or a historically related complex of improvements, landscape features or archaeological sites that may yield information on history or prehistory.

INTEGRITY: The authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by survival of physical characteristics that existed during the resources historic or prehistoric period.

SARASOTA LOCAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES: A listing of buildings, structures, objects, sites and districts that have been designated as historically important in Sarasota County.

MITIGATION: A process designed to preserve, reclaim and compensate for the adverse impact of an activity on a historic resource, by the systematic removal of the prehistoric, historic, or architectural data in order to acquire the fundamental information necessary for understanding the property within its proper historic context.

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK: Authorized in 1935 and implemented in 1960, a federal program that identifies sites and buildings of national significance.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES: The official listing of culturally significant buildings, structures, objects, sites, and districts in the United States maintained by the U.S. Department of Interior.

OBJECT: A material thing of functional, aesthetic, cultural, historical, or scientific value that may be by nature or design, movable, yet related to a specific setting or environment.

PRESERVATION: The identification, evaluation, recordation, documentation, analysis, recovery, interpretation, curation, acquisition, protection, management, rehabilitation, restoration, stabilization, maintenance, or reconstruction of historic properties.

RECONSTRUCTION: The process of reproducing by new construction the exact form and detail of a demolished building, structure or object as it appeared at a certain point in time.

REHABILITATION: The process of returning a property to a state of utility through repair or alteration which makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving those portions or features of the property that are significant to its historical, architectural, and cultural values.

RESTORATION: The process of accurately recovering the form and details of a resource and its setting as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of later work or by the replacement of missing earlier work.

SIGNIFICANCE: The value of a district, site, building, structure, or object to contribute to our knowledge of an area's history or prehistory.

SITE: The location of a significant event, activity, building, structure or archaeological resource.

STRUCTURE: Anything constructed or erected inclusive of its surrounding property, the use of which requires, directly or indirectly, a permanent location on or in the ground, including without limitation buildings, garages, fences, gazebos, signs, walls, monuments, bridges and fountains.

Legislation Affecting Historic Resources

The Sarasota County Historical Commission was established by the Board of County Commissioners in 1958 to provide for the collection and maintenance of historical materials. As presently constituted, the Commission consists of fifteen members. The Historical Commission may make recommendations to the Board regarding the structure of the Sarasota County History Center and the qualifications of its General Manager; recommend to the County Commission the placement of historical markers; review the budget of the General Manager of the History Center; and provide advice to the History Center regarding the collection of historical materials.

The Sarasota County Historic Preservation Board was established by the Board of County Commissioners in 1997. The Historic Preservation Board consists of seven members who are practicing professionals in the fields of anthropology, real estate, land development, finance, history, folklore, architectural history, conservation, curation, architecture, historic architecture, historic preservation, land use planning, historic preservation planning, landscape architecture, historic landscape architecture, general contracting and/or professional engineering. The board recommends historic designations and tax exemptions to the Board of County Commissioners and reviews Certificates of Appropriateness for historically designated structures in unincorporated Sarasota County.

The 1985 Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act require coastal communities to address the preservation of archaeological and historical resources in their planning efforts. Although communities can fulfill the requirement by addressing the issue of preservation in the land use, housing, and coastal management elements, Sarasota County determined that the preparation of a separate element would be the most effective way to comply with the statutory directive.

Sarasota County Ordinance No. 87-92 (now Article II of Chapter 66 of the Sarasota County Code) created a Department of Historical Resources in September 1987. The Ordinance authorizes the County Administrator to appoint a Director of Historical Resources to serve as the department head. The Department's responsibilities include the organization and management of activities supporting the identification, evaluation, preservation, development, and interpretation of Historic Resources; cooperation with other departments to disseminate information about such resources and develop preservation plans; maintenance of a public archives and historical collection; organization of public educational programs; and the development and maintenance of a Countywide inventory of historic sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places and the Florida Site File.

On March 13, 1989, Ordinance 89-18 was passed, which adopted a Historic Preservation Element as Chapter 1 of the Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan, the Revised and Updated Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan. Section 163.3194, Florida Statutes, mandates that after the element has been adopted all development undertaken by, and all actions taken in regard to development orders by, the County shall be consistent with the historic preservation element and any of the other elements that address preservation issues.

Chapter 66 of the Sarasota County Code sets forth a comprehensive set of regulations whose purpose is to protect the significant historic and archaeological resources of Sarasota County to the maximum extent practicable, in accordance with The Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan, by providing procedures for historic designations, property tax exemptions on qualifying improvements to historically designated resources, and the review of plans and development projects as well as standards for the protection of these resources.

Article III of Chapter 66 of the Sarasota County Code establishes a program for historic and Archaeological Resource Protection to protect the significant historic and archaeological resources of Sarasota County to the maximum extent practicable.

Article IV of Chapter 66 of the Sarasota County Code establishes a program for historic resource designation to protect, enhance, and perpetuate properties of historical, cultural, archaeological, aesthetic, and architectural merit in the interest of the health, prosperity and welfare of the people of Sarasota County. Article IV also authorizes the Director of the History Center to issue and install official plaques identifying designated Historic Resources.

Article V of Chapter 66 of the Sarasota County Code establishes the rules and procedures for granting of ad valorem tax exemptions for qualifying improvements to historically designated resources. As currently established the program allows owners to apply for a ten year exemption on the increase in their county ad valorem taxes which are attributed to a qualifying project.

Sarasota County Ordinance No. 81-12, Land Development Regulations, as amended by Ordinance No. 95-021, adopted in conformance with The Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan, provides for the inclusion of representatives of the County's History Center on the County's Development Review Committee, established for the purpose of reviewing proposed development plans. Through this review process, the County requires development projects to preserve, conserve, mitigate and enhance Historic Resources.

Sarasota County Ordinance No. 89-77, as amended, Developments of Critical Concern, provides for review of residential developments between 1,000 and 1,999 dwelling units by the Development Review Committee which includes the Department of Historical Resources; and further provides that such developments shall comply with the Sarasota County Comprehensive Plan.

Sarasota County Ordinance No. 89-93, as amended, Critical Area Plans, provides for the review of Sector Plans, Corridor Plans, Commercial Corridor Plans, Community and Neighborhood Revitalization and Redevelopment Plans, and plans for other Areas of Critical Concern by the Development Review Committee, and adopts Sector Plan Regulations that require Sector Plan applications to indicate the presence of any known historic, archaeological, scientific or architecturally significant resources within the Sector Plan Area.

