

**Florida National Register Review Board  
R. A. Gray Building, Room 307  
Tallahassee, Florida  
May 28, 2020  
Meeting Minutes**

**Commission Members Present In-Person:** None due to COVID-19

**Commission Members Present via Webinar:** Dr. Clifford Smith, Chair; Ms. Marion Almy; Dr. Judith Bense; Mr. Rick Gonzalez

**Florida Department of State Officials and Staff Present in Person:** Andrew Waber, Historic Preservationist

**Florida Department of State Officials and Staff Present via Webinar:** Dr. Timothy Parsons, Director, Division of Historical Resources and State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO); Dr. Angela E. Tomlinson, Assistant Director and Deputy SHPO; Alissa Lotane, Bureau Chief and Deputy SHPO; Ruben Acosta, Survey and Registration Supervisor; Kelly Chase, Historic Preservationist; Michael Hart, Historical Marker Program Coordinator; Vincent Birdsong, Florida Master Site File Supervisor.

**Guests Present in Person:** Ron Chapel, Post Commander, VFW 5277; Duane Worth, Trustee, VFW 5277

**Guests Present via Webinar:** Andre Anderson, Community Development Director, City of St. Cloud; Brad Sauls, SC SHPO; Elizabeth Johnson, SC SHPO; Ellen Henry, Curator Ponce Inlet Lighthouse; Felipe de Paula, Ponce Inlet Lighthouse; Isabell Castellano; Julie Scofield, City of Sanford Historic Preservation Officer; Kathleen Brown, Clerk, Liberty County; Kenneth Hosford; Kyle Petty; Lori Giambrone; Megan McDonald; Nathan Blackwell; Olive Horning, President, St. Cloud Woman's Club; Paula Stark, St. Cloud Main Street Director; Sonide Simon, Pasco County Long Range Planning; Stephanie Holtkamp, Parks and Recreation Director, City of St. Cloud; Toni Jones; Virginia Harness, SC SHPO.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

**The meeting was called to order by Dr. Smith at 1:40 p.m. Mr. Acosta read the housekeeping notes addressing the webinar. Dr. Smith, Ms. Almy, Mr. Gonzalez, and Dr. Bense were present via webinar.**

II. Introduction of Commission, Staff, and Guests

**Commission, staff, and guests introduced themselves.**

III. Adoption of Agenda

**Mr. Gonzalez made a motion to adopt the agenda for the meeting. Dr. Bense seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.**

IV. Election of Officers

V. Remarks by Chairperson on Purpose of Meeting

**Dr. Smith described the purpose and process of the National Register Review Board.**

VI. Approval of Minutes from February 6, 2020 Meeting

**Dr. Bense made a motion to approve the minutes for the February 6, 2020 meeting. Mr. Gonzalez seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.**

VII. Director's Comments

**Dr. Timothy Parsons, State Historic Preservation Officer, welcomed the commissioners and guests and thanked everyone for attending. He thanked the National Register staff and the board members for working hard to still hold the meeting amidst the circumstances of COVID-19.**

VIII. Review of Nomination Proposals

- A. McKeithen Archaeological Site (8CO17), Wellborn vicinity, Columbia County** was presented by Mr. Acosta. We are proposing listing for the McKeithen Archaeological Site at the state level under Criterion D: Prehistoric Archaeology. The period of significance spans the period of site occupation from A.D. 200 to 900.

The McKeithen site is an excellent example of early Weeden Island culture and the rise of social and political complexity prior to European contact in Florida and the larger Southeastern United States. The site consists of three earthen mounds and a large horseshoe shaped habitation or village area. As there is no evidence of previous occupations or other cultural affiliations, the McKeithen site provides a rare opportunity to examine the community planning, public works, and ceremonialism unique to Weeden Island peoples. The data collected during previous excavations suggests that the McKeithen site was a regional civic ceremonial center in the northeastern reaches of the Weeden Island culture area and likely served as a gateway community and trading center. Contemporaneous sites in geographic proximity to McKeithen are often attributed to what archaeologists call the "McKeithen Weeden Island" complex. Sites like McKeithen are few and far between, but the few comparable sites include the Kolomoki Mounds in Georgia and Letchworth Mounds in Tallahassee.

