

Welcome to Bunnell

The City of Bunnell welcomes you to our community. Bunnell is the county seat for historic Flagler County, one of the oldest communities along the east coast of Florida. Bunnell is truly a town in transition. It is a town with an eye towards the future as part of one of the fastest growing counties in Florida without having lost its community heritage and historical roots.

This brochure has been designed to offer visitors to the city an introduction to some of its key historic sites. Equally important is the small town spirit of Bunnell. As you walk down the streets and sidewalks and talk to some of the residents you meet, you will better understand the heritage of the community.

Your walking tour starts at the heart of the town, the Flagler County Court House. The tour leads from there to several of the more significant structures in the community. This one-mile walk has been designed to provide you, our guests, with the opportunity to be introduced to our town. As you pass by each historic structure that is outlined in this brochure, take a moment to understand the contribution it made to a young and blossoming community in the late 1800s and early 1900s.



Bunnell City Hall (200 South Church Street)

If you listen carefully to the breeze that rustles the leaves of the great oak trees lining many of our streets, it will sometimes sound like the whispers of the founders of our community as they discuss their vision for Bunnell, Flagler County, and the entire State of Florida. Those whispers and the vision of the generations that have come before us are what the citizens of Bunnell are so proud of; however, it is difficult to quantify in this fast paced electronic age that we live in. Our heritage will embrace you as you walk from one contributing structure to the next and as you visit with the people of our community.

This is Bunnell Welcome

County/City History

The very early history of northeast Florida centered on several native Indian tribes, including the Timucuan and Seminoles that resided here. As western cultures began to arrive, many of the native Indian populations were lost either through conflict, slavery, or disease. The French, English, and Spanish governments battled over the ownership of Florida for close to 300 years. By the early 1800s, large plantations that focused on cash crops, like sugar cane and corn, were starting to appear in the area that was to become Flagler County. Flagler County, originally part of St. Johns and Volusia counties, was officially designated on July 1, 1917. The County was named after Henry Flagler who was once a partner of John Rockefeller and who pioneered the rail industry along the east coast of Florida, including a direct route from St. Augustine to Bunnell.



George Moody House
(1000 East Moody Boulevard)



Holden House (204 East Moody Boulevard)

The Town of Bunnell was officially incorporated as a town in 1911, but its history as a community starts back in the 1880s. As with many other communities in Florida, Bunnell owes its start, in part, to the railroad industry. Alvah Bunnell established a cypress shingle mill and promised to supply the fledgling rail business with wood for its wood burning locomotives. Bunnell Stop was the name identified on the earliest rail route. By 1900, Isaac I. Moody and others had developed a flourishing turpentine business in the Bunnell area. The name Moody would forever be tied to this area. Isaac I. Moody, J.R. Sloan, and James Frank "Major" Lambert formed the Bunnell Development Company in 1909. With that came the formation of Bunnell's roots. The town of Bunnell was platted, lots and property sold quickly, and new residents began to move in. The first permanent house was built by the Bunnell Development Company for James Frank "Major" Lambert in 1909. The first church (First United Methodist Church) was constructed in 1909 and the Bunnell State Bank opened in 1910. Records from the *Bunnell Home Builder*, an early periodical for the town, reported that the farms around Bunnell were small but successful in raising sugar cane, corn, sweet potatoes, cucumbers, and hay. Some refer to this farming lifestyle as the Florida Cracker Culture, which is exemplified by Florida's early agricultural roots. Many Floridians refer to the Cracker Culture with pride and gratitude for a livelihood that was based on family, farm, and community. These are all at the root of this unique community.

References: 1. "Bunnell Historical Trail," by Steve Rajtar, 1999.
2. The Florida Department of Transportation Cultural Resource Assessment (CRAS), SR 100.

Scenic and Heritage Highways in Florida

The Florida Scenic Highway Program (FSHP) has been an ongoing economic development and preservation tool that was established in 1993 by the State of Florida. This volunteer-based program is a grassroots effort to promote the awareness of Florida's resources. *The FSHP Mission Statement is to: Help Florida Communities deliver high-quality experiences to visitors.* The FSHP is funded in part by the Federal Highway Administration and in part by the Florida Department of Transportation. It is a designation given to select Florida roadways that promote unique intrinsic characteristics that are native to Florida. The Heritage Crossroads: Miles of History is primarily focused on promoting the heritage of this community, but also maintains that the scenic components are just as integral to the richness of this area.