Sarasota County Ordinance No. 89-112, as amended, relating to landfills, borrow pits and other excavation, includes a provision for review by the History Center pursuant to the Comprehensive Plan.

Sarasota County Ordinance No. 88-72, as amended, relating to construction in flood prone areas, provides for the protection of the integrity of Historic Resources by excluding them from the "substantial improvement" requirements.

The 2001 Florida Building Code adopted by Sarasota County in 2002 provides: special considerations for historic structures; in sections 11-4.17 and 3401.5, and exceptions to Variances for historic structures; in section 3109.11.2.

The Sarasota County Zoning Ordinance adopted on October 27, 2003 contains numerous provisions to aid in the preservation of historically designated resources and significant Historic Resources. Section 3.8.2 (c) authorizes administrative adjustment of setbacks, Section 3.16.12 provides flexibility for special exceptions, section 3.17.2 allows parcels which possess historical or archaeological significance to serve as sending zones for the transfer of development rights, section 7.1.13 (k) allows parking areas and driveways of historic structures to be surfaced with grass and/or shell, and Section 8.3.1 allows enlargements or alteration to non-conforming historic structures. Resources listed in the Local Register of Historic Places are granted further flexibility under Section 4.10.1 (c) of the Zoning Ordinance which addresses Permitted and Special Exception Uses.

The Sarasota County Historical Commission is presently authorized to conduct a program to create appropriate historic markers identifying the location of significant sites. The Board of County Commissioners approved guidelines for the Marker Program in 1978. The Sarasota County Historical Commission has installed 60 such markers to identify sites in Sarasota County of archaeological and historic significance. They span the County, from Sarasota to Englewood, from the barrier islands to Old Miakka and North Port.

A review of Federal and State legislation affecting Historic Resources can be found in Appendix A, Section 1.

Inventory

Studies and Surveys

A program to preserve Historic Resources in a community must begin with identification of those resources. Resources in Sarasota County have been identified as the result of comprehensive surveys of the coastal zone, Laurel, portions of Old Miakka, and the Myakka River area, north central Sarasota County and of surveys of smaller development parcels. A survey of resources associated with the Sarasota School of Architecture has also been completed resulting in the submission of a cover nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Much identification work still remains to be done. The vast interior land of the County has not been subjected to a comprehensive archaeological/architectural survey.

A variety of sources discuss the archaeological and architectural resources of Sarasota County. The value of Sarasota County's archaeological sites has been recognized at least since the 1860s when John G. Webb settled at Osprey and began collecting aboriginal artifacts on his homestead. Webb shared his finds with naturalists and anthropologists at the Smithsonian Institution sparking several decades of interest in the region's natural and aboriginal resources.¹

At the turn of the century, C.B. Moore, a well known archaeologist, spent a brief time in Sarasota making observations on sites near Hudson Bayou.² The first professional excavations in the County were undertaken in 1934 when Marshall Newman excavated the Englewood Mound (Florida Master Site File (FMSF) No. 8So1).³ During the 1950s and the 1960s, several mounds in the County were investigated.⁴ No systematic reconnaissance of the County's archaeological resources was undertaken until 1961 when the County Historian and a local amateur archaeologist conducted a "windshield" or visual survey to record easily visible sites.⁵

In 1976, Marion Almy completed a review of all recorded sites in the County and presented a series of environmental variables that can help predict site location.⁶ These variables form the basis of the County's predictive model today. During the late 1970s and 1980s a number of individual property surveys were undertaken in the County, largely in response to a new concern for preservation of the disappearing Historic Resources. The Sarasota County History Center has survey reports on file from this period.

In 1989, the University of South Florida conducted surveys of the coastal zone (defined generally as the area west of U.S. Highway 41) of the unincorporated County, Old Miakka, and along portions of the Myakka River.⁷ These surveys noted and revisited most previously recorded Historic Resources and identified new resources through survey and informant interview.

In 1993, a historical, architectural, and archaeological survey was conducted in Laurel by Archaeological Consultants Inc. In 2001 a survey of resources associated with the Sarasota School of Architecture was completed by the History Center and in 2003 a survey of an area bounded by Bee Ridge Road on the north, Phillippi Creek on the west, Clark Road on the south and Beneva Avenue on the east was completed by GAI consultants. In 2003 a nomination to the Local Register of Historic Places was submitted for the historic section of the community of Nokomis. In 2005 National Register nominations were submitted to the Florida Department of State for the Maine Colony, located west of Swift Road along Ashton Street; and the Sarasota School of Architecture.

Site Lists

The Florida Master Site File is a standardized list of architectural and archaeological resources throughout the State which is maintained by the Florida Department of State, Bureau of Archaeological Research, Division of Historical Resources. As of the spring of 2005, there were 4,608 recorded sites in Sarasota County, 466 were archaeological sites and 4,142 were structures.

The purpose of the Florida Master Site File is to receive, validate, store and distribute information about Florida's heritage. Information about a site is submitted by individuals and organizations to the Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research on either the Archaeological Site or Historic Structure Site File form. The Bureau determines the eligibility of a site for entry on the Florida Master Site File based on this information.

The Florida Master Site File form requests information about the site including site name, historic context, location, history and description of the structure or site. Supplemental information, such as site location on a photocopy of a USGS topographic map for all sites and photograph and large scale street map for historic structures, is normally required. Florida Master Site File numbers usually are assigned only after receipt of an acceptable site form. Most sites that are reported with satisfactory documentation are accepted. Resources listed in the Florida Master Site File are mapped on a series of U.S.G.S. maps. An index of these maps is contained in Figure 1-1. Access to the data on the maps is, however, restricted under Section 66-74(e) of the Sarasota County Code and under FS 267.135 (Location of Archaeological Sites).

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 established the National Register of Historic Places which is a list of culturally significant properties maintained by the U.S. Department of the Interior. Inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places does not restrict private use of a property; that is, listing does not come packaged with a set of architectural or land use controls. Legally, it only protects the property against the consequences of adverse federal activity. On the other hand, financial incentives for improving listed structures are available under the Federal tax code. There are, additionally, many other incentives under Federal and State law and regulatory authority that apply to listed properties. Nominations of a property can be made by any person; however, owner consent to the nomination is required. For districts that contain a stipulated number of buildings, a majority of property owners must express disapproval of the nomination to prevent its acceptance. A further explanation of the National Register program is provided in Appendix A, Section 2. There are currently fourteen sites in unincorporated Sarasota County listed on the National Register.

