

# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS BUILDING 3900 COMMONWEALTH BOULEVARD TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-3000 RICK SCOTT GOVERNOR

CARLOS LOPEZ-CANTERA LT. GOVERNOR

HERSCHEL T. VINYARD JR. SECRETARY

# **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Parks Small

Robert Wilhelm Danny Jones Joshua Hodson

FROM: Jennifer Carver

**SUBJECT: State Park Approved Unit Management Plan** 

**DATE:** July 9, 2014

Attached is a copy of the John Gorrie Museum State Park approved management plan. The plan can also be found on the Division's web page (<a href="www.dep.state.fl.us/parks/planning/plans.htm">www.dep.state.fl.us/parks/planning/plans.htm</a>).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (850) 245-3051 or Jennifer.Carver@dep.state.fl.us.

JC/c

Attachment



# FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS BUILDING 3900 COMMONWEALTH BOULEVARD TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-3000 RICK SCOTT GOVERNOR

CARLOS LOPEZ-CANTERA LT. GOVERNOR

HERSCHEL T. VINYARD JR. SECRETARY

July 7, 2014

Ms. Jennifer Carver
Planning Manager
Office of Park Planning, Division of Recreation and Parks
Department of Environmental Protection
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard, MS 525
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3000

Re: John Gorrie Museum State Park – Lease # 3626

Dear Ms. Carver:

The Division of State Lands, Office of Environmental Services, acting as agent for the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund, hereby approves the John Gorrie Museum State Park management plan. The next management plan update is due July 7, 2024.

Approval of this land management plan does not waive the authority or jurisdiction of any governmental entity that may have an interest in this project. Implementation of any upland activities proposed by this management plan may require a permit or other authorization from federal and state agencies having regulatory jurisdiction over those particular activities. Pursuant to the conditions of your lease, please forward copies of all permits to this office upon issuance.

Sincerely,

Marianne S. Gengenbach

Office of Environmental Services

generaland

Division of State Lands

# John Gorrie Museum State Park

# **APPROVED**

Unit Management Plan

# STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Division of Recreation and Parks

July 7, 2014



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
PURPOSE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PARK	1
Park Significance	1
PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE PLAN	2
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW	8
Management Authority and Responsibility	8
Park Management Goals	8
Management Coordination	9
Public Participation	9
Other Designations	9
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMPONENT	
INTRODUCTION	11
RESOURCE DESCRIPTION AND ASSESSMENT	12
Natural Resources	12
Topography	12
Geology	12
Soils	12
Minerals	17
Hydrology	17
Natural Communities (FNAI)	17
Imperiled Species	17
Exotic and Nuisance Species	17
Special Natural Features	22
Cultural Resources	22
Condition Assessment	22
Level of Significance	23
Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites	23
Historic Structures	24
Collections	26
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM	28
Management Goals, Objectives and Actions	28
Natural Resource Management	28
Hydrological Management	28

Natural Communities Management	29
Imperiled Species Management	29
Exotic and Nuisance Species Management	29
Special Management Considerations	30
Timber Management Analysis	30
Cultural Resource Management	30
Cultural Resource Management	30
Resource Management Schedule	32
Land Management Review	32
LAND USE COMPONENT	
INTRODUCTION	33
EXTERNAL CONDITIONS	33
Existing Use of Adjacent Lands	34
Planned Use of Adjacent Lands	34
PROPERTY ANALYSIS	35
Recreation Resource Elements	35
Land Area	35
Water Area	35
Natural Scenery	35
Archaeological and Historic Features	35
Assessment of Use	36
Past Uses	36
Future Land Use and Zoning	36
Current Recreation Use and Visitor Programs	36
Protected Zones	39
Existing Facilities	39
Recreation Facilities	39
Support Facilities	39
CONCEPTUAL LAND USE PLAN	39
Potential Uses	40
Public Access and Recreational Opportunities	40
Proposed Facilities	43
Capital Facilities and Infrastructure	43
Facilities Development	44

Recreational Carrying Capacity	45
Optimum Boundary	45
IMPLEMENTATION COMPONENT	
MANAGEMENT PROGRESS	47
Park Administration and Operations	47
Resource Management	
Natural Resources	47
Cultural Resources	47
Recreation and Visitor Services	47
Park Facilities	47
MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION	48
TABLES	
TABLE 1 - John Gorrie Museum State Park Management Zones	12
TABLE 2 - Inventory of FLEPPC Category I and II Exotic Plant Species	21
TABLE 3 - Cultural Sites Listed in the Florida Master Site File	27
TABLE 4 - Existing Use and Recreational Carrying Capacity	45
TABLE 5 - Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates	49
MAPS	
Vicinity Map	3
Reference Map	
Management Zones Map	
Soils Map	
Natural Communities Map	
Base Map	
Conceptual Land Use Plan	
LIST OF ADDENDA	
ADDENDUM 1	
Acquisition History	A 1 - 1

# ADDENDUM 2

Advisory Group Members and Report	A	2	-	1
ADDENDUM 3				
References Cited	A	3	-	1
ADDENDUM 4				
Soil Descriptions	A	4	-	1
ADDENDUM 5				
Cultural Information	A	5 -	_	1

#### INTRODUCTION

John Gorrie Museum State Park is located in Franklin County (see Vicinity Map). Access to the park is from 6<sup>th</sup> Street south of US Highway 98 (see Reference Map). The Vicinity Map also reflects significant land and water resources existing near the park

The initial John Gorrie Museum State Park site was donated on April 15, 1955, to the Florida Board of Parks and Historical Memorials (FBPHM), the predecessor to The State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP). Two additional lots were later donated in 1967 to the FBPHM which conveyed the title of the entire park to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Trust Fund, who hold fee simple title to the property. Currently, the park contains 1.25 acres, as reflected on the current properties under management jurisdiction of the Division of Recreation and Parks (Division) report dated July 1, 2013.

The John Gorrie Museum State Park is designated single-use to provide public outdoor recreation and other park related uses. There are no legislative or executive directives that constrain the use of this property (see Addendum 1). There is an encumbrance on the special warranty deed that states should the property be used for any purpose other than a state memorial by the State of Florida; the title conveyed by the deed would revert to the City of Apalachicola.

#### PURPOSE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PARK

The purpose of the John Gorrie Museum State Park is to provide a museum for educational and park-related purposes. The Park provides an opportunity for historical interpretation as part of the Apalachicola Historic District; and honors and commemorates Dr. John Gorrie, inventor, physician, and prominent citizen and civic leader from the Civil War era of Apalachicola.

#### Park Significance

- The park commemorates Dr. John Gorrie who was a pioneer in developing air conditioning, receiving the first U.S. Patent for mechanical refrigeration in 1851.
- The park is a significant component of the Apalachicola Historic District which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.
- The park educates visitors about one of Florida's most prominent early citizens who
  opened the gates of modern technology and changed forever the way America and
  the world lives and works.

John Gorrie Museum State Park is classified as a state museum in the DRP's unit classification system in the management of a state museum interpretation which relates

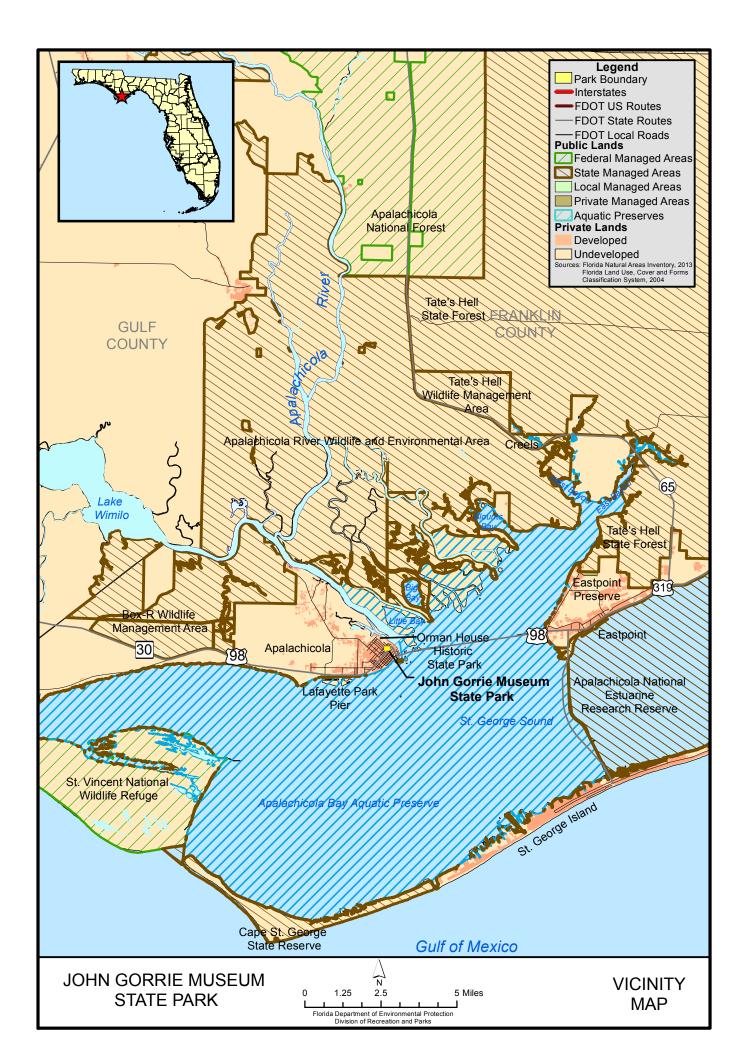
to natural, historical, cultural, or other such interests important to the general locality but not specifically to the exact sites on which the museums are located is the primary management objective. The interpretive program theme may be derived from any appropriate subject matter within the general area of interest. The state museum site itself usually requires no special resource considerations, but should be properly maintained in a manner to support and enhance the recreational experience derived from the museum visit. Through appropriate development, the grounds may be made an extension or an integral part of the museum itself. Ancillary facilities for such compatible recreational activities as picnicking may be provided.