The McKeithen site is on a privately owned parcel but is currently under conservation easement with the state through the Florida Forever program. The landowner, Lex McKeithen Jr., has been involved in all of the previous excavations and is very supportive of listing the site.

The staff would like to bring to your attention that the three mounds at McKeithen have been fully excavated, however the extensive habitation areas (covering roughly 19 hectares) remain undisturbed and still contain intact stratigraphic layers with *in situ* artifacts and features. Should further excavations take place at McKeithen, the resulting datasets could answer significant archaeological research questions which are detailed in the current nomination. Despite the extensive excavations to the mounds, the McKeithen site maintains integrity in location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, and association.

The site is eligible at the state level of significance due to its importance in understanding the Weeden Island culture in North Florida and in portions of surrounding states. It meets the definition of state-level significance as stated in NR Bulletin 36: "Pre-contact resources that might be of State significance include regional sites that provide a diagnostic assemblage of artifacts for a particular cultural group or time period or that provide chronological control for a series of cultural groups".

Note that we do not have current photos of the McKeithen Archaeological Site due to travel restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 response. Staff had a site visit scheduled for April, 2020, but this was cancelled. The property owner, Lex McKeithen, has agreed to provide us with current photographs sometime in the near future.

Staff finds that the McKeithen site meets the National Register Criteria and is eligible for listing at the state level of significance under Criterion D: Prehistoric Archaeology, for the period of significance A.D. 145 to A.D. 780.

Ms. Almy asked if Dr. Bense if she had ever visited the McKeithen site. Dr. Bense replied that she had not. Ms. Almy suggested that all the archaeologists make a visit.

Dr. Bense requested clarification on the authorship of the nomination and inquired about the ownership of the property. Ms. Chase replied that ownership still technically lies with Lex McKeithen and his life estate, however the property is under conservation easement with the State of Florida through Florida Forever. Ms. Almy asked if the property is still covered in planted pine. Ms. Chase replied that it is.

Mr. Gonzalez expressed his support to forward the nomination to NPS and said he found the artifacts and site very interesting.

**A motion was made by Ms. Almy to forward the nomination to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D: Archaeology. Dr. Bense seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.**

- B. Sinclair Service Station, Spring Hill vicinity, Hernando County** was presented by Mr. Acosta. The service station is being proposed for listing at the state level under Criterion C: Architecture for the period of significance of 1964. Also known as the Dino Service Station, the Sinclair Service Station is located near Weeki Wachee Springs and is a noted landmark along US 19. The property is an example of programmatic architecture, where a building's structure is designed to look like specific icons, logos, or other images as a form of advertising that catch the eye of passing motorists. In this case, the service station takes the form of a large brontosaurus (now known as an Apatosaurus), which was the logo of the Sinclair Oil company. Constructed in 1964, the service station consists of a reinforced concrete dinosaur-shaped shell over several garage bays and an office. The building retains a high level of integrity, with minimal additions. However, the dinosaur's eyes are no longer illuminated, and the service station's gas pumps were removed when the business transitioned into a full-service auto garage. The building is significant for its programmatic road-side architecture. It is one of the few remaining historic examples of programmatic architecture in the state, and the last service station of its type in Florida.

Staff finds that the Sinclair Service Station is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the state level of significance under Criterion C: Architecture for the period of significance of 1964.

Dr. Smith asked about the state level of significance listed within the staff comments while the form was marked as the local level. Mr. Acosta clarified that this structure is being nominated at the state level and that the form would be updated to reflect this. Dr. Bense asked if there were any other dinosaur buildings or similar buildings in the state.