Historic Overview

The prehistory of Florida is a period of time before written records, and subsequently, archaeologists have divided the prehistory of Sarasota County into different time periods and have assigned names to these cultural groups. The following section gives a brief look at the prehistoric life of local Native Americans before the arrival of Europeans.

Paleoindians, the earliest known inhabitants of Florida, lived as nomadic hunters from about 12,000 to 9,500 years ago. They roamed over a landscape very different from that of today. With a lower sea level Florida's coastline was much farther out, especially along the Gulf Coast. The total land mass of Florida was about twice as large as it is today and Sarasota was located inland. The climate was also different; arid and cool. Water was in short supply and the best sources for water were rivers and watering holes, such as the deep springs of Warm Mineral Springs and Little Salt Springs.

The cool and arid climate, as well as expanded landmass, supported a different array of plants and animals. Mammoths, camelids, and giant land tortoises existed during this period. Fossils of these animals have been discovered in and around Sarasota. Typical plants of this period include scrub oak, pine forests, grass prairies, and savannahs. Archaeologists have discovered evidence of human campsites at Warm Mineral Springs and Little Salt Springs. Paleoindians camped around what were then sinkholes and artifacts discovered at these springs demonstrate how animals were killed, butchered, and eaten. Underwater archaeological excavations at Warm Mineral Springs and Little Salt Springs have expanded our knowledge of the Paleoindian period in Sarasota and Florida as well as the North American continent.

Around 10,000 years ago the climate began to warm, glaciers began to melt, and the sea level began to rise. In Florida, water resources became more readily available with an increase in rivers and lakes. The giant animals that once dominated the landscape during the Paleoindian period became extinct. The old nomadic way of hunting disappeared. After about 9,500 years ago, changes in the archaeological record became so great that archaeologists distinguish this new Archaic Culture from the earlier Paleoindian Culture.

Human populations expanded and people stayed in one place for longer periods of time. The variety of tools increased; projectile points and other stone tools changed with the changing environment. Fish and shellfish increased in importance in people's diets. About 4,000 years ago, Florida Indians began firing clay pottery. Prior to pottery, gourds, wood, shells, basketry, and even stone vessels, were used as containers. Being able to construct vessels from clay was a notable accomplishment because it presented more efficient ways to cook and store food. Some of this earliest pottery, fiber-tempered pottery, has been found in the Sarasota area.

By the end of the Archaic period, about 3,000 to 2,500 years ago, people were living in larger numbers along the Gulf Coast and near extensive wetlands, wherever there was food. Archaeologists discovered the beginnings of village life during this period. People might live at camps to hunt deer, but they returned to a settled village near the shore. Camps became villages and a distinctive way of life began to develop in different regions. Groups turned toward social and economic tools to sustain a growing population. The uniform way of life that was evident in Florida during the Archaic period disappeared as regional adaptations to differing environments within Florida occurred. As a result, individual regional cultures, like the Manasota, originated.

A prehistoric group unique to Sarasota is the Manasota Culture. The word "Manasota" is the contraction of two county names, Manatee and Sarasota. Archaeologists have given the name Manasota to the coastal dwellers living in present day Sarasota from around 2,500 to 1,300 years ago. The Manasota culture followed the earlier Archaic culture of mobile hunters and gatherers. Manasota sites are typically shell middens, areas where people lived and threw away their garbage, which consisted of food remains such as animal bone and shellfish. However, a midden may also contain artifacts such as tools and pottery. Most of these Manasota shell middens are found on or near the shore in Sarasota, where villagers had easiest access to fish and shellfish. Other midden sites cluster around mouths and lower portions of rivers and streams. Some Manasota sites, presumed to be short-term villages or special use camps, are found in pine flatwoods near water sources and wetland habitats. Zooarchaeological studies of coastal Manasota sites identify numerous species of fish, sharks, rays, and shellfish as a major part of their diet. Other animal remains found at these sites, but in smaller proportions, include reptiles, amphibians, and mammals such as deer and raccoon.

People of the Manasota Culture created ingenious ways to use natural resources to make their clothes, tools, vessels, and ornaments. Their artifacts reflect that they were fully adapted to a coastal environment. Many of their tools and ornaments are made from marine shell. Large lightning whelks as well as smaller crown conchs were tied to wooden handles and used as hammers for wood working as well as opening clams and oysters. Shells were also used to make cups, spoons, and decorative ornaments. Mammal bones such as deer were used to make pins and fish hooks. Intricately carved bone pins may have been used as hair or clothing ornaments. Manasota groups also used stone for tools such as arrowheads, knives, scrapers, and drills. Pottery, typically made from local clays and sand, is often found at Manasota sites. Utilitarian pottery or stoneware, as we refer to it today, was undecorated and the shapes reflected their uses- cooking, serving and storage.

The Manasota Culture is considered part of the Weeden Island Culture Complex. The Weeden Island Culture Complex is a complex of many smaller cultures that extend north from the coastal plains of Alabama and southern Georgia, across the panhandle of northwest Florida, encompassing most of northern Florida, and south along Florida's Gulf Coast as far south as Sarasota. These smaller cultures of the Weeden Island Culture Complex were geographically different and each adapted according to their individual environment. Each of the smaller cultures ate different food, used different tools, and made different everyday pottery. However, since there are similarities in their burial mounds and associated burial artifacts, current archaeology assumes that they probably shared many similar ideas about social life and religion.

The once numerous Native American groups of Florida, including the Safety Harbor Culture groups in Sarasota, had been decimated by diseases like smallpox and yellow fever brought from Europe. By the early 1760s native groups of Florida were reduced to almost nothing. Handfuls of individuals were taken to Cuba when the Spanish population withdrew from Florida in 1763.

While these groups fell apart, other groups migrated into the state. The Seminoles were originally part of the Creek Indian groups from Georgia and Alabama and historically a late arrival to Florida. Many members of their culture live primarily in South Florida today. Historians believe that the name "Seminole" came from the Spanish word *cimarrone*, used by early Spaniards to refer to Indians living apart from mission settlements. By the early 1800s Seminole had traveled as far south as Tampa and Sarasota. Between 1812 and 1820, pressure from settlers in Alabama and Georgia, along with internal conflicts, forced many Creeks to move into Florida. Conflict arose between the settlers from Georgia and the Carolinas and the Seminoles, which ultimately resulted in warfare.