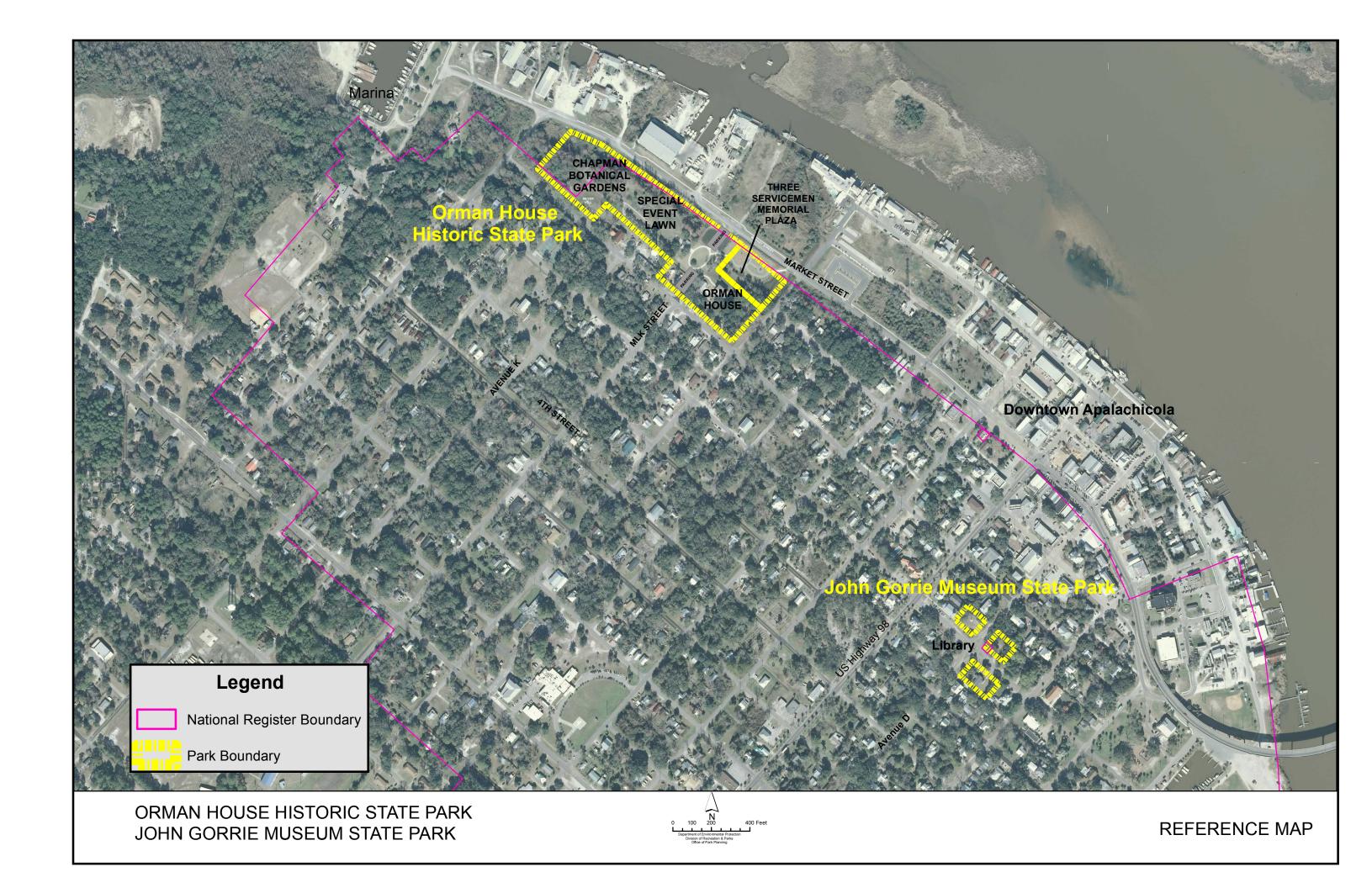
#### PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF THE PLAN

This plan serves as the basic statement of policy and direction for the management of the John Gorrie Museum State Park as a unit of Florida's state park system. It identifies the goals, objectives, actions and criteria or standards that guide each aspect of park administration, and sets forth the specific measures that will be implemented to meet management objectives and provide balanced public utilization. The plan is intended to meet the requirements of Sections 253.034 and 259.032, Florida Statutes, Chapter 18-2, Florida Administrative Code, and is intended to be consistent with the State Lands Management Plan. Upon approval, this management plan will replace the 2003 approved plan.

The plan consists of three interrelated components: the Resource Management Component, the Land Use Component and the Implementation Component. The Resource Management Component provides a detailed inventory and assessment of the natural and cultural resources of the park. Resource management problems and needs are identified, and measurable management objectives are established for each of the park's management goals and resource types. This component provides guidance on the application of such measures as prescribed burning, exotic species removal, imperiled species management, cultural resource management and restoration of natural conditions.

The Land Use Component is the recreational resource allocation plan for the park. Based on considerations such as access, population, adjacent land uses, the natural and cultural resource base of the park, current public uses and existing development, measurable objectives are set to achieve the desired allocation of the physical space of the park. These objectives locate use areas and propose the types of facilities and programs and the volume of public use to be provided.





The Implementation Component consolidates the measurable objectives and actions for each of the park's management goals. An implementation schedule and cost estimates are included for each objective and action. Included in this table are (1) measures that will be used to evaluate the DRP's implementation progress, (2) timeframes for completing actions and objectives, (3) estimated costs to complete each action and objective.

All development and resource alteration proposed in this plan is subject to the granting of appropriate permits, easements, licenses, and other required legal instruments. Approval of the management plan does not constitute an exemption from complying with the appropriate local, state or federal agencies.

In the development of this plan, the potential of the park to accommodate secondary management purposes was analyzed. These secondary purposes were considered within the context of the DRP's statutory responsibilities and the resource needs and values of the park. This analysis considered the park's natural and cultural resources, management needs, aesthetic values, and visitation and visitor experience. For this park, it was determined that no secondary purposes could be accommodated in a manner that would not interfere with the primary purpose of resource-based outdoor recreation and conservation. Uses such as water resource development projects, water supply projects, stormwater management projects, linear facilities and sustainable agriculture and forestry (other than those forest management activities specifically identified in this plan) are not consistent with this plan.

The potential for generating revenue to enhance management was also analyzed. Visitor fees and charges are the principal source of revenue generated by the park. It was determined that multiple-use management activities would not be appropriate as a means of generating revenues for land management. Instead, techniques such as entrance fees, concessions and similar measures will be employed on a case-by-case basis as a means of supplementing park management funding.

The DRP may provide the services and facilities outlined in this plan either with its own funds and staff or through an outsourcing contract. Private contractors may provide assistance with natural resource management and restoration activities or a Visitor Service Provider (VSP) may provide services to park visitors in order to enhance the visitor experience. For example, a VSP could be authorized to sell merchandise and food and to rent recreational equipment for use in the park. A VSP may also be authorized to provide specialized services, such as interpretive tours, or overnight accommodations when the required capital investment exceeds that which the DRP can elect to incur. Decisions regarding outsourcing, contracting with the private sector, the

use of VSPs, etc. are made on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the policies set forth in the DRP's Operations Manual (OM).

