Apalachicola History

Visitors to Apalachicola immediately know that they are in a very special place. Apalachicola is synonymous with character and authenticity. Its colorful past remains very visible today through its many historic buildings, homes and historic sites. The original town plan, developed in the 1830s, remains intact. It features wide tree-lined streets, rows of brick and granite cotton warehouses, a working waterfront and a charming commercial center. Ship’s stores, old net factories and a sponge warehouse now house a mix of eclectic and discretely sophisticated shops, restaurants and galleries. These locally owned and operated businesses create a quaint and friendly atmosphere for visitors as well as local residents. Far from a typical “tourists town”, the waterfront is dotted with fishing vessels proudly showing the patina of years of service. The seafood industry is the highlight of our maritime legacy. The business district is interwoven with oyster houses, shrimp packing plants and an original ice house. Restaurants are nationally noted for using locally harvested seafood, produce and tupelo honey. The community’s arts and cultural programs have evolved from historic roots and continue to be housed in 19th century buildings, churches and significant homes. Apalachicola was named one of the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Dozen Distinctive Destinations in 2008.
In the 1920s, it has since served as a bus station, (The Grady Market and The Consulate Luxury Suites). Citizens who shipped timber and other goods. 76 Water Street and general store. The French government maintained a wide and 3 stories high along the river. East corner of Avenue E and Commerce Street.

120 men were employed in the sponge trade in Apalachicola. Hall is one of two that remain today. 1 Avenue E. Cotton warehouses along the waterfront. Apalachicola City Chamber. Start your visit here with information on sights, tours. Corner of Market Street and Avenue F.

The Marks/Clark House. Originally built in St. White Plains, New York and assembled with wooden pegs around the Florida Keys. It was then assembled on the bluff overlooking the Apalachicola River. Open Thursday - Monday. 177 5th Street.

The Flatauer House. Built in 1908-09 for Adolph Flatauer, the house was completely renovated as a bank. Now serves as a B&B. Corner 6th Avenue and E and 5th Street.

Corner of 5pm. 177 5th Street. The block-long park consists of the Circle of Freedom walkway and the striking Three Servicemen Statue Detail, a bronze sculpture by Fredrick Hart that depicts a realistic image of Vietnam servicemen. Located on 230 Market Street just north of downtown.

The Holy Family Center has been an integral part of the Apalachicola community, its religious beliefs and burial traditions. Former Catholic church and school now renovated to a multifaceted senior center and cultural hub. The Holy Family Center has been an important part of the Hillside community dating back to 1920. 23rd St. Dr. Frederick Humphries Street.

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Three Servicemen Statue South. Veterans Memorial Plaza was created in 2008 to honor veterans for their service to our country. The block-long park consists of the Circle of Freedom walkway and the striking Three Servicemen Statue Detail, a bronze sculpture by Fredrick Hart that depicts a realistic image of Vietnam servicemen. Located on 230 Market Street just north of downtown.

The Orman House.Built in 1885 by Antone E. Messina was a physician and friend of Dr. John Gorrie. He also wrote the Flora of the Southern United States. Corner of Avenue E and 6th Street.

The Greek-Revival Raney House, completed in 1838 by David Greenway Raney. The Apalachicola Historical Society gives tours. Corner of Market Street and Avenue F.

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Trinity Episcopal Church. This Greek Revival building was shipped in sections by schooner from White Plains, New York and assembled with wooden pegs in 1838. Its early members included Dr. John Gorrie and botanist Dr. Alvin Chapman. 79 Street.

Coombs House Inn. This house was considered the most elegant residence in Apalachicola when James N. Coombs, a local lumber magnate, built it in 1905. A classic Queen Anne style home with ornate staircase and verandas, it is currently a B & B. 80 Avenue E.

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