During peaceful periods, Seminole groups were prohibited from living along the coast. Therefore, contact between the Seminoles and European settlers was occasional, usually for trading purposes. In 1840 General Walker K. Armistead, commander of the Army of Florida, established a new headquarters in Sarasota. Fort Armistead was situated on the mainland north of present-day Whitaker Bayou. Fort Armistead was one of the few posts that sent soldiers to Charlotte Harbor to pressure Seminoles into surrender and deportation to reservation areas west of the Mississippi. Although the location appeared good, illnesses such as diarrhea weakened the troops. After seven months the fort was abandoned. The 2nd Seminole War (1835-1842) resulted in troops moving more Seminoles to Oklahoma. A small group of 200-300 remained in the Everglades and used the swamps as a refuge. The 3rd Seminole War, also known as the Billy Bowlegs War, pushed troops south, eventually removing 200 Seminoles to Oklahoma. Local Settle families, including the Whitaker family of Sarasota, were evacuated to "Branch Fort" on the Manatee River. A small cluster of Seminoles still remained in the swamps of south Florida where federal troops found it impossible to reach. The descendants of these fragmented groups are the modern day Florida Seminoles.

The Turn-of-the-Century Period began with the outbreak of the Spanish-American War in 1898. Florida benefited from the war through improved harbors and the billeting of large numbers of troops in many of the coastal communities. Railroad development continued throughout the state. Introduction of the automobile stimulated the beginning of a state road system. Improved transportation facilitated agricultural and industrial expansion and led to dramatic increases in population and tourism. The entry of the United States into World War I signaled the end of the period. Immigration and housing development slowed during the war, but tourism rose when the war in Europe forced Americans to seek vacation destinations in this country.

Florida architecture underwent substantial change during the Turn-of-the-Century period. The flamboyant architecture of the Victorian era gave way to more traditional, conservative influences represented by the Beaux Arts, Colonial Revival, and Classical Revival styles. Also present were early examples of Mediterranean influenced styles, including the Spanish Colonial Revival and Italian Renaissance, which were to come into full bloom during the 1920s.

Transportation remained a key to the state's development. Railroad depots and stations were constructed throughout Florida, particularly in previously undeveloped areas. The railroad, because of its speed and accessibility, supplanted shipping as the principal transportation system in Florida. Construction of courthouses and other municipal and county buildings revealed the expansion of local government during the period. Industrial expansion continued during the Turn-of-the-Century Period. Cigar manufacturing and citrus processing were important activities. Cigar factories, sponge warehouses, sponge boats, and citrus packing houses were significant property types associated with the period.

Social institutions, a reflection of a maturing society and an improving quality of life, expanded. The State of Florida made a significant commitment to higher education by adopting the Buckman Act, which created the University of Florida, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, and the Florida State School for Women. Public and private schools of primary, secondary, and higher education were constructed in unprecedented numbers for the period, including the Old Myakka School.

Domestic architecture grew more conservative, reflecting the influence of classical precedents. The Colonial Revival provided a major influence, even on vernacular architecture. The Bungalow dominated residential architecture. It represented a clear break from the preceding period through its size, massing, and interior design. Together with the Prairie School, it symbolized the introduction of the Early Modern Movement in Florida.

Mediterranean Revival Style structures in Sarasota came in all shapes and sizes. The most popular was the simple Spanish bungalow. Commercial storefronts, small apartment buildings, and of course, grand hotels were also designed in the style.

The air began to seep out of the speculative land bubble in 1925. In August of that year the Florida East Coast Railway announced an embargo on freight shipments to south Florida, where ports and rail terminals were clogged with unused building materials. Devastating hurricanes that hit southeast Florida in 1926 and 1928 killed thousands of people and provided a sad, closing chapter to an era of wild excesses, plunging the state into economic depression. Adding to the economic misery, an infestation of the Mediterranean fruit fly devastated citrus groves throughout the state in 1928.

On the heels of World War I came a push for the formation of Sarasota County. With success in 1921, the new county's leadership began to improve the infrastructure and make the area attractive for tourists and new residents. Voters approved bonds for roads, bridges, nine schools, and a courthouse.

Buildings designed for entertainment and hospitality for use by tourists characterized Boom Time development. Sarasota hosted the New York Giants' spring training and the winter quarters for Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus. The Ringling Causeway provided easy access to more Gulf beaches.

The modest construction of the Depression and New Deal era stood in stark contrast to Sarasota's exotic revivals of the 1920's. Homes were often small and simple, and there was a renewed interest in more traditional styles like Dutch Colonial and Colonial Revival. Simple wood siding over a masonry or wood frame structure, with little or no architectural embellishments characterized these years of residential construction.

The public works projects fueled by the Hoover and Roosevelt administrations were more highly stylized, picking up on European design influences that emphasized sleek lines and function over form. Numerous post offices, courthouses, auditoriums, armories, and municipal offices were constructed under federal auspices. Structures in Sarasota representative of this style include our Art Deco Municipal Auditorium, the Chidsey Library, and the City's former fire station, today's Treasure Chest located at 1426 Fruitville Road. Another more traditional public building from this time is Sarasota's Neoclassical Style Federal building located on South Orange Avenue. These public buildings were of masonry and displayed design influences from well beyond Florida's borders.

For the 12,500 people in Sarasota County that were recorded in the 1930 census, the Depression years were difficult, but generally not devastating. Anyone who could fish could eat. Federal assistance programs provided funds for bridge, drainage, public building, and park projects. Parent Teacher Associations and Woman's Clubs helped provide lunches and clothing for students in need. They also raised funds to keep the schools open when tax revenues were insufficient.

Increased numbers of visitors continued to swell the local population during the winter and spring. The Tin Can Tourists moved their annual convention to Sarasota. The Boston Red Sox attracted baseball fans after the Giants left. The Kentucky Military Institute moved to Venice for the spring semester. Parents followed. Dr. Fred Albee, internationally famous orthopedic surgeon, opened his Florida Medical Center in Venice and attracted patients and doctors from around the world. capital investments. Florida attractions, such as the large theme parks in the Orlando area, bring millions of visitors to the state from across the U.S. and around the world.

After the war, architecture throughout the United States took on a distinctly modern look reflecting changes in design philosophies that had been developed in Europe, and brought to this country during the war. Designers discarded the ornamentation of existing or traditional styles and exposed the structural elements of their buildings to produce starkly functional designs.

In Sarasota, the International Style was adapted to fit the semitropical environment through the use of wide roof overhangs for shading, large expanses of glass to soften the transition between indoors and out, and site placement to take advantage of prevailing winds. Later named The Sarasota School of Architecture, the innovative designs used here drew international attention. Noted architectural historian, Henry Russell Hitchcock writing for the *Architectural Review* of London in 1952 said “The most exciting new architecture in the world is being done in Sarasota, Florida by a group of young architects”.