#### MANAGEMENT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Management Authority and Responsibility

In accordance with Chapter 258, Florida Statutes, and Chapter 62D-2, Florida Administrative Code, the Division of Recreation and Parks (Division) is charged with the responsibility of developing and operating Florida's recreation and parks system. These are administered in accordance with the following policy:

It shall be the policy of the Division of Recreation and Parks to promote the state park system for the use, enjoyment, and benefit of the people of Florida and visitors; to acquire typical portions of the original domain of the state which will be accessible to all of the people, and of such character as to emblemize the state's natural values; conserve these natural values for all time; administer the development, use and maintenance of these lands and render such public service in so doing, in such a manner as to enable the people of Florida and visitors to enjoy these values without depleting them; to contribute materially to the development of a strong mental, moral, and physical fiber in the people; to provide for perpetual preservation of historic sites and memorials of statewide significance and interpretation of their history to the people; to contribute to the tourist appeal of Florida.

Many operating procedures are standard system-wide and are set by internal direction. These procedures are outlined in the Division's Operations Manual (OM) that covers such areas as personnel management, uniforms and personal appearance, training, signs, communications, fiscal procedures, interpretation, concessions, public use regulations, resource management, law enforcement, protection, safety and maintenance.

# **Park Management Goals**

The following park goals express the DRP's long-term intent in managing the state park:

- Provide administrative support for all park functions.
- Protect water quality and quantity in the park, restore hydrology to the extent feasible and maintain the restored condition.
- Restore and maintain the natural communities/habitats of the park.
- Maintain, improve or restore imperiled species populations and habitats in the park.
- Remove exotic and invasive plants and animals from the park and conduct needed maintenance-control.
- Protect, preserve and maintain the cultural resources of the park.
- Provide public access and recreational opportunities in the park.

• Develop and maintain the capital facilities and infrastructure necessary to meet the goals and objectives of this management plan.

# **Management Coordination**

The park is managed in accordance with all applicable laws and administrative rules. Agencies having a major or direct role in the management of the park are discussed in this plan.

# **Public Participation**

The DRP provided an opportunity for public input by conducting a public workshop and an Advisory Group meeting to present the draft management plan to the public. These meetings were held on March 18 and 19, 2014, respectively. Meeting notices were published in the Florida Administrative Register, Volume 40/Issue 47, included on the Department Internet Calendar, posted in clear view at the park, and promoted locally. The purpose of the Advisory Group meeting is to provide the Advisory Group members an opportunity to discuss the draft management plan (see Addendum 2).

# **Other Designations**

John Gorrie Museum State Park is within an Area of Critical State Concern as defined in Section 380.05, Florida Statutes. The park is located within the City of Apalachicola that has been a designated an Area of Critical State Concern since 1989. The park is a designated component of the Florida Greenways and Trails system, administered by the Department's Office of Greenways and Trails.

#### RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMPONENT

#### INTRODUCTION

In accordance with Chapter 258, Florida Statutes, the Division of Recreation and Parks has implemented resource management programs for preserving for all time the representative examples of natural and cultural resources of statewide significance under its administration. This component of the unit plan describes the natural and cultural resources of the park and identifies the methods that will be used to manage them. The management measures expressed in this plan are consistent with the Department's overall mission in ecosystem management. Cited references are contained in Addendum 2.

The Division's philosophy of resource management is natural systems management. Primary emphasis is placed on restoring and maintaining, to the degree possible, the natural processes that shaped the structure, function and species composition of Florida's diverse natural communities as they occurred in the original domain. Single species management for imperiled species may be implemented when the recovery or persistence of a species is problematic, provided that this approach is compatible with natural systems management.

The Division's management goal for cultural resources is to preserve sites and objects that represent Florida's cultural periods, significant historic events, or persons. This goal often entails active measures to stabilize, reconstruct or restore resources, or to rehabilitate them for appropriate public use.

Because park units are often components of larger ecosystems, their proper management can be affected by conditions and events that occur beyond park boundaries. Ecosystem management is implemented through a resource management evaluation program that assesses resource conditions, evaluates management activities and refines management actions, and reviews local comprehensive plans and development permit applications for park/ecosystem impacts.

The entire park is divided into management zones which delineate areas on the ground that are used to reference management activities (see Management Zones Map). The shape and size of each zone may be based on natural community types, burn zones, and the location of existing roads and natural fire breaks. It is important to note that all burn zones are management zones; however, not all management zones include fire-dependent natural communities.

Table 1: John Gorrie Museum State Park Management Zones				
Management Zone	Acreage	Managed with Prescribed Fire	Contains Cultural Resources	
GM-1	.41	N/A	Y	
GM-2	.28	N/A	Y	
GM-3	.28	N/A	Y	

#### RESOURCE DESCRIPTION AND ASSESSMENT

#### **Natural Resources**

# **Topography**

The majority of the three small parcels comprising the park are contained within the four meter contour interval with only slight undulations apparent within this range.

# Geology

Franklin County is part of the Apalachicola delta complex and lies within the Terraced Coastal Lowland consisting of a series of marine terraces composed of sand or clayey sand. These terraces are plains formed at certain ranges of elevation by wave action and ocean currents in the past when sea levels were higher. Important geomorphic features of Franklin County include barrier islands composed of quartz sand that help form the Gulf Coastal Lagoon, also known as St. George Sound and Apalachicola Bay. Along the coastline of the lagoon are relict bars and spits, which formed at higher sea levels (Kennedy 2001).

#### Soils

This site has two soil types as described in the Soil Survey of Franklin County (USDA 1994) See the soils map for soil associations that occur in the park. The museum building is located on Resota Fine Sand and the two parcels across Sixth Street are composed of Mandarin Fine Sand. These soils may both be found on coastal ridges, but they are subtly different with regard to several properties. While the Resota soil is highly permeable and has a very low water capacity throughout its profile, only the surface layers of the Mandarin soil share these characteristics; the subsoil layers of Mandarin Fine Sands have moderate permeability and water capacity. The Resota soil also has a lower water table than the Mandarin soil. More detailed descriptions of soil types may be found in Addendum 4. The site is well established, fairly level, and adequately vegetated so that soil erosion does not appear to be a problem. DRP staff should provide corrective actions to prevent soil erosion if it is observed.





#### **Minerals**

There are no known minerals of commercial value at this unit.

# **Hydrology**

The predominant hydrology of the museum site is limited to surface run off following heavy rains. The only potential hydrological issue affecting this site is the temporary pooling of water during and immediately following heavy rains. These puddles can present an access issue to visitors since they would have to walk through them to enter the museum. The City of Apalachicola is currently working on a stormwater project that should help alleviate the pooling of water at the museum. If this localized flooding persists, the DRP should investigate various approaches to improving drainage from the site.

#### **Natural Communities**

This section of the management plan describes and assesses each of the natural communities found in the state park. It also describes of the desired future condition of each natural community and identifies the actions that will be required to bring the community to its desired future condition (DFC). Specific management objectives and actions for natural community management, exotic species management, and imperiled species management are discussed in the Resource Management Program section of this component.

This park does not contain any discernible natural communities. This area has had a long history of habitation and the entire property is currently developed. Thus, lists of natural communities and plants and animals for this park are not included as addenda.

# **Imperiled Species**

Imperiled species are those that are (1) tracked by FNAI as critically imperiled or imperiled; or (2) listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) or the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) as endangered, threatened or of special concern. There are no imperiled species at this museum and monument site.

# **Exotic and Nuisance Species**

Exotic species are plants or animals not native to Florida. Invasive exotic species are able to out-compete, displace or destroy native species and their habitats, often because they have been released from the natural controls of their native range, such as diseases, predatory insects, etc. If left unchecked, invasive exotic plants and animals alter the character, productivity, and conservation values of the natural areas they invade.

Although the park contains no natural communities, it is obligatory with the broader Division intentions and practices to remove invasive exotic plants and replace them with native species.

Not only does their presence provide a possible seed source to other areas, but it can also provide an undesirable example to the public from an agency that is actively engaged in controlling their infestation. Additionally, these species have become widespread in the last century or so, long after Dr. Gorrie's time, and are not indicative of the surroundings he would have seen.

Several invasive plants were formerly incorporated into the landscaping vegetation in past years, including tung oil tree (*Aleurites fordii*), camphor tree (*Cinnamomum camphora*) and glossy privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*). The tung oil tree, which was mature and very large, was cut down several years ago. The camphor tree and glossy privet that once occupied the site has also been removed. English ivy (*Hedera helix*) and lantana (*Lantana camara*) are two exotic plant species that are occasionally present as weeds on site and should be treated as encountered. English ivy is not presently listed by FLEPPC as an invasive species, but it should be controlled as it frequently exhibits aggressive growth characteristics.

