



The Historian

The Newsletter of the Boynton Beach Historical Society



Serving Boynton Beach, Ocean Ridge, Manalapan, Gulf Stream, Briny Breezes, Lantana, Hypoluxo, the Village of Golf and all areas of West Boynton, in addition to supporting the preservation of the history of Palm Beach County and the State of Florida as a whole.

2019 VOLUME 4

April 2019

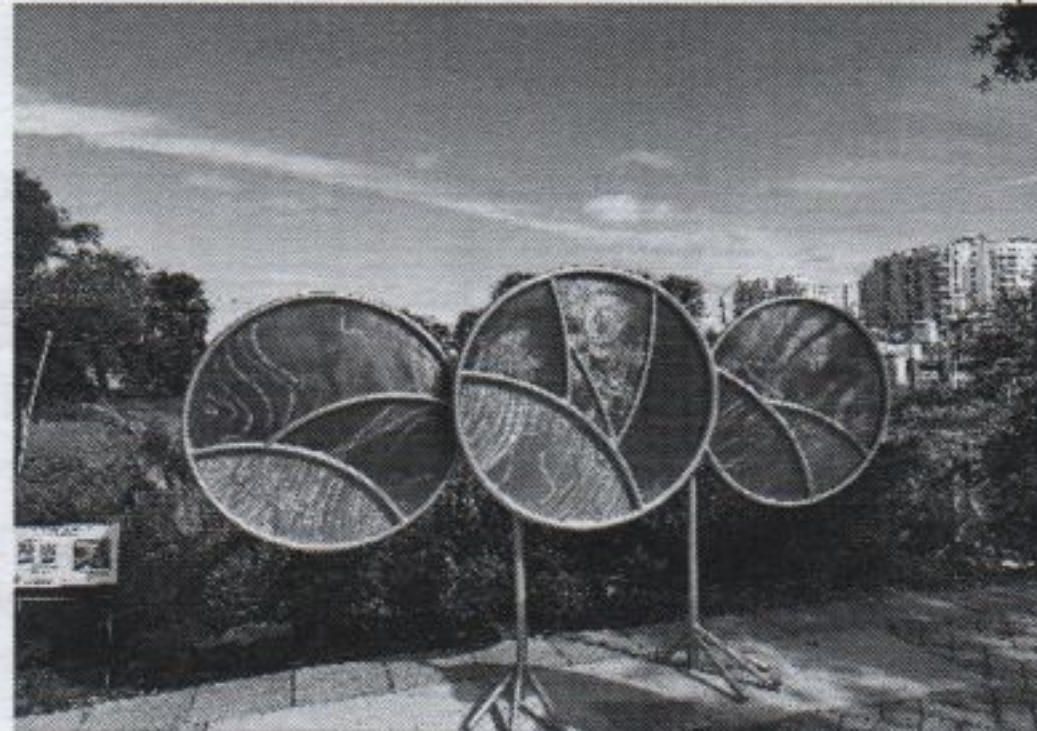
The City of Boynton Beach ART in PUBLIC PLACES PROGRAM

On Monday, April 15, at the Annual Meeting of the Boynton Beach Historical Society, the Public Art Manager for the City of Boynton Beach, Debby Coles-Dobay, will present the program history, historically relevant projects and a glimpse of the public art planned for the Town Square Redevelopment Project.

The leadership and guidance provided by Debby Coles-Dobay since 2007 has resulted in a vibrant Art in Public Places program that positively impacts the City by increasing cultural tourism, local jobs, branding distinction, economic impact and social development. Debby develops, coordinates and manages the Art in Public Places program. She serves as liaison to the Arts Commission, City staff, developers, planners, architects, artists, design professionals and the larger community. She also provides management and maintenance of the Art in Public Places collection. For more information on this program visit boynton-beach.org/public-art.