After the United States entered the Second World War in 1941, Sarasota County became host to two Army Air Bases. The thousands of troops that trained in Sarasota and Venice learned of the area and many returned after the war to visit or live.

DDT, the pesticide that was developed during World War II for use in battle areas to protect soldiers from insect-spread diseases, became available for civilian use after the war. Local governments eagerly used it in the battle against mosquitoes.

During the post-war years, Sarasota County experienced a population explosion. The 19,000 residents in 1945 grew to 120,413 in 1970. Part of that explosion occurred within the arts community. A significant number of artists, writers, and architects moved to the area and art, theater, and musical groups emerged. Jungle Gardens, Sunshine Springs and Gardens, Circus Hall of Fame, Floridaland, and Texas Jim Mitchell’s Reptile Farm and Zoo opened to entice the Florida-bound traveler. The Ringling Circus winter quarters moved to Venice and its Sarasota site became a subdivision. Baseball spring training continued with the Chicago White Sox.

Analysis

Archival Activities

The Sarasota County History Center is responsible for the maintenance of the County's archival collection. The Archive was created as part of the Sarasota County Historical Commission in 1959 to collect, preserve, and present to the public the history of Sarasota County. The Archives contain a wide variety of items including photographs of Sarasota County and the City of Sarasota area from the 1880s to the present; aerial photographs in sets from 1926 to 1989; maps of Florida, Sarasota County, Venice, and City of Sarasota; newspapers including Sarasota Times from 1910-1923, Sarasota Herald from 1924-1930, Sarasota Herald Tribune from 1947-1976, Sarasota Journal 1952-1976, The News 1954-1963, Englewood Sun Herald 1957-1990, and other weekly papers; Polk City Directory from 1897 to the present, plat books, architectural drawings, manuscript collections, obit files; genealogy and subject files, and books on Florida and local history. Also housed are exhibits on Sarasota County's history, as well as a large artifact and archaeological collection housed offsite.

Archival materials held by the County represent more than a repository useful for public education. Many of these materials are critical to the County's preservation efforts. For example, the historic period map collection provides important information about previous environments and site locations. This information allows the location of historic sites and activities to be determined and analyzed. The photographic collection can be used to determine the original appearance of historic structures, a critical point in restoration efforts. The vertical files, newspapers, city directories, etc. provide data concerning the construction date, builder, architect, occupants and uses of historic structures. This data is essential to establish the history and hence significance of such structures. These archival materials currently are used not only by County staff, but also by the adjacent municipalities and the citizenry in their preservation efforts.

An historical and archaeological database is maintained by the History Center. The database includes the following:

1. a set of United States Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangles showing archaeological sites;
2. a set of USGS quadrangles showing historic structures or blocks of structures;
3. a set of half-section maps detailing blocks of structures;
4. a set of large scale soils maps;

5. Florida Site File forms for all recorded sites;
6. National Register forms for sites that are listed on the Register;
7. archaeological and historic reports that have been done in the County;
8. historic period maps;
9. archival materials pertaining to the County's history archaeology; and
10. contour overlaid aerials from the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

In order to accomplish the County's preservation goals the database must continue to be maintained and the collection of historical materials managed, so that there is a base of integrated and accessible information about Sarasota County's historical resources. Processing of the collection is conducted on an ongoing basis as new materials are acquired. Specific tasks include: processing, conservation and management of the acquired materials; developing guidelines to the collection; cataloging the collections according to a subject heading index; reorganizing the vertical file and photograph/slide collection; and, inventorying and processing the archaeological, paleontological, and natural history collection. Continued efforts towards these and related tasks will have immediate positive effects on the preservation program by making the historical information more easily accessible.

Evaluation of Historic Resources

Evaluating the significance, or value, of a historic resource is necessary because only those resources that are significant or valuable warrant preservation. Objective criteria are employed to evaluate the significance of Historic Resources. The National Register of Historic Places has established criteria to evaluate the significance of sites and structures.⁸ The criteria are used nearly universally in the United States as a measure of historic resource significance and have been adopted by Sarasota County in the criteria for the Local Register of Historic Places. The criteria are summarized below:

Significant districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects possess at least two of the seven kinds of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, and

1. are associated with the events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
2. are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or

3. embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
4. have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Significance can be determined relative to a local, state or national context. A property does not have to be important regionally or on a state-wide basis to be significant. Its value may derive from its role in the prehistory or history of the local area. The U.S. Department of the Interior has published guidelines that explain in detail the application of each of the four criteria above to particular types of Historic Resources.⁹

Sarasota County's historic designation program was established in 1997 and is contained within Article IV Chapter 66 of the Sarasota County Code. Central to the program is the work of the Sarasota County Historic Preservation Board which reviews applications for local historic designations and plans for changes to historically designated properties. The Board is appointed by the Sarasota Board of County Commissioners and comprised of seven members. Preference is given to practicing or retired professionals in the fields of anthropology; real estate, land development or finance; history, folklore or architectural history; conservation or curation; architecture or historic architecture; historic preservation; land use planning or historic preservation planning; landscape architecture or historic landscape architecture; General or building contractor; or Professional Engineering with a demonstrated commitment to historic preservation. A list of historically designated resources is contained within Tables 1-1 and 1-2 of this Chapter.

Incentives available to the owners of historically designated properties include flexibility in the building and zoning codes, exemption from the FEMA substantial improvement limitation, and ad-valorem tax exemptions for qualifying improvements.