**Table 2** contains a list of the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council (FLEPPC) Category I and II invasive, exotic plant species found within the park. FLEPPC compiles invasive species lists that are revised every two years. Professional botanists and others perform exhaustive studies to determine invasive exotic plants that should be placed on the lists. Invasive exotic plants are termed Category I when they are altering native plant communities by displacing native species, changing community structures or ecological functions, or hybridizing with natives. This definition does not rely on the economic severity or geographic range of the problem, but on the documented ecological damage caused. Category II invasive exotics have increased in abundance or frequency but have not yet altered Florida plant communities to the extent shown by Category I species. The table also identifies relative density for each species and the management zones in which they are known to occur. An explanation of the codes is provided following the table.



Table 2: Inventory of FLEPPC Category I and II Exotic Plant Species				
Common &				
Scientific Name	FLEPPC Category	Distribution	Management Zone	
	PLANTS			
Camphor tree	I	Eradicated		
Cinnamomum camphora		0		
Glossy privet	I	Eradicated		
Ligustrum lucidum		0		
Shrub verbena	I	Eradicated		
Lantana camara		0		
Tung oil tree	II	Eradicated		
Aleurites fordi		0		

# **Distribution Categories:**

- No current infestation: All known sites have been treated and no plants are currently evident.
- 1 Single plant or clump: One individual plant or one small clump of a single species.
- 2 Scattered plants or clumps: Multiple individual plants or small clumps of a single species scattered within the gross area infested.
- 3 Scattered dense patches: Dense patches of a single species scattered within the gross area infested.
- 4 Dominant cover: Multiple plants or clumps of a single species that occupy a majority of the gross area infested.
- Dense monoculture: Generally, a dense stand of a single dominant species that not only occupies more than a majority of the gross area infested, but also covers/excludes other plants.
- 6 Linearly scattered: Plants or clumps of a single species generally scattered along a linear feature, such as a road, trail, property line, ditch, ridge, slough, etc. within the gross area infested.

Exotic animal species include non-native wildlife species, free-ranging domesticated pets or livestock, and feral animals. Because of the negative impacts to natural systems attributed to exotic animals, the DRP actively removes exotic animals from state parks, with priority being given to those species causing the most ecological damage.

In some cases, native wildlife may also pose management problems or nuisances within state parks. A nuisance animal is an individual native animal whose presence or activities create special management problems. Examples of animal species from which

nuisance cases may arise include raccoons, gray squirrels, venomous snakes and alligators. Nuisance animals are dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Exotic and nuisance animals are not a consistent problem at this park. Feral cats may occasionally wander through the park. The animal control service should be called if they become problematic.

#### **Special Natural Features**

Although not visible from the site, the park is approximately 1,500 feet from the west bank of the mouth of the Apalachicola River.

#### **Cultural Resources**

This section addresses the cultural resources present in the park that may include archaeological sites, historic buildings and structures, cultural landscapes and collections. The Florida Department of State (FDOS) maintains the master inventory of such resources through the Florida Master Site File (FMSF). State law requires that all state agencies locate, inventory and evaluate cultural resources that appear to be eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Addendum 7 contains the FDOS, Division of Historical Resources (DHR) management procedures for archaeological and historical sites and properties on state-owned or controlled properties; the criteria used for evaluating eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and the Secretary of Interior's definitions for the various preservation treatments (restoration, rehabilitation, stabilization and preservation). For the purposes of this plan, significant archaeological site, significant structure and significant landscape means those cultural resources listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The terms archaeological site, historic structure or historic landscape refer to all resources that will become 50 years old during the term of this plan.

#### **Condition Assessment**

Evaluating the condition of cultural resources is accomplished using a three-part evaluation scale, expressed as good, fair and poor. These terms describe the present condition, rather than comparing what exists to the ideal condition. Good describes a condition of structural stability and physical wholeness, where no obvious deterioration other than normal occurs. Fair describes a condition in which there is a discernible decline in condition between inspections, and the wholeness or physical integrity is and continues to be threatened by factors other than normal wear. A fair assessment is usually a cause for concern. Poor describes an unstable condition where there is palpable, accelerating decline, and physical integrity is being compromised quickly. A resource in poor condition suffers obvious declines in physical integrity from year to year. A poor condition suggests immediate action is needed to reestablish physical stability.

# **Level of Significance**

Applying the criteria for listing in the National Register of Historic Places involves the use of contexts as well as an evaluation of integrity of the site. A cultural resource's significance derives from its historical, architectural, ethnographic or archaeological context. Evaluation of cultural resources will result in a designation of NRL (National Register or National Landmark Listed or located in an NR district), NR (National Register eligible), NE (not evaluated) or NS (not significant) as indicated in the table at the end of this section.

There are no criteria for use in determining the significance of collections or archival material. Usually, significance of a collection is based on what or whom it may represent. For instance, a collection of furniture from a single family and a particular era in connection with a significant historic site would be considered highly significant. In the same way, a high quality collection of artifacts from a significant archaeological site would be of important significance. A large herbarium collected from a specific park over many decades could be valuable to resource management efforts. Archival records are most significant as a research source. Any records depicting critical events in the park's history, including construction and resource management efforts, would all be significant.

The following is a summary of the FMSF inventory. In addition, this inventory contains the evaluation of significance.

# Prehistoric and Historic Archaeological Sites

**Desired Future Condition:** All significant archaeological sites within the park that represent Florida's cultural periods or significant historic events or persons are preserved in good condition in perpetuity, protected from physical threats and interpreted to the public.

Description: There are no recorded archaeological sites within the park boundaries. Park lands have been included in three archeological and architectural surveys conducted for the City of Apalachicola (Carr 1975; Werndli 1975; LaCivita and Marder 2005), but the park itself has not been the subject of a traditional, systematic archaeological survey. An archaeological resource sensitivity model (predictive model) was completed for the park in 2012 by the University of South Florida, Alliance of Integrated Spatial Technologies (AIST). The model identifies areas of high, medium and low cultural sensitivity in the park and can be used as a planning tool, along with other archaeological methods, to target survey areas and assist in land use planning (Collins et. al. 2012).

#### **Historic Structures**

**Desired Future Condition**: All significant historic structures and landscapes that represent Florida's cultural periods or significant historic events or persons are preserved in good condition in perpetuity, protected from physical threats and interpreted to the public.

**Description:** There is one historic structure, the John Gorrie Museum (8FR00065), and one resource group, the John Gorrie Complex (8FR01282), which are currently recorded in the FMSF for the park. Three individual additional historic structures (the brick storage building, the tomb of John Gorrie, and the John Gorrie monument) will be recorded as part of the unit management plan update process.

The park occupies three-quarters of City (Gorrie) Square, one of seven of the original public squares included in the 1836 town plan developed by the Apalachicola Land Company, and lies within the larger boundary of the Apalachicola Historic District (8FR00350). The historic structures in the park include the John Gorrie Museum (8FR00065), a brick storage building, the tomb of Dr. John Gorrie, and a monument honoring his legacy. The John Gorrie Complex (8FR01282) is composed of the three main elements of the park: the museum, the tomb and the monument. The John Gorrie Museum is a one-story brick building with Colonial Revival elements constructed in 1957 and occupies the southernmost parcel of the park. The brick storage building, built in 1961 and located adjacent to the museum in the same parcel, was constructed to complement the existing museum building.

The tomb consists of polished stone slabs and lies on the easternmost parcel; it was dedicated in 1957, along with the museum, and is Dr. Gorrie's third resting place. The monument, constructed with cast zinc (also known as white bronze), lies on the northernmost parcel and was dedicated in 1900. The museum, tomb and monument occupy three corners of what was once City, later Gorrie, Square, now the intersection of Sixth Street and Avenue D. They are significant elements in the scenery of Apalachicola, which also includes the nearby cemeteries and historic building facades. The Apalachicola City Library occupies the western corner of Gorrie Square. A water tower, which stood in the grassy center of Gorrie Square since 1906, fell during a hurricane in the 1980s; the foundational blocks remain. Brick-paved walks accent the park parcels and provide access to the facilities. The ground surfaces are covered with turf grass, and ornamental plants surround the museum building.

**Condition Assessment:** The Gorrie tomb, monument, and museum comprise the major visual elements of the park. The polished stone slab tomb, which marks Dr. Gorrie's (third) grave site, was dedicated in 1957; the tomb itself is in good condition, though some of the joints between it and the brick wall connecting the site's structures are in

poor condition. The white bronze (cast zinc) monument was dedicated in 1900, and it is currently in fair condition.

Level of Significance: Only one of the historic structures in the park, the John Gorrie Museum (8FR00065), has been formally evaluated for significance. At the time it was evaluated (1961), it was considered ineligible for the National Register as the building was considered a memorial and not a historic site, since the building was constructed in 1957. It was also considered as a "nonconforming" (non-contributing) structure to the Apalachicola Historic District (8FR00350) due to its post-World War II construction date, although it is implied, within the National Register nomination, that the land on which the park is located is significant as a remaining town square that still retains a sense of its public purpose. The John Gorrie Museum is now over 50 years of age and should be reevaluated again for significance. The John Gorrie Complex (8FR01282), which contains the John Gorrie Museum, the tomb, and the monument, has not been evaluated for significance.

