

# Chapter 9, Historic Preservation Element

## Table of Contents

Executive Summary .....	9-ii
I. Introduction.....	9-1
A. Purpose of the Element .....	9-1
B. Relationship of the Element to the Comprehensive Plan.....	9-1
II. Legislation .....	9-2
III. Inventory and Analysis.....	9-6
A. Summary of Past Resource Identification and Recognition .....	9-6
B. The Calusa.....	9-9
C. Charlotte County’s Archeological Resources .....	9-10
D. A Brief Historical Outline.....	9-11
E. Charlotte County’s Historic Resources .....	9-13
F. Vandalism and Treasure (“Pot”) Hunters .....	9-33
G. The Impact of Knowledge and Awareness .....	9-34
H. History and Tourism .....	9-35
I. Current Preservation Efforts and Programs.....	9-35
J. Intergovernmental Coordination .....	9-39
K. Future Preservation Efforts .....	9-40
L. A Historic Preservation Ordinance.....	9-41
IV. Goals, Objectives, and Policies.....	9-42
V. Appendices .....	9-45
Bibliography.....	9-45
Historic Marker Programs.....	9-47
The National Register of Historic Places .....	9-50
Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) .....	9-52

## List of Tables

9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures in Charlotte County .....	9-17
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## **Executive Summary**

This element deals with the historical resources in Charlotte County. It provides a brief history of the native peoples, and of the original settlers, as well as an inventory of the various kinds of known historic and archaeological resources in the county. This element also lists the current initiatives underway, and proposes further preservation strategies. This preservation plan provides the basis for development of a preservation program, strengthens existing preservation programs, and helps to resolve conflicts between competing land use goals. This element has several purposes: 1) it clearly states the goals of historic preservation in the community; 2) it educates and informs citizens about their heritage and its value to the community; 3) it creates an agenda for future preservation activities; and 4) it forms the basis for potential adoption of a historic preservation ordinance.

The historical resources in general refer to those resources that are evidence of past human activity. In a broad sense, archaeological resources are included. In Chapter 267, Florida Statutes, archaeological and structural resources are combined under the broader definition of “historic resources”. This element uses this broad definition of historical resources, but also refers to historic and archaeological resources more specifically in the text.

Historical resources may more specifically refer to those resources that are evidence of recorded significant events which are relatively recent (in the last few hundred years) or evidence of early cultures which were not documented. In the case of Charlotte County, they are evidence left by both the indigenous peoples whose cultures have vanished and early pioneers of the area from whom some county residents have descended. This evidence may take many forms, including artifacts and structures such as buildings and bridges; archaeological sites such as ancient shell middens, pioneer trash dumps and early industrial sites; and monuments such as burial mounds and cemeteries.

## **I. Introduction**

### **A. Purpose of the Element**

The purpose of this element is to provide a plan for the preservation of Charlotte County's historical resources, including historically, architecturally and archaeologically significant sites. This plan aims to increase awareness of the county's historical resources, and ensure their identification, evaluation and protection. There are many benefits in doing so: valuable parts of the county's past can be preserved and may serve as tourist destinations, educational and economic stimuli for today's county residents and visitors, as well as for future generations. One might say that the people of Charlotte County have a responsibility to preserve its historical resources. Over 150,000 residents currently enjoy all that the county has to offer; it is unlikely that even one of these people is descended from the native peoples who lived here from 12,000 BCE (Before Christian Era) until the early 18th century when they were decimated by factors related to non-native settlement.

### **B. Relationship of the Element to the Comprehensive Plan**

Rule 9J-5 states that optional elements must be related to and consistent with all other elements of the comprehensive plan. This element potentially overlaps with all of the other elements, as it is possible to discover a historical site in any sort of activity or development situation. For example, when constructing structures, installing sewer infrastructure, or widening a road, one might uncover or have an impact on some historical or archaeological artifacts.

## II. Legislation

This section gives an assessment of existing regulations and programs governing historic preservation efforts in Charlotte County. Existing state and regional legislation as it relates to comprehensive planning is discussed.

The *State Comprehensive Plan* has goals and policies that focus on cultural and historical resources, as well as on tourism. By 1995, the state was to increase access to its historical and cultural resources and programs. The policies that support this goal include:

- Promoting and providing access to historic preservation and appreciation programs at a level commensurate with the state's economic development.
- Ensuring the identification, evaluation, and protection of archaeological folk heritage and historic resources properties.
- Stimulating increased private sector participation and support for historical programs.
- Encouraging the rehabilitation and sensitive, adaptive use of historic properties through technical assistance and economic incentive programs.
- Ensuring that all historic resources are taken into consideration in the planning of all capital programs and projects at all levels of government and that such programs and projects are carried out in a manner which recognizes the preservation of historic resources.

The tourism section of the state plan calls for the promotion of awareness of historic places and cultural and historical activities.

*Chapter 163* states that the comprehensive plan may include additional elements, or portions or phases thereof, one of which is an historic preservation element. This additional element could set out plans and programs for those structures or lands in the area having historical, archaeological, architectural, scenic or similar significance.

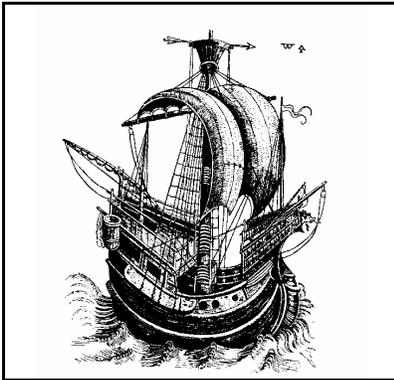
*Rule 9J-2.043* establishes how the Department of Community Affairs will evaluate archaeological and historical issues in the review of applications for binding letters, local government development orders, and DRI applications for development approval.

This rule provides for the protection of historical and archaeological resources, for the mitigation of effects thereto, and for the provision of conservation easements.

The *Strategic Regional Policy Plan* does not list any requirements for this element.

Besides legislation specifically related to planning, there is legislation which relates to various aspects of historical and archaeological preservation which must be taken into account. The federal government has passed an assortment of laws, regulations, and executive orders. Some of these include:

- The *1966 National Historic Preservation Act* is the centerpiece of the national historic preservation program. As amended in 1980, it authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to expand and maintain the National Register of Historic Places, and establishes procedures for doing so; provides for gubernatorial appointment of State Historic Preservation Officers and specifies their duties; authorizes grants-in-aid by the Secretary of the Interior to states and local governments for preservation purposes; sets forth responsibilities for federal agencies in historic preservation; establishes the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and specifies its responsibilities; and directs the Secretary of the Interior and the Advisory Council to conduct various studies and provide various types of guidance and regulations. Section 106 of the act requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their activities on historic properties, and to give the Advisory Council an opportunity to comment on such activities. The 1980 amendment encouraged the strengthening of local legislation for the designation and protection of historic properties, and provided for the certification of local historic preservation programs.
- The Code of Federal Regulations, primarily title 36 CFR Part 800 (Protection of Historic Properties) contains procedures for compliance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. 36 CFR Part 60 deals with National Register nominations and determinations of eligibility. 36 CFR Part 61 provides procedures for approved state and local government historic preservation programs.
- *The Archaeological Resources Protection Act* (ARPA) of 1979 (P.L.96-95, 16 U.S.C. 470aa-47011) supplements the provisions of the 1906 Antiquities Act. The law makes it illegal to excavate or remove from Federal or Indian lands, any archaeological resources without a permit from the land manager. Permits may be issued only to educational or scientific institutions, and only if the resulting activities will increase knowledge about archaeological resources. Major penalties (fines and imprisonment) for violations are included. The act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to promulgate regulations for the ultimate disposition of materials recovered as a result of permitted activities. Permits for archaeological work on tribal lands cannot be issued without the consent of the tribe. The act also regulates the taking of archaeological resources from Federal lands, including a permit system for excavation or removal of archaeological resources, and places prohibitions on the sale, purchase, transport or entry into interstate commerce of items taken in violation of the act. (P.L.100-555; 100-588).
- Two amendments have been made to ARPA since it was enacted. P.L 100-555 requires Federal agencies to develop plans for surveying lands not scheduled for projects. It requires that a uniform system for reporting and recording archaeological violations be developed and implemented. P.L. 100-588 lowers the felony threshold to \$500, adding as a crime, attempts to loot or vandalize, and requires Federal land managers to develop public awareness programs.



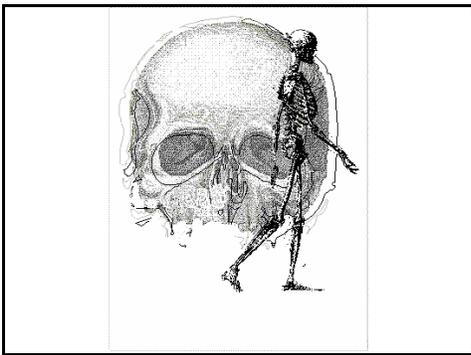
*The Abandoned Shipwreck Act* of 1987 (P.L. 100-298) signed into law April 28, 1988, transfers to states, title to abandoned shipwrecks that are on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or in protected coral formations (except wrecks on federal or Indian lands). It also clarifies the definition of “embedded,” requires the Secretary of the Interior to prepare guidelines to help states and Federal agencies, and encourages states to create underwater parks.

- *The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act* (P.L. 101-601; 104 Stat 3048, 25 USC 3001 note.) signed into law on November 16, 1990, requires federal agencies and museums to inventory human remains and associated funerary objects and provide culturally affiliated tribes with an inventory of collections. The act requires repatriation, on request, to the culturally affiliated tribes, establishes a grant program within the Department of the Interior to assist tribes and native Hawaiian organizations in repatriation, and assist museums in preparing summaries of inventories and collections. It also makes the sale or purchase of Native American human remains, whether or not derived from Federal or Indian lands, illegal.

State of Florida laws include:

- *Chapter 267, Florida Statutes*, which was originally known as the *Florida Archives and History Act* that passed in 1967, consolidated a wide variety of preservation functions from several state agencies into a single governmental entity. This chapter constitutes the primary historic preservation authority of the state and is the cornerstone of its historic preservation policy. In many respects, Chapter 267 parallels the provisions of the federal *National Historic Preservation Act* of 1966. In 1986, Chapter 267 was amended as the *Florida Historical Resources Act*, and the Division of Archives, History, and Records Management was renamed the Division of Historical Resources (DHR), Florida’s State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). This chapter declares state policy to be to:
  - Provide leadership in the preservation of the state’s historic resources;
  - Administer state-owned or state-controlled historic resources in a spirit of stewardship and trusteeship;
  - Contribute to the preservation of non-state owned historic resources and to give harmonious encouragement to organizations and individuals undertaking preservation by private means;
  - Foster conditions, using measures that include financial and technical assistance, for a harmonious coexistence of society and state historic resources;

- Encourage the public and private preservation and utilization of elements of the state's historically built environment; and
- Assist local governments to expand and accelerate their historic preservation programs and activities.
- This chapter further presents the historic preservation requirements of state agencies in the Executive Branch, establishes the Division of Historical Resources of the Florida Department of State as Florida's primary historic preservation agency, and enumerates its responsibilities. In addition, this chapter establishes the positions of State Archaeologist and the State Historic Preservation Officer within the Division of Historical Resources.
- Chapter 872 Florida Statutes, *Florida's Unmarked Burial Law* protects human burials on



public and private property. The intent of this law is to protect archaeological sites and Native American burials. This law mandates that all human burials and human skeletal remains be given equal treatment and respect based upon common human dignity without reference to ethnic origin, cultural background, or religious affiliation. This applies to all human burials, human skeletal remains and associated burial artifacts, found upon or within any public or private land in the State, including submerged lands, and excluding Native American

burials on federally owned lands protected by the Native American Indian Graves Repatriation Act. Section 872.05 F.S. mandates that all types of human burial sites including Indian mounds, "lost" historic and prehistoric cemeteries, and other unmarked burials be responsibly treated once they are discovered, and that certain procedures specified in the law be followed. The law is intended to ensure the protection of burials in place rather than by excavation, although removal is sometimes necessary. Trespass and vandalism laws (810.19 and 806.13, F.S.) also help to protect our archaeological sites.

### III. Inventory and Analysis

According to the Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State, there are 618 historic and archaeological sites in Charlotte County recorded in the Florida Master Site File, including 453 standing structures, 4 bridges, 4 historic districts and 157 archaeological sites. Of these recorded sites, 340 are historical structures and 122 are archaeological sites. Of the structures, 371 are listed in or within a mile of the City of Punta Gorda, and the remaining 82 structures in the unincorporated county (see note at the end of Table 9.1 pertaining to jurisdiction of properties recorded on the Florida Master Site File). None of Charlotte County's historical cemeteries have been recorded in the Florida Master Site File at this time. Since only parts of the Southwest Florida region have been extensively surveyed, there may be considerably more historic and archaeological sites to be discovered. A comprehensive survey of Charlotte County's historical resources is needed.