Table 1-1: Local Register of Historic Places and Structures

Local Register of Historic Places and Structures in Sarasota County				
Style	PIN No.	Project Name	Address	Zip Code
Frame Vernacular	0075-12-0031	Bispham-Wilson Dist	4613 S. Tamiami Tr	
Bungalow	0072-04-0082	Elizabeth Clarke	2821 Stoneland La	34231
Frame Vernacular	0089-08-0063	Bee Ridge Woman's Club	4919 Andrew Av	34233
Frame Vernacular	0128-15-0006	Turtle Beach Cabanas	8484 Sanderling Rd	34242
Med. Rev.	0429-04-0021	Med. Rev. Style Bungalow	409 S. Nassau St	34285
Frame Vernacular	0078-02-0021	George A. & Ethel Freeman House	4010 Roberts Point Rd	34242
Med. Rev.	0405-12-0051	Alvah Jordan House	218 E. Pocono Tr	34275
Prairie Style	0497-15-0041	Lemon Bay Woman's Club	51 N. Maple St	34223
Sarasota School	0080-10-0016	Joseph D. Dudley House	14 Sandy Hook Rd N	34242
Frame Vernacular	0072-05-0001	Arthur Nelson House & Barracks	4017 Swift / 2813 Forest La	34231
Sarasota School	0080-10-0021	The Carousel House	2 Sandy Hook	34242
Sarasota School	0082-02-0014	The Dickerson Residence	5211 Cape Leyte Dr	34242
Sarasota School	0129-09-0031	Alice Watters Beebee House	1265 Tree Bay Lane	34242
Various	0501-04-0012	Hermitage/Whitney District	6660 Manasota Key	34223
Sarasota School	0169-15-0001	Nokomis Beach Pavilion	100 Casey Key Rd	34275
Sarasota School	0107-08-0004	Siesta Key Beach Pavilion	948 Beach Rd	34242
Sarasota School	0080-10-0003	Armstrong-Hook House	37 S. Sandy Hook	34242
Bungalow	0068-01-0001	Wilson House	Honore Avenue	
Various	0405-12-0041	East Nokomis Historic District	235 Colonia La	34275
	0405-12-0051	East Nokomis Historic District	218 Pocono Tr	34275
	0405-12-0055	East Nokomis Historic District	202 Pocono Tr	34275
	0405-13-0018	East Nokomis Historic District	106 Pocono Tr	34275
	0405-13-0020	East Nokomis Historic District	801 Tamiami Tr	34275
Frame	0173-07-0005	Sunrise Nokomis Dist	420 Sunrise Dr	34275

Local Register of Historic Places and Structures in Sarasota County

Style	PIN No.	Project Name	Address	Zip Code
Vernacular				
	0173-07-0006	Sunrise Nokomis Dist	417 Sunrise Dr	34275
	0173-07-0003	Sunrise Nokomis Dist	407 Sunrise Dr	34275
Sarasota School	0082-03-0003	Deeds Residence	5242 Avenida del Mare	34242
Sarasota School	0106-03-0012	Gregg's Greenhouse/ The Summerhouse Restaurant	6101 Midnight Pass Rd	34242

Source: Sarasota County Community Services History Center

Table 1-2: National Register of Historic Places, Structures and Sites

National Register of Historic Places Structures and Sites in Sarasota County	
Site Name	Location
Englewood	
Lemon Bay Woman's Club	51 North Maple Street
Hermitage-Whitney Historic District	6660 Manasota Key Road
North Port	
Little Salt Springs	Price Boulevard & Glenallen
Osprey	
Osprey School	337 North Tamiami Trail
Spanish Point	500 North Tamiami Trail
Sarasota	
Bispham-Wilson Historic District	4613 South Tamiami Trail
Blackburn Point Bridge	Blackburn Point Road at Gulf Intercoastal Waterway
Dr. C.B. Wilson Residence	Honore Avenue
Edson Keith Estate	5500 South Tamiami Trail
Field Estate	Field Road & Camino Real
Johnson Chapel Missionary Baptist Church	506 Church Street, Laurel
Miakka School	Miakka & Wilson Road
Out-of-Door School	444 Reid Street
Sanderling Beach Club	7400 Sanderling Road
Source: Sarasota County Community Services History Center	

Protection of Historic Resources

Sarasota County has relied on the development review process to protect its Historic Resources. This system has been successful in protecting many of the County's Historic Resources and is particularly suited to the locationally scattered nature of the resources and the state of the knowledge about them. The guidelines for the protection of significant Historic Resources in the unincorporated county are set forth in Article III of Chapter 66 of the Sarasota County Code. This Chapter authorizes the General Manager of the History Center to review many types of plans.

The following State and Federal guidelines are used to assess the adequacy of archaeological/architectural research designs and reports, professional qualifications of consultants, design plans and rehabilitation proposals. They have been adopted by reference in articles III and IV of Chapter 66 of the Sarasota County Code

The Historic Preservation Compliance Review Program of the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, Historic Compliance Review Section, Bureau of Historic Preservation.

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Preservation Assistance Division, Washington, DC;

Archaeology and Historic Preservation: Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines, Department of the Interior, National Park Service (Federal Register 48 (190), September 29, 1983: 44716-44739; and

The Secretary of the Interior's Guidelines for Architectural and Engineering Documentation, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Preservation Assistance Division, Washington. D.C.

County-Owned Resources

Sarasota County owns property that contains significant Historic Resources including buildings and archaeological materials. Examples of these are the Sarasota County Terrace Building and the Courthouse, both of which were designed by important architects and which reflect a popular style of architecture of the Florida Boom Period; the Edson Keith Estate and the property on which it rests; Indian Mound Park; Bayonne Reserve; the Hermitage on Manasota Key; the Pinelands Reserve and the T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve which contains historical and archaeological resources.

Incentives

A variety of incentives and instruments are available for use by government and its citizens to assist in these preservation efforts. Some are already provided through federal or state law or regulations; others must be adopted by the local government. In most cases, the instruments that local government and the community's residents can employ in the preservation process are similar to devices found in real estate and tax law. Some of the incentives described below are available to residents of Sarasota County who own qualifying Historic Resources.

Plaques

Plaques are offered to the owners of locally historically designated resources to recognize their historic preservation efforts.

The Sarasota County Historical Commission is presently authorized to conduct a program to create appropriate historic markers identifying the location of significant sites. The Board of County Commissioners approved guidelines for the Marker Program in 1978. The Sarasota County Historical Commission has installed nearly 75 such markers to identify sites in Sarasota County of archaeological and historic significance. They span the County, from Sarasota to Englewood, from the barrier islands to Old Miakka and North Port.

Conservation Easements

An easement is a right or interest in property that is appropriate to retaining the structural integrity or physical appearance of sites or properties of historic, architectural, archaeological or cultural significance in accordance with F.S. 704.06. In use as a historic preservation instrument, the easement is usually placed with a non profit organization or government entity that is qualified to maintain it over a period of time. Tax advantages are available for some easements. Federal law permits, for example, the donation of a facade easement for the purpose of preserving the exterior integrity of a qualified historic building. Scenic or open space easements are used to preserve archaeological sites.

Covenant Agreement

A covenant agreement is a formal legally binding agreement between multiple parties. The agreement is a deed in writing where each party pledges itself to the other that something is done or shall be done, or stipulates certain facts. Covenant agreements can be used for preservation purposes to designate areas for protection. The County has entered into a total of 11 covenant agreements for the protection of Historic Resources. Tax advantages are available for some covenant agreements.