Debby Coles-Dobay



Some of the art that has been displayed



- WHAT?** History of the City of Boynton Beach Art in Public Places, a program presented by Debby Coles-Dobay, the City's Public Art Manager, and
THE ANNUAL MEETING of The Boynton Beach Historical Society for the election of New Officers and Trustees and Adoption of the Society's Bylaws Revision. Guests are welcome, but only members may vote.
- WHEN?** Monday, April 15, 2019, Doors open 6:30p, Short Business Meeting Voting & Election 6:45p, Program 7-8p
- WHERE?** First Presbyterian Church, Pratt Hall, 235 SW 6th Ave, Two Blocks west of Seacrest Blvd.

ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The SOCIETY'S COVERED DISH DINNER, 2019 EXCELLENCE AWARD PRESENTATION & PROGRAM

PLEASE NOTE THE DATE and TIME: Sunday, May 19, 2019 at 5p (doors open 4:30p)

Each attendee is asked to provide a dish (salad, vegetable or dessert) to serve 6 or donate \$10 per person at the door.

The Historical Society will provide the entrée, beverage, and place settings.

**BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS--2018-19**

OFFICERS [Elected Annually]

President	Randall Gill
1 st Vice President, Programs	Anne Rimler
2 nd Vice President, Membership	Sheila Rousseau Taylor
Recording Secretary	Jeffrey Fine
Corresponding Secretary	Anne Watts
Treasurer	Frances Tuite McKeral

[Non-Elected]

Editor, <i>The Historian</i>	Voncile Marshall Smith
Archivist/Facebook/Webmaster	Janet DeVries
Facebook Administrator/Webmaster	Ginger Pedersen

DIRECTORS [3-Year Staggered Terms]

2019	Vacant
2019	Judith Merkel Howard
2020	Steven Anton
2020	Barbara Ready
2021	Heidi Bell
2021	Donna Artes

TRUSTEES [3-Year Staggered Terms]

2019	Susan Merkel Shaffer
2019	Virginia Farace
2020	Diana Dennis
2020	Sarah Thomas Bollenbacher
2021	Susan Oyer
2021	Voncile Marshall Smith

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Our website is www.boyntonhistory.org. The e-mail address is boyntonhistory@gmail.com

P.O. Box 12, Boynton Beach, FL 33425.

You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter:

www.facebook.com/historicboyntonbeach



HistoricBoyntonBeach

www.twitter.com/@boyntonhistory



@BoyntonHistory

The Historian is usually mailed eight times a year—September, October, November, January, February, March, April and May—to all members. No copies are produced in December, June, July and August. Copies from past years are posted on the website.

LIFE MEMBERS

Lenore Benson Raborn Boonstra
Candice Tomei Brueggemann, P.A. Real Estate
Easy Pay Tire Stores, Inc. Doug Besecker, Ruth Besecker
Randall Gill
Robert and Christian Oyer Macoviak
Melear Bros., Inc. - Cliff and Rick Melear
Wayne and Eva Brooks Knuth Netzler
Scott and Camilla Smith Richardson
Alexander "Sandy" Simon
Ernest G. Simon
Voncile Marshall Smith
George and Christine Weaver Ternenyi
Dorian Beck Trauger
Curtis and Nain Weems Weaver

CORPORATE MEMBERS – 2019

Delray Awning, Inc., Don and Regina Day
Daniel and Lisa Ames Suiter

NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERSHIPS

The following have either joined or rejoined the Boynton Beach Historical Society since we reported on the membership in the past three editions of *The Historian*. We are still accepting dues for 2019 and hope some of you who are long-time members will renew. The date your dues expire is listed at the top of the mailing label on each copy of *The Historian*.

PATRON MEMBERSHIP:

Linda and Michael Callaway
James Pitts
John I. Rogers

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP:

Bruce and Judith Carlson
William and Pamela Cotant
Gayle Kranz and George Greider
Bill and Maggie Huff
Ronald W. and Ann Marie Lind
Beverly Mandell

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP:

Jackie Brant
Sally Dye
Dorothy Ferris
Sandra McGregor
Dorothy Mann McNeice
Marjorie W. Nelson
Anne Rimler
Women's Club of Fairmont Place

**ANNUAL MEETING for 2019
ELECTIONS AND BYLAWS REVISION**

On page 1 we mention that our Annual Meeting which is prescribed in our Bylaws must be scheduled in April. At this meeting we elect new officers and other Board of Directors members, and we present for a vote any changes that are recommended for the Bylaws.

