



South Brevard Historical Society, Inc.

Founded 1966

E Newsletter

October 2022

***SATURDAY, October 8th**

3:00 pm

MELBOURNE PUBLIC LIBRARY

540 E. Fee Avenue, Melbourne

Mask wearing may be appropriate

JOIN US FOR OUR MONTHLY PROGRAM MEETING:

GREEN GABLES

A Look Back

And

Looking Forward

PRESENTATIONS BY.....

MARION AMBROSE

.....current President and “woman of all trades” who leads today’s work to preserve and restore Green Gables. Marion will explain the plan to complete the purchase, repair and restore this historic home. Find out how you can participate and be part of this community effort.

.....and

CARL ANDREN

past board member and “handy man” volunteer who will share photos of the house when the preservation by the not for profit Green Gables at Historic Riverview Village began the journey to save and restore this special site.



DEAR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS,

I hope this newsletter finds you, your loved ones and your neighbors having come through Hurricane Ian safely and with no or minimal mess to your property. I renew my appreciation for our modern utilities and services whenever there's a threat such as we have just experienced. It may last only for a short time....but I have a sense of relief when I flick on a light switch and the room lights up!

Reports on the Harvest Festival at Green Gables were positive, even glowing. Unfortunately, we had to cancel our booth because three team members came down with Covid. Being part of local events has been a good way to spread the word about the SBHS as well as to present information and resources to the interested public. As Covid restrictions ease we can look forward to building attendance at our meetings and getting the "story" out to the public by being part of local events. If you'd like to be involved in creating displays and handouts, let us know through....

contact@southbrevardhistory.org.

Last month's special feature on the SBHS publication "Historic Florida" and stereoscopes resulted in a very positive response. I admit that I had to "tear myself away" from the subject in order to finish the newsletter and get it emailed out. If you have a special interest in the subject, maybe even a stereoscope, and would like to share it sometime with other SBHS members, please let me know. Copies of "Historic Florida" will be available (for a donation) at our October meeting.

We look forward to seeing you very soon at the Fee Avenue library.

Carol

Carol Andren, President SBHS
(321.725.4115)

THINGS TO DO:



GREEN GABLES: NIGHTMARE ON FOGGY BLUFF

Wed. Oct. 19th – Sun. Oct. 23rd 7pm-11pm

Don't miss this scary but fun Halloween event
when Green Gables is transformed into Foggy Bluff.

Go to <https://greengables.org> for more information and to order tickets.

Please note: There will be no Open House during the month of October. Monthly Open House will resume on Saturday, November 5th.

FIELD MANOR Annual Oyster and Fish Fry

October 29th 3 – 7 PM an Excellent Experience

For more information: Phone 321.848.0365 or go to www.fieldmanor.org

SBHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers: President, Carol Andren; Vice Presidents, Denise Bozeman and Jim Poulos; Secretary, Barbara Arthur; Treasurer, Annita Full. Directors: Martha Beaujean Collins, Rick Dillen, Wiley Elliott, Kathy Harbaugh, Diane Newman, Janie Stewart.

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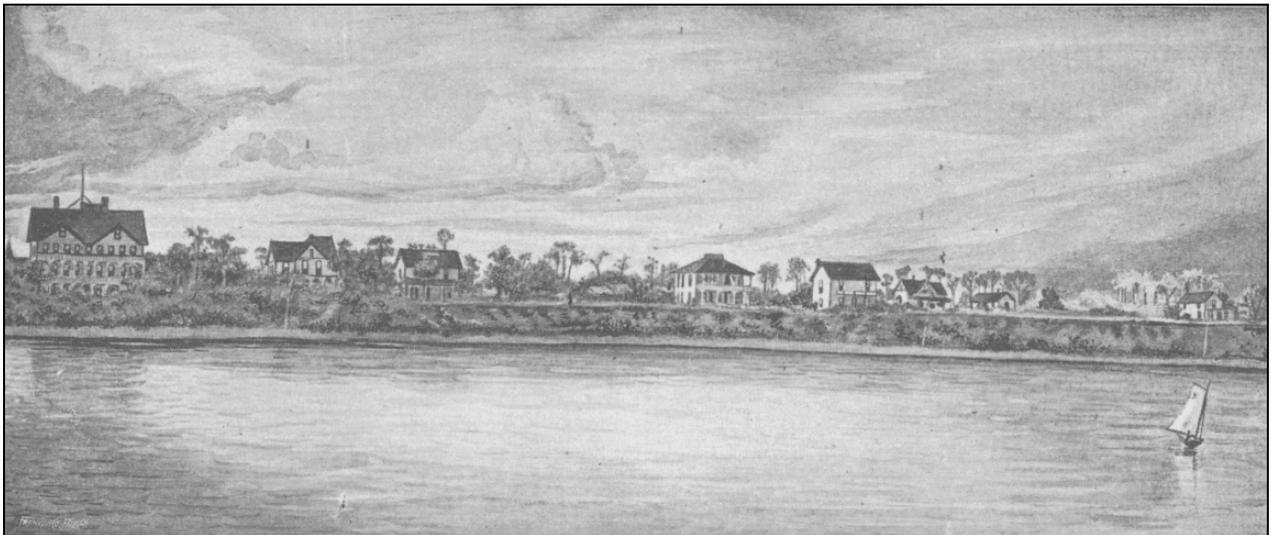
Visit us at: www.southbrevardhistory.org