At present, few of the above sites are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Charlotte County has only sixteen sites listed, seven of which are in the unincorporated part of the county. Private individuals who hired a consultant were successful in placing Big Mound Key/Bogges Ridge Archaeological District, El Jobean Post Office and General Store, El Jobean Hotel, Icing Station at Bull Bay, Mott Willis Store, West Coast Fish Company Residential Cabin at Bull Bay and Willis Fish Cabin at Bull Bay on the National Register of Historic Places from 1990 to 1999. Determinations of eligibility and nominations to the National Register of Historic Places are needed for many additional historical properties in Charlotte County.

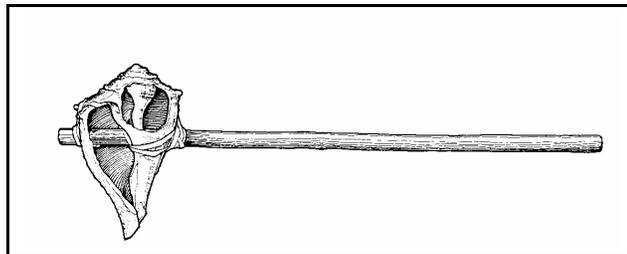
#### A. Summary of Past Resource Identification and Recognition

##### *The 1989 Historical Properties Survey*

In 1989, Charlotte County applied for and received a grant from the Division of Historical Resources to conduct a survey of the County's residential structures with architectural significance and archaeological sites, dating to 1940 and before. This survey utilized the same criteria used to place properties or sites on the National Register of Historic Places.

The 1989 Historic Properties Survey identified the nature of the historic resources in Charlotte County as such:

Archaeological sites rather than buildings constitute the most significant historic resource in the unincorporated areas of Charlotte County. There are relatively few buildings that have a distinctive style and that are associated with the early twentieth century history of the county,



but their number is too small and the buildings too scattered to warrant official action by the county

to insure their preservation. In almost all cases, moreover, the buildings in Charlotte County that are potentially historic, under the criteria used by state and federal officials for that designation, are privately-owned, single family residential dwellings (with the notable exception of the stilt houses, which are treated below). Social and economic forces will ensure their preservation as surely as any kind of governmental action which the county might undertake. Should the federal or state governments ever enact assistance programs for private residences of a kind similar to that presently in effect for historic commercial buildings, the owners of buildings included in this survey might look toward National Register activity as a means of enlisting in such a program. That likelihood seems at this time remote, however, since no such legislation is contemplated.

Many of the mechanisms or measures available to communities that seek to preserve their historic resources do not apply to Charlotte County. The discussion below, with the exception of that section which addresses the recommendation for National Register listing of specific buildings, deals with archaeological resources.

An intelligent program of historic preservation does not seek to block or discourage change. Preservation does seek to reduce the impact of change on existing cultural resources. In the case of archaeological resources, preservation seeks to extract from those resources the lessons of the past before they are irrevocably disturbed or destroyed. An archaeological site contains information about the unrecorded or prehistoric periods of Florida history and, in some cases, the historic period (circa 1500 CE) for which written records are available. Archaeological sites offer the only means available to residents and scholars for gathering information about the people who lived in Florida before the arrival of Europeans. Each archaeological site can be compared to a book full of information, for which there is only one copy. When that copy is destroyed, the information is lost forever. For that reason, archaeologists and historians urge that steps be taken to preserve archaeological sites. Site information should be extracted before the area is disturbed. (Survey 48, 49)

Below are recommendations resulting from the survey:

1. Designate a department with preservation responsibility. This department will assume the following tasks:
  - a. Maintain a Site Inventory File
  - b. Update the Map Series
  - c. Coordinate additional surveys
  - d. Provide information and assistance.
2. Continue a program of archaeological survey.
3. Require a Cultural Resources Review in the development process.
4. County land management for county-owned property containing historic resources, including buildings. The survey noted several buildings that should be nominated to the National Register. Additional structures may be eligible for listing.
5. Prepare an Historic Preservation Element.

6. Private and Voluntary Financial and Legal Techniques. Employ mechanisms for preservation such as:
  - a. Easements
  - b. Mutual covenants
  - c. Purchase of development rights
  - d. Charitable gifts
  - e. Other programs
7. Employ other programs in the historic preservation effort for Charlotte County such as:
  - a. Marker program
  - b. Plaque program
  - c. Informational materials
8. Private actions.

Community groups interested in historic preservation are encouraged to obtain current information on loans, grants and funding sources.

#### *Charlotte County's Historical Advisory Committee*

The 1989 survey was just a beginning. It has given us a good idea of our known historical resources and recommendations for further action. Charlotte County's historic preservation efforts are still in the infancy stage. Ordinance 89-28 established the Charlotte County Historic Preservation Board (HPB) which consisted of five members, appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. The HPB identified historically significant structures and sites, established local historical districts in Charlotte Harbor and El Jobean, and provided historical review for construction and development projects.

In 2004, the Board of County Commissioners adopted ordinances to approve a plan to manage historical resources in Charlotte County and replace the HPB with the Historical Advisory Committee (HAC), comprised of nine members appointed by the Board of County Commissioners and who represent local historical organizations as well as the disciplines of architecture, history, urban planning archaeology or related disciplines or related disciplines such as American Studies or American Civilization. The HAC provides input on the management of Charlotte County's historical resources, specifically:

1. To evaluate and make recommendations about where historical markers should be established
2. To review development and construction projects of historical significance
3. To provide input on historic districts
4. To provide input on historical programs and outreach efforts
5. To make recommendations on establishing an archives/collection program
6. To raise funds to preserve historical structures and amenities
7. To provide recommendations to the Board on issues related to those duties specified above or other duties assigned by the Board
8. To review and provide input on the Capital Improvement Budget

The Historical Advisory Committee meets monthly in the Charlotte County Historical Center at 22959 Bayshore Road. The public is invited to attend these meetings and offer ideas and suggestions regarding historic preservation in Charlotte County.

#### *The Charlotte Harbor Mounds Survey*

In 1993, a group of interested citizens headed by Robert McQueen of Punta Gorda formed the *Calusa Heartland Steering Committee* and began exploring ways to help bring Charlotte County's archaeological heritage to the public. Encouraged by the committee's efforts, the *Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC)* applied for and received a federally-funded survey and planning grant for archaeological research. In November of 1994, CHEC began work on a project called the *Charlotte Harbor Mounds Survey*. A great number of people were involved in various aspects of the research, including volunteers, graduate and undergraduate students, Florida Department of Environmental Protection personnel, and anthropologists and archaeologists. Grant work has been completed; the final report was submitted in July of 1996. As a result of this archaeological research, a total of 12 updated site file forms have been submitted, along with a total of 24 new site file forms. This makes a grand total of 36 Florida Site File forms submitted by the Charlotte Harbor Mounds Survey project.

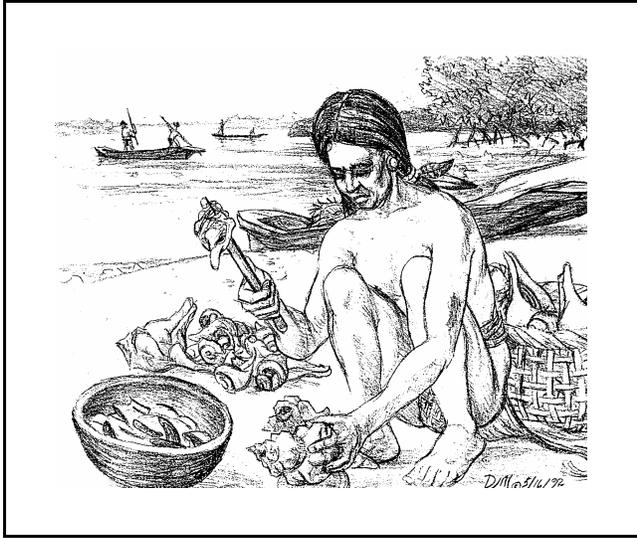
### **B. The Calusa**

The prehistory of Charlotte County cannot be considered as an isolate; it is part of a larger story.

Modern political boundaries bear no necessary relation to the territories and cultures of the past. Most obviously, the archaeology of Charlotte County is intimately tied to the Charlotte Harbor-Pine Island region immediately to the south in Lee County. Almost equally, the drainages of the Myakka and Peace Rivers link Charlotte County archaeology to Sarasota and DeSoto counties to the north. (Luer 1986:149)

At the time of European contact, Charlotte Harbor and the area near the mouth of the Caloosahatchee River was the homeland of the Calusa Indians, while northward toward Tampa Bay were the Tocobaga. One of the problems of Gulf Coast archaeology has been the definition of the boundary between these two culturally distinct aboriginal societies. A recent map of prehistoric cultural regions places a boundary between a Central Peninsular Gulf Coast Region and a Caloosahatchee Region not far north of the Charlotte County line. (Luer 1986:149)

The Calusa Indians were Southwest Florida's first residents. Archaeologists approximate their occupation as long ago as 12,000 B.C.E. The Calusa had communities along the Gulf Coast waterways, from Charlotte Harbor to the Keys, with their strongest population from approximately 500 B.C.E. to 15,000.



One of the Calusa Chiefs was named Calos, and it is believed he ruled over 50 villages. The Calusa had a complex social and political organization, and a well developed military system. Their ceremonialism included temples, oracles, curers, and masked processions.

The Calusa were primarily gatherers and fishers. They built artificial bars, reefs and dug canals. They used the fibers from the palmetto to make nets for fishing. Shells were used as weights and fish hooks were made from twigs. Tools were made of organic materials such as shell, bone or teeth (shark or alligator) with handles of wood. Large conch shells were used

for hammers and picks, while clam shells served as scrapers or digging tools. As the bigger tools wore down, they were recycled and used for other things. Calusa clothing was woven from palm fiber or made from deerskin; jewelry was made from shell, bone or wood. They were skilled artists, making intricate wood carvings, pottery, engraved shell and bone. By the early 18th century, the Calusa had disappeared, victims of disease brought by the Europeans, slave raids, and warfare.

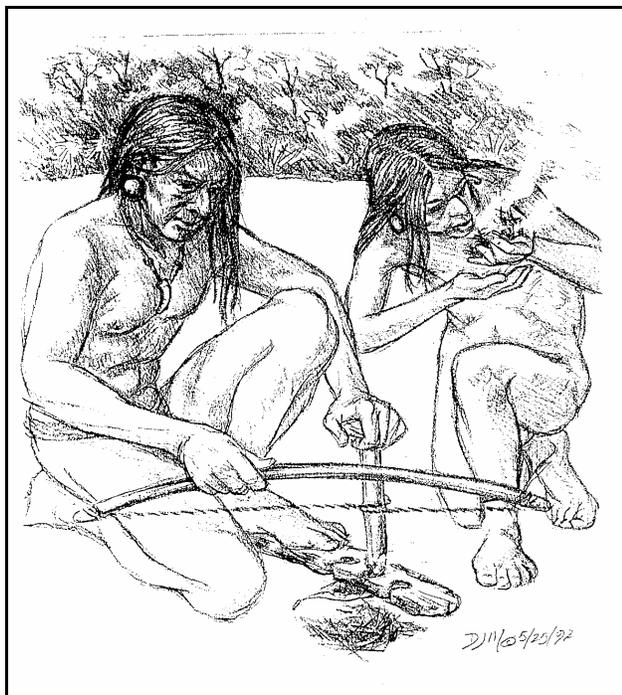
### **C. Charlotte County's Archeological Resources**

Several types of archaeological sites were left by the Calusa, including Middens, constructed mounds, constructed earthworks/shell works, canals/water courts, artifact scatters/single artifacts, and shell scatters. The following descriptions are from the 1989 survey:

*Middens.* These prehistoric living sites are constructed of moderate to large amounts of shell or faunal bone refuse intermixed with organic soil. Coastal sites are composed primarily of marine shell refuse while interior sites are largely composed of faunal bone. Middens are the most common site type recorded in Charlotte County. Marine shell middens can be expected in any coastal environment and may be located on barrier islands, mangrove islands, and along the margins of bays, tidal creeks, and marshes. Interior middens are often found on hammock islands or elevated mounds, suggesting dwelling sites.