On pages 3 and 4 which follow is the proposed revised set of Bylaws. The major changes are that the Board of Directors recommends that over time we reduce the size of the Board from 18 to 11 members and that the 6 positions entitled specifically "Directors" be gradually eliminated with those currently holding that office being continued until their terms expire.

At the end of two years the Board would be composed of 5 officers and 6 Trustees. The positions of Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary will be combined under the new title "Secretary." The Museum Committee has been deleted and an Audit Committee inserted. Most other changes are minor editorial ones.

Copies of the current Bylaws or a larger print version of the proposed revision are available by contacting Anne Rimler anne.rimler@gmail.com or Voncile Smith smithvm@bellsouth.net. Either of us can also answer questions you may have about the proposed changes.

In past years the business meeting portion of the Annual Meeting has taken only 10-20 minutes. Only those Society members in good standing are eligible to vote. We will begin the Annual Meeting at 6:45p with the expectation that we can begin the Program presentation at 7:00 or soon thereafter.

BYLAWS
BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
[As revised April 15, 2019]

PREAMBLE: The Boynton Beach Historical Society will act as a living repository for Boynton Beach's traditions and history. It will maintain property entrusted to it and collect, preserve and interpret items of historical and antiquarian significance. The Society will encourage research and involvement in those efforts by its members and the community at large. In so doing, it will promote a better understanding of history as an important factor in the everyday affairs of the City of Boynton Beach and its residents.

ARTICLE I: MEMBERS

- Section 1. **Eligibility.** Any person interested in the history of Boynton Beach, Florida, who applies for membership in any classification of membership and who tenders the necessary dues in accordance with the procedures established by the Board, shall become a member.
- Section 2. **Membership Classification.** The Classification schedule of memberships and the dues payable per classification shall, except those heretofore exempted from payment, be fixed from time to time by a majority vote of the Board.
- Section 3. **Dues.** Dues shall be payable annually, in advance. Members in arrears more than one year after payment is due, shall be dropped from membership, after approval of the Board.
- Section 4. **Honorary Members.** Honorary members of the Society may be elected by the Board at any time and shall hold such position at the pleasure of the Board. Honorary members may attend meetings of the membership but shall not be entitled to vote and shall have no duties, liabilities, or responsibilities of any kind.
- Section 5. **Boynton Builder Member.** The Board of Directors, by majority vote, may designate a person or an organization as a Boynton Builder Member who shall be dues exempt for life and have all the privileges of membership.

ARTICLE II: OFFICERS and ELECTION

- Section 1. **List of Officers.** The officers of the Society shall be a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and six Trustees. These officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Society and shall constitute the Board of Directors. [Temporary Addendum: Those persons elected as "Directors" under the previous bylaws shall continue in office as full members of the Board of Directors until their terms expire in 2020 and 2021 or until they leave office for another reason. Beginning in April 2019, only those candidates for positions as officers or trustees shall be elected. This Temporary Addendum shall be deleted from the Bylaws after April 2021 with no need for reapproval by the Society.]
- Section 2. **Nominating Committee.** At a regular meeting at least two months prior to the Annual Meeting in April, a Nominating Committee consisting of five members of the Society in good standing shall be appointed by the President. It shall be the duty of this committee to nominate a candidate who is a member in good standing for each office that is to be filled at the Annual Meeting in April. The Nominating Committee shall report a list of candidates to the membership during the Annual Meeting prior to the vote. Before the election at the Annual Meeting, additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted provided the nominee has consented.
- Section 3. **Balloting.** If more than one candidate per office, or if by a majority request of the members present, the election will be by ballot. Otherwise, election will be by voice vote, one office at a time; or the entire slate may be elected by acclamation on a two-thirds vote of those present and voting.
- Section 4. **Terms of Office.** Terms for all officers except the Trustees will be one year or until their successors are elected, and their term of office shall begin at the close of the May meeting. Terms for Trustees shall be for three years or until their successors are elected, with two Trustees elected each year to assume office at the close of the May meeting. Candidates chosen to complete unfinished terms shall serve the duration of that term.
- Section 5. **Vacancies.** If a vacancy occurs in any office between elections except the Presidency, the vacancy will be filled by majority vote of the Board of Directors. If a vacancy occurs in the Presidency, the First Vice-President automatically becomes President for the remainder of the term, and the vacancy arises in the vice-presidency.
- Section 6. **Appointees.** The President, with the approval of the Board of Directors, may appoint Board or other members of the Society to serve as newsletter editor, webmaster, social media coordinator, archivist, or other positions as needed. These individuals, unless they are Board members, do not have a vote on the Board of Directors. They serve at the pleasure of the Board and are not term limited.

