



Historic Preservation Board Calendar 2 0 0 5



CITY OF ORLANDO
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
HISTORIC PRESERVATION

January 2005



February 2005



1018 East Livingston Street • 1934 • Photograph by Mark Schenkel

March 2005



403 East Amelia Street • 1920 • Photograph by Sammy Foster

April 2005



421 East Amelia Street • 1923 • Photograph by Joe Brooks

May 2005



420 Highland Avenue • circa 1936 • Photograph by Joanne Carole Wojtyto

June 2005



619 East Concord Street • circa 1920 • Photograph by Mark Schenkel

July 2005



346 Hillman Avenue • 1914 • Photograph by Mark Schenkel

August 2005



202 East Amelia Street • 1912 • Photograph by Wendy Murray

September 2005



420 East Amelia Street • circa 1921 • Photograph by Andrew Sailer

October 2005



217 East Amelia Street • circa 1920 • Photograph by Mark Schenkel

November 2005



641 Ridgewood Street • circa 1915 • Photograph by Barbara Cunningham

December 2005





CITY OF ORLANDO
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
HISTORIC PRESERVATION



Mayor Buddy Dyer

Orlando City Council

Phil Diamond, District 1
 Betty T. Wyman, District 2

Vicki Vargo, District 3
 Patty Sheehan, District 4

Daisy W. Lynum, District 5
 Ernest Page, District 6

Historic Preservation Board

Cindi Parker, Chair

David Blackwood	Clifton Bruce
Cathy Cline	Raymond Cox
Ted Maines	Karin Martin
Rick Pullum	Hilary Stevens

The theme for this year's Historic Preservation Board Calendar is the Lake Eola Heights Historic District. It is one of the city's finest downtown neighborhoods that has undergone significant change since it was first inhabited. Its tree-lined brick streets and historic homes are visible reminders of its rich history and architectural evolution.

The Orlando area was first settled in the mid 1850s and Orlando was incorporated in 1875. Through the end of the 19th century, settlers purchased large tracts of land near downtown on which to plant citrus groves, establish homesteads or resell smaller parcels at a profit.

Development of the downtown neighborhoods followed the boom and bust cycle of the local and national economy-the coming of the railroad in the 1880s, the freezes of 1894 and 1895, World War I and then, after the war, the real estate market in Orlando went wild during the 1920s Florida Land Boom. Home building in Lake Eola Heights took off in the 1920s, with property changing hands quickly as investors swarmed into Florida. The bust started late in 1925 with bank failures and a materials embargo. Devastating hurricanes in 1926 and 1928 squashed the hopes of any investors who remained. The Great Depression actually descended upon Florida three years before the rest of the nation.

It took several years for the good times to return. Orlando started coming out of the Depression as the military build-up leading to World War II began. Home construction

slowly continued through the war and burst into frenzied activity in the early 1950s. When outlying suburbs started multiplying, those who could afford the new neighborhoods left downtown. By the 1960s, the federal government was providing funding in Lake Eola Heights to improve the housing conditions.

In the mid 1980s, a group of residents formed the Lake Eola Heights Historic Neighborhood Association to save homes from demolition and preserve the character of the area. Renovations had already begun and the "turn around" was under way. The City designated the neighborhood as the Lake Eola Heights Historic District in 1989 and, in 1991, Lake Eola Heights was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Today, with a successful gardens tour, traffic-calming roundabouts and so many renovated homes, it is difficult to imagine the blight that found its way here in the 1960s.

The City of Orlando's Historic Preservation Board has actively pursued the recognition and protection of the significant buildings, neighborhoods, objects and landscapes of our diverse city since 1976. The Board has designated many individual landmarks, as well as six historic districts: Downtown, Lake Cherokee, Lake Copeland, Lake Eola Heights, Lake Lawsona and Colonialtown South. In addition to historic and architectural surveying, designation, architectural review and public education, the Board and City of Orlando staff provide valuable technical assistance to owners and developers contemplating the rehabilitation of historic properties.