*Constructed Mounds.* This category covers all artificially constructed conical sand mounds, as well as flat-topped, truncated mounds. They are composed of sand, or sand and shell. Most mounds were built to inter the dead, or perhaps, served some other religious function. Some may have been used as bases or foundations of structures. Borrow pits, from which mound material was removed, are often nearby.

*Constructed Earthworks/Shell Works.* Large coastal sites are often characterized by complexes of mounds, shell middens, and linear embankments composed of sand and shell refuse. Some have radiating ridges and canal-like features. These complexes are among the largest sites in Southwest Florida, and in many cases, are representative of Calusa settlements and their ancestors.



*Canals/Water Courts.* Most canals are near the coast and connect two or more large bodies of water suitable for canoe navigation. Some prehistoric canals are more than a mile in length. These ambitious, earthmoving projects required a supervised work effort by numbers of people. Water courts are found at large coastal complexes and their function is not clearly understood.

*Artifact Scatters/Single Artifacts.* These are finds of single artifacts or small scatters of pottery, stone tools or flakes, shell tools, or the like. They are often found on sandy ridges near the coast, on low rises in pine flatwoods, and usually near a fresh water source. They are thought to be evidence of short-term camp sites relating to hunting and gathering activities.

*Shell Scatters.* Shell scatters are small sites characterized by areas of marine shell, with the notable absence or scarcity of other cultural remains. These scatters occur throughout the coastal zone, but are commonly found on upland, sandy areas near bays and tidally influenced creeks. (Survey 27, 28)

Archaeological resources are abundant in Charlotte County, and when explored by trained archaeologists, may answer many questions asked about our early Native American inhabitants. It is essential that we realize the importance of these sites, and that the community understands that these sites contain not only local history, but national and international history as well.

#### **D. Brief Historical Outline**

The Spanish arrived in the Charlotte County area in 1513. Spanish rule of the Caribbean and Florida resulted in a break down of the Calusa culture, leaving scattered groups of mixed blood relatives living a nomadic existence by the 1700's. The Spanish fished the estuaries and shipped the fish to Cuba. Spanish Cubans established fish "ranches" (fisheries), and Cuba soon took over the fishing industry in the Charlotte Harbor area. In 1763, the English took over Florida from the Spanish for a

period of twenty years, and they labeled all native people as “Seminoles” (meaning wild ones). The United States gained possession of Florida in 1821, and approximately 15 years later initiated a federal Indian removal policy. By 1849, fishing communities were thriving again. Vegetable farming and citrus groves were started, and in 1862, Charlotte Harbor Town was established near a cattle dock.

The Civil War (1861 to 1865) impacted activity in the Charlotte Harbor area. A Union encampment was set up on Useppa Island and the Harbor was blockaded in an effort to thwart attempts by Confederate suppliers to smuggle food and supplies. Confederate supporters shipped cattle, timber and salt out of the Harbor. By 1863, more than 2,000 head of cattle were driven or shipped each week to the Confederacy. Between December 24-30, 1863, a Union bark, Gem of the Sea, made an expedition up the Myakka River for transportation of refugee rangers from Useppa Island to the mainland. The Gem of the Sea was joined by the USS Rosalie, a Union sloop, and together these naval fighting ships took part in a skirmish between Confederate and Union forces. This skirmish was unimportant in numbers and results, yet an integral part of Charlotte County’s involvement in the Civil War.

By 1860 and after the Civil War, cattle ranchers comprised the majority of the county’s agriculturalists, while fishing remained an important commercial activity. There were cattle docks in many locations around the county: Knight’s Pier around which Charlotte Harbor town grew; Cattedock Point on the Myakka River; a municipal dock at Fishermen’s Village; and the Boca Grande Dock (in the vicinity of what is now known as Burnt Store Marina). There was also a corral and bunk sheds at a place called the Euchre or Yucca Pen, in the south county area.

Punta Gorda, which was originally known as Trabue, sprang up in the 1880’s, along with the discovery of phosphate up the Peace River. The railroad reached Punta Gorda in 1886, and it opened up the area to rapid growth and its first winter visitors. Railroads pushed into Florida to take advantage of generous land grants. At about this time, “fish ice” was changing the fishing industry. An ice plant had been built at the railroad head in Punta Gorda in 1899, so fish could now be iced and shipped north. Also, in the late 1880’s, phosphate which was used in the manufacture of fertilizer was discovered in the Peace River. So, by the end of the 19th century, primary occupations of the Charlotte Harbor residents included agriculture (including pineapple farming), cattle ranching, phosphate mining, fishing, and working for the railroad.

Around the turn of the century, turpentine became a major industry in the county. El Jobean was originally headquarters for a vast forest operation that drained sap from pines and distilled turpentine. The industry was based largely on forced labor by convicts, most of them black, as well as poor blacks. Prisoners were also “rented” as laborers to railroad and lumber companies. Many deaths occurred from inhumane treatment. When the practice of convict leasing was abolished in 1923, most of the pines trees were bled dry and were then sold as timber.

In contrast to this forced contribution of black people to Charlotte County's industries, it is interesting to note that there were also prominent, educated black pioneers who were instrumental to the county's growth and development. Florida was a segregated society, one where in many cases (as illustrated above), black people were horribly abused. At the same time, there were several notable black people who had momentous impact on the county. For example, George Brown was a prominent businessman and owner of the first and largest shipyard in the county. He was an equal opportunity employer, possibly the first in the state. It was Brown that sold to Charlotte County the land on which the courthouse now stands in Punta Gorda. Also, there were four black landowners who signed Punta Gorda's incorporation papers in 1887. Given the times, the county had examples of remarkable assimilation for rural southern America.

In the early 1900's, land drainage began and, combined with improved transportation networks, made more lands available for agriculture and settlement. The automobile and road construction also made significant contributions to the development of the county. Communities, such as those at Southland (later El Jobean), Charlotte Harbor, Cleveland, and Murdock grew. However, the Depression years slowed growth in the county just as elsewhere. World War II improved the economy of the area. An Army Air Force Base was built in Punta Gorda which served as a training station for fighter pilots. Over 5,000 officers and enlisted men were stationed there at one time, many of whom saw Florida for the first time and vowed to come back. The post war development of the county can be partially attributed to the existence of the Punta Gorda Base. Through the 1940's, agriculture and citrus production, tourism, commercial fishing and the railroad were the main sources of income.

After the war, many servicemen settled in Florida with their families, along with many retired people from the northern states who were attracted to the climate, inexpensive housing, and relatively low property taxes. Throughout the years, the county continued to grow, experiencing the beginnings of urban sprawl and increased commercial growth.

## E. Charlotte County's Historic Resources



Some of Charlotte County's most significant historic resources are its cemeteries. Not only are the cemeteries themselves historic, but in many cases, the markers, stones and grave decorations provide unique insight into various cultures. This is primarily due to the migration of many different people, from many different places, to Charlotte County. An inventory of the county's cemeteries follows:

### *Charlotte Harbor Town (Hickory Bluff)*

The oldest known cemetery is in Charlotte Harbor town, formerly known as Hickory Bluff. The earliest known grave here, which dates to 1879, is that of Joel Knight. Here are the first recorded, final resting places of early pioneers who came to the area when it was still wilderness to build a settlement. In 1908, the cemetery was deeded to the Trustees of the First Methodist Church of Charlotte Harbor, now known as the Trinity Methodist Church - the oldest church organization in this area.

### *Indian Springs*

Believed to be the second oldest recorded cemetery, Indian Springs is located along the banks of Alligator Creek west of Taylor Road in Punta Gorda. The first plat for the cemetery was recorded in December 1886, and it was surveyed by Albert Gilchrist. Gilchrist later became governor of Florida. He died in 1926 and is buried at the cemetery. In 1975, the Charlotte County Genealogical Society completed an extensive survey of Indian Springs and produced a book that lists all of the known burials in the cemetery, including interesting features such as epitaphs and historical accounts.

### *Lt. Carl A. Bailey Cemetery*

The Lt. Carl A. Bailey Cemetery is located in Cleveland off US 17. It is named for one of the first black fighter pilots of World War II. Originally called the Cleveland Cemetery, it was renamed for Lt. Carl A. Bailey in 1957 following his death in an automobile accident. The cemetery was originally platted by the Punta Gorda Colored Investment Company, and is only one of two African-American cemeteries located from data available in County records. Many prominent citizens of the early black community are laid to rest there. It is unfortunate to note that within the cemetery, there are approximately 110 of the 339 accountable grave sites that have no markers identifying the names of those interred. The oldest known grave is one that is dated 1904. It is believed that there were others before that, but unfortunately, not much information on these early burials is available to researchers.

### *Hickory Bluff (Roberts) Cemetery*

The following is an excerpt from the publication *Lt. Carl A. Bailey Memorial Cemetery & Other Early 'Black' Burials, Charlotte County, Florida*, produced by the Charlotte County Genealogical Society:

Today there is a small fenced-in area on Rowland Street in what was originally Curry's 1886 Addition to Hickory Bluff where 'colored' were buried. Actually this and another small site about one quarter mile south near the high water mark for Charlotte Harbor are two of the oldest areas designated as cemeteries on official records. While all evidence of the latter has disappeared, the 'Colored Cemetery' as it was then called, still exists and is presently considered County-owned property. The 1886 plat drawn by K.B. Harvey even indicated that some graves existed at that time. The area was then in Manatee County, and because no official records were

kept for any of the burials in this cemetery, one must wonder who was buried there—especially those prior to 1886. (CCGS,19)

### *Southland Trail Cemetery*

This cemetery, originally known as the El Jobean “convict” cemetery, was given to the County by Atlantic Gulf Communities (formerly known as General Development Corporation) during a special ceremony held at the cemetery in 1994. It is believed that this cemetery is at least 100 years old. The donation of the cemetery set an important precedent in the County. Hopefully, it will set the stage for further acquisition of historic burial grounds in Charlotte County.

According to stories from local folk, the cemetery was a burial ground for Cuban-Indian fishermen before Americans took over Florida in 1819. A 1770 map indicates that a Friar Gaspar had a mission in the vicinity that would have included a burial ground. Later, from 1912 through 1923, the cemetery became the burial place for convicts who worked for the Hall Naval Stores Company. Settlers at Southland, established in 1887, buried loved ones there until El Jobean succeeded the town in 1924. Burials of black Americans continued in the cemetery from 1936 through 1966. Unfortunately, there are no grave markers to identify those interred.

Charlotte County Resolution 94-101 renamed the cemetery from El Jobean Cemetery to Southland Trail Cemetery, and created a trust fund to provide for the maintenance and enhancement of the cemetery. A marker commemorating the historical nature of the cemetery, and those laid to rest there, will be placed at the site when financing becomes available through the trust fund.

### *Other Burial Places*

There are numerous references, both written and oral, to other burial places for blacks in Charlotte County. Workers for the railroad and naval stores industry are said to have been buried in various company cemeteries that perhaps lie along the railroad beds, or in the vicinity of the turpentine camps that were prevalent throughout the County. However, little evidence can be found to tell us what we need to know in order to locate these burial sites.

As evidenced by the acquisition of the Southland Trail Cemetery, Charlotte County has taken a giant first step in making a commitment to preserve all of its historic burial places. To further this commitment, all of the known historic cemeteries and burial places are, or will be, listed on the Florida Master Site File. If more abandoned cemeteries are discovered and acquired by the county, perhaps an “adopt a cemetery” or an annual “cemetery cleaning day” could be established to provide needed care and maintenance. This would provide the citizens of Charlotte County an opportunity to explore and learn from our historic burial places.