ARTICLE III: DUTIES OF OFFICERS

- Section 1. **The President shall:**
- have executive supervision over the activities of the Society within the scope provided by these Bylaws;
 - preside at all meetings of the Society, the Board of Directors, and Board of Trustees;
 - appoint all members of committees, not otherwise provided for, as needed;
 - be one of the officers who may sign the checks or drafts for the Society;
 - sign all documents as needed; and
 - perform such other duties applicable to the office as prescribed by these Bylaws, Board of Directors policies and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Society.
- Section 2. **The First Vice-President shall:**
- in the event of the absence or inability of the President to perform the duties of President, become acting president of the Society with all the rights, privileges and powers as if he or she had been duly elected president;
 - chair the program committee or any other special meetings, as needed;
 - send letters of appreciation to thank program participants or presenters;
 - create and maintain a program budget; and
 - perform such other duties applicable to the office as prescribed by these Bylaws, the Board of Directors and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Society.
- Section 3. **The Second Vice-President shall:**
- assume the duties of the President or First Vice-President in the event of absence or inability of either to perform their duties as stated hereto;
 - chair the membership committee;
 - attend to all correspondence related to membership;
 - maintain program sign-in sheets;
 - maintain up-to-date membership lists;
 - create and maintain a membership budget and perform such other duties applicable to the office as prescribed by these Bylaws, the Board of Directors and the parliamentary authority adopted by the Society.
- Section 4. **The Secretary shall:**
- file reports on time and, as required, with the proper local, state, and federal authorities;
 - keep the minutes of the Society and the Board of Directors;
 - give and serve all notices to members of the Society;
 - attend to all correspondence of the Society except that pertaining to programs and membership;
 - be the official custodian of the records of the Society;
 - provide to the Society's archives within one month after the Annual Meeting, a copy of all meeting records;
 - be one of the officers who may sign the checks and drafts of the Society; and
 - perform such other duties applicable to the office as prescribed by these Bylaws, the Board of Directors and the parliamentary authority adopted by the Society.
- Section 5. **The Treasurer shall:**
- have the care and custody of all monies belonging to the Society and shall be responsible for such monies or securities of the Society;
 - be one of the officers authorized to sign checks or drafts of the Society;
 - render at stated periods as the Board of Directors shall determine a written account of the finances of the Society and such report shall be physically affixed to the minutes of the Board of Directors at such meeting;
 - chair the budget committee and provide updates to the Board of Directors; and
 - perform such other duties applicable to the office as prescribed by these Bylaws, the Board of Directors and the parliamentary authority adopted by the Society.

- The Trustees shall:
- be responsible for the supervision, overseeing and care of all real property, and all property and equipment acquired by the Society;
 - recommend policies and procedures for acceptance of all historical donations; and
 - perform such other duties applicable to the office as prescribed by these Bylaws, the Board of Directors and the parliamentary authority adopted by the society.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

- Section 1: Regular Meetings. The Society shall meet regularly at least six times a year at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors, except that the Society must meet in the month of April for the Annual Meeting.
- Section 2: Special Meetings. Special meetings may be called by the President or by a majority of the Board of Directors. The purpose of the meeting shall be stated in the call. Except in the cases of emergency, at least three days' notice shall be given.
- Section 3: Quorum. Those members present and voting shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE V: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Section 1: The Board. The Officers of the Society and the Trustees shall constitute the Board of Directors, known also as The Board.
- Section 2: Duties. The Board of Directors shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Society between regular meetings of the Society. The Board shall fix the hour and place of meetings, make recommendations to the Society, and perform such other duties as are specified in these Bylaws or assigned to it at a meeting of the Society.
- Section 3: Meetings of the Board. Regular meetings of the Board shall be set by the President, but the Board must meet a minimum of five times each year. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President and shall be called upon the written request of one-third members of the Board.
- Section 4: Quorum for the Board. A Quorum shall consist of 40% of the Board.