General Management Measures: There are a number of steps that need to be undertaken in order to improve the facilities or repair elements that have become worn with age. In order to upgrade the museum building itself, the ceiling tiles as well as several doors and windows need to be replaced. The roof should also be repaired in multiple spots or even better, if possible, the asphalt shingles could be replaced with metal roofing so that the museum would be better protected from major storms. To provide additional protection, storm shutters should be installed over the windows. Currently, visitors must leave the exhibition area by a side door in order to access the bathrooms via a walkway open to the elements; enclosing this area inside a short hallway would provide easier and more convenient access by the public to the restrooms, which now must be kept locked when not in use. Finally, the floor tiles should be professionally cleaned and cracks repaired.

There are also multiple measures that should be implemented to features associated with the park property outside the building. The staff is now researching effective means by which to clean and maintain the monument and the tomb that will not harm these surfaces; they have consulted with a potential contractor in order to ascertain the cost and means by which to have this job completed. They also plan to establish a routine cleaning schedule once the appropriate procedures are finalized. Some elements on the tomb and monument need to be repaired, which includes replacing the monument's mounting brackets and resealing the joints associated with both structures. With the assistance of the Citizens Support Organization (CSO), the park staff has arranged for the sidewalks connecting the museum, tomb, and monument to be upgraded so that they will be ADA accessible. Upon completion of this project, the staff aims to collaborate with the newly restored Trinity Church, adjacent to the square, in developing and implementing a landscaping plan in order to plant aesthetically pleasing ornamental vegetation on the grounds that would complement the church as

well. The City of Apalachicola has also expressed interest in partnering with the park regarding a landscape plan for all four corners of Gorrie Square. One issue that remains outstanding is the temporary pooling of water after heavy rains that can prevent easy access into the building; the City of Apalachicola is currently working on a stormwater project that should help alleviate the pooling of water at the museum. With the cooperation of the city of Apalachicola and the DRP, an effective solution to the stormwater drainage issue can be developed and put into effect. Lastly, the shed should be upgraded or replaced in order to accommodate a wider doorway that could permit heavy equipment, especially a lawn mower, to be conveniently stored on site.

#### **Collections**

**Desired Future Condition**: All historic, natural history and archaeological objects within the park that represent Florida's cultural periods, significant historic events or persons, or natural history specimens are preserved in good condition in perpetuity, protected from physical threats and interpreted to the public.

**Description:** The museum houses a variety of collection items. Some items are reflective or commemorative of John Gorrie's life and work while others represent more general aspects of Florida's cultural history. The collection objects are owned by the Division or loaned to it for exhibit purposes.

The museum possesses eating utensils (dinner plate, fork, and four spoons) that were acquired from John Gorrie's house. It also has a cigar box, dating to 1910, from a brand that was named after Dr. Gorrie as well as a brochure picturing the inventor which was handed out when the John Gorrie Memorial Bridge was dedicated in 1935. One of the main features of the museum is the ¾ scale replica of Gorrie's invention, the ice machine. The original still exists and is stored at the Smithsonian Institution; acquisition of this device would represent a significant improvement and increase interest in the site. The park also has a number of nautical and turpentine harvesting equipment along with varied miscellanea, such as implements used in the cotton business, a street lantern, and an iron used to press ruffles on clothing. The museum office contains a small collection of documents stored within a file cabinet drawer consisting of various newspaper excerpts and articles as well as DHR correspondence about the site.

**Condition Assessment:** The quality of the museum's exhibits should be enhanced by providing more information on Dr. Gorrie, updating their informational content and replacing worn interpretive signs. The collections in the park are generally in good condition, but they all need some degree of maintenance.

**Level of Significance:** Some collection items in the museum reflect the significance of the work and life of John Gorrie, his importance in the Apalachicola Community, and the lasting effects his research and inventions have had around the world. Other

collections represent the rich history of Apalachicola as a shipping port, a once well-known exporter of cotton, turpentine and lumber, and as a noted forerunner in the development of the fishing and seafood industries.

**General Management Measures:** A scope of collections statement has been drafted for the museum and includes objects that are owned by and loaned to the park but has not reviewed or approved yet. Preservation of the collection requires cleaning and climate controlled environment, especially in coastal areas.

Detailed management goals, objectives and actions for management of cultural resources in this park are discussed in the Resource Management Program section of this component. Table 3 contains the name, reference number, culture or period, and brief description of all the cultural sites within the park that are listed in the Florida Master Site File. The table also summarizes each site's level of significance, existing condition and recommended management treatment. An explanation of the codes is provided following the table.

Table 3: Cultural Sites Listed in the Florida Master Site File

Site Name & FMSF #		Culture/Period	Description	Significance	Condition	Treatment
John Gorrie 8FR00065	Museum	1957	Historic Structure	NE	G	Р
John Complex 8FR01282	Gorrie	1955	Resource Group	NE	G, F	Р

Significance:	Recommended treatment	<u>Condition</u>
NR = National Register eligible	RS =Restoration	G = Good
LS = locally significant	RH = Rehabilitation	F = Fair
NE = not evaluated	ST = Stabilization	P= Poor
NS = not significant	P = Preservation	NA = Not accessible
<u> </u>	R = Removal	NE = Not evaluated
	N/A= Not applicable	

#### RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

### Management Goals, Objectives and Actions

Measurable objectives and actions have been identified for each of the Division's management goals for John Gorrie Museum State Park. Please refer to the Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates in the Implementation Component of this plan for a consolidated spreadsheet of the recommended actions, measures of progress, target year for completion and estimated costs to fulfill the management goals and objectives of this park.

While, the Division of Recreation and Parks utilizes the ten-year management plan to serve as the basic statement of policy and future direction for each park, a number of annual work plans provide more specific guidance for Division staff to accomplish many of the resource management goals and objectives of the park. Where such detailed planning is appropriate to the character and scale of the park's natural resources, annual work plans are developed for prescribed fire management, exotic plant management and imperiled species management. Annual or longer- term work plans are developed for natural community restoration and hydrological restoration. The work plans provide the Division with crucial flexibility in its efforts to generate and implement adaptive resource management practices in the state park system.

The work plans are reviewed and updated annually. Through this process, the Division's resource management strategies are systematically evaluated to determine their effectiveness. The process and the information collected is used to refine techniques, methodologies and strategies, and ensures that each park's prescribed management actions are monitored and reported as required by Chapters 253.034 and 259.037, Florida Statutes.

The goals, objectives and actions identified in this management plan will serve as the basis for developing annual work plans for the park. Since the plan is based on conditions that exist at the time the plan is developed, the annual work plans will provide the flexibility needed to adapt to future conditions as they change during the 10-year management planning cycle. As the park's annual work plans are implemented through the 10-year cycle, it may become necessary to adjust the management plan's priority schedules and cost estimates to reflect these changing conditions.

#### **Natural Resource Management**

#### **Hydrological Management**

Goal: Protect water quality and quantity in the park, restore hydrology to the extent feasible and maintain the restored condition.

The natural hydrology of most state parks has been impaired prior to acquisition to one degree or another. This park is a small park on an urban city block that contains a museum with a lawn area and accompanying structure. The site has no natural communities and is built out for all intents and purposes. Unless there is some major unforeseen future disturbance on this site, no changes are anticipated in the hydrology of the site.

# **Natural Communities Management**

Goal: Restore and maintain the natural communities/habitats of the park.

Since the entire park is developed and there are no natural communities, there is no need for ecological restoration or improvement measures at John Gorrie Museum State Park.

# **Imperiled Species Management**

Goal: Maintain and improve imperiled species populations and habitats in the park.

Ongoing inventory and monitoring of imperiled species in the state park system is necessary to meet the DRP's mission. At this time no imperiled plant or animal species have been documented in the park. DRP staff will continue to monitor for the absence or presence of imperiled species at this site.

#### **Exotic and Nuisance Species Management**

Goal: Remove exotic and invasive plants and animals from the park and conduct needed maintenance control.

The Division actively removes invasive exotic species from state parks, with priority being given to those causing the most ecological damage. Removal techniques may include mechanical treatment, herbicides, or bio-control agents.

*Objective:* Annually treat 1.25 acres of invasive exotic plant species if encountered in the park.

All invasive exotic species that establish on the park property, totaling 1.25 acres, should be treated or otherwise removed when observed.

*Objective:* Implement control measures on one exotic animal species in the park.

Feral cats that are problematic should be removed from the park. The local animal control service should be called in to remove the cats (or any other animals) that may prove to be a nuisance if they are encountered.