The Charlotte County Genealogical Society has undertaken extensive research of our cemeteries, and it has produced the following publications:

### *Indian Springs Cemetery*

*Lt. Carl A. Bailey Memorial Cemetery & Other Early 'Black' Burials*  
*Charlotte County, Florida*  
*Charlotte Harbor Cemetery*  
*Charlotte County Probate Index*

*The Charlotte Harbor Town Local Historic District*

The Charlotte Harbor Town Local Historic District was established by Ordinance 93-57. Included in this district are the major historical and archaeological sites that were identified by the Charlotte County Historic Preservation Board in January 1993. They include:

1. Knight Dock (modern replacement), the original was constructed by Joel Knight in 1862 for loading Confederate cattle and running the Union blockade at Boca Grande Pass.
2. Willis Store, a two-story frame house that was constructed circa 1923 to replace the original Knight general store which was built a year after the dock in 1863. This structure was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1997 and demolished in 1998.
3. The Willis home is a two-story frame house that was constructed between 1910 and 1920 on property west of Bayshore Drive and south of Edgewater Drive.
4. The Larrison-Roberts home is located on Sibley Bay Street. It is the oldest home in Charlotte Harbor Town. It is a one-story cottage, red in color, and was built in 1895 by Frances M. Larrison.
5. The second Larrison-Roberts house sits on Seneca Street, and is a cottage that was built in 1902 for the daughter of Frances Larrison and her husband, Samuel Roberts.
6. The Hagan-Larrison home is on Laura Street and is the second oldest home in Charlotte Harbor Town. It is a one and a half story home built by John Hagan in 1899. It is the former home of Frances Larrison.
7. The Wade-Vaughn home on Sibley Bay Street is a two-story home with a boat yard built in 1903 by Tenny Wade.
8. The Maud Mauck home (circa 1900) is on Sibley Bay Street.
9. Trinity United Methodist Church on Seneca Street is the oldest congregation in the County, established in 1873. The present concrete building was constructed in 1950 and is the fifth structure at that location.
10. The Pioneer Cemetery (a.k.a. Charlotte Harbor Town Cemetery) is accessed from Harper Street, east of Tamiami Trail. The land was donated by Mr. & Mrs. Mathieu Giddens in 1873 as adjunct to Trinity Methodist Church. The oldest known grave is that of Joel Knight who died September 18, 1879.
11. The Store and Bus Stop on Bayshore Drive were used in the 1920's when Bayshore was part of the original Tamiami Trail.
12. The Durrance home on Melbourne Street was a two-story stucco, neo-Spanish style home that was typical of the homes built during the Florida land boom. It was built in 1925 by Cleveland Pasco Durrance who was a cattleman and orange grower, the son of Frances M. Durrance who settled at Charlotte Harbor in 1877. It was demolished in 2003.

13. The May-has-it house on Melbourne Street was later the site of Pepins Restaurant. It was built around 1925 by a New York City winter visitor named O'Malley who went broke during the Great Depression. Cleveland Durrance bought it for a home and rented out his Spanish-styled house. When he died in 1935, his wife May went into the real estate business and named the home after her business slogan, "May has it."

A lagoon in the vicinity of Tamiami Trail is believed to have been utilized by Hernando DeSoto for his landing in 1539. A sawmill was built at the site in 1886. It was the first sawmill south of Tampa. After hearings in 1988, the DeSoto Trail Commission authorized the placement of a marker at the site stating: "Some scholars believe DeSoto landed in this vicinity".

The live oak trees at Live Oak Point in Charlotte Harbor have the distinction of being designated an Historic Grove in the Famous & Historic Trees Program in 1993. Seeds were collected from this grove, trees cultivated, and as a result of this program, are for sale nationwide. This distinction tells the story of Charlotte Harbor to anyone who purchases a tree that has originated from the Historic Grove.

The areas where the county's archaeological sites and historic sites are listed in the Florida Master Site File. Table 9.1 lists the primary names for the historic structures recorded in the Florida Master Site File along with the category of historical significance for the properties.

<b>Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County *</b>		
<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00088	FREEMAN, A C HOUSE/639 E HARGREAVES	BUILDING
CH00096	EAST ANN STREET	BUILDING
CH00097	321 ANN STREET	BUILDING
CH00098	401 EAST ANN STREET	BUILDING
CH00099	438 WEST ANN STREET	BUILDING
CH00100	319 ALLEN STREET	BUILDING
CH00101	401 ALLEN STREET	BUILDING
CH00102	208 BERRY STREET	BUILDING
CH00103	362 BERRY STREET	BUILDING
CH00104	415 BOCA GRANDE BOULEVARD	BUILDING
CH00105	309 BURLAND STREET	BUILDING
CH00106	329 BURLAND STREET	BUILDING
CH00107	300 CARMALITA STREET	BUILDING

**Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County \***

<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00108	302 CARMALITA STREET	BUILDING
CH00109	415 CARMALITA STREET	BUILDING
CH00110	621 CHARLOTTE STREET	BUILDING
CH00111	122 EAST CHARLOTTE STREET	BUILDING
CH00112	526 EAST CHARLOTTE STREET	BUILDING
CH00113	120-122 CHASTEEN STREET	
CH00114	111-117 CHASTEEN STREET	
CH000115	354 COCHRAN STREET	BUILDING
CH00117	105 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00118	124 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00119	TEMPLE/231 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00120A	121 A CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00120B	DEWEY, ALBERT F121A CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00121	BUTLER, MAXWELL/105 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00122	208 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00123	HARDEE, E G/219 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00124	HARDEE, E G/223 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00125	220 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00126	228 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00127	260 WEST OLYMPIA AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00128	301 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00129	305 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00130	333 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00131	401 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00132	402 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00133	410 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00134	421 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00135	421-B CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00136	421-CCROSS STREET	BUILDING

**Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County \***

<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00137	109 DURRANCE	BUILDING
CH00138	117 DURRANCE STREET	BUILDING
CH00139	118 DURRANCE STREET	BUILDING
CH00140	HARGRAVE, CARL/301 DURRANCE STREET	BUILDING
CH00141	212 DURRANCE STREET	BUILDING
CH00142	213 DURRANCE STREET	BUILDING
CH00143	221 DURRANCE STREET	BUILDING
CH00144	233 DURRANCE STREET	BUILDING
CH00145	225 DURRANCE STREET	BUILDING
CH00146	312 DURRANCE STREET	BUILDING
CH00147	109 DOLLY STREET	BUILDING
CH00148	LEFFINS, T P/121 DOLLY STREET	BUILDING
CH00149	902 ELIZABETH STREET	BUILDING
CH00150	1104-1107 ELIZABETH ST	BUILDING
CH00151	315 FITZHUGH STREET	BUILDING
CH00152	110 GILCHRIST STREET	BUILDING
CH00153	PRICE, MAXWELL/115 GILCHRIST STREET	BUILDING
CH00154	CURRY/359 GILL STREET	BUILDING
CH00155	115 GILL STREET	BUILDING
CH00156	108 GILL STREET	BUILDING
CH00157	116 GILL STREET	BUILDING
CH00158	122 GILL STREET	BUILDING
CH00159	HINKLEY, S P/123 GILL STREET	BUILDING
CH00160	METHODIST CHURCH-RESIDENCE/209 GILL STREET	BUILDING
CH00161	212 GILL STREET	BUILDING
CH00162	214 GILL STREET	BUILDING
CH00163	224 GILL STREET	BUILDING
CH00164	DAVIS/360 GILL STREET	BUILDING
CH00165	502 W MARON AVENUE	BUILDING

**Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County \***

<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00166	CLEVELAND, JEAN HOUSE/509 GILL STREET	BUILDING
CH00167	512 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00168	410 GILL STREET	BUILDING
CH00169	331 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00170	231 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00171	HILL, E D/210 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00172	212 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00173	SCHOOLHOUSE/215 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00174	219 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00175	220 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00176	302 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00177	327 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00178	311 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00179	314 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00180	316 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00181	324 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00182	PHILLIPS, S C/229 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00183	326 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00184	639 HARGREAVES STREET	BUILDING
CH00185	110 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING
CH00186	116 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING
CH00187	CITY PLANNING DEPT/124 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING
CH00188	210 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING
CH00189	211 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING
CH00190	SUN HERALD BUILDING/216 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING
CH00191	222 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING
CH00192	224 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING
CH00193	228 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING
CH00194	232 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING

**Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County \***

<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00195	227 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING
CH00196	233 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING
CH00197	320 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING
CH00198	327 HARVEY STEET	BUILDING
CH00199	128 HERALD COURT	BUILDING
CH00200	GARAGE/213 KING STREET	BUILDING
CH00201	408 KING STREET	BUILDING
CH00202	109 MCGREGOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00203	113 MCGREGOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00204	124 MCGREGOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00205	216 MCGREGOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00206	MCKENZIE STREET	BUILDING
CH00207	105 MCKENZIE STREET	BUILDING
CH00208	109 MCKENZIE STREET	BUILDING
CH00209	119 MCKENZIE STREET	BUILDING
CH00210	121 MCKENZIE STREET	BUILDING
CH00211	122 MCKENZIE STREET	BUILDING
CH00212	120 MCKENZIE STREET	BUILDING
CH00213	116 MCKENZIE STREET	BUILDING
CH00214	E MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00215	EAST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00216	SERVICE STATION/E MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00217	E MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00218	SMITH ARCADE/121 E MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00219	108 E MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00220	141 E MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00221	512 E MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00222	616 EAST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00223	716 EAST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING

<b>Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County *</b>		
<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00224	CITY/326 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00225	145 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00226	GOLDSTEIN BUILDING/264 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00227	139 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00228	METHODIST CHURCH/507 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00229	135 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00230	OLD FIRST NATINAL BANK OF PUNTA GORA/133 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00231	111-113 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00232	117 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00233	119 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00234	127 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00235	141 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00236	SANDLIN KING/147-149 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00237	HARDWARE STORE/208 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00238	BLOSSOM SHOPPE/212 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00239	254 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00240	BOWLING ALLEY/258 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00241	363 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00242	361 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00243	357 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00244	415 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00245	412 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00246	451 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00247	457 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00248	461 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00249	508 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00250	520 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00251	544 W MARION	BUILDING
CH00252	566 W MARION AVENUE	BUILDING

**Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County \***

<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00253	604 WEST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00254	620 WEST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00255	634 WEST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00256	703 WEST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00257	705 WEST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00258	JOHNSON, W H/706 WEST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00259	711 WEST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00260	715 WEST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00261	717 WEST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00262	817 WEST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00263	911 WEST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00264	LEFFINS, T P/756 WEST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00265	760 WEST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00266	252 MARY STREET	BUILDING
CH00267	253 MARY STREET	BUILDING
CH00268	504 MARY STREET	BUILDING
CH00269	NESBITT STREET	BUILDING
CH00270	1 NESBITT STREET	BUILDING
CH00271	HOTEL FOUNTAIN/OLD PUNTA GORDA PARK	BUILDING
CH00272	EAST OLYMPIA AVENUE	BUILDING
CH20073	BETHEL A M E CHURCH/E. OLYMPIA AVE	BUILDING
CH00274	520 E OLYMPIA AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00275	407 E OLYMPIA AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00276	421 E OLYMPIA AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00277	604 EAST OLYMPIA	BUILDING
CH00278	638 EAST OLYMPIA AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00279	615 EAST OLYMPIA AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00280	716 EAST OLYMPIA AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00281	MASONIC LODGE/CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT/116 W. OLYMPIA AVENUE	BUILDING

**Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County \***

<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00282	CORBETT HOUSE/212 W. OLYMPIA AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00283	EVERY, T T/209-213 W OLYMPIA AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00284	215 W OLYMPIA AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00285	CAVENA MANOR/259 W OLYMPIA AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00286	364 W OLYMPIA	BUILDING
CH00287	603 W OLYMPIA AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00288	724 WEST OLYMPIA AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00289	509 PALM AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00290	513 PALM AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00291	607 PALM AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00292	MCLANE, G H/501 RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING
CH00293	BUTLER, MAXWELL/301 RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING
CH00294	BARNHILL, EVERETT/321 RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING
CH00295	401 RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING
CH00296	413 RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING
CH00297	451 RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING
CH00298	455 RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING
CH00299	459 RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING
CH00300	509 RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING
CH00301	551 RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING
CH00302	565 RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING
CH00303	601 RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING
CH00304	613 RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING
CH00305	621 RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING
CH00306	507 SHOWALTER STREET	BUILDING
CH00307	604 SHOWALTER STREET	BUILDING
CH00308	310 SHREVE STREET	BUILDING
CH00309	PUNTA GORDA WOMAN'S CLUB/118 SULLIVAN ST	BUILDING
CH00310	HENDRICKSON APARTMENTS/SULLIVAN STREET	BUILDING

**Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County \***

<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00311	MENTAL HEALTH CENTER/112 SULLIVAN STREET	BUILDING
CH00312	219 SULLIVAN STREET	BUILDING
CH00313	225 SULLIVAN STREET	BUILDING
CH00314	231 SULLIVAN STREET	BUILDING
CH00315	301 SULLIVAN STREET	BUILDING
CH00316	308 SULLIVAN STREET	BUILDING
CH00317	312 SULLIVAN STREET	BUILDING
CH00318	331 SULLIVAN STREET	BUILDING
CH00319	322 SULLIVAN STREET	BUILDING
CH00320	403 SULLIVAN STREET	BUILDING
CH00321	408 SULLIVAN STREET	BUILDING
CH00322	CHARLOTTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE/TAYLOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00323	210 TAYLOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00324	CHARLOTTE HERALD BUILDING/216 TAYLOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00325	HECTOR HOUSE/233 TAYLOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00326	307 TAYLOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00327	311 TAYLOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00328	315 TAYLOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00329	321 TAYLOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00330	PUNTA GORDA ATLANTIC COAST LINE DEPOT/1009 TAYLOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00331	1226 TAYLOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00332	1301 TAYLOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00333	1305 TAYLOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00334	1307 TAYLOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00335	1501 TAYLOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00336	607 TRABUE AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00337	609 TRABUE AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00338	613 TRABUE AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00339	626 TRABUE AVENUE	BUILDING

**Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County \***

<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00340	317 VIRGINIA STREET	BUILDING
CH00341	524 W VIRGINIA STREET	BUILDING
CH00342	715 W VIRGINIA STREET	BUILDING
CH00343	215 WILLIAM	BUILDING
CH00344	301 WILLIAM STREET	BUILDING
CH00345	335 WILLIAM STREET	BUILDING
CH00346	502 KING STREET	BUILDING
CH00377	PLACIDA BRIDGE	STRUCTURE
CH00378	PLACIDA FERRY	STRUCTURE
CH00379	WILLIS FISH CABIN AT BULL BAY	BUILDING
CH00380	WEST COAST FISH CO. RESIDENTIAL CABIN	BUILDING
CH00381	FISH SHACK	BUILDING
CH00382	GASPARILLA FISH HOUSE	BUILDING
CH00383	PLACIDA POST OFFICE	BUILDING
CH00384	2130 LA VILLA ROAD	BUILDING
CH00385	25 EAST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00386	515 DRURY LANE	BUILDING
CH00387	151 CHARLOTTE STREET	BUILDING
CH00388	2014 POINCIANA AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00389	<del>2008</del> POINCIANA AVENUE 2000	BUILDING
CH00390	VILLA BIANCO	BUILDING
CH00391	25000 SHORE DRIVE	BUILDING
CH00392	ELKS LODGE	BUILDING
CH00393	26015 SHORE DRIVE	BUILDING
CH00394	25472 SHORE DRIVE	BUILDING
CH00395	25472 1/2 SHORE DRIVE	BUILDING
CH00396	25325 EAST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00397	25280 EAST MARION AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00398	6104 FLORA AVENUE	BUILDING

**Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County \***

<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00399	2015 MYRTLE AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00400	27470 CLEVELAND DRIVE	BUILDING
CH00401	27512 CLEVELAND DRIVE	BUILDING
CH00402	5201 RIVERSIDE DRIVE	BUILDING
CH00403	27481 MISTY AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00404	5111 RIVERSIDE DRIVE	BUILDING
CH00405	5036 RIVERSIDE DRIVE	BUILDING
CH00406	4363 DUNCAN ROAD	BUILDING
CH00407	4111 DUNCAN ROAD	BUILDING
CH00408	4013 DUNCAN ROAD	BUILDING
CH00409	4565 DUNCAN ROAD	BUILDING
CH00410	RIVER BEACH DRIVE	BUILDING
CH00411	14258 COOLGE ROAD	BUILDING
CH00412	COMMERCIAL STREET AND RIVER BEACH DR	BUILDING
CH00413	BASS MARINE LABORATORY	BUILDING
CH00414	BASS MARINE LABORATORY SHED	BUILDING
CH00415	BASS MARINE LABORATORY HOUSE	BUILDING
CH00416	BASS MARINE LABORATORY	BUILDING
CH00417	—	BUILDING
CH00418	GEORGE BROWN HOUSE	BUILDING
CH00419	ORR HOUSE	BUILDING
CH00420	8040 RIVERSIDE DRIVE	BUILDING
CH00421	7930 RIVERSIDE DRIVE	BUILDING
CH00422	731 SOLANA LOOP	BUILDING
CH00423	801 SOLANA LOOP	BUILDING
CH00424	6261 ELLIOTT STREET	BUILDING
CH00425	6265 ELLIOTT STREET	BUILDING
CH00426	6271 ELLIOTT STREET	BUILDING
CH00427	6285 ELLIOTT STREET	BUILDING

<b>Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County *</b>		
<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00428	914 LA VILLA ROAD	BUILDING
CH00429	6427 SCOTT STREET	BUILDING
CH00430	6359 SCOTT STREET	BUILDING
CH00431	6348 SCOTT STREET	BUILDING
CH00432	6329 SCOTT STREET	BUILDING
CH00433	6323 SCOTT STREET	BUILDING
CH00434	6313 SCOTT STREET	BUILDING
CH00435	820 LA VILLA ROAD	BUILDING
CH00436	6292 SCOTT STREET	BUILDING
CH00437	1005 LA VILLA ROAD	BUILDING
CH00438	1517 LA VILLA ROAD	BUILDING
CH00439	1615 LA VILLA ROAD	BUILDING
CH00440	806 CARMALITA STREET	BUILDING
CH00441	307 BAYSHORE ROAD	BUILDING
CH00443	CHARLOTTE HIGH SCHOOL	BUILDING
CH00445	VILLA BIANCA	BUILDING
CH00459	ICING STATION AT BULL BAY	BUILDING
CH00460	TOWER BAR	BUILDING
CH00467	NN	BUILDING
CH00468	14403 BOSTON ROAD	BUILDING
CH00469	14379 +/- PAMBAR ROAD	BUILDING
CH00470	EL JOBEAN POST OFFICE AND GENERAL STORE	BUILDING
CH00471	4340 GARDEN ROAD	BUILDING
CH00472	4314 GARDEN ROAD	BUILDING
CH00473	4310 GARDEN ROAD	BUILDING
CH00474	14200 SEABOARD LANE	BUILDING
CH00476	GRAND HOTEL/4381 GARDEN ROAD RD	BUILDING
CH00503	MOTT WILLIS STORE/22960 BAYSHORE ROAD	BUILDING

**Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County \***

<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00511	5128 MELBOURNE STREET	BUILDING
CH00512	5114 MELBOURNE STREET	BUILDING
CH00516	156 BOOTH STREET	BUILDING
CH00517	503 CHARLOTTE AVE EAST	BUILDING
CH00518	414 DUPONT ST	BUILDING
CH00519	418 DUPONT ST	BUILDING
CH00520	318 FITZHUGH AVE.	BUILDING
CH00521	514 FITZHUGH AVE.	BUILDING
CH00522	610 FITZHUGH AVE.	BUILDING
CH00523	434 IDA AVE	BUILDING
CH00524	207 MARION AVENUE EAST	BUILDING
CH00525	LAUDROMAT & LP GAS/211 E MARION AVE E	BUILDING
CH00526	522 MARION AVENUE EAST	BUILDING
CH00527	358 MARTIN LUTHER KING BLVD	BUILDING
CH00528	410 MARY ST	BUILDING
CH00529	561 MARY ST	BUILDING
CH00530	COOPER ST. RECREATION CNTR/650 MARY ST	BUILDING
CH00531	653 MARY ST	BUILDING
CH00532	MCCLUSKY CPA/222 NESBIT ST	BUILDING
CH00533	515 OLYMPIA AVENUE EAST	BUILDING
CH00534	521 SHOWALTER ST	BUILDING
CH00535	327 VIRGINIA AVE EAST	BUILDING
CH00536	619 VIRGINIA AVE EAST	BUILDING
CH00537	629 VIRGINIA AVE EAST	BUILDING
CH00538	635 VIRGINIA AVE EAST	BUILDING
CH00539	SMOKEHOUSE REST/705 VIRGINIA AVE EAST	BUILDING

<b>Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County *</b>		
<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00540	362 CHARLOTTE AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00541	207 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00542	CHARLOTTE ACADEMY SCHOOL/324 CROSS STREET	BUILDING
CH00543	220 DURRANCE STREET	BUILDING
CH00544	319 DURRANCE STREET	BUILDING
CH00545	328 DURRANCE STREET	BUILDING
CH00546	302 GILL ST	BUILDING
CH00547	310 GILL STREET	BUILDING
CH00548	314 GILL ST.	BUILDING
CH00549	305 GOLDSTEIN STREET	BUILDING
CH00550	411 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING
CH00551	420 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING
CH00552	426 HARVEY STREET	BUILDING
CH00553	105 MARION AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00554	PEEPLES AGENCY, INC/301 MARION AVE W	BUILDING
CH00555	306 MARION AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00556	312 MARION AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00557	460 MARION AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00558	GATOR PETROLEUM/525 NESBIT ST	BUILDING
CH00559	MARSHALL INVESTMENT AND TAX CENTER/111 W OLYMPIA AVE	BUILDING
CH00560	115 OLYMPIA AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00561	361 OLYMPIA AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00562	403 OLYMPIA AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00563	413 OLYMPIA AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00564	420 OLYMPIA AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00565	DEANS SOUTH OF THE BORDER STEAK HOUSE/123 E RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING

<b>Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County *</b>		
<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00566	123H RETTA ESPLANADE	BUILDING
CH00567	KARL EHMER RESTAURANT/115 TAMIAMI TRAIL	BUILDING
CH00568	130 TAMIAMI TRAIL	BUILDING
CH00569	CHARLOTTE COUNTY FLOWERS/140 TAMIAMI TRAIL	BUILDING
CH00570	JDS LOUNGE AND PACKAGE STORE/220 TAMIAMI TRAIL	BUILDING
CH00571	GREGS AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR CENTER/236 TAMIAMI TRAIL	BUILDING
CH00572	STYLES OF PUNTA GORDA/115 TAYLOR ST	BUILDING
CH00573	329 VIRGINIA AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00574	409 VIRGINIA AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00575	451 VIRGINIA AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00576	457 VIRGINIA AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00577	434 ANN STREET WEST	BUILDING
CH00578	124 BERRY ST	BUILDING
CH00579	126 BERRY ST	BUILDING
CH00580	111 CHASTEEN ST	BUILDING
CH00581	351 CHASTEEN ST	BUILDING
CH00582	359 CHASTEEN ST	BUILDING
CH00583	122 DOLLY ST	BUILDING
CH00584	311 GILL ST	BUILDING
CH00585	403 GILL ST	BUILDING
CH00586	1215 LEMON ST	BUILDING
CH00587	513 MARION AVE WEST	BUILDING
CH00588	615 MARION AVE WEST	BUILDING
CH00589	635 MARION AVE WEST	BUILDING
CH00590	144 MCGREGOR ST	BUILDING
CH00591	260 MCGREGOR ST	BUILDING

**Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County \***

<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00592	503 MCGREGOR ST	BUILDING
CH00593	312 MCKENZIE ST	BUILDING
CH00594	360 MCKENZIE STREET WEST	BUILDING
CH00595	509 OLYMPIA AVE WEST	BUILDING
CH00596	519 OLYMPIA AVE WEST	BUILDING
CH00597	608 OLYMPIA AVE WEST	BUILDING
CH00598	611 OLYMPIA AVE WEST	BUILDING
CH00599	702 OLYMPIA AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00600	703 OLYMPIA AVE WEST	BUILDING
CH00601	708-710 OLYMPIA AVE WEST	BUILDING
CH00602	717 OLYMPIA AVE WEST	BUILDING
CH00603	524 PALM AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00604	619 PALM AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00605	620 PALM AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00606	722 PALM AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00607	724 PALM AVENUE	BUILDING
CH00608	805 RETTA ESPLANADE WEST	BUILDING
CH00609	610 VIRGINIA AVENUE WEST	BUILDING
CH00610	1210 LEMON STREET	BUILDING
CH00611	1423 TAYLOR ROAD	BUILDING
CH00612	110 MCKENZIE STREET	BUILDING
CH00613	233 MCKENZIE STREET WEST	BUILDING
CH00614	1213 ORANGE STREET	BUILDING
CH00615	PIERCE SERVICE CO/1202 TAMIAMI TRAIL	BUILDING
CH00616	MARLOW-WERNER LITTLE LOT/1228 TAMIAMI TRAIL	BUILDING
CH00617	CHEVRON GAS STATION/1305 TAMIAMI TRAIL	BUILDING

<b>Table 9.1 Master Site File Historic Structures Recorded in Charlotte County *</b>		
<b>Master Site File #</b>	<b>Primary Name for Structure</b>	<b>Category of Property</b>
CH00618	213 WILLIAM STREET	BUILDING
CH00619	1521 TAYLOR ROAD	BUILDING
CH00620	353 ALLEN STREET	BUILDING
CH00621	BUSY BEE EARLY LEARNING CENTER/329 ALLEN STREET	BUILDING
CH00622	325 ANN STREET EAST	BUILDING
CH00623	332 CARMALITA STREET	BUILDING
CH00624	401 CARMALITA STREET	BUILDING
CH00625	405 CARMALITA STREET	BUILDING
CH00626	431 CARMALITA STREET	BUILDING
CH00627	509 CARMALITA STREET	BUILDING
CH00628	521 CARMALITA STREET	BUILDING
CH00629	322 GRACE STREET	BUILDING
CH00630	1503 NARRANJA STREET	BUILDING
CH00631	1601 NARRANJA STREET	BUILDING
CH00632	1245 TAYLOR STREET	BUILDING
CH00633	GOLDSTEIN HOUSE/25385 E MARION AVE	BUILDING
CH00648	23166 BAYSHORE ROAD	BUILDING
CH00684	8019 PLACIDA ROAD (CR775)	BUILDING

Source: Florida Master Site File. Division of Historical Resources. September 26, 2005

\*Note: The Florida Division of Historical Resources records historical property information as it is submitted, without verifying the jurisdiction (i.e. whether it is located within the City of Punta Gorda or unincorporated Charlotte County), so those which are recorded as Punta Gorda properties may in fact be located in the unincorporated area but within a mile of the city. A comprehensive survey of Charlotte County historical resources is needed to accurately determine which properties lie within each jurisdiction.

