

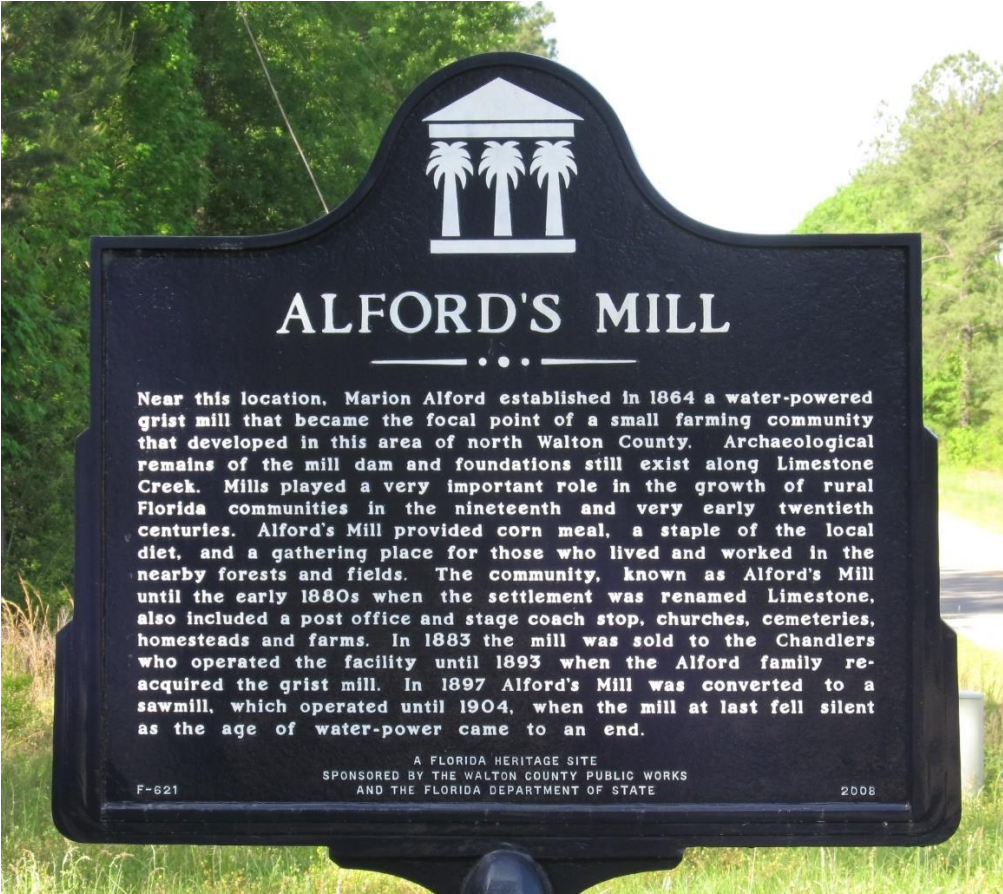
Historical Markers

Alfords Mill

1791 OAK GROVE RD, WESTVILLE, FL 32464

Just prior to 1860, Francis Marion Alford, Sr. selected Limestone Creek for his grist mill. The numerous springs feeding the creek created a good flow of water even during a severe drought. This particular site was chosen for its high banks on both sides of the creek, simplifying the installation of a weir (barrier). Construction was completed probably in early 1864. Soon this site became the focal point of the community. A post office was established as well as a stage coach stop. Alford's Mill is also denoted on Yankee invasion maps. Marion sold the mill in 1883 and the post office was changed from Alford's Mill to Limestone. The mill came back into the Alford family in 1897 when William David (Shug) Alford and his father-in-law, Ace Washington Dannelley, purchased the old mill and converted it into a saw mill. They operated the saw mill until 1904. Many stories have been handed down about how during the last years of the Civil War, many hungry mouths were furnished bread from the Alford's Mill.

N30° 59' 18.427" W86° 3' 36.805"



CHAUTAUQUA HALL OF BROTHERHOOD

95 CIRCLE DR, DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FL 32435

The original Chautauqua Institution was founded in 1874 on Lake Chautauqua in western New York state as a vacation school for Sunday school teachers. The idea of providing a retreat for improving religious and secular education for the general public spread rapidly throughout the nation in the 1880s, giving birth to independent Chautauquas that became platforms for discussion of the latest thinking in politics, economics, literature, science and religion. The first Florida Chautauqua convened on the banks of Lake DeFuniak in 1885. It was the second Chautauqua founded in America and was one of many nationwide attracted noted educators and famous lecturers. The Hall of Brotherhood, containing an auditorium seating 4,000 people was completed in 1910 at a cost of \$28,000. By the beginning of the 20th century the national Chautauqua movement had declined and the Florida Chautauqua closed in 1920. The Hall of Brotherhood was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1972, but in 1975 a hurricane destroyed the auditorium wing and severely damaged the rest of the structure. Since then, there has been an ongoing program to fully restore the building.