#### **Special Management Considerations**

#### **Timber Management Analysis**

Chapters 253 and 259, Florida Statutes, require an assessment of the feasibility of managing timber in land management plans for parcels greater than 1,000 acres if the lead agency determines that timber management is not in conflict with the primary management objectives of the land. The feasibility of harvesting timber at this park during the period covered by this plan was considered in context of the Division's statutory responsibilities and an analysis of the park's resource needs and values. The long-term management goal for forest communities in the state park system is to maintain or re-establish old-growth characteristics to the degree practicable, with the exception of early successional communities such as sand pine scrub and coastal strand. A timber management analysis was not conducted for this park since its total acreage is below the 1,000-acre threshold established by statute.

#### **Cultural Resource Management**

#### **Cultural Resource Management**

Cultural resources are individually unique, and collectively, very challenging for the public land manager whose goal is to preserve and protect them in perpetuity. The Division of Recreation and Parks is implementing the following goals, objectives and actions, as funding becomes available, to preserve the cultural resources found in John Gorrie Museum State Park.

### Goal: Protect, preserve and maintain the cultural resources of the park.

The management of cultural resources is often complicated because these resources are irreplaceable and extremely vulnerable to disturbances. The advice of historical and archaeological experts is required in this effort. All activities related to land clearing, ground disturbing activities, major repairs or additions to historic structures listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places must be submitted to the FDOS, Division of Historical Resources (DHR) for review and comment prior to undertaking the proposed project. Recommendations may include, but are not limited to concurrence with the project as submitted, pre-testing of the project site by a certified archaeological monitor, cultural resource assessment survey by a qualified professional archaeologist, modifications to the proposed project to avoid or mitigate potential adverse effect. In addition, any demolition or substantial alteration to any historic structure or resource must be submitted to DHR for consultation and the DRP must demonstrate that there is no feasible alternative to removal and must provide a strategy for documentation or salvage of the resource. Florida law further requires that DRP consider the reuse of historic buildings in the park in lieu of new construction and must undertake a cost comparison of new development versus rehabilitation of a building

before electing to construct a new or replacement building. This comparison must be accomplished with the assistance of DHR.

# Objective: Assess and evaluate 2 of 2 recorded cultural resources in the park.

Although the Park contains the museum, John Gorrie's tomb and the monument, only the museum is listed in the Florida Master Site File (FMSF) FR65. The park was included in the architectural and historic survey which contributed to the listing of the Apalachicola National Register Historic District. Park staff should consider amending the FR65 to also include the tomb and the monument, thereby including the entire park in the FMSF.

# Objective: Compile reliable documentation for all recorded historic and archaeological sites.

FMSF historic structure forms will be completed for the brick storage building, the tomb of John Gorrie, and the John Gorrie monument. Since this park contains the tomb of John Gorrie and a historic monument to his memory (dedicated in 1957 and 1900, respectively), the park has cultural features directly associated with this notable figure in the history of Florida as well as the engineering field. The park staff plans to pursue the listing of this site on the National Register of Historic Places.

A scope of collections statement has been written for the items housed in the museum, it has been sent to collections and it awaits review and approval. Since the documents held by the park are primarily newspaper excerpts and articles as well as official documents primarily involving DHR correspondence, the park should explore means by which to obtain documents actually written by Dr. Gorrie or those concerning his ice machine invention during or shortly following his life.

Further research is needed in support of the expansion and upgrading of museum exhibits. While the replica of the ice machine is the main focal point of the museum collection, the original still exists and is stored at the Smithsonian Institution; acquisition of this device would represent a significant improvement and increase interest in the site. The collection currently contains relatively little information on the life and work of John Gorrie and most of the items concern the history of Apalachicola and its culture. There should be more emphasis on Dr. Gorrie and less on the local history. Similarly, efforts should be undertaken to expand the document collection to reflect Dr. Gorrie's accomplishments and biographical details. Even if original documents are not available, copies of existing ones held in various archives should be pursued.

# Objective: Bring 1 of 2 recorded resources into good condition.

The John Gorrie Museum (8FR00065) is currently in good condition and will be maintained and repaired as needed to function effectively as a climate-controlled museum space. There are an assemblage of upgrades and repairs that need to be done on the museum building, including replacement of ceiling tiles as well as several doors and windows; repair or replacement of the roof; installation of storm shutters; enclosing of the hallway to the restrooms; and maintenance and cleaning of floor tiles. In case the park becomes eligible for receiving the original ice machine on loan from the Smithsonian Institution, then the security system and interior lighting system also would need to be upgraded.

Some elements of the John Gorrie Complex, which is comprised of the Gorrie tomb, monument, and museum, need cleaning and repair to be brought into good condition. The tomb itself is in good condition, though some of the concrete joints between it and the brick wall connecting the site's structures are in poor condition and need to be repointed. The white bronze (cast zinc) monument is currently in fair condition, and needs to be evaluated by a conservator to determine the proper means to clean and repair the monument to bring it to good condition.

# Resource Management Schedule

A priority schedule for conducting all management activities that is based on the purposes for which these lands were acquired, and to enhance the resource values, is located in the Implementation Component of this management plan.

# **Land Management Review**

Section 259.036, Florida Statutes, established land management review teams to determine whether conservation, preservation and recreation lands titled in the name of the Board of Trustees are being managed for the purposes for which they were acquired and in accordance with their approved land management plans. The managing agency shall consider the findings and recommendations of the land management review team in finalizing the required update of its management plan. The John Gorrie Museum State Park has not been the subject of a Land Management Review.

#### LAND USE COMPONENT

#### INTRODUCTION

Land use planning and park development decisions for the state park system are based on the dual responsibilities of the Division of Recreation and Parks. These responsibilities are to preserve representative examples of original natural Florida and its cultural resources, and to provide outdoor recreation opportunities for Florida's citizens and visitors.

The general planning and design process begins with an analysis of the natural and cultural resources of the unit, and then proceeds through the creation of a conceptual land use plan that culminates in the actual design and construction of park facilities. Input to the plan is provided by experts in environmental sciences, cultural resources, park operation and management, through public workshops, and environmental groups. With this approach, the Division objective is to provide quality development for resource-based recreation throughout the state with a high level of sensitivity to the natural and cultural resources at each park.

This component of the unit plan includes a brief inventory of the external conditions and the recreational potential of the unit. Existing uses, facilities, special conditions on use, and specific areas within the park that will be given special protection, are identified. The land use component then summarizes the current conceptual land use plan for the park, identifying the existing or proposed activities suited to the resource base of the park. Any new facilities needed to support the proposed activities are described and located in general terms.

#### **EXTERNAL CONDITIONS**

An assessment of the conditions that exist beyond the boundaries of the unit can identify any special development problems or opportunities that exist because of the unit's unique setting or environment. This also provides an opportunity to deal systematically with various planning issues such as location, regional demographics, adjacent land uses and park interaction with other facilities.

The John Gorrie Museum State Park is located approximately 90 miles southwest of Tallahassee and 60 miles southeast of Panama City within the historic district of Apalachicola, the largest incorporated area of Franklin County. According to the 2010 Census, the city's 2,231 residents represent a 4 percent decrease over 2000 population levels. The city's historic character, coastal location and strategic position on scenic US 98, serves as a draw for increasing numbers of visitors along the Big Bend area of the Gulf coast.

Franklin County has experienced a past growth rate similar the Counties in the region and remains one of the least populated counties in the region with a 2010 population of 11,549, the County is projected to lose population over the next few years. Currently the Bureau of Economic and Business Research projects a population loss from 11,549 in 2010 to 11,530 in 2012.

There are a number of resource based recreation opportunities in proximity to the John Gorrie Museum State Park. Many opportunities for outdoor based recreation opportunities and other museums exist within a few miles of the park. These include the Orman House Historic State Park, within walking distance of the John Gorrie Museum State Park, which offers a fascinating glimpse into the lives of a prominent merchant family in Apalachicola before and after the Civil War. Dr. Julian G. Bruce St. George Island State Park and Cape St. George State Preserve offer picnicking, swimming, fishing, paddling, camping, birding and hiking, while areas such as St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge, Apalachicola River Wildlife and Environmental Area and Tate's Hell State Forest offer many of these same opportunities in addition to hunting, and in some instances Trails for Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) use. The Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve offers excellent educational opportunities and the Big Bend Scenic Byway offers a scenic drive through forested and natural areas on State Road 65 and U.S. Highway 98. The John Gorrie Museum State Park is noted as contributing to the Big Bend Scenic Byway.