Purchase of Development Rights

This device, equivalent to an easement, involves the acquisition of certain rights to a property. The value of the development right is defined as the difference between the property's market value and its use value.

Rehabilitation Tax Credits

Federal tax credits, for the expenses incurred in the rehabilitation of a qualified historic structure, have been present for a decade. Present law (the 1986 Tax Reform Act) provides for a twenty percent credit for certified historic structures and a ten percent credit for structures more than fifty years old.

Ad Valorem Tax Relief

Section 193.505, Florida Statutes, provides for an owner of a historically significant property to enter into a covenant with the local government to maintain the assessed value at a reduced level, in return for preservation of the property's historic features. The program has not been administratively implemented at the state level, however. In November 1992, Florida voters approved an amendment to the state constitution that allows local governments to provide property tax relief for improvements to historic properties. Article V of Chapter 66 of the Sarasota County Code establishes the rules and procedures for granting of ad-valorem tax exemptions for qualifying improvements to historically designated resources.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds

The Federal Community Development Block Grant Program permits the use of funds distributed as community block grants for historic preservation purposes, such as a survey of Historic Resources. Sarasota County has used CDBG funds to investigate historic and archaeological resources in areas targeted for redevelopment efforts, including the community of Laurel.

Transfer of Development Rights

This legal instrument is employed to protect Historic Resources, such as archaeological sites, by permitting the right to develop a property to be transferred to another location, sparing the original property from destruction or alteration. Section 3.1.7.2 of the Sarasota County Zoning Regulations (Ordinance No. 75-38, as amended) allows a parcel containing historic or archaeological significance to be used as a sending zone for the transfer of development rights.

Tax Increment Financing

This measure provides for use of the tax, upon an increased valuation of an improved property, to amortize the cost of the bond issue floated to finance the improvement.

Revolving Fund

A revolving fund, normally administered by a non profit or governmental unit, establishes a monetary basis on which property can be bought, improved, maintained, and sold. Revolving fund monies are subsequently returned and reused. The funds act to create a new economic and social force in the community.

Certified Local Government (CLG) Program

Since its establishment by Congress in 1966, the National Historic Preservation Program has operated as a decentralized partnership between the federal government and the states. The federal government set up a program of identification, evaluation, and protection of historic properties based on the National Register of Historic Places. The program is carried out by the states, under the direction of the National Park Service. Participating states receive funding assistance in the form of annual grants from the Federal Historic Preservation Trust Fund to support the staff of the State Historic Preservation Office. A portion of the funds may be re granted in the form of sub grants for survey and planning activities.

The success of this working relationship has prompted Congress to extend the partnership to provide for direct participation by qualified local governments. The National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980 (P.L. 96 515) provide the legal basis for the new federal state local preservation partnership commonly referred to as the Certified Local Government Program (CLG). The amendments direct the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Secretary of the Interior to establish procedures for the certification of local governments to participate in this partnership. The Certified Local Government Program permits the states to delegate limited responsibilities to local government that meet specific qualifications for certification and provide limited grant in aid funding to assist them in that process.

Sarasota County became a member of the Certified local Government Program in 1998. As a member, Sarasota County has adopted a historic preservation ordinance that provides for the designation and protection of historic buildings and includes a qualified review authority; maintains an inventory of Historic Resources; and encourages public participation in the historic preservation program through the Board of County Commissioners appointed Historic Preservation Board.

Historic Preservation Plan

Intent

The fundamental purpose of any historic preservation program, particularly the historic preservation element of a local comprehensive plan, is to protect the Historic Resources within the local government's jurisdiction against adverse impacts and to promote awareness among residents and government officials of the wisdom of preserving such resources.

The Historic Preservation Plan sets forth a program for the identification and protection of the historical and archaeological resources located in the unincorporated areas of Sarasota County. The Plan recommends additional surveys of historical and archaeological resources in order to locate buildings, sites, structures, districts, and objects significant to the history of Sarasota County, and for the development of a management program for the County's valuable collection of historic archival materials and artifacts. The Plan encourages the utilization of these archival materials to develop educational and informational programs designed to inform citizens and visitors of Sarasota County's unique and diverse cultural heritage, as well as, use in the development review process.

The Plan calls for the establishment of legal and regulatory procedures to review and mitigate the impact of future development on prehistoric and Historic Resources. It is the intent of the goals and policies to protect the significant and potentially significant Historic Resources of Sarasota County during the development process. Preservation of resources is the preferred treatment, but it is not always possible because of factors unique to an individual site. If a development project will adversely affect a resource, Sarasota County will promote measures to avoid, minimize or mitigate that effect.

HIST Goal 1

It shall be the Goal of Sarasota County to identify, evaluate, document, and promote the protection of its prehistoric and Historic Resources.

HIST Objective 1.1. Identification

Identify and evaluate Sarasota County's Historic Resources on both public and private lands.

HIST Policy 1.1.1.

Continue to seek funding for comprehensive surveys to locate buildings, sites, structures, districts, and objects significant to the prehistory and history of Sarasota County.

HIST Policy 1.1.2.

Include all identified Historic Resources on the Florida Master Site File.

HIST Policy 1.1.3.

Nominate eligible County owned archaeological and historical resources to the Sarasota County Local Register of Historic Places and/or National Register of Historic Places.

HIST Policy 1.1.4.

Encourage the nomination of eligible privately owned archaeological and historical resources to the Sarasota County Local Register of Historic Places and/or National Register of Historic Places by providing assistance to the private sector in the nomination process.

HIST Objective 1.2. Documentation

Improve access to historical records to promote responsiveness to patron requests, public education, and efficiency in reviewing development applications.

HIST Policy 1.2.1.

Maintain existing records that include maps upon which recorded archaeological sites and structures are shown; the complete set of Florida Master Site File forms, Sarasota County Local Register of Historic Places forms and National Register of Historic Places forms for sites recorded in Sarasota County; site reports filed by professional historians and archaeologists working in the County; and, archival materials and artifacts that relate to Sarasota County's heritage.

HIST Policy 1.2.2.

Maintain and update a list of historic resources. Resources on this list are classified according to their local significance, which is established by the guidelines contained in Article III of Chapter 66 of the Sarasota County Code.

HIST Objective 1.3. Collections Management

Make Sarasota County's collection of historic archival materials and artifacts available for educational and public outreach programs, as well as for research by the public by processing, conserving, organizing, inventorying and appropriately storing the collection.