ARTICLE VI: BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Section 1: Composition. In addition to the Board of Directors there shall also be a Board of Trustees, known hereinafter as The Trustees. The Trustees shall consist of six persons plus the President of the Society who shall serve as Chair of the Trustees.
- Section 2: Vacancies. The Chair of the Trustees shall have the authority to appoint a member to the Trustees to fill the term of a member who for whatever reason cannot complete his or her term. This appointment shall be made only with the approval of the Board of Directors.
- Section 3: Authority. The Trustees shall have the following authority with respect to the properties of the Boynton Beach Historical Society and its agencies, now existing or created:
- Acquisition. The Trustees shall receive, collect, catalog, and hold in trust for the sole benefit of the Boynton Beach Historical Society any and all donations, bequests, and devises of any kind or character, real or personal, that may be given, devised, bequeathed or conveyed to the Boynton Beach Historical Society and shall administer the same and the income therefrom in accordance with the directions of the donor, tester, trustee, and in the interest of the Boynton Beach Historical Society under the direction of the Board of Directors. When the use to be made of any such donation, bequest, or devise is not otherwise designated, the same shall be used as directed by the Board of Directors.
 - Disposition. The Trustees shall have the power to invest, reinvest, buy, sell, transfer, and convey any and all funds and properties which the Society may hold in trust, subject always to the terms of the legacy, devise, or donation, with the approval of the Board of Directors.
 - Security. The Trustees will be responsible for the security of all property, real or personal, owned by the Society or on loan to the same, and shall be responsible for recommending the amount and kind of insurance the Society shall purchase to cover loss of any kind. Further, the Trustees shall develop procedures for the temporary loan of property, which includes papers, documents, owned by or entrusted to the Boynton Beach Historical Society.
- Section 4: Quorum for Trustees Meeting. A quorum shall be a majority of the Trustees.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES

- Section 1: Program Committee, of which the First Vice-President shall be Chair, shall be appointed by the President promptly after the Annual Meeting. Their duties shall be to plan and present the programs for the regular meetings of the Society, and any other meetings as necessary; notify The Board of programs well in advance for dissemination; set up room for program and put away items at the conclusion of the meeting; send letters of thanks to speakers; and to perform such other duties deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.
- Section 2: Membership Committee, of which the Second Vice-President shall be Chair, shall be appointed by the President promptly after the Annual Meeting. Their duties shall be to sponsor membership drives and process new candidates for membership; greet members as they arrive for meetings; maintain a current list of all members of the Society and classification of members; and to perform such other duties deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.
- Section 3: Hospitality Committee shall be appointed by the President promptly after the Annual Meeting. Their duty shall be to take care of refreshments to be available at each regular meeting of the Society; and to perform such other duties deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.
- Section 4: Budget Committee, chaired by the Treasurer, shall be appointed by the President promptly after the Annual Meeting. Their duties shall be to devise an annual budget; to submit that budget to the Board for approval, to monitor expenditures; and to perform such other duties deemed necessary by the Board of Directors.
- Section 5: Auditing Committee. An internal auditing committee shall be appointed by the President each January consisting of three members of the Society in good standing who shall review the filed Treasurer's reports for the preceding fiscal year, January 1 to December 31. In addition to the filed reports to be provided by the Secretary, the Treasurer will provide copies of all receipts for expenditures, bank statements and cancelled checks that cover the appropriate period. The Auditing Committee shall provide a written report to the Board of Directors by March of the year in which they were appointed.
- Section 6: Other Committees shall be appointed by the President as the Society or the Board of Directors shall from time to time deem necessary to carry on the work of the Society. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

ARTICLE VIII: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, latest edition, shall govern the Society in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Society may adopt.

ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Society by a two-thirds vote of those members present and voting provided that notice has been given prior to the meeting.