SPECIAL FEATURE:

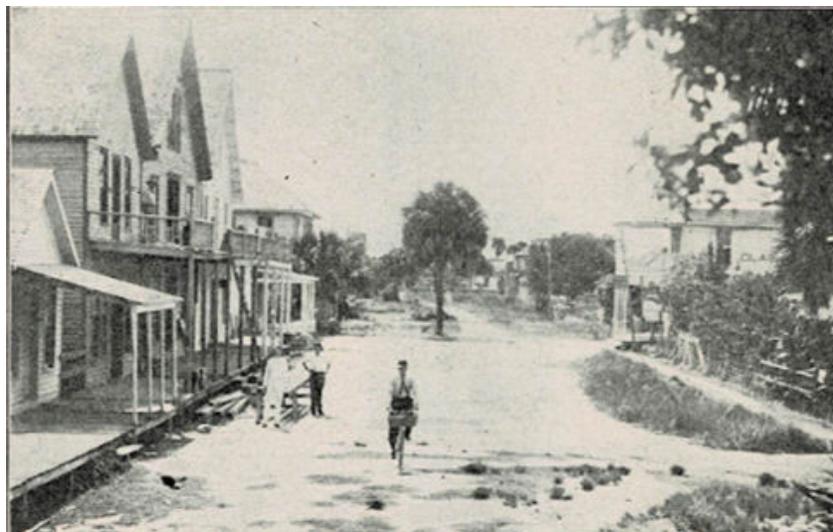
WHAT DID WILLIAM T. AND NORA WELLS SEE WHEN THEY VISITED MELBOURNE IN 1894?

From January through March of 1894, the Wells traveled throughout Florida enjoying the mild climate that was to heal Nora's bout with pneumonia. By the end of their journey both had benefited from the change from the New York winter weather. After visiting such places as Palatka, Winter Park, Jupiter and Lake Wales they seemed to have been especially impressed by Melbourne. So much so that they purchased "a large tract of land" and decided to build a "cottage" (now known as Green Gables) for themselves.

IN HIS WORDS: From W.T. Wells letter to "THE MELBOURNE TIMES" of April 4th, 1896.
... "The very first day of our stay here (Melbourne) we found congenial people and as the week went by we stayed on enjoying the good fishing, sailing and other out door amusements – and last but not least, gaining health and strength daily from the fine pure dry air."
... "It is a common remark among the visitors they they never before saw a small town where there were so many pleasant people and where every one appeared to be happy."

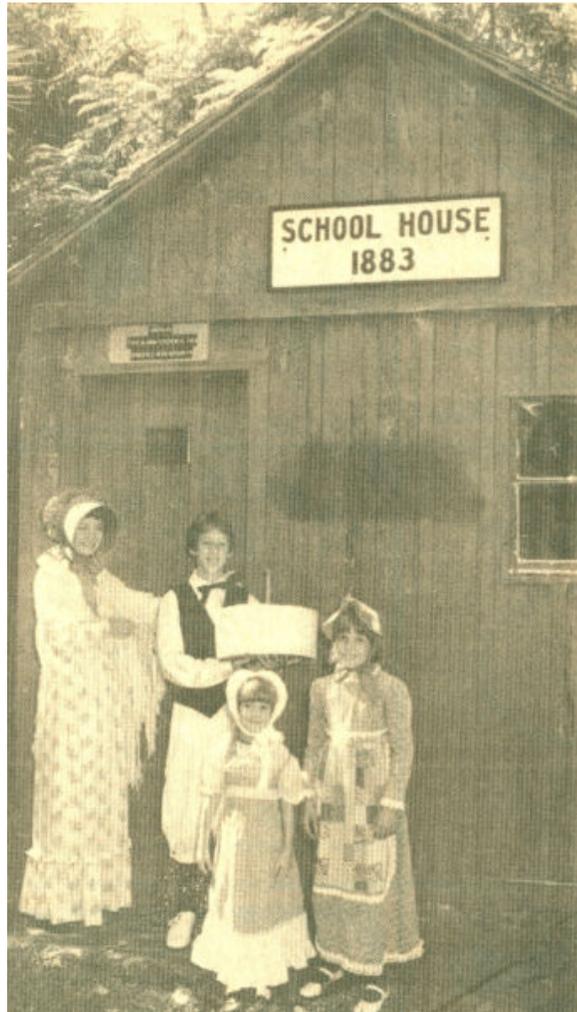


"Sunset on the Bluff" as sketched by Louis J. Hole (from the Kellersberger publication "Melbourne Sketches")



Front Street, the shopping district

THE TRYSTING STEPS



THE SCHOOL

The Little Red Schoolhouse now on the grounds of FIT