N30° 43' 0.439"

W86° 6' 57.391"



COSSON FAMILY TRAGEDY - SITE OF ACCIDENTAL BOMBING, 08-11-1944

1172 COSSON RD, DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FL 32435

In 1936, James Marvin Cosson Sr. moved his family to this location about one-half mile east of the Eglin Army Airfield to have more land to farm and to provide for his wife, Annie Bell Cosson, and their four children. During World War II, Eglin Airfield served as a major testing and training ground for bombing missions. The Army Air Corps regularly performed training missions at the Eglin bombing range, located about three miles west of the Cosson home. On the evening of August 11, 1944, as nine members of the Cosson family gathered at the house to socialize, live fragmentation bombs accidentally began to fall on the family homestead. Two bombs fell near the house, killing four and seriously injuring five members of the Cosson family. The accident occurred during a normal bombing test run and was attributed to the failure of a mechanical releasing device, which caused the aircraft's bombs not to be released until after the plane had traveled past the bombing test area. Other training accidents took place in Florida during World War II, but the Cosson family tragedy was the worst of the war. In 1980, Congress passed a bill providing a yearly payment to the most seriously injured survivor of the Cosson family tragedy.

N30° 39' 16.323" W86° 10' 28.756"



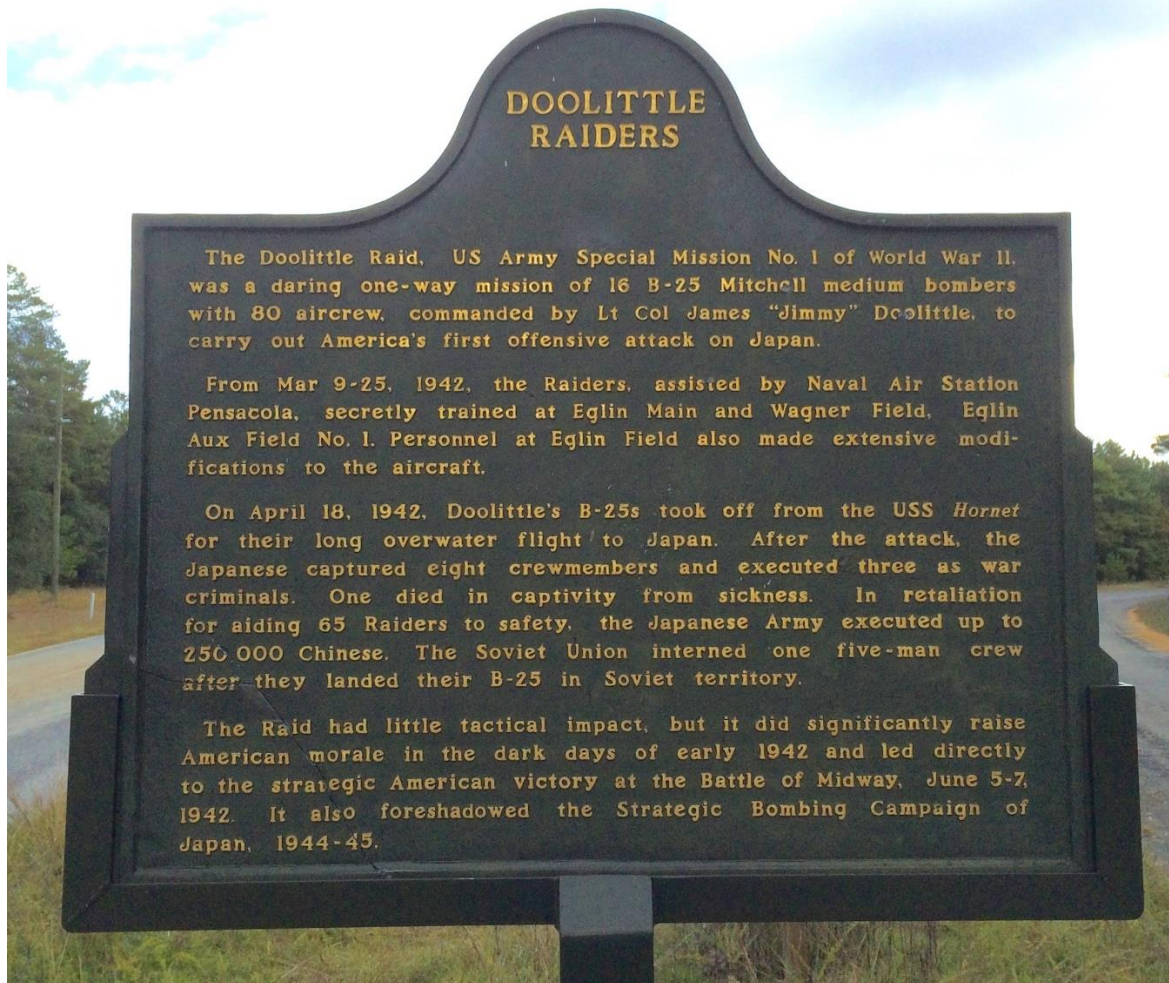
DOOLITTLE RAIDERS

13621 BOB SIKES RD, EGLIN AIR FORCE BASE

The Doolittle Raid, U.S. Army Special Mission No. 1 of World War II, was a daring one-way mission of 16 B-25 Mitchell medium bombers with 80 aircrew, commanded by Lt Col James "Jimmy" Doolittle to carry out America's first offensive attack on Japan. From Mar 9-25, 1942, the Raiders, assisted by Naval Air Station Pensacola, secretly trained at Eglin Main and Wagner Field, Eglin Aux Field No. 1. Personnel at Eglin Field also made extensive modifications to the aircraft. On April 18, 1942, Doolittle's B-25s took off from the USS Hornet for their long overwater flight to Japan. After the attack, the Japanese captured eight crewmembers and executed three as war criminals. One died in captivity from sickness. In retaliation for aiding 65 Raiders to safety, the Japanese Army executed up to 250,000 Chinese. The Soviet Union interned one five-man crew after they landed their B-25 in Soviet territory. The raid had little tactical impact, but it did significantly raise American morale in the dark days of early 1942 and led directly to the strategic American victory at the Battle of Midway, June 5-7, 1942. It also foreshadowed the Strategic Bombing Campaign of Japan, 1944-45.

N30° 41' 1.457"

W86° 21' 30.303"

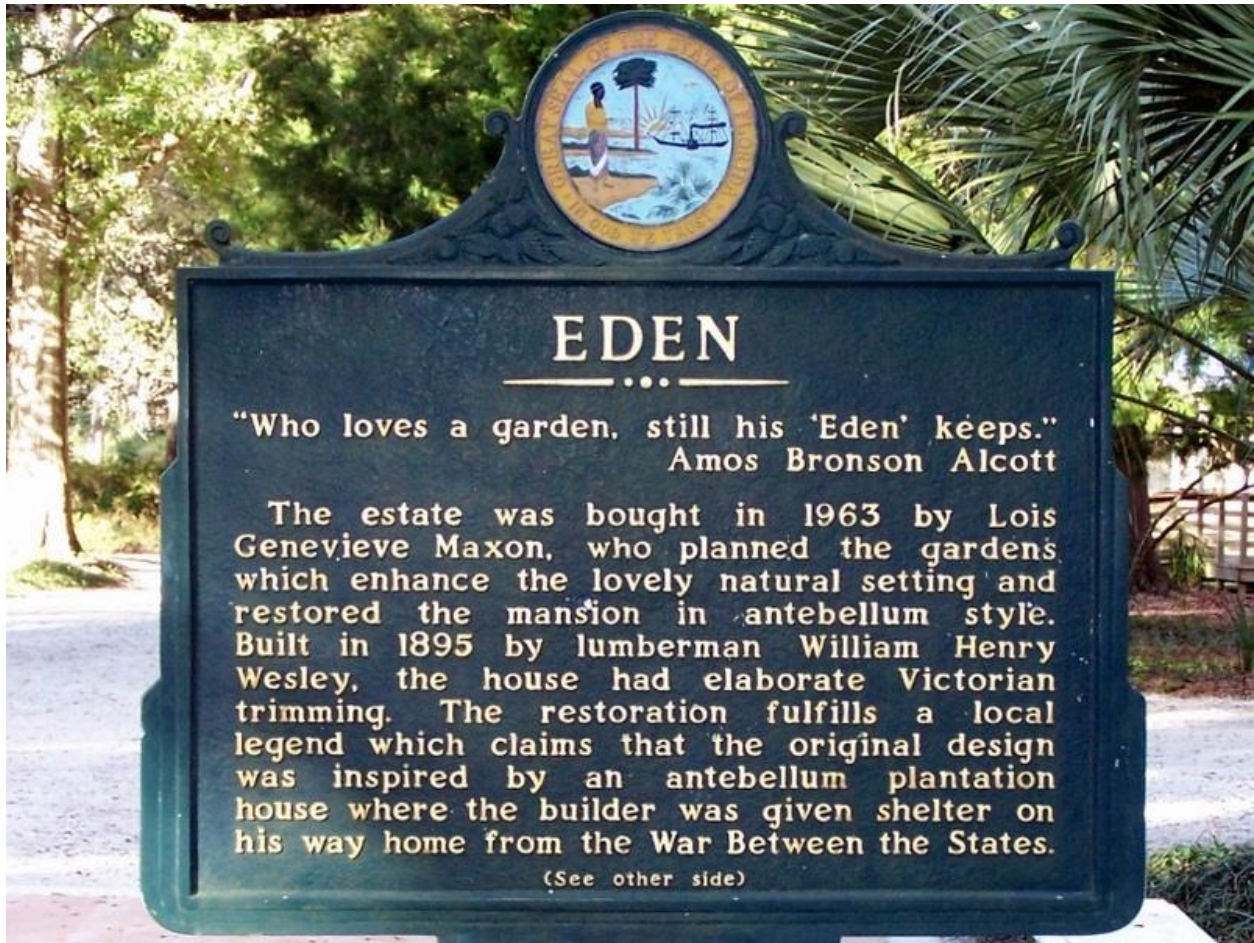


EDEN (EDEN STATE PARK)