## **F. Vandalism and Treasure (“Pot”) Hunters**

There has been extensive damage to archaeological sites in Charlotte County by so-called treasure hunters, developers and builders. The treasure hunters are frequently misinformed, believing that gold and silver are buried in the Indian mounds.

In the most flagrant instance, Big Mound Key, one of the world’s largest and most

important prehistoric mound sites, was bulldozed by treasure seekers in 1981. Thus, an important part of the Calusa heritage that took hundreds of years to accumulate was destroyed in a matter of hours. (*University of Florida/Preservation Through Knowledge*)

The treasure hunters who pillaged Charlotte County's Big Mound Key were caught and punished. Unfortunately, there are many others who have not been caught. In order to save these sites, we need to embark on a program of community awareness. These sites are our only links to unraveling the mysteries of our Native American heritage.

Some of the sites have been examined hurriedly to salvage a little information before being wiped out by developers and builders. The archaeological sites that are still undisturbed, or parts thereof, should be preserved intact for the future unless they are in jeopardy of adverse impacts from construction, erosion, or other threats. In these cases, steps should be taken to avoid, minimize, or mitigate negative impacts. Mitigation actions would preserve a record of the affected resource.

### **G. The Impact of Knowledge and Awareness**

Public archaeological programs have changed over the years. The public is no longer satisfied with passive interpretation of site signs, interpretive trails, and living history presentations. There is a growing demand from the public for hands-on involvement in ongoing research efforts.

New programs give individuals and families opportunities to do a variety of tasks, from lab work to field work. These efforts result in valuable research and management accomplishments, but more importantly, the real benefit is increased awareness of the science of archaeology. There are also programs which are designed to reach school children through the education of their teachers. As a result of the various programs and other societal factors, public education in archaeology is in full swing.

Most archaeologists believe that improving our understanding of the past leads to a greater concern for the present and future. This has become even more apparent lately as agencies have to answer tough questions about ecosystems encompassing the land they manage. Increased education can result in the curbing of the rapid disappearance of artifacts at the hands of collectors; it can lead to stronger laws and better enforcement of current ones; and it can foster stewardship of the county's heritage.

Education alone will not accomplish these things single-handedly. Law enforcement, research, and protection are also necessary. However, many believe that engaging the interest and concern of the public is the key. Public support along with the other above-mentioned factors will be critical in the coming years.

Charlotte County is rich in historical and archaeological resources that can provide a wealth of

knowledge about our past. Increasing the public's knowledge and involvement is essential in helping to protect these resources.

## **H. History and Tourism**

Ecotourism is fast becoming the growing trend for vacationers and travelers. More and more people are planning vacations to places that take an active interest in preserving their natural, architectural, and cultural resources. This trend is an added plus for those communities that participate in historic preservation programs. Travel writer Arthur Frommer writes that “Among cities with no particular recreational appeal, those that have preserved their past continue to enjoy tourism. Those that haven’t, receive almost no tourism at all. Tourism simply doesn’t go to a city that has lost its soul.” (*Mountains & Shores*, 3)

According to *Mountains & Shores*, the newsletter of the Resort and Tourism Division of the American Planning Association, “Virtually every study of traveler motivations has shown that, along with rest and recreation, visiting scenic areas and historic sites are among the top two or three reasons why people travel”. Charlotte County is already the destination of many tourists and winter residents. Through historic preservation efforts, the potential exists to provide an exciting, educational, and scenic destination for vacationers and residents alike.

In today’s competitive environment for public funding, it is simply essential to link historic preservation and economic development in a comprehensive strategy. The local economic development committee and the Historical Advisory Committee should work together to maximize the overall benefits to an area.

## **I. Current Preservation Efforts and Programs**

There are numerous and varied programs for preservation. Among these are programs offered by the *US Department of the Interior*, the *Department of Transportation*, the *Florida Department of State*, *Charlotte County government* and private non-profit organizations.

The Division of Historical Resources of the Florida Department of State conducts the Official Florida Historic Marker Program which recognizes significant historic sites with the placement of a marker on the site property. The Department of State’s Division of Historical Resources also administers a Florida Master Site File. This program is a clearing house for information regarding Florida’s archaeological sites, historical structures, and the field survey of archaeological and historical sites. The Master Site File relies on reports submitted by individuals and organizations throughout the state for its information.

The National Park Service maintains the National Register of Historic Places on behalf of the US Department of the Interior. The National Register is an official list of districts, sites, buildings,

structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. The Federal Department of Transportation administers the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA, now known as TEA-21) provides funding for projects that are considered “enhancements” to transportation activities. Among the enhancements considered are projects related to historic preservation.

Further information regarding eligibility, nomination information, and qualifying activities for the Florida Historic Marker Program, the National Register of Historic Places, and the funding available through TEA-21 is provided in the appendix of this element. The *Bureau of Historic Preservation* of the *Division of Historical Resources* in the *Florida Department of State* takes a key position in preservation of Florida's historic resources through surveys to identify those resources, preparation of statewide preservation plans and nomination of properties to the National Register of Historic Places. In addition to examining development projects for archaeological and historical impact, the Bureau takes part in reviewing local government plans and other federally funded or licensed projects. The Main Street Program is a state project which encourages economic revitalization within the context of historic preservation in older, central business districts. The Bureau provides public education about preservation, administration of historic properties, supervision of archaeological activities, review of projects for rehabilitation tax incentives and administration of grants-in-aid. In 1995, the Bureau provided funds which were matched by the county to prepare a Historical Map for the county. This map was done with the assistance of the Historic Preservation Advisory Council, and it presents vignettes of information about people, specific places, activities, events, and significant buildings in Charlotte County's past. The map includes photographs, drawings, and short explanations that are geographically based. It is available for viewing and purchase at the county's Community Development Department.

The *National Trust for Historic Preservation* is a private, nonprofit organization chartered by Congress to encourage broad-based participation in preserving America's historic and cultural environments. Apart from dissemination of information, it also assists in coordinating efforts of preservation groups, provides professional advice on preservation, conducts conferences and seminars, maintains historic properties, administers grant and loan programs and issues a variety of publications.

The *Florida Trust for Historic Preservation (FTHP)* is a nonprofit organization that was established in 1978 to preserve Florida's historic buildings, objects and places through a variety of educational, technical and financial programs. At the state level, the FTHP serves as a clearinghouse for information and services, acts as a liaison with the State Historic Preservation Officer, and educates elected officials about the needs of historic preservation throughout Florida. Supported by membership and fund raising events, the Trust hosts technical workshops, tours, an annual statewide preservation meeting and Legislative Preservation Day.

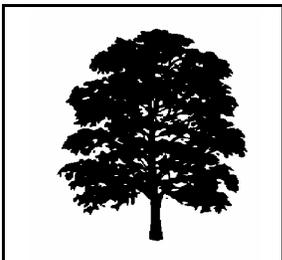
The *National Park Service (NPS)*, a division of the Department of the Interior, administers all

National Historic Sites and national parks. Among its varied tasks, it identifies National Historic Landmarks, maintains the National Register of Historic Places, and establishes guidelines and procedures used by agencies in preservation planning. In addition, the NPS serves as a clearinghouse for technical information and monitors and certifies rehabilitation projects undertaken with federal tax incentives. Through the Historic American Buildings Survey and Historic American Engineering Record, it documents written materials, photographs and renderings of historic structures.

The State of Florida sets aside maritime preserves for protection and public enjoyment. As a result, there are several *Underwater Archaeological Preserves* in the State of Florida at the present time. When these types of sites become available to the public, it stimulates appreciation and understanding of our maritime heritage. These projects depend on public support, and it is through this support and involvement that we are assured of continued preservation for the future.

Florida's *State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)* provides guidance for the implementation of sound planning procedures for the location, identification, and protection of the State's archaeological and historic resources. The state's preservation planning process is a many faceted endeavor, and is committed to the continued preservation and maintenance of Florida's historic resources. Unfortunately, due to the state's unprecedented growth over the last three decades, many prehistoric and historic sites have been lost. As a result, both the SHPO and the statewide preservation community have had to maintain a constant vigil to ensure the continued existence of historic and archaeological resources for future generations.

Congress established the Legacy Resource Management Program through the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, Section 8120 in 1991, to help the Department of Defense (DOD) enhance its cultural and natural resource stewardship of more than 25 million acres of land under its jurisdiction. Legacy activities integrate the management of these resources with the DOD mission, and the public interest. Archaeological resource preservation, conservation, and management are important elements in this program. (CRM 34,35,36)



The *Famous & Historic Trees Program*, which is offered by the American Forestry Association, is an educational program that “grows seeds of trees that bear significance to American history and famous people.” (*American Forestry Association Brochure*) The lineage of the trees is thoroughly researched. Seeds are then collected and grown until they are mature enough for replanting.

On a local level, the *Charlotte County Historical Center* was formed as a division of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department by an agreement effectuated in 2002 by the Board of County Commissioners and the non-profit Charlotte County Historical Center Society (formerly known as the Museum Society, Inc.). The Center provides a variety of educational programs and services concerning the rich history of the Charlotte County area, in

addition to protecting and preserving Charlotte County's historical resources. Museum exhibits and educational programs are offered in the Center's building at 22959 Bayshore Drive and through outreach presentations in the community.

Working closely with the Historical Advisory Committee, the Charlotte County Historical Center administers the *Charlotte County Historical Marker Program* adopted in 2005. The Historical Marker Program recognizes historic resources, persons and events that are significant in the areas of architecture, archaeology, Charlotte County history and traditional culture by promoting the placing of historic markers and plaques at sites of historical and visual interest to visitors. The purpose of the program is to increase public awareness of the rich cultural heritage of the county, to encourage historic preservation and to enhance the enjoyment of local historical sites by citizens and tourists.

Also, Charlotte County manages historical properties which have been acquired recently to protect and preserve them, through the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resource Department and the Charlotte County Historical Center. An historical survey is in process for an early twentieth century wood frame residence, known presently as the "*Hickory House*," which is located in Charlotte Harbor at Dotzler Park, to determine how it will be adapted for educational programs. The *Placida Bunk House* c. 1907-1910 was moved to nearby park land to preserve it when it was threatened by a bridge realignment project, and a preservation plan is needed to adapt it as an interpretive center for local settlement and railroad history. The unique *Cookie House* log cabin on the former Bass laboratory site in Englewood is being relocated to Cedar Environmental Park in a cooperative arrangement with the developer, to preserve it and use it for educational programming. The Charlotte County Historical Center provides staff support for the restoration and rehabilitation of the historical (and county-owned) *Charlotte County Courthouse* in Punta Gorda.

The *Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)* is a group that started as a result of grassroots effort by citizens of the Charlotte Harbor area, in an effort to begin revitalization of the area. The Board of County Commissioners formed the official Community Redevelopment Agency in 1993, and shortly thereafter, the CRA Advisory Committee was formed. Since Charlotte Harbor, the focus of the CRA, has the distinction of being the County's oldest settlement, and officially designated as a "Local Historic District" by Ordinance 93-57 in 1993, the CRA plan includes provisions for historic and archaeological resources. These provisions are specific to this district and to individual resources.

The *Charlotte Harbor Area Historical Society* was a group of about 50 volunteers who collaborated in collecting historical books and pictures. They had five historical slide programs shown upon request to interested people at churches, schools, and other organizations. This Historical Society filled an important educational role by stimulating interest and increasing awareness, until it was dissolved in 2005. The public will continue to benefit from its photographs, donated through U. S. Cleveland to the Charlotte County Historical Center's historical collections.