Mr. Acosta asked Megan McDonald, the author of the nomination, to speak. Megan clarified that not only was this the only dinosaur service station in the state, but potentially in the United States. Megan stated that in her research many examples of programmatic architecture that are NRHP listed are done at the local and state levels.

Mr. Gonzalez stated he was impressed with the quality of construction and the workmanship.

Ms. Almy expressed that she was delighted to learn about roadside programmatic architecture. She wondered if the eyes no longer glow and if that was potentially a safety hazard on the road.

Dr. Smith commented that Sinclair was one of his first employers and that he was familiar with the dinosaur logo.

**A motion was made by Gonzalez to forward the nomination to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C: Architecture. Ms. Almy seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.**

- C. William A. Suggs Veterans of Foreign Wars Post No. 5277, Clermont, Lake County** was presented by Mr. Acosta. The William A. Suggs Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post No. 5277 is locally significant under Criterion A for Social History. The period of significance extends from 1946 to 1970. The post is a simple two-story concrete block and brick building with a flat roof and poured concrete foundations. It has an unusual appearance, with the first (top) floor made of concrete block while the bottom (ground) floor is clad in brick. This is due to the fact that it was built in two phases, with the ground floor first constructed in 1946 and the first floor was constructed in 1955. The building reflects its historic 1955 appearance. The ground floor serves as the clubhouse and meeting room for the local VFW post and its associated auxiliary. The top floor was used for larger public gatherings but is currently used as a daycare. From its construction, the building housed VFW Post No. 5277, which has historically been one of the most important veterans support organizations in Clermont. The post and its auxiliary have a long history serving the veterans of Clermont and Minneola, assisting them in filing for benefits, providing financial assistance, and serving as liaisons for veterans seeking appeal for additional benefits. Both the post and its auxiliary also have a long history in assisting the community service organizations in the community. There have been some changes that have taken place to the building, including some modernization and replacement of fixtures. The building retains its integrity for listing.

Staff finds that the William A. Suggs VFW Post 5277 is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A: Social History for the Period of significance 1946-1970.

Dr. Smith asked for guests representing the VFW Post to provide comments. Bob Farrell shared that the post has always been run by volunteers and the post never had a bar to fund the organization's activities.

Mr. Gonzalez expressed his support for the nomination.

Dr. Bense noted spending many hours at a VFW in Lynn Haven with her grandfather.

Ms. Almy stated her appreciation for nominating the VFW Post under social history.

**A motion was made by Ms. Almy to forward the nomination to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A: Social History. Dr. Bense seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.**

- D. Hosford School and Gymnasium, Hosford, Liberty County** was presented by Mr. Acosta. We are proposing the Hosford School and Gymnasium for listing in the National Register at the local level under Criterion A for Education and Entertainment and Recreation. The period of significance extends from circa 1937 to 1970. The school and gymnasium contribute to the *Florida's New Deal Resources MPS* under Associated Historic Context: The New Deal in Florida, 1933-1943 and Property Type F.1: Buildings.

The old Hosford School is a wood T-shaped school building with eight classrooms, two primary corridors, two restrooms, and an auditorium. The building has a cross-gabled metal roof, brick chimneys on the east and west ends, and continuous brick foundations. It also has wood floors, wood walls, and wood ceilings. The interior integrity is particularly high with this building, especially with the auditorium, which retains its original seats, sloped floor, wood stage, and hexagonal shape. The gymnasium is a rectangular wood building with a gabled metal roof and continuous brick foundations. The building interior features a large single open space with wood floors, wood walls, wood ceilings, and wood bleachers.

The Hosford School and Gymnasium were both constructed between 1937 and 1940 by the Works Projects Administration (WPA). The school, which was built for the white children of the community, was the largest and most significant educational facility in Hosford. When constructed, both buildings were significant improvements in the quality of the facilities for white schoolchildren. Both buildings were constructed with a dual purpose of providing the community with entertainment and public gathering venues. They were the only substantial non-religious public buildings when constructed and both served a wide variety of gatherings, including political rallies, fundraisers, musical performances, and lectures. The gymnasium was the principal indoor sporting facility in the community, hosting basketball games, dances, and wrestling shows.