181 EDEN GARDENS RD, SANTA ROSA BEACH, FL 32459

"Who loves a garden, still his 'Eden' keeps." Amos Bronson Alcott The estate was bought in 1963 by Lois Genevieve Maxon, who planned the gardens which enhance the lovely natural setting and restored the mansion in antebellum style. Built in 1895 by lumberman William Henry Wesley, the house had elaborate Victorian trimming. The restoration fulfills a local legend which claims that the original design was inspired by an antebellum plantation house where the builder was given shelter on his way from the War Between the States. Wesley's lumber partner and father-in-law, Simeon Strickland, had an identical house nearby, of which a portion still stands. Traces of their mill, where lumber for the two houses was cut, may still be seen on the "Eden" grounds.

N30° 22' 16.638" W86° 7' 5.801"

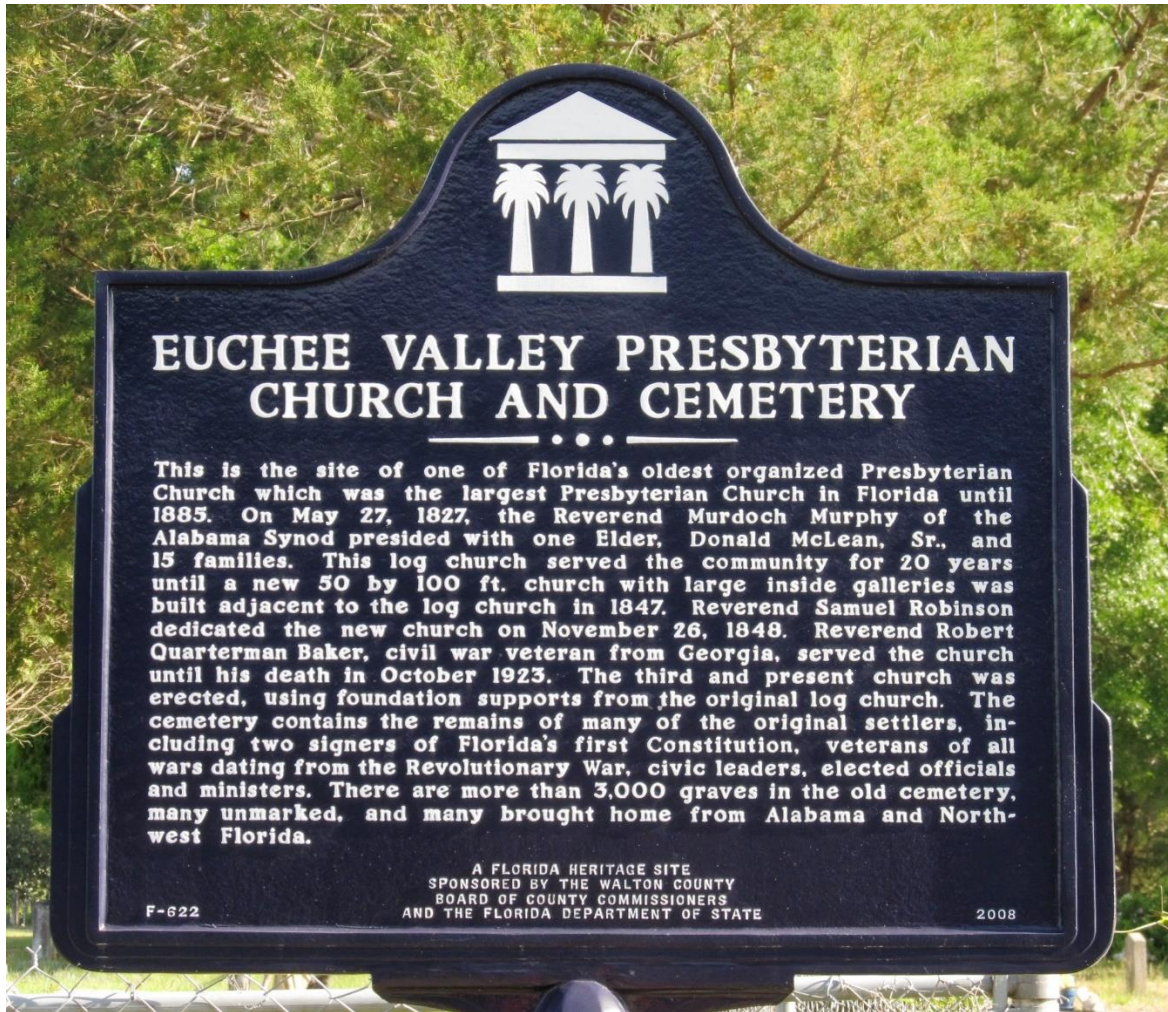


EUCHE VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AND CEMETERY

5575 CO HIGHWAY 183 S, DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FL 32435

This is the site of one of Florida's oldest organized Presbyterian Church which was the largest Presbyterian Church in Florida until 1885. On May 27, 1827, the Reverend Murdoch Murphy of the Alabama Synod presided with one Elder, Donald McLean, Sr., and 15 families. This log church served the community for 20 years until a new 50 by 100 ft. church with large inside galleries was built adjacent to the log church on November 26, 1848. Reverend Robert Quarterman Baker, civil war veteran from Georgia, served the church until his death in October 1923. The third and present church was erected, using foundation supports from the original log church. The cemetery contains the remains of many original settlers, including two signers of Florida's first Constitution, veterans of all wars dating from the Revolutionary War, civic leaders, elected officials and ministers. There are more than 3,000 graves in the old cemetery, many unmarked, and many brought home from Alabama and Northwest Florida.

N30° 39' 11.042" W86° 0' 7.445"



EUCHEEANNA COMMUNITY

301 MCKINNON BRIDGE RD, PONCE DE LEON, FL 32455

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N30° 39' 11.042" W86° 0' 7.445"



FLORIDA'S FIRST CONFEDERATE MONUMENT

571 US HIGHWAY 90 E, DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FL 32433

Shortly after the Civil War, the women of Walton County organized a "Ladies' Memorial Association," with Jeannet I. McKinnon as president, to erect a marble monument honoring Walton County's Confederate dead. The Association raised \$250, and the monument was first erected in 1871 at Valley Church. It was moved to Euclee Anna, the county seat, and then to DeFuniak Springs when it became the county seat.