HIST Policy 1.3.1.

Maintain a collections management program for the acquisition of historical collections, and for effective and efficient access to them.

HIST Policy 1.3.2.

Provide survey data and archival materials relating to the prehistoric and Historic Resources of Sarasota County in a public access depository.

HIST Policy 1.3.3.

Develop a comprehensive physical storage facility in accordance with prescribed archival and museum standards for the historical collection.

HIST Policy 1.3.4.

Seek supplemental funding sources to support the archival/collections management program.

HIST Policy 1.3.5.

Develop and implement an oral history program, as one method of recording the history of Sarasota County.

HIST Policy 1.3.6.

Provide technical guidance and assistance to other historical/archival collections throughout Sarasota County to insure consistent procedures in accord with prescribed archival standards.

HIST Objective 1.4. Education

Establish and expand educational and public outreach programs to promote an understanding of, appreciation for and the protection of Sarasota County History.

HIST Policy 1.4.1.

Continue to encourage and expand the staff supervised volunteer program within the Sarasota County History Center.

HIST Policy 1.4.2.

Educate the public about Sarasota's unique and diverse heritage through public media, publications, lectures, exhibits, and an Internet presence, thereby promoting preservation and tourism and strengthening the local economy.

HIST Policy 1.4.3.

Encourage the awareness of Sarasota County's prehistoric and Historic Resources through such programs as the Sarasota County Marker program, plaque programs, and awards programs which recognize outstanding preservation efforts.

HIST Policy 1.4.4.

Seek funding sources to support public education programs.

HIST Policy 1.4.5.

Seek to establish, maintain, and strengthen preservation partnerships with municipal agencies local institutions, local historic preservation organizations and historical societies for implementing preservation and educational objectives.

HIST Policy 1.4.6.

Provide technical assistance to the public regarding appropriate preservation techniques.

HIST Policy 1.4.7.

Support a community based coalition to evaluate the feasibility, demand and need for a Countywide history museum.

HIST Policy 1.4.8.

Provide internship opportunities for the training of new professionals in fields associated with public history, historic preservation, applied history, anthropology and archaeology.

HIST Policy 1.4.9.

Promote linkages between heritage and eco-tourism.

HIST Objective 1.5. Protection

Protect, conserve, rehabilitate, and adaptively reuse significant Historic Resources in Sarasota County.

HIST Policy 1.5.1.

Evaluate development proposals to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse impacts on historic resources within Sarasota County through the use of various techniques such as establishment of conservation easements; protective covenants, and local historic designations. Mitigation measures shall be designed to preserve, reclaim, and compensate for as many of the values of the historic resource as are adversely affected. Mitigation may also include other measures to assure preservation of significant elements of the resources disturbed, such as transfer to a public or nonprofit agency for curation purposes, and/or contribution to a special fund dedicated to historic preservation, and/or architectural salvage, and/or HABS (Historic American Building Survey) documentation, with priority given to methods that lead to saving an intact resource on site or if not feasible then off site.

HIST Policy 1.5.2.

Continue to modify existing county ordinances and regulations to include express provisions for the protection of Historic Resources, according to Article III of Chapter 66 of the Sarasota County Code, as amended, including the Land Development Regulations (Sarasota County Ordinance No. 81-12, as amended), Critical Area Plan Regulations (Sarasota County Ordinance No. 89-93, as amended), Zoning Ordinance (Sarasota County Ordinance No. 75-38, as amended), Development of Regional Impact Procedures (Sarasota County Ordinance No. 88-53, as amended), and others as appropriate.

HIST Policy 1.5.3.

Review applications for Developments of Regional Impact, Developments of Critical Concern, Rezones, Special Exceptions, Preliminary Plans and Plats, Site and Development Plans, Earthmoving Permits, Critical Area Plans and Comprehensive Plan Amendments in accordance with the procedures and standards of the Article III of Chapter 66 of the Sarasota County Code, as amended. The review shall include an examination of the historic resource database to establish the presence of previously recorded Historic Resources and/or archaeological sensitivity zones, and an assessment of the potential impact of the proposed project on any such resources and/or archaeological sensitivity zones. Recommendations will be made concerning necessary protection measures. No application shall be approved unless it has been designed to avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts on the County's Historic Resources.

HIST Policy 1.5.4.

Review applications for Construction, Alteration, and Demolition Permits, Tree Removal Permits, Water and Sewer Permits, On Site Wastewater Treatment and Disposal System Permits, Coastal Zone Setback Variances, Water, and Navigation Control Authority Major Work Permits and Right of Way Permits for significant Historic Resources in accordance with the Sarasota County Historic Protection Ordinance, for the purpose of avoiding, minimizing, or mitigating adverse impacts on the Historic Resources.

HIST Policy 1.5.5.

Establish written guidelines for the investigation and analyses of Historic Resources and for treatment of artifacts and collections, including survey and report guidelines, monitoring guidelines, curation guidelines, and collections management guidelines. All preservation planning, resources identification, evaluation and registration, historical documentation, architectural and engineering documentation, archaeological documentation, rehabilitation, and selection of professionals shall be done in accordance with current state and national guidelines. (Tesar, 1990).

HIST Policy 1.5.6.

Regularly investigate the possibility of providing incentives for preservation such as Building Code relief, Zoning Ordinance relief, Land Development Regulation relief, tax relief, easements, lot coverage, transfer of development rights, alternative building codes for historic buildings, etc, and adopt those deemed appropriate.

HIST Policy 1.5.7.

Identify opportunities to incorporate consideration of the protection of Historic Resources into Sarasota County's sustainability initiative.

HIST Policy 1.5.8.

Create and implement a historic resource disaster plan and incorporate it as appropriate into Sarasota County's Local Mitigation Strategy.

HIST Objective 1.6. County Resource Management

Provide oversight for the preservation and management of prehistoric and historic sites owned by the County (such as those on the T. Mabry Carlton, Jr. Memorial Reserve, the Pinelands Reserve, Philippi Estate Park, the Hermitage at Blind Pass, Indian Mound Park, the Courthouse and the Sarasota County Terrace Administration Building, Jelks Preserve, Lemon Bay Preserve as well as those sites purchased by the County in the future.

HIST Policy 1.6.1.

Continue to maintain and implement historic resource management plans for historic and archaeological resources owned by the County. These plans shall assure review of all potential impacts to such resources and protection of resources as warranted.

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Figure 1-1: Key to USGS Topographic Maps