Or, they may be amended at a special meeting called for that purpose with previous notice and a two-thirds vote of those Society members present and voting.

Or, they may be amended by the Board of Directors when necessary for the smooth operation of the Society; but such amendment must be ratified or rescinded by the members of the Society at the next regular meeting. Previous notice and a two-thirds vote of those members present and voting is needed for ratification.

SOME EARLY BOYNTON FAMILIES

H. B. Murray Family

Horace Murray arrived in the area in the mid-1890s at the behest of Nathan Boynton to help Boynton build his oceanfront hotel. Early families first lived in tents then built houses of palmetto thatch. Here the Murray family, including several children, are outside their home. Note the curtain at the door. Murray later would become Boynton's 1st Mayor.



By 1910 the Murrays had built and moved into a more conventional home. Horace and his wife May with some of their children are shown at the home at 217 SE 3rd street. This home is one of a few pre-1910 era structures still standing in Boynton Beach.



The same house is shown in the picture below taken about 2010.



The house has undergone some modifications and additions over the years but it still sits on the same site on which it was erected in 1910.

The Meredith, Woolbright and Adams Families



In 1914 the Merediths and Woolbrights were not as well-housed as the Murrays. These are their first homes in Boynton Beach located on what is now Federal Highway. The Merediths lived in the tent on the left, and the Woolbrights lived in the structure on the right. Pictured left to right are Lex Woolbright; Tom Woolbright; William Turner [Sam] Woolbright; on the bike Beryl Woolbright; beside the tree lone Woolbright and Rae Meredith Myers; and Doc Meredith.



What is thought to be the first roadside stand catering to tourists in Boynton was that of Mrs. Meredith, mother of Mrs. Samuel Adams. The stand was alongside of the Dixie Highway leading south to Miami. Pineapples, home-made preserves and what appears to be watermelons attracted the Florida visitors, in 1920.



Meredith Family picnic in 1911, L to R: Doc Meredith, lone Meredith Woolbright, Lillie Adams Holloway, Sam Adams, Ella Meredith Adams, baby Aileen Adams Gialam; Martha Ann Jamima Hogan Meredith, Tom Woolbright, Three Woolbright boys—Beryl, Sam and Lex, Lee Adams (1st row).

BOYNTON BEACH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Member's Name _____

2nd Member's Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

E-mail _____

The Society is a 501(c)(3) organization so dues are tax deductible.

Type of Membership:	INDIVIDUAL	(\$25.00) _____
(Check one)	FAMILY	(\$35.00) _____
	PATRON	(\$50.00) _____
	CORPORATE	(\$100.00) _____
	STUDENT	(\$10.00) _____
	LIFE	(\$500.00) One time Payment only

Membership year is January 1 to December 31. Dues are not pro-rated. Membership Expiration Date on Mailing Label.

Complete this form and mail with payment to
 Boynton Beach Historical Society
 P.O. Box 12
 Boynton Beach, FL 33425-0012

Boynton Beach Historical Society
 P. O. Box 12
 Boynton Beach, FL 33425-0012

OTHER EARLY BOYNTON FAMILIES

The Garnetts Oot



The Garnett Family in 1923. L to R: Leland, Lewis, Roy, Irl, Lillie, Andrew and Margaret seated in front. A leading family from 1905 onward in encouraging the development of the Methodist Church in Boynton, at first known as the Methodist-Episcopal Church, South, it would unite with other groups to become the United Methodist Church of Boynton Beach in 1968. Andrew Garnett was one of the "Barefoot Mailmen" [1885-1893]. The family was involved in banking, citrus, education and other enterprises in the county. Irl's daughter Katherine Garnett Eubanks still lives in the area and has been a member of the Boynton Beach Historical Society.

The Pierces



Although this house was on Hypoluxo Island, it was 1876 and there was no Boynton. Major Boynton arrived in 1895. The Pierces as one of the first families in the area along with their relatives the Vosses and the Oyers always deserve mention for their continuing contributions to life here. H.D. Pierce, leaning on the column at the right, built the house from lumber and salvage he found on the beach. The Pierces arrived in 1873. H.D. was also one of the "Barefoot Mailmen."