The staff would like to draw your attention to a number of changes that have taken place over the years. The setting has been greatly impacted by the construction of several large buildings and structures onsite primarily in 2009. The historic, circa 1951 lunchroom was also heavily altered in 2009 and is considered non-contributing. The exteriors of both buildings have been covered over, with vinyl siding on the gymnasium and hardy-board siding on the school building. The roofs along with some of the windows and exterior doors have been replaced as well. Despite these changes, the staff still feels these buildings retain their integrity for listing in the NR.

Staff finds that the Hosford School and Gymnasium are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A: Education, Criterion A: Entertainment/Recreation, and Criterion C: Architectures, for the period of significance of 1936-1970.

Mr. Gonzalez questioned the level of significance. Mr. Acosta stated the school and gymnasium are being nominated at the local level. Mr. Gonzalez asked about the color of the replaced roof on the gym and whether it is blue or silver. Mr. Waber spoke and confirmed that the gym has been modified. Mr. Gonzalez expressed his concerns about the exterior of the gym and the vinyl siding and blue roof. He suggested separating the buildings instead of including them both in this nomination. Mr. Gonzalez expressed how school building design has deteriorated since the 1940 and continued that he does not want to compromise and lump the gym in with the school building which has more integrity. Mr. Waber suggested making the school the primary resource and listing the gym as a contributing resource to the school while highlighting the interior of the gym which retains more integrity.

Kenneth Hosford spoke of the school history and how all of the lumber was donated by a mill behind the school. He believes the roof of the gymnasium is a blue color. Mr. Hosford spoke of the events and community activities that have been housed at the school auditorium and the gymnasium. He asked the board to consider both facilities as it means so much to the community.

Mr. Kyle Petty also expressed that the gymnasium should be considered. He also wanted to mention that the school is presently functioning to house offices, PTO rooms, and other administrative functions. Mr. Petty stated that the gym is in use all day and that it is the only gym on campus.

Ms. Almy stated that her concerns have largely been addressed and asked if the siding is a permanent modification. Mr. Acosta explained that covering cladding with modern materials would typically make a property ineligible. Mr. Acosta stated that regardless of the architectural modifications, the property is eligible under Criterion A.

Mr. Gonzalez asked about the current status of the photographs and requested clarification on whether vinyl or hardy board siding had been used.

Mr. Hosford and Mr. Petty confirmed verbally that the siding is hardy board.

Mr. Gonzalez asked for additional photos and clarification to confirm the hardy plank on both structures.

Dr. Smith interjected and asked that we move forward with the nomination based on the information presented by local guests that both the school and gym are modified with hardy board.

Dr. Bense asked what makes the dark hardwood flooring of the gym slick and what materials were used. A local guest said the floors were made of heart pine. Dr. Bense asked what made it polished and a local representative said it was a polyurethane covering. Dr. Bense says the integrity and quality of the interior of the gym outweighs any concerns she has about the exterior.

Dr. Smith was also impressed with the interior of the gym and expressed support for the nomination as the exterior modifications are reversible. Dr. Smith asked for a motion.

**A motion was made by Ms. Almy to forward the nomination to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A: Education, Criterion A: Entertainment and Recreation, and Criterion C: Architecture. Mr. Gonzalez seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.**

- E. Veteran's Memorial Library and Woman's Club of St. Cloud Auditorium, St. Cloud, Osceola County** was presented by Mr. Acosta. We are proposing listing for the Veterans Memorial Library and Woman's Club of St. Cloud Auditorium at the local level under Criterion A for social history and entertainment and recreation and Criterion C for architecture. The period of significance extends from 1923 to 1970. The library and auditorium contribute to the Clubhouses of Florida's Woman's Clubs MPS under Associated Historic Contexts: Florida Land Boom, 1921-1926 and Great Depression, World War II and Aftermath, 1929-1995 and Associated Property Type F.1: Clubhouses.