N30° 43' 16.442" W86° 6' 41.932"



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E-147

FLORIDA BOARD OF PARKS AND HISTORIC MEMORIALS

1967

FLORIDA EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

95 CIRCLE DR, DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FL 32435

Florida teachers and administrators numbering 700 met here in Chautauqua Hall for a "teachers institute" called the Florida Chautauqua. The meeting was called to order by J.A. Graham, City Superintendent of Schools, Key West, at 12:30 p.m., on Thursday March 4, 1886. The major purpose of the gathering was a short but intensive training period mainly in subject matter fields, for many teachers were mere "grammar school grads." Here was the beginning of the Florida Education Association. A separate black teachers' association was formed in 1890. On July 1, 1966 the black and white organizations merged. The name Florida Education Association was continued for this combined organization and, in 1975, the word "United" was added when FEA and Florida's American Federation of Teachers merged. The Florida Education Association has become a symbol of the achievements of the past and an inspiration to those who will promote excellence for Florida's public schools, colleges, and universities in the future.

N30° 43' 16.442"

W86° 6' 57.688"



FREEPORT MASONIC HALL

314 MADISON ST, FREEPORT 32439

Herman Lodge No. 108 F.&A.M. was chartered January 16, 1889 in DeFuniak Springs and originally met in a structure in the area of Freeport known as "Tucker Town". On June 19, 1901, the lodge building burned down and was replaced with this structure near the banks of Four Mile Creek. The building was constructed of native lumber. The building was disassembled and re-erected in its current location at the intersection of Madison Street and North Street in 1903. The building has been in continuous use as a Masonic Lodge from that point forward. The building is an excellent example of the vernacular commercial and public buildings built in the early 1900's utilizing the false parapet facade. The lower floor of the building was rented to the J.J. McCaskill Mercantile Company from 1908-1916 for use as "The People's Cash Store". In 1925, the Order of the Eastern Star was granted use of the building. In 1950, the Boy Scouts, 4-H Club and the Home Woodsmen of the World and the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Woodsmen also rented the Lodge for their meetings. The Freeport Masonic Hall is at the heart of the historic center of the original City of Freeport. It is one of the few historic structures intact and in use and is a landmark beloved to the people of Freeport.