# **Existing Use of Adjacent Lands**

The property is located west of downtown Apalachicola in a residential area approximately 1500 feet from the west bank of the mouth of the Apalachicola River. The park occupies three corners of Gorrie Square at the intersection of Sixth Street and Avenue D. The structures in the Park include what is believed to be the burial site or tomb of Dr. John Gorrie, the John Gorrie monument and the museum. They are significant elements in the scenery of Apalachicola, which also includes the nearby cemeteries and historic building facades. The John Gorrie Museum occupies the southernmost corner, and the Apalachicola city library occupies the western corner. The park was included in the architectural and historical survey which contributed to the 1980 listing of the Apalachicola National Register Historic District.

#### Planned Use of Adjacent Lands

The parcels surrounding the museum are in the Residential future land use category and are zoned for residential uses. The surrounding residential neighborhood is largely built out with no significant changes anticipated in the future. The park is within walking distance of the downtown area of the City of Apalachicola which is a designated Main Street Community, Waterfronts

Community and has a Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) that work to promoted heritage tourism, preservation and economic viability.

#### PROPERTY ANALYSIS

Effective planning requires a thorough understanding of the unit's natural and cultural resources. This section describes the resource characteristics and existing uses of the property. The unit's recreation resource elements are examined to identify the opportunities and constraints they present for recreational development. Past and present uses are assessed for their effects on the property, compatibility with the site, and relation to the unit's classification.

#### **Recreation Resource Elements**

This section assesses the unit's recreation resource elements those physical qualities that, either singly or in certain combinations, supports the various resource-based recreation activities. Breaking down the property into such elements provides a means for measuring the property's capability to support individual recreation activities. This process also analyzes the existing spatial factors that either favor or limit the provision of each activity.

#### **Land Area**

John Gorrie Museum State Park is located within the historic district of The City of Apalachicola. The park is located on an urban lot with a couple of large trees, and ornamental plantings characteristic of an urban residential setting. The Park is located on three opposing corners of Gorrie square.

# **Natural Scenery**

The location of the park at three corners of Gorrie square offers a nice view of the surrounding residential area, live oak trees and the historic Trinity Episcopal Church adjoining the Gorrie memorial.

# **Archaeological and Historical Features**

The historical features of the park include the Gorrie monument, John Gorrie tomb and the collection items contained within the museum exhibits that are featured for the enjoyment of park visitors. These historic elements provide unique opportunities to interpret the many contributions of Dr. John Gorrie as well as the significance of Apalachicola to the region and nation's history.

#### Assessment of Use

All legal boundaries, significant natural features, structures, facilities, roads and trails existing in the unit are delineated on the base map (see Base Map). Specific uses made of the unit are briefly described in the following sections.

#### Past Uses

The monument was dedicated in 1900 and the polished stone slab on the tomb marking his assumed burial site was dedicated in 1957. The museum honoring John Gorrie has been under the administration of the Florida Division of Recreation and Parks since 1957. Native American use of the lands surrounding the mouth of the Apalachicola is well known, although evidence of use of the park site has not been documented.

#### Future Land Use and Zoning

The Division works with local governments to establish designations that provide both consistency between comprehensive plans and zoning codes and permit typical state park uses and facilities necessary for the provision of resource-based recreation opportunities.

The current future land use category for this park is Public Facilities. The City recently made a change to the future land use map in the comprehensive plan. The City also amended the comprehensive plan by adopting a historic overlay district designation for all the City's historic squares and identify them as "public facilities historic square". This will not change the current future land use designation of the park, but will place an overlay on the park and all historic squares. This overlay category is intended to support the historic preservation of the City's original town squares. The zoning is in the process of being changed to a zoning category that will be consistent with the new land use category.

#### **Current Recreational Use and Visitor Programs**

Historic interpretation is the primary recreational use at the John Gorrie Museum State Park. The grounds around the museum are lawn with some urban landscaping and there are two available benches beneath a shade tree that can be used for picnics. DRP staff is working to promote special events at the park.

John Gorrie Museum State Park recorded approximately 2,439 visitors to the park in Fiscal Year 2012-2013. By DRP estimates, the FY 2012-2013 visitors contributed over \$156,141 thousand dollars in direct economic impact and the equivalent of two jobs to the local economy (Florida Department of Environmental Protection 2013).



#### **Protected Zones**

A protected zone is an area of high sensitivity or outstanding character from which most types of development are excluded as a protective measure. Generally, facilities requiring extensive land alteration or resulting in intensive resource use, such as parking lots, camping areas, shops or maintenance areas, are not permitted in protected zones. Facilities with minimal resource impacts, such as trails, interpretive signs and boardwalks are generally allowed. All decisions involving the use of protected zones are made on a case-by-case basis after careful site planning and analysis. There is no designated protected zone at the John Gorrie Museum State Park.

# **Existing Facilities**

#### **Recreation Facilities**

Existing recreational facilities are limited to the museum and a self guided walking tour of the tomb and monument. Two picnic tables are available on the grounds of the museum.

Museum Picnic Tables (2)

# **Support Facilities**

The parking provided adjacent to the John Gorrie Museum and the storage structures are the main support facilities.

Parking spaces in front of museum Storage building

#### CONCEPTUAL LAND USE PLAN

The following narrative represents the current conceptual land use proposal for this park. As new information is provided regarding the environment of the park, cultural resources, recreational use, and as new land is acquired, the conceptual land use plan may be amended to address the new conditions (see Conceptual Land Use Plan). A detailed development plan for the park and a site plan for specific facilities will be developed based on this conceptual land use plan, as funding becomes available.

During the development of the management plan, the Division assessed potential impacts of proposed uses or development on the park resources and applied that analysis to decisions on the future physical plan of the park as well as the scale and character of proposed development. Potential impacts are more thoroughly identified and assessed as part of the site planning process once funding is available for facility development.

At that stage, design elements (such as existing topography and vegetation, sewage disposal and stormwater management) and design constraints (such as imperiled species or cultural site locations) are more thoroughly investigated. Municipal sewer connections, advanced wastewater treatment or best available technology systems are applied for on-site sewage disposal. Stormwater management systems are designed to minimize impervious surfaces to the greatest extent feasible, and all facilities are designed and constructed using best management practices to avoid impacts and to mitigate those that cannot be avoided. Federal, state and local permit and regulatory requirements are met by the final design of the projects. This includes the design of all new park facilities consistent with the universal access requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). After new facilities are constructed, the park staff monitors conditions to ensure that impacts remain within acceptable levels.

#### **Potential Uses**

# Public Access and Recreational Opportunities

#### Goal: Provide public access and recreational opportunities in the park.

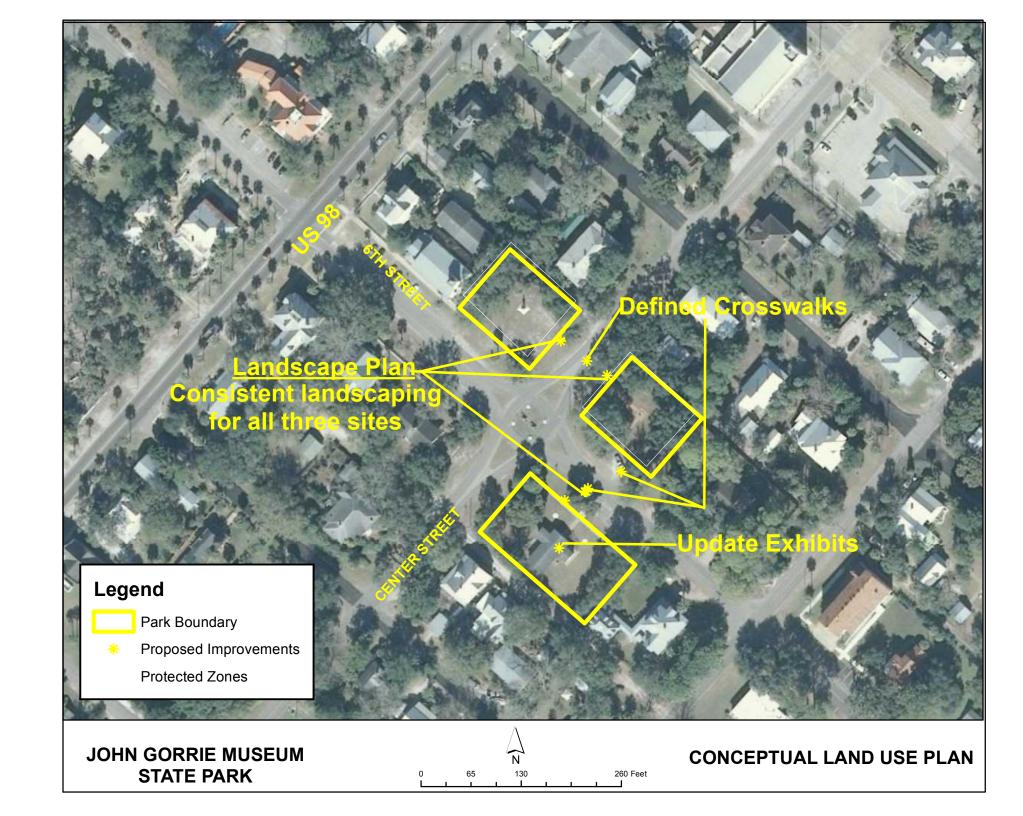
The existing recreational activities and programs of this state park are appropriate to the natural and cultural resources contained in the park and should be continued. New and improved activities and programs are also recommended and discussed below.