There are two principal resources, the 1923 Veterans Memorial Library and the 1949 Woman's Club of St. Cloud Auditorium, which are joined by a historic hyphen. Both buildings are one story in height and feature flat roofs. The library was built of structural clay tile covered over in stucco while the auditorium was built of concrete block. The library retains its character-defining large open space on the east end of the interior along with original pocket doors that provide flexibility to the space. The auditorium retains its single open space on the interior along with its stage and kitchen spaces.

When constructed, the Veterans Memorial Library served as the custom-made public library building in the town of St. Cloud. It was a significant early achievement of the Woman's Club of St. Cloud, an important civic support organization in the town. The building was the first permanent home of the club. Both the library building and museum have hosted numerous public gatherings and public performances over the years.

The Veteran's Memorial Library is a locally significant example of the Prairie Style adapted to a public building. This is perhaps best expressed through the building's low-pitched roof that overhangs on the rear, the usage of heavy coping to emphasize horizontality, its relative lack of adornment, and restrained use of decorative motifs around the entrance.

The building is one of the most significant local commissions of the Orlando-based architectural firm of Ryan & Roberts, the first all-female architectural firm in Orlando. They did a significant amount of business in St. Cloud. The firm was formed by Ida Annah Ryan and Isabell Roberts in circa 1921. Ryan was the first woman in the United States to graduate with a master's degree in architecture and was the first woman to graduate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a master's degree in science. Isabell Roberts was a graduate of Atelier Masqueray who was one of the first employees of Frank Lloyd Wright when he opened his practice in Oak Park, Illinois.

Aside from the replacement of windows and modernization, both buildings retain integrity for listing in the NR. The biggest change to the library, the circa 1949 construction of the hyphen connecting the two buildings, occurred during the historic period of significance and are therefore considered historic alterations.

Staff finds that the Veterans Memorial Library and Woman's Club of St. Cloud Auditorium is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A: Social History, Criterion A: Entertainment/Recreation, and Criterion C: Architecture, for the period of significance 1923-1970.

Public Comments: Ms. Horning expressed her thanks and the importance of the building to her and to the community. Ms. Paula Stark expressed her thanks and concurred with what Ms. Horning said. Ms. Stark feels strongly that these resources are jewels and vital in their community.

Board Comments: Dr. Bense and Ms. Almy had no comments. Mr. Gonzalez expressed his appreciation for the simple vernacular, design, and the urban setting.

**A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez to forward the nomination to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A: Social History, Entertainment and Recreation and Criterion C.: Architecture. Ms. Almy seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.**

- F. **Oelsner Mound**, Port Richey, Pasco County was presented by Mr. Acosta. We are proposing listing for the Oelsner Mound Archaeological site at the local level under Criterion D: Archaeology, Prehistoric. The period of significance spans the Safety Harbor, Englewood, and Pinellas periods from A.D. 900-1500. The site is considered the northernmost occurrence of a nucleated Safety Harbor period habitation and mound complex.

The Oelsner Mound site consists of one platform mound and one shell midden/habitation site. The Oelsner Mound (a platform mound) is the only remaining above ground feature of the site. However, the mound and the shell midden on which it rests are in a good state of preservation and are moderately protected by their location in the residential neighborhood. The temple



mound exists almost exactly as it did during the period of occupation. The site is currently a public park and is managed by Pasco County.

The Oelsner Mound retains a high level of integrity and is one of the few remaining mound sites with an associated habitation area in the Tampa Bay region. Other contemporaneous and comparable sites have been destroyed by development. The Oelsner Mound has the potential to address questions regarding the reuse of Weeden Island sites by safety Harbor cultures, the in situ transition from Weeden Island to Mississippian influenced cultures, and the reconstruction of daily life during the Weeden Island period.