Thank You for Visiting!



www.heritagecrossroads.org

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Walking Tour of Historic Bunnell



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Heritage Crossroads:
Miles of History Heritage Highway



Tour Sites

1 Original Flagler County Court House The former Flagler County Court House (no longer in use) is located on the south side of East Moody Boulevard between Church Street and Pine Street. This public building was constructed around 1926 in a Neoclassical style and was dedicated on July 28, 1927. The cost of construction was slightly less than \$100,000. The court house is significant locally for its association with the early history of Flagler County and the county seat of Bunnell. The building is also significant as an example of the architectural vision of noted Florida architect Wilbur Talley.

2 Bunnell City Hall The City Hall was built by Zachary Dean Holland in 1936 with Work Progress Administration (WPA) and City of Bunnell funds. The stone foundation is constructed entirely of coquina, which was quarried between Bunnell and Flagler Beach. The men cut the coquina with hatchets to produce the flat- faced smooth walls. The shield above the entrance was also cut by hand and the lintel, or stone work, over the doors was cut into wedges to support the arches. Lake Lucille, located in front of City Hall, was once a cypress swamp. Workers shoveled mud out of the hole into wheelbarrows, then deposited it behind the building to form the lake.

3 Old Bunnell State Bank This Masonry Vernacular building is located on the corner of East Moody Boulevard and Railroad Avenue. The Bunnell Development Company constructed this circa 1910 building. The Bunnell State Bank was originally located on the southeast corner of Moody Boulevard and Railroad Street. The Bunnell State Bank was then moved across the railroad tracks to the new bank building in 1917 on the northwest corner of Moody Boulevard and Bay Streets, where the building stands to this day. After the bank failed, a new bank, the Citizens Bank of Bunnell, took its place in this building. The building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

4 Bunnell Masonic Lodge #200 In 1910 Daniel Martin (Uncle Dan) Deen, who previously served as Worshipful Master of a Masonic Lodge in Holmesville, GA was appointed Master U. D. to organize a Masonic lodge in Bunnell. Under his direction, this lodge #200 was established in 1912. This building has remained a Masonic lodge since is construction in 1946.

5 Original Phone Exchange This little red building housed the original telephone switching equipment for Southern Bell and was built sometime before 1939. Its location is on US 1 between Lambert Street and Moody Boulevard.

6 Holden House This house was constructed in 1918 and is an excellent example of the Craftsman Bungalow construction style, including a large front dormer and a deep-set front porch. The Holden House exhibits the use of coquina, a native stone quarried in north Florida. The home was originally built for Mr. and Mrs. Tom Holden as a wedding gift. They raised their two daughters, Alta Jane and Eleanor, and continued to reside there until the 1970s. Currently, this building is known as the Holden House Museum. It is owned by Flagler County and operated by the Flagler County Historical Society. As you enter the house, the room to the right of the living room was used for their music room, which had a piano and phonograph. The sun



Original Flagler County Court House
(201 East Moody Boulevard)



Little Red School House
(800 East Howe Street)



William Henry "Doc" Deen House
(805 East Moody Boulevard)