N30° 43' 2.034"

W86° 6' 57.688"

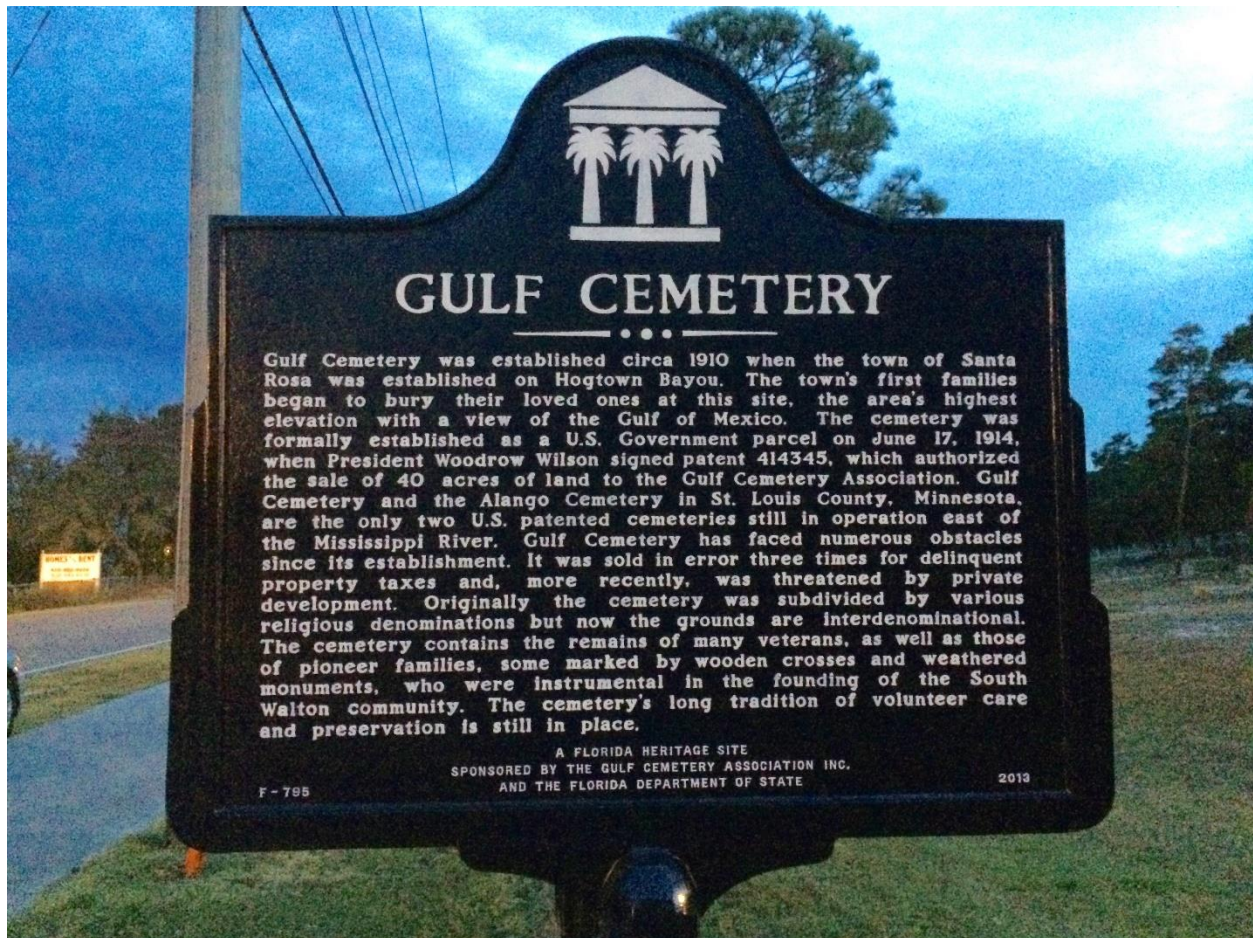


GULF CEMETERY

1316 S CO HIGHWAY 393, SANTA ROSA BEACH, FL 32459

Gulf Cemetery was established circa 1910 when the town of Santa Rosa was established on Hogtown Bayou. The town's first families began to bury their loved ones at this site, the area's highest elevation with a view of the Gulf of Mexico. The cemetery was formally established as a U.S. Government parcel on June 17, 1914, when President Woodrow Wilson signed patent 414345, which authorized the sale of 40 acres of land to the Gulf Cemetery Association. Gulf Cemetery and the Alango Cemetery in St. Louis County, Minnesota, are the only two U.S. patented cemeteries still in operation east of the Mississippi River. Gulf Cemetery has faced numerous obstacles since its establishment. It was sold in error three times for delinquent property taxes and, more recently, was threatened by private development. Originally the cemetery was subdivided by various religious denominations but now the grounds are interdenominational. The cemetery contains the remains of many veterans, as well as those of pioneer families, some marked by wooden crosses and weathered monuments, who were instrumental in the founding of the South Walton community. The cemetery's long tradition of volunteer care and preservation is still in place.

