

Sulphur Springs Heritage Project Project Director: Dr. Antoinette Jackson



The Sulphur Springs Hotel and Apartments (the Sulphur Springs Arcade) was recorded on the Historic American Building Survey (HABS) in 1982 (HABS # FL-355). The building was torn-down in 1976.

- USF *Heritage Research and Resource Management Lab* stated mission: ***Develop applied research projects in collaboration with communities and civic organizations interested in preserving and promoting heritage as a key cultural resource for education and empowerment of all community residents and visitors.***

Question(s): How can we work together to advance heritage preservation in your community? How can communities work together to enhance, support, and promote heritage preservation activities for educating residents and visitors?

- The Sulphur Springs Heritage project is part of an ongoing commitment by the University of South Florida designed to address the rising interest in, and need for, heritage management by communities, civic organizations, and other groups focused on preserving the past as a key cultural resource.
 - It directly responds to the mission and goals as outlined by the Board of Directors of the Sulphur Springs Museum and Heritage Center (Joseph Robinson-President; Norma Robinson-Preservation committee director).
 - Work began in the Fall of 2006 by USF students and faculty and will continue with subsequent teams of interested students and faculty.

USF Sulphur Springs Heritage Project team

Active participants: Dr. Antoinette Jackson (Project Director), Richard Estabrook, Juan Ruiz, Courtney Spillane, and Alisha Winn.

Key contributors: CJ Brown, Timothy Burke, Nicole Shelnut, Gregory Smith, and Roger Villamar.

Key Activities/Deliverables

- **Ethnographic/Ethnohistorical Profile of the Sulphur Springs/Spring Hill Communities**
Peruse and analyze all print and visual sources, including past and present images and maps; census data; newspapers, and city directories, pertaining to the Sulphur Springs/Spring Hill communities. The resulting product will be an ethnohistorical report/profile of the community which can be used for developing museum displays, tourist brochures/pamphlets, grant applications, and website production.
- **Collecting Oral Histories and Maintaining a Oral History Database**
Document the history and heritage of the community. Build an Oral history collection based on interviews with community residents and/or former residents. The database currently includes all original tapes of completed interviews.
- **Website/logo development**
The website is under construction at: www.sulpurspringsmuseum.org. A collection of Sulphur Springs and Sulphur Springs Museum and Heritage logo options designed by Tim Burke is available for community usage. Ongoing development of this website continues.
- **Database for cataloging and archiving artifacts and historic materials in possession of community residents, civic organizations, and businesses.**
A database for archiving artifacts and historic materials, such as items in the possession of Linda Hope, editor of the Penny Saver newspaper, and other residents of the Sulphur Springs/Spring Hill communities, was created by Nicole Shelnut and is available for community use in heritage preservation efforts.
- **A National Register of Historic Places evaluation of the Sulphur Springs/ Spring Hill neighborhoods.**
Seven buildings in the vicinity of the Historic Harbor Club have been listed on the Florida Master Site File, including the buildings and structures around the Spring itself (the water tower, gazebo, and pool). None has officially been evaluated for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Preliminary discussions with the staff at the Florida Division of Historical Resources indicate that there would be substantial support for such a nomination. A preliminary evaluation of the potential for listing Sulphur Springs/Spring Hill neighborhoods on the National Register of Historic Places will be made and coordinated with the Florida Division of Historical Resources.