Note that due to travel restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 response, we do not have current photos of the Oelsner mound. Staff has requested photos from the Pasco County parks department and we are waiting for a response. The figures included in the nomination date to 2013.

Staff finds that Oelsner Mound meets the National Register Criteria and is eligible for listing at the local level of significance under Criterion D: Prehistoric Archaeology, for the period of significance A.D. 900-1500.

Ms. Simon from the public wanted to add that the temple mound is one of the last if not the only mound in its condition in the local area if not the state.

Dr. Bense stated that the burial mound likely distracted any looters or professionals from significantly altering the other portions of the site.

Mr. Gonzalez expressed shock that the mound is intact and undisturbed.

**A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez to forward the nomination to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D: Archaeology. Dr. Bense seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Dr. Smith recused himself from consideration of the Sarasota Chamber of Commerce Building as he helped prepare the National Register nomination. Vice Chairperson Rick Gonzalez assumed leadership of the board for this agenda item.**

- G. Sarasota Chamber of Commerce Building, Sarasota, Sarasota County** was presented by Mr. Acosta. We are proposing listing for the Sarasota County Chamber of Commerce Building at the local level for Criterion A: Commerce and Social History and at the state and local levels for Criterion C: Architecture. The period of significance extends from 1956 to 1970. This building contributes to the Architectural Resources of the Sarasota School of Architecture MPS under Associated Contexts: The Influence of New Architects, 1953-1959; and Associated Property Type F.5: Miscellaneous Buildings.

Also known as the Blue Pagoda Building, it is a landmark example of Sarasota School architecture and is one of the first significant commissions of the renowned architect Victor Lundy. The building is characterized by its prominent curving blue tile roof modeled after traditional Japanese pagodas, steel frame construction, walls of glass, and extensive use of interior wood. This building established Lundy within the upper echelons of the architecture profession in Sarasota. This commission also marked a turning point in the design philosophy of

Lundy, who would later make laminated wood a hallmark of his designs. The building's extensive use of glass; low horizontal influences of the International Style on the exterior, non-traditional roof form, blending of interior and exterior spaces, and custom design to the landscape embody characteristics found within the Sarasota School.

The chamber building is the oldest surviving building custom-made for the Sarasota County Chamber of Commerce, which is the one of the most significant commercial and civic support organizations in the county. It served as the chamber's offices from 1956 until circa 1963, and served as the chamber's official welcome center until 1972.

Staff would like to draw your attention to some of the changes that have taken place to the building since its construction. The exterior of the building remains almost identical to its original appearance and retains excellent integrity. The interior has seen a number of changes due in large part to the changing uses of the building over the years. Lundy designed the interior space, with the use of temporary walls delineating the spaces. Since its construction, permanent walls were constructed for the office spaces and drop ceilings added. The original cork flooring was replaced with carpeting and tiling. Such changes are to be expected for buildings used for office space and public gatherings. Its curved wood roof and walls of glass providing an abundance of natural sunlight into the spaces are retained. We therefore believe this building retains its integrity to qualify for listing.

Staff finds that the Sarasota County Chamber of Commerce Building is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A: Commerce, Criterion A: Social History, and Criterion C: Architecture, for the period of significance 1956-1970.

Ms. Almy expressed her love and respect for the iconic building in Sarasota. Dr. Bense asked if the roof tiles were ceramic. Mr. Waber confirmed they were blue glazed ceramic from Japan. Mr. Gonzalez asked if the glass was original and Andrew speculated it was. Dr. Smith spoke as staff from the city and confirmed it was original glass. Mr. Gonzalez asked to see the air conditioning system in the photos.

**A motion was made by Ms. Almy to forward the nomination to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A and C. Dr. Bense seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Dr. Smith resumed his position as chairperson of the board for the following agenda items.**

- H. Georgetown Historic District, Sanford, Seminole County** was presented by Mr. Acosta. The Georgetown Historic District encompasses a historic African-American neighborhood located next to downtown Sanford. The Downtown Sanford Historic district is to the northwest of the district, and the Sanford Residential District is immediately adjacent to the west. The district consists of a regular grid of streets and square blocks encompassing 166 acres and containing a variety of vernacular residences, commercial buildings, churches, funeral homes, and a school. Extant resources document the development of the district, the impact of segregation, and the community's unique identity in Sanford.