The *Genealogical Society* is a group of interested people who try to learn about their ancestry. In doing so, they keep track of birth, marriage and death records, all of which have importance in understanding the County's history. Some members of the Genealogical Society have done cemetery books and compiled histories about the County. Both the Historical and Genealogical Societies are groups which the County could form partnerships in furthering historic preservation efforts.

The *Charlotte Harbor Mounds Survey* was completed and had a list of projects related to it that were being developed. Report excerpts a lecture and presentations about the Calusa nation, ecology of the area, archaeological methods, and local fisherfolk history are provided at various times at the *Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC)*. There are small group mound visits conducted by CHEC staff periodically. The Survey and the related projects represent important progress that is fundamental to the understanding of our archaeological heritage.

In addition, the staff of the CHEC manages 4 archaeological sites, 3 of which are on County property. These sites are the Alligator Creek Site in south county, Cedar Point in west county, and Tippecanoe Scrub and Eastport Sprayfield in mid-county.

The *Calusa Heartland Steering Committee* has approximately 20 members of various backgrounds who share an interest in the archaeological heritage of the County. The committee played a key role in organizing the Charlotte Harbor Mounds Survey Plans are being made to re-activate it as the *Calusa Heartlands Project*, a collaborative arrangement including Florida Gulf Coast University, CHEC and the Charlotte County Historical Center. The first symposium of the group is scheduled for January 2006.

## **J. Intergovernmental Coordination**

There are several unique circumstances which necessitate coordination between Charlotte County and the governments of other counties. Englewood lies between two counties, Charlotte and Sarasota, as does Gasparilla Island which lies in both Charlotte and Lee Counties. In order that continuity be maintained, it is necessary to communicate and coordinate preservation efforts that affect the areas along the borders between counties. Punta Gorda is the only incorporated city within Charlotte County, and coordinates its own historic preservation efforts. For example, Punta Gorda has a historic district in its downtown. In areas immediately outside city limits, it will be necessary to coordinate efforts to maintain the atmosphere that the city has created within its limits.

Charlotte County also enjoys a cordial relationship with the State Division of Historical Resources in Tallahassee. All preservation efforts are discussed with the State Office. They offer advice, special insight and suggestions that may enhance a project. They inform the County of grants that are available, new laws, or other information that may aid historic preservation efforts. The Southeast Regional Office of the Florida Division of Historical Resources in Fort Lauderdale provides technical advice through a Community Assistance Consultant. The State also acts as a liaison

between local government and the federal government.

Within the County, the Charlotte County Historical Center is the government division through which historical interests are facilitated. The Center provides staff support for educational programs, historical exhibits, historic preservation projects and leadership for preserving historically significant artifacts, structures and sites county wide. The Charlotte County Historical Advisory Committee makes recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners on historical matters, and the Community Development Department works with both the Center and the Committee on historical review for construction and development projects.

The Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC) involves coordination between various levels of government. CHEC was the agency responsible for the Charlotte Harbor Mounds Survey, and continues to be active regarding the county's archaeological heritage. CHEC is a not-for-profit organization composed of four corporate members: the County of Charlotte, the City of Punta Gorda, the Charlotte County School Board, and the Peace River Audubon Society. Each member supports CHEC through policy directives, financial assistance and donations of in-kind services.

#### **K. Future Preservation Efforts**

Charlotte County is unique in its requirements for preservation, and will require an equally unique program for preservation. Success largely depends on the cooperation and coordination of state and local government, the business community, and most importantly, the citizens of Charlotte County.

It is expected that the County's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department, through the Charlotte County Historical Center, will be responsible for implementing most of the policies found in this element. The Department will do so with the help of the Community Development Department and appropriate agencies and groups such as the State Division of Historic Preservation, the Historical Advisory Committee, the historical and genealogical societies and the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center. Most of these agencies are specifically identified in certain policies. When they are not, it can be assumed that Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department staff will seek their cooperation in order to facilitate the effective and efficient accomplishment of desired outcomes.

The historic preservation plan for Charlotte County includes the development of a program which will protect the County's historical and archaeological resources, the development and maintenance of a site inventory on the County's geographic information system, the active encouragement of nomination of historic buildings, sites, districts, and objects to national and local registers, recording them in the Florida Master Site File and the participation in public education campaigns that promote public awareness of the importance of preserving our historic, archaeological, architectural and scenic resources.

## **L. A Historic Preservation Ordinance**

Ordinance 2002-060 was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners to preserve and protect its historical, archaeological, architectural and scenic resources that serve to exemplify the heritage of the County, state and nation, consistent with the goals of the 1997 Comprehensive Plan. Called the Charlotte County Historic Preservation Ordinance, its stated purpose is to protect and enhance properties of historical, cultural, archaeological, and architectural value in the interests of the health, prosperity and welfare of the citizens of the County. It is intended to:

1. Protect, preserve and enhance the historic, architectural, and archaeological heritage of the County;
2. Provide where possible programs which will assist in the perpetuation, rehabilitation and adaptive use and reuse of historically and architecturally significant structures, sites, districts and archaeological resources;
3. Protect and enhance the County's attractiveness to residents and to visitors and thereby provide stimulus to the County's economy;
4. Foster civic pride and community education about the accomplishments and activities of past inhabitants of the County.

The Charlotte County Historic Preservation Ordinance provides for the designation of historical resources on a Local Register, the Florida Master Site File and the National Register of Historic Places; the maintenance of a Geographical Information Systems database for historical resources; conservation of historical resources during development activities; provisions for rehabilitation, moving, maintenance, repair, use and demolition of historic structures.

County staff from the Charlotte County Historical Center and the Community Development Department are working with the Historical Advisory Committee on revisions to the 2002 Historic Preservation Ordinance, both to clarify the duties and responsibilities related to the more recent establishment of the Historical Division, the Historical Center and Historical Advisory Committee, and to improve the effectiveness and the processes for implementing the Ordinance. New language is expected to clearly define the processes and requirements in support of conservation; realistic timelines and expectations for historical review of development and construction; the designation of historical resources and the establishment and maintenance of the Local Historical Register and local historical districts. A comprehensive survey of the County's historical resources is essential to provide a baseline for effective historic preservation.

## IV. Goals, Objectives, and Policies

**Goal 1: Charlotte County will protect and preserve its historical, archaeological, architectural, and scenic resources that serve to exemplify the heritage of the county, state, and nation.**

**Objective 1.1:** Charlotte County will develop a program which will protect the County's historical and archaeological resources.

**Policy 1.1.1:** Charlotte County will maintain and update a comprehensive, county-wide Historical Survey and documentation of historical events, structures, and other resources with the aid of the Historical Advisory Committee and the historical and genealogical groups. An updated survey will be published periodically.

**Policy 1.1.2:** Charlotte County will evaluate donations of significant historical and archaeological sites in order to determine if they should be transferred to public ownership.

**Policy 1.1.3:** Charlotte County will support and utilize state and federal programs geared toward the acquisition and preservation of archaeological and historic sites and structures, and will actively seek federal, state, or local grant monies to aid in the overall county historic preservation program.

**Policy 1.1.4:** Within financial feasibility, Charlotte County will provide matching funds for federal and state programs in order to facilitate the receipt of grants which might significantly contribute to the knowledge about the County's historical and archaeological heritage.

**Policy 1.1.5:** Charlotte County will utilize Transfers of Development Rights, Transfers of Development Units or other incentives for preservation of properties containing historic or archaeological resources.

**Policy 1.1.6:** Charlotte County, in cooperation with various agencies or groups, will manage publicly owned lands to ensure that historic, archaeological, and scenic resources, including the County's historic cemeteries and burial places, are protected.

**Policy 1.1.7:** Charlotte County will implement a Historic Preservation Ordinance which will provide specific criteria designed to protect the County's historic and archaeological resources.

**Policy 1.1.8:** *Areas surrounding identified archeological sites or historic structures listed on the Local Historical Register shall be protected against encroachment of incompatible activities and land uses.*

*(Ordinance 99-32, Adopted July 13, 1999)*

**Objective 1.2:** Charlotte County’s Community Development Department, with help from the Charlotte County Historical Center, Historical Advisory Committee, the historical and genealogical groups, and the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center, will develop and maintain a site inventory on its Geographic Information System and a current database of all historic buildings, historic architecture, historic districts, archaeological objects and places that are significant to local, state or national history, according to an adopted set of criteria.

**Policy 1.2.1:** Charlotte County’s Community Development Department will develop a computerized system of storage utilizing the County's geographic information system to produce elementary site information, designation status, and other topics as needed. This information shall be continually updated, and made available to other County departments or agencies.

**Policy 1.2.2:** Charlotte County will maintain a central repository of historical and archaeological reports and results of continuing work under various sponsorships which regard the County’s historical and archaeological resources.

**Policy 1.2.3:** Charlotte County will complete Historical Cemetery Forms for the Florida Site File, for all of its historic cemeteries and burial grounds. The information will be updated as new data becomes available through further discovery or research.

**Policy 1.2.4:** Charlotte County will strive to locate, identify, preserve, protect, and recognize its archaeological sites and historic structures, as well as its lost and abandoned cemeteries and burial places.

**Objective 1.3:** Charlotte County will actively encourage the nomination of historic buildings, sites, districts or objects to the National Register of Historic Places, listing in the Local Historical Register, and their recording in the Florida Master Site File.

**Policy 1.3.1:** Charlotte County will make available current information and nomination forms for the National Register of Historic Places Program.

**Policy 1.3.2:** Charlotte County’s Historical Center, Historical Advisory Committee and the various historical and archaeological societies, will maintain the Local Historical Register program which recognizes and records historic, architectural, and archaeological resources.

**Policy 1.3.3:** The Charlotte County Historical Center and the Historical Advisory Committee will encourage Charlotte County residents to take part in local, state, and national historic programs, and educate them regarding the benefits of doing so.

**Policy 1.3.4:** The Charlotte County Historical Center will provide assistance to eligible applicants for registering on the national, state and local programs.

**Objective 1.4:** Charlotte County will participate in public education campaigns that promote public awareness of the importance of preserving our historic, archaeological, architectural, and scenic resources.

**Policy 1.4.1:** Charlotte County will make available to the public at cost, copies of the Charlotte County Historical Map. The Map will be updated as new information becomes available.

**Policy 1.4.2:** Charlotte County's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department and the Charlotte County Historical Center will periodically prepare brochures, booklets, or other media that will educate and inform the public about the important historic, archaeological, architectural and scenic resources or sites in the county and stress the importance of preservation.

**Policy 1.4.3:** A Heritage and Folklore theme for Charlotte County will be developed by the Charlotte County Historical Center and the Historical Advisory Committee.

**Policy 1.4.4:** Charlotte County will participate in national and statewide preservation programs and ceremonies, and develop local programs in conjunction with national and state observances.

**Policy 1.4.5:** Charlotte County with the Historical Advisory Committee and in cooperation with appropriate agencies and groups will oversee the Charlotte County Historical Marker Program to recognize significant historic, archaeological, architectural, and scenic sites.

**Policy 1.4.6:** County staff will work with the School Board of Charlotte County and other agencies to distribute the Historic Map of Charlotte County which was prepared with matching funds from the Florida Department of State's Office.

## V. Appendices

### Bibliography

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Charlotte County. *Ordinance 89-28 - Charlotte County Historical Preservation Ordinance.*

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Charlotte County. *Resolution 94-101 Southland Trail Cemetery & trust fund BCC accepted fee simple title for El Jobean Cemetery, recognized its historical and cultural significance, renamed it, established a trust fund and authorized a marker.*

Charlotte County *Resolution 2000-79 BCC designated El Jobean Local Historic District on July 11, 2000*

Charlotte County *Ordinance 2002-60 BCC amended the Charlotte County Historic Preservation Ordinance November 12, 2002 by repealing and replacing Chapter 3-5, Article X.*

Charlotte County On March 9, 2004 BCC voted on the approach to manage historical resources. Assignment of responsibilities was divided between PR&CR and Community Dev departments, action plan and goals for 2004 and FY2004/2005, HAC duties and goals, organizational chart.

Charlotte County *Ordinance 2004-045 BCC established the Historical Advisory Committee July 13, 2004. This ordinance amended Chapter 1-11 and created Article V to establish the HAC, terms of office, bylaws, duties of PR&CR Director.*

Charlotte County May 10, 2005 BCC approved Charlotte County Historical Marker Program.

Charlotte County Genealogical Society. *Charlotte Harbor Cemetery.*

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Historic Tampa/Hillsborough County Preservation Board. *Who's Who and What They Do in Preservation.*

Luer, George M. 1986. "Some Interesting Archaeological Occurrences of Quahog Shells on the Gulf Coast of Central and Southern Florida. *Florida Anthropologist.* 39:125-159.