N30° 21' 14.672" W86° 13' 47.564"



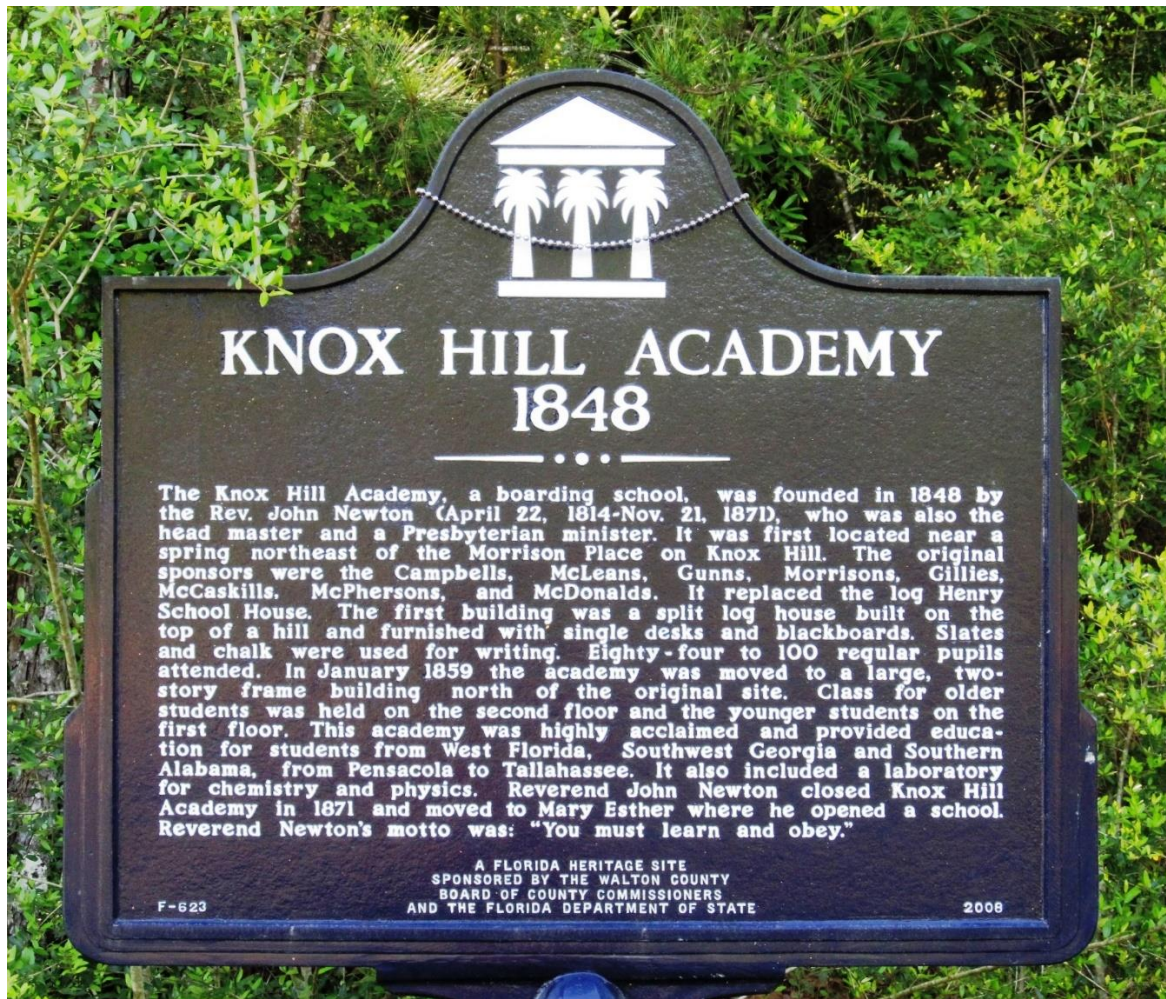
KNOX HILL ACADEMY

3907 KNOX HILL RD, PONCE DE LEON, FL 32455

The Knox Hill Academy, a boarding school, was founded in 1848 by the Rev. John Newton (April 22, 1814-Nov. 21, 1871), who was also the head master and a Presbyterian minister. It was first located near a spring northeast of the Morrison Place on Knox Hill. The original sponsors were the Campbells, McLeans, Gunns, Morrisons, Gillies, McCaskills, McPhersons, and McDonalds. It replaced the log Henry School House. The first building was a split log house built on the top of a hill and furnished with single desks and blackboards. Slates and chalk were used for writing. Eighty-four to 100 regular pupils attended. In January 1859 the academy was moved to a large, two-story frame building north of the original site. Class for older students was held on the second floor and the younger students on the first floor. This academy was highly acclaimed and provided education for students from West Florida, Southwest Georgia and Southern Alabama, from Pensacola to Tallahassee. It also included a laboratory for chemistry and physics. Reverend John Newton closed Knox Hill Academy in 1871 and moved to Mary Esther where he opened a school. Reverend Newton's motto was: "You must learn and obey."