The district retains a good level of integrity, especially of its residential resources, which were predominantly designed and built by local, self-taught builders in a variety of vernacular styles and designs. Several were designed by an identified black architect, Prince W. Spears. However, many of its commercial resources have been modified over time, and a number of resources along Sanford Avenue have been lost due to redevelopment, fire, or other reasons. Civic buildings, such as churches, have been modified as well. Despite losses and modifications, the district retains its integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

The district includes two resources previously listed in the National Register of Historic Places, St. James AME Church (NR Listed 1992) the Hopper Academy (NR Listed 2015). The district boundaries also include a number of residences along the western edge of Sanford Avenue that were previously listed as contributing to the Sanford Residential District (NR Listed 1989). These homes are included in the Georgetown Historic District as they were the homes of prominent black professionals in the Georgetown community, or were designed by architect Prince W. Spears.

The district is locally significant for its association with the history of Sanford's African American population. The district was originally two separate African-American neighborhoods, Tuckertown and Georgetown, that grew together in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, with Georgetown eventually absorbing Tuckertown. Residents worked as agricultural, domestic, and railroad laborers in Sanford, and eventually the neighborhood developed its own professional and middle class by the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Due to segregation, the neighborhood had its own commercial district, churches, schools, offices, and civic organizations. Many of the buildings that supported these activities are still present and convey the neighborhood's African American heritage. While African Americans lived and worked in Sanford as early as the beginning of Reconstruction in the mid-1860s, the earliest documented resource in Georgetown dates to 1900, marking the beginning of the period of significance. While legal segregation ends in the mid-1960s, the community retained its separate character and development through the 1970s; therefore, the end of the period of significance is the 50-year mark or 1970.

Staff finds that the Georgetown Historic District is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A: Ethnic Heritage—Black, for the period of significance 1900-1970.

Julie Scofield wished to express her support for the nomination and gratitude to the staff for making it possible.

Mr. Gonzalez remembered seeing Sanford in the past and called it the Savannah of Florida. Ms. Almy said she enjoyed reading the nomination and did not have any comments or questions. Dr. Bense expressed that she was glad to see a neighborhood like this retain its integrity and be recognized. Dr. Smith commented on the size of the district and commended the work that went into it.

**A motion was made by Mr. Gonzalez to forward the nomination to the National Park Service for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A: Ethnic Heritage-Black. Dr. Bense seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

IX. Other Business

Mr. Acosta shared an update on the nominations from the last meeting: all have been listed. He also received an email this week that Memorial Park Cemetery was listed and should be included in this week's weekly list. He shared that the La Palma Hotel nomination was returned in order to change the nomination to the hotel's historic name. Mr. Acosta shared that Florida passed 29 nominations in 2019. He calculated that only 16 archaeological sites were listed in the last 10 years, and he is excited to have Ms. Chase begin working on more nominations.

Mr. Acosta shared that the next NRRB meeting is August 6, 2020. As of now we are planning an all webinar meeting again. The park service has moved to a digital submission policy and limited submissions to 10 photos per nomination. The nominations reviewed in February were significantly delayed due to the change in submission policy.

Mr. Acosta announced that the CLG coordinator, Megan McDonald, was no longer with DHR and introduced and welcomed Annie Albert as our new Historic Preservationist.

Dr. Bense inquired how the board should submit the property voting sheets. Mr. Acosta relied that they can be emailed.

X. Public Comment

No public comment.

XI. Motion to Adjourn

**Mr. Gonzalez moved to adjourn. The meeting ended at 4:28 p.m.**

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Chair, National Register Review Board

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Date

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State Historic Preservation Officer

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Date