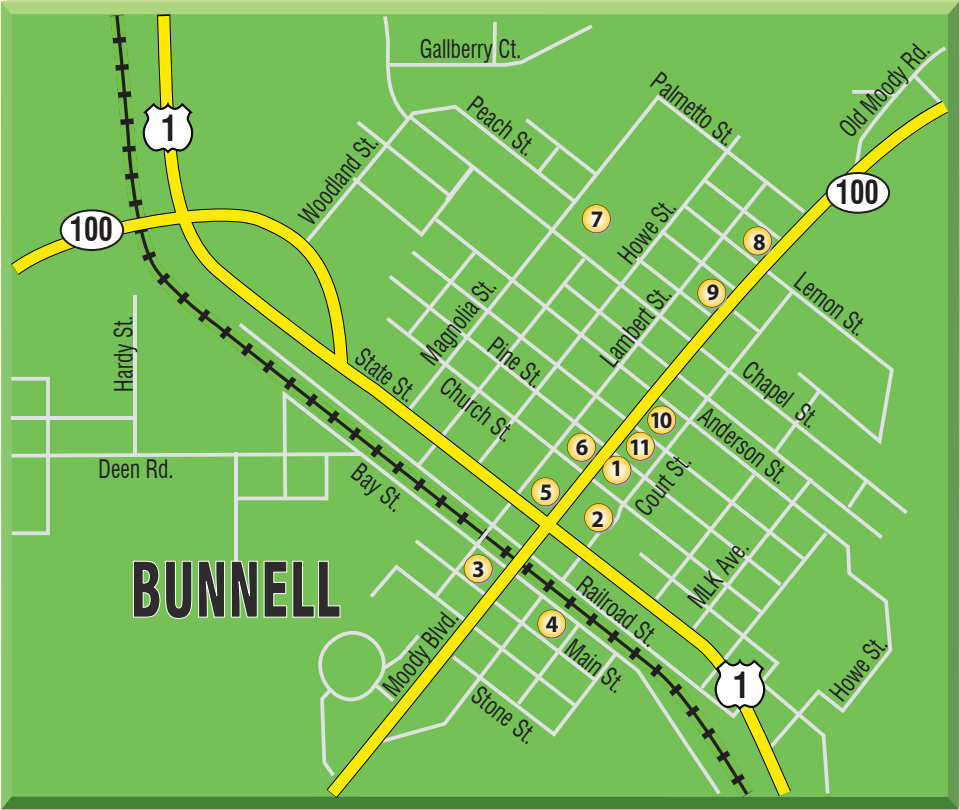


The Flagler Playhouse
(301 East Moody Boulevard)



Bunnell Masonic Lodge (109 South Bay Street)

porch was added during the mid-1930s, and Mrs. Holden had the floor of the porch painted in bright colors depicting the sun rising. The kitchen hasn't changed much except for the addition of modern appliances. The room off the kitchen was originally used as Mrs. Holden's sewing room and a play room for the children. The house, when built, had one of the few indoor bathrooms in Bunnell. The bathroom downstairs was added in later years. The upstairs front room was the Holden's bedroom, which opened to the screened porch. When the house was built, the gable over the front porch was inset with pieces of apothecary bottles. When the sun porch was added, the gable was inset with antique colored glass and old pieces of dishes. The Flagler Tribune (now the Flagler-Palm Coast News-Tribune) collection as well as many old pictures and memorabilia of days gone by are now on display in the Holden House annex.



Old Bunnell State Bank (101-107 North Bay Street)



Original Phone Exchange (US 1 and Lambert Street)

7 Little Red School House This building is located on the Bunnell Elementary School campus (Flagler County School System property), so access is restricted. This school house was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in February 2007. For appointments please call (386) 437-3691.

8 Lloyd Alfred Jett House This one-story residence was constructed around 1924 in a Frame Vernacular building tradition.

9 George Moody House This circa 1917 building is an excellent example of the Craftsman Style with its one-and-one-half story wood frame structure, full width porch, and gabled roof. This building's historic fabric remains completely intact except for the roofing materials. George was Isaac I. Moody's brother, one of the founders of Flagler County. George was prominent in the development of Ocean City (now Flagler Beach) where he was elected its first Mayor in 1925. As a beach developer, Mr. Moody serving as President of the Ocean City Improvement Company, built the Ocean City Casino and two hotels that looked out to the Atlantic Ocean.

10 William Henry "Doc" Deen House This building was built in 1918 in a Frame Vernacular style. Mr. Deen was an early Irish potato farmer who became the Department of Agriculture Farm Demonstrator for Flagler County. The small wood frame playhouse located directly east of Mr. Deen's home was constructed to mimic the architecture of the main house.

11 The Flagler Playhouse This building sits on the site of the original First Baptist Church of Bunnell. It is now being used as a venue for plays and musical productions. The original church was formerly housed in a theater located here which was constructed in 1925. The old theater was purchased by Fred Willis Hooper and his wife Ella Mae Robinson who, in turn, sold it to the Baptist Church shortly after it was organized. The former building was torn down in the 1950s and replaced with the current church facility, which was dedicated on July 12, 1959.