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## 1. Historic Marker Programs

### Charlotte County Historical Marker Program

The *Charlotte County Historical Marker Program* was established by the Board of County Commissioners in 2005, upon the recommendation of the Historical Advisory Committee:

#### *Criteria*

The Charlotte County Historical Marker Program recognizes historic resources, persons and events that are significant in the areas of architecture, archaeology, Charlotte County history and traditional culture by promoting the placing of historical markers and plaques at sites of historic and visual interest to visitors. The purpose of the program is to increase public awareness of the rich cultural heritage of the county, to encourage historic preservation and to enhance the enjoyment of local historic sites by its citizens and tourists.

#### *Heritage Landmark*

To be recognized as a Charlotte County Heritage Landmark, a resource must meet the following criteria:

- building, structure or site
- at least 50 years old
- significance in the areas of architecture, archaeology, local history or traditional culture OR associated with a significant event that took place at least 50 years ago
- be associated with a significant person may qualify 50 years after their death OR 50 years after the event with which they are associated
- visibly retain physical characteristics present during the period for which it or the associated person or event is significant
- A moved building or structure may qualify if the move was 50+ years ago OR it was moved to preserve it from demolition and reasonable attempts were made to assure the new setting is similar to the setting.
- In certain cases, resources that are less than 50 years old but historically significant at the statewide or national level may qualify as a Charlotte County Heritage Landmark.

#### *Markers*

The Historical Markers for the Charlotte County Heritage Landmarks shall be approved by the Historical Advisory Committee, with recommendations from the Historical Markers Subcommittee, for both the Standard Charlotte County Historical Marker and the Interpretive Charlotte County Historical Marker. The designs shall provide consistency in size, shape, material, background colors, lettering colors and the county logo on each of the two types of markers:

#### *Standard Charlotte County Historical Marker*

- the principal marker to recognize a Charlotte County Heritage Landmark site

- design: cast aluminum material with black enamel background and raised relief gold enamel letters, with the Charlotte County seal in a top crest, approximately 33” high by 43” wide, set on a concrete post
- price \$2,000

#### *Interpretive Charlotte County Historical Marker*

- supplemental to the Standard Marker with further information, graphics, photographs
- design and price to be determined

#### *Guidelines for Writing Text*

- The first sentence of the Marker Text should state what the marker is commemorating.
- If a person is mentioned in the text, include the county historical significance of the person and the years of birth and death.
- Use full names.
- If a war or battle is mentioned in the text, include the dates. For example, Civil War (1861-1865)
- Check with the Library of Congress for universal use of terms and subject headings.
- Use a small letter c for circa. For example, c.1921
- List dates in chronological order.
- Check grammar and punctuation.
- Keep text at a 5<sup>th</sup> grade reading level.

#### *Marker Approval Process*

Applications shall be submitted on the adopted form to the Historical Advisory Committee through the Historical Center Division staff, who will review them for completeness. The Historical Markers Subcommittee shall review each complete Application for historical accuracy and merit, in compliance with the adopted Criteria, then make its recommendation for approval or disapproval to the Historical Advisory Committee at a regular meeting. The approval of each complete Application shall be decided by a majority vote of the Historical Advisory Committee members in attendance.

#### *Funding*

The Historical Advisory Committee may review and vote to adjust the established cost and marker awards from time to time, to reflect the actual market costs of manufacturing and installing the Charlotte County Historical Markers.

#### *Established Cost*

The established cost of each Charlotte County Historical Marker shall be paid by the applicant after it is approved and before it is manufactured, unless a Marker Award is approved. The cost of manufacture and installation is established at:

- Standard Charlotte County Historical Marker \$2000

- Interpretive Charlotte County Historical Marker \$1500

#### *Marker Awards*

Applicants may apply for a Marker Award to defray the established cost (or part of the established cost) of each marker, as funds for this purpose are made available through the Historical Advisory Committee. Each Marker Award application shall be approved or disapproved according to the Marker Approval Process.

#### *Program Information*

The Charlotte County Historical Center will provide detailed information about eligibility requirements and application and review procedures for the county marker program. Requests for information may be made by writing to the Charlotte County Historical Center, 22959 Bayshore Road, Charlotte Harbor, Florida 33980, by telephone at (941) 629-7278, or through the internet by clicking on [www.charlottecountyfl.com/historical](http://www.charlottecountyfl.com/historical). Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

### **Florida Historic Marker Program**

The Official Florida Historic Marker Program is conducted by the Division of Historical Resources of the Florida Department of State. The following categories of markers are included within the program:

Florida Heritage Landmark  
Historic Highway  
Special Markers  
Florida Heritage Plaques

*The following criteria are used to determine if a proposal qualifies under the program:*

1. The resource must be at least fifty years old and hold historical event significance, developments or personalities within the State, a locality of the State, or a region of the State. Sites of exceptional importance that are less than fifty years old will be considered for eligibility under the marker program.
2. The resource must possess the ability to convey its significance by retention of its character-defining features.
3. The resource must be visible from the public right-of-way.
4. A relocated structure or building will qualify for a Florida Historic Marker if it retains its character-defining features, and it meets the other criteria.
5. If an event changed the course of national, State, or local history, the event will be eligible for recognition on a marker thirty years after its occurrence, except events of extraordinary statewide or national significance.
6. No individual may be mentioned in a marker text until thirty years after death or after the event of significance, except in the case of a deceased person of extraordinary State or national significance, or unless designated by an act of the Florida Legislature.

*Florida Heritage Landmarks must meet the following criteria:*

1. A structure or building that has been moved in the past fifty years is not eligible for Florida Heritage Landmark status, unless it is shown that the structure was moved during or prior to its time of historical significance, or that it was moved due to threat of condemnation or demolition, or that its current setting is similar to its original historical setting.
2. A resource must be at least fifty years of age, worthy for its exceptional historical, architectural or archaeological significance to the State as a whole, to a region of the State, and/or to the nation. Sites that are less than fifty years old of exceptional importance, will be considered for eligibility under the marker program.
3. The resource must possess the ability to convey its significance by retention of its character-defining features.
4. The resource must be visible from the public right-of-way.
5. If an event changed the course of the nation, State or local history, that event will be eligible for recognition on a marker thirty years after its occurrence, except events of extraordinary statewide or national significance.
6. No individual may be mentioned in a marker text until thirty years after death or the event of significance, or unless designated by an act of the Florida Legislature.

Resources which are important because of their association with historic persons will be considered for eligibility for special designation under the Florida Historic Marker Program, under the following criteria:

1. No individual may be mentioned in a marker text until thirty years after his or her death or the event of significance, except in the case of a deceased person of State or national significance, or unless designated by an act of the Florida Legislature.
2. The historic person's activities must be demonstrably important to a locality of the State, region of the State, the State or the nation.
3. The marker must be attached to a structure that is visible from the public right-of-way, and the marker must be readable from the right-of-way.

Applications for Official Florida Historic Markers may be initiated by departments or agencies of the State; units of county, municipal or other local governments; corporations, partnerships or other entities, whether public or private or whether for-profit or not-for-profit, or from any individual. The applicant must substantiate all historic claims. Funds for the creation and placement of a marker will be provided by the agency, organization, individual or other entity proposing the marker.

## **2. The National Register of Historic Places**

The National Register is the nation's inventory of historic places and the national repository of documentation on historic property type, significance, abundance, condition, ownership, needs, and other information. It is the beginning of a national census of historic properties. The National Register Criteria for Evaluation defines the scope of the National Register of Historic Places; it identifies the range of resources and kinds of significance that will qualify properties for listing in the

National Register. The criteria are broadly written to recognize the wide variety of historic properties associated with our prehistory and history.

### *Criteria for Evaluation*

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and,

- associates with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history;
- associates with the lives of significant persons in our past;
- embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- yields, or may be likely to yield, important information in prehistory or history.

### *Criteria Considerations*

Properties primarily commemorative in nature and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years, shall not be considered eligible for the National Register. However, such properties may qualify if they are integral parts of districts that meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:

- A religious property deriving primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
- A building or structure removed from its original location but which is primarily significant for architectural value, or is the surviving structure most importantly associated with an historic person or event; or
- A birthplace or grave of an historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building directly associated with his/her productive life; or
- A cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, distinctive design features, or association with historic events; or
- A reconstructed building when accurately preserved in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and when no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or
- A property primarily commemorative in intent if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance; or
- A property achieving significance within the past 50 years if it is of exceptional importance.

### *Nomination: What it means and what it doesn't mean*

Many homeowners are interested in having their houses listed on the National Register, but they are not sure what it means for them or the building. A listing on the Register recognizes that the

property is of significance to the nation, the state, or the community. Having a house or other structure listed does not interfere with the property rights of the owner. In fact, National Register listing does not prevent an owner from tearing a building down, painting it whatever color he/she wants, or selling it.

The listing does not require tours of the building. However, if federal funds are to be used for any purpose which would adversely affect a property listed on the National Register, a review process must be initiated by the federal agency under procedures of the President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Also, it is important to know that even if a property is declared eligible for the National Register, but is not actually listed, it can still benefit from certain Register protections, including Advisory Council procedures.

National Register listing can also yield economic benefits. A property which meets the criteria established by the Secretary of the Interior for listing on the National Register may qualify for federal tax credits for the rehabilitation of income-producing (commercial, industrial, or rental/residential) buildings. Federal tax deductions are also available for easements on historically important land areas or structures.

### **3. Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA)**

The adoption of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act in 1991 provided one more mechanism for preserving our history. It funded projects considered "enhancements" to transportation activities. TEA-21 is the successor to the ISTEA legislation. TEA-21 incorporates the same philosophies as its predecessor. The following transportation enhancement activities are considered :

- Acquisition of historic sites
- Historic highway programs
- Historic preservation
- Rehabilitation and operation of historic buildings, structures or facilities (including historic railroad facilities and canals)
- Archaeological planning and research

#### *Eligibility Criteria*

##### 1. General criteria for all historic proposals:

- a. The proposed historic resource must be listed, or potentially eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) as determined by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). If the resource is not presently listed or eligible for listing on the NRHP, then a Determination of Eligibility (DOE) must be completed and processed through SHPO before submitting the application for funding.
- b. The project must have either a professional Historian, Architectural Historian, or Archaeologist who meets Federal qualifications as outlined in 36 CFR 61, serving in a

principal capacity on the project. The application must address how this criteria will be satisfied.

- c. A current or realistic planned use for building projects must be provided in the application.
- d. The current or previous transportation use of the historic resource must be included in the application.

2. Acquisition of Historic Sites:

- a. Qualifying activities must be related to a transportation facility.
- b. The current owner of the property must be willing to sell the property prior to the submission of the application.

3. Historic Highway Program:

Documentation of the highway's historic designation by the State of Florida or the Federal government must be included in the application.

4. Historic Preservation:

- a. Protection, rehabilitation, restoration, maintenance, management and stabilization projects must conform to the following requirements:
  - (1) Building projects located on roadsides or bike paths must be part of a corridor management plan. Documentation of the plan must be included in the application.
  - (2) The project must adhere to historic preservation principles. All rehabilitation and restoration work must meet the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitation*.
- b. Interpretation projects must be related to a transportation facility and material used in the interpretation must comply with all applicable Federal, State and local standards for historic preservation or archaeological studies.
- c. Identification, evaluation, recordation and documentation projects must adhere to the following requirements:
  - (1) Survey work must meet the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Identification and Evaluation*, including all applicable Federal, State and local standards;
  - (2) Recordation and documentation must meet the standards of the Historic American Building Survey or the Historic American Engineering Record; and,
  - (3) Documentation must be conducted according to the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historical Documentation*.

5. Rehabilitation and operation of historic transportation buildings, structures or facilities:

- a. Rehabilitation work must meet the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Rehabilitation*.
- b. The owner must be willing to accept a preservation covenant attached to the deed of the property.

6. Archaeological Planning and Research:

- a. All surveys must meet the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Survey and Evaluation*.
- b. Projects must have a research plan which meets all applicable Federal, State and local standards; and,
- c. Archaeological sites must be associated with transportation facilities currently or previously in use.

*Examples of Qualifying Activities:*

- Preservation and rehabilitation/renovation of historic train stations and depots.
- Preservation and renovation of historic lighthouses, boat houses, barge canals, etc.

*Examples of Non-Qualifying Activities:*

- Demolition and/or total reconstruction of historic resources.
- Relocation of historic resources due to the widening of, or other construction to, a transportation facility in which the relocation would be dealt with during right-of-way acquisition (normal mitigation activity of a construction project).