N30° 38' 29.708"

W85° 57' 27.672"



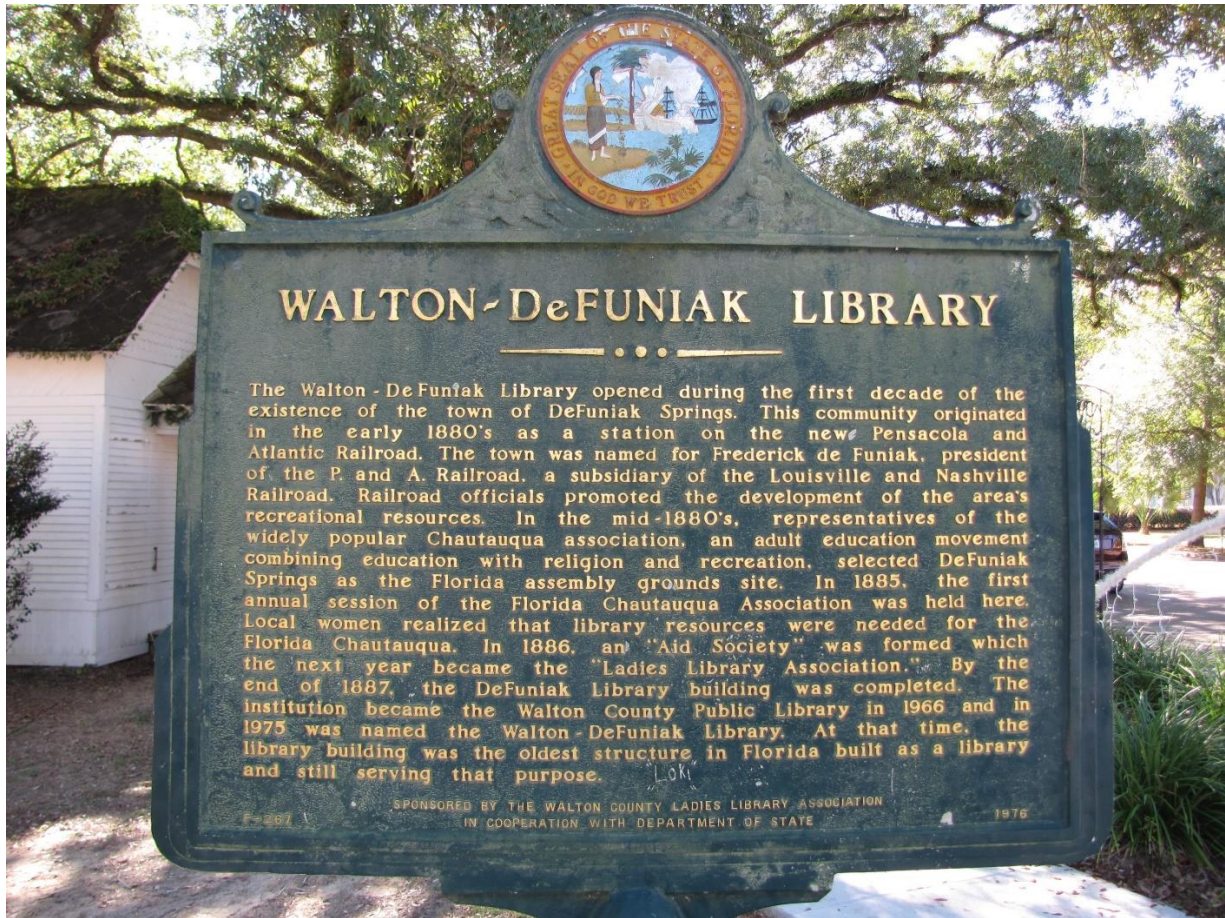
WALTON-DEFUNIAK LIBRARY

3 CIRCLE DR, DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FL 32435

The Walton-DeFuniak Library opened during the first decade of the existence of the town of DeFuniak Springs. This community originated in the early 1880's as a station on the new Pensacola and Atlantic Railroad. The town was named for Frederick de Funiak, president of the P. and A. Railroad, a subsidiary of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. Railroad officials promoted the development of the area's recreational resources. In the mid-1880's, representatives of the widely popular Chautauqua association, an adult education movement combining education with religion and recreation, selected DeFuniak Springs as the Florida assembly grounds site. In 1885, the first annual session of the Florida Chautauqua Association was held here. Local women realized that library resources were needed for the Florida Chautauqua. In 1886, an "Aid Society" was formed which the next year became the "Ladies Library Association." By the end of 1887, the DeFuniak Library building was completed. The institution became the Walton County Public Library in 1966 and in 1975 was named the Walton-DeFuniak Library. At that time, the library building was the oldest structure in Florida built as a library and still serving that purpose.

N30° 43' 6.304"

W86° 6' 56.898"



WALTON-DeFUNIAK LIBRARY

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