*Objective:* Maintain the park's current recreational carrying capacity of 128 users per day.

Historic interpretation is the primary recreational use at the John Gorrie Museum State Park. The museum, the tomb and the monument provide interpretation of historical resources and the quiet reflection of a memorial, all activities suited to the resources in the John Gorrie Museum State Park.

Objective: Develop 1 new interpretive, 1 educational and recreational programs.

Further research is needed in support of the expansion and upgrading of museum exhibits. There should be more emphasis on Dr. Gorrie and less on the local history, which will help expand the interpretive program at the museum. Similarly, efforts should be undertaken to expand the document collection to reflect Dr. Gorrie's accomplishments and biographical details adding to the knowledge and educational component of the museum. Staff will seek additional interpretive materials either permanent or on temporary loan from the Smithsonian Institute to enhance the museum. Even if original documents are not available, copies of existing ones held in various archives should be pursued.



The addition of the landscape and hardscape plan with its defined crosswalks and a circulation plan to guild visitors through all three elements of the park, will add an additional recreational aspect to the park.

#### **Proposed Facilities**

# **Capital Facilities and Infrastructure**

Goal: Develop and maintain the capital facilities and infrastructure necessary to implement the recommendations of the management plan.

The existing facilities of this state park are appropriate to the natural and cultural resources contained in the park and should be maintained. New construction, as discussed further below, is recommended to improve the quality and safety of the recreational opportunities that visitors enjoy while in the park, to improve the protection of park resources, and to streamline the efficiency of park operations. The following is a summary of improved renovated and new facilities needed to implement the conceptual land use plan for John Gorrie Museum State Park

#### Objective: Maintain all public and support facilities in the park.

All capital facilities, trails and roads within the park will be kept in proper condition through the daily or regular work of park staff and/or contracted help.

#### Objective: Improve/repair 1 existing facility.

Major repair projects for park facilities may be accomplished within the 10-year term of this management plan, if funding is made available. These include the modification of existing park facilities to bring them into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (a top priority for all facilities maintained by the Division). The following discussion of other recommended improvements and repairs are organized by use area within the park.

The exhibits in the museum need to be modernized and updated. The quality of the museum's exhibits can be enhanced by providing more information on Dr. Gorrie, updating their information content and replacing worn interpretive signs.

There are a number of activities that should be undertaken to improve the museum building and protect the collection, including the replacement of windows and several of the doors, update the lighting, roof repairs, replacement of ceiling tiles, and installation of storm shutters. The exhibits in the museum need to be redesigned and updated. The quality of the museum's exhibits can be enhanced by providing more information on Dr. Gorrie, updating their information content,

modernize the lighting, and replacing worn interpretive signs. A Scope of Collections Statement that has been developed and is being reviewed by the Bureau of Natural and Cultural Resources.

A landscape and hardscape plan will be developed to visually and physically connect all three areas of the park. There is a lack of defined crosswalks and a circulation plan to guild visitors through all three elements of the park, the museum, grave and monument. The current walkways that exist are not ADA compliant. A defined circulation plan with ADA-compliant crosswalks and pathways will more easily guide visitors through the park experience. This allows for better interpretation of the park and provides a safer, more enjoyable experience for the visitors. The City of Apalachicola has expressed interest in partnering with the park regarding the future landscape/ hardscape plan for the park; thus tying all four corners of Gorrie Square together. All work regarding new pathways and landscape plans will need to be coordinated with the Division of Historic Resources.

The current landscaping previously featured several non-native invasive species, including the camphor tree (*Cinnamomum camphora*), and glossy privet (*Ligustrum lucidum*) before DRP staff removed these species from the park. The new landscape plan will be designed to showcase native species, serve as a circulation guide between the sites and tie the park together along with defined crosswalks between the museum, tomb and memorial.

#### **Facilities Development**

Preliminary cost estimates for these recommended facilities and improvements are provided in the Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates (Table 6) located in the Implementation Component of this plan. These cost estimates are based on the most cost-effective construction standards available at this time. The preliminary estimates are provided to assist the Division in budgeting future park improvements, and may be revised as more information is collected through the planning and design processes. New facilities and improvements to existing facilities recommended by the plan include:

# Landscape/Circulation plan

Revised landscape plan Hardscape ADA compliant circulation plan

#### Structure/Monument Upgrades

Museum building renovations Museum exhibit upgrades Repair and clean the tomb and monument

# **Recreational Carrying Capacity**

Carrying capacity is an estimate of the number of users a recreation resource or facility can accommodate and still provide a high quality recreational experience and preserve the natural values of the site. The carrying capacity of a unit is determined by identifying the land and water requirements for each recreation activity at the unit, and then applying these requirements to the unit's land and water base. Next, guidelines are applied which estimate the physical capacity of the unit's natural communities to withstand recreational uses without significant degradation. This analysis identifies a range within which the carrying capacity most appropriate to the specific activity, the activity site and the unit's classification is selected (see Table 4).

The recreational carrying capacity for this park is a preliminary estimate of the number of users the unit could accommodate after the current conceptual development program has been implemented. When developed, the proposed new facilities would approximately increase the unit's carrying capacity as shown in Table 4.

TABLE 4

Recreational Carrying Capacity

	Existin Capaci	0	Proposed Addition Capacity	al Fut	ure pacity
Activity/Facility	One Time	Daily	One Time I	One Daily Time	Daily
Picnicking Museum	8 32	16 128		8 32	-
TOTALS	40	144		40	144

# **Optimum Boundary**

The optimum boundary map reflects lands considered desirable for direct management by the DRP as part of the state park. These parcels may include public or privately owned land that would improve the continuity of existing parklands, provide the most efficient boundary configuration, improve access to the park, provide additional natural and cultural resource protection or allow for future

expansion of recreational activities. Parklands that are potentially surplus to the management needs of DRP are also identified. As additional needs are identified through park use, development, and research, and as land use changes on adjacent property, modification of the park's optimum boundary may be necessary.

At this time, no additional property is needed to support the resources or operations of the park. There are no lands considered surplus.

#### IMPLEMENTATION COMPONENT

The resource management and land use components of this management plan provide a thorough inventory of the park's natural, cultural and recreational resources. They outline the park's management needs and problems, and recommend both short and long-term objectives and actions to meet those needs. The implementation component addresses the administrative goal for the park and reports on the Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP) progress toward achieving resource management, operational and capital improvement goals and objectives since approval of the previous management plan for this park. This component also compiles the management goals, objectives and actions expressed in the separate parts of this management plan for easy review. Estimated costs for the ten-year period of this plan are provided for each action and objective, and the costs are summarized under standard categories of land management activities.

#### MANAGEMENT PROGRESS

Since the approval of the last management plan for John Gorrie Museum State Park in 2003, significant work has been accomplished and progress made towards meeting the DRP's management objectives for the park. These accomplishments fall within three of the five general categories that encompass the mission of the park and the DRP.

### Park Administration and Operations

- The park continues to actively work with organizations and members of the public that wish to volunteer their time.
- The Park employs a part time OPS staff person to assist with duties at both the John Gorrie Museum State Park and the Orman House Historic State Park.

# **Resource Management**

#### **Natural Resources**

 Park Staff has removed all Class I invasive exotic Tung Oil trees from the museum property

#### **Cultural Resources**

• The bricks at the John Gorrie grave site have been repointed

#### **Recreation and Visitor Services**

- The Museum is actively involved in the City's annual John Gorrie Ice Days event.
- The Park is currently incorporating local student science fair exhibits related to Dr. Gorrie and his inventions into the parks interpretive exhibits.

#### **Park Facilities**

 Museum windows have been fitted with louvers to prevent sunlight and harmful UV rays from damaging interpretive displays.

#### MANAGEMENT PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

This management plan is written for a timeframe of ten years, as required by Section 253.034 Florida Statutes. The Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates (Table 5) summarizes the management goals, objectives and actions that are recommended for implementation over this period, and beyond. Measures are identified for assessing progress toward completing each objective and action. A time frame for completing each objective and action is provided. Preliminary cost estimates for each action are provided and the estimated total costs to complete each objective are computed. Finally, all costs are consolidated under the following five standard land management categories: Resource Management, Administration and Support, Capital Improvements, Recreation Visitor Services and Law Enforcement.

Many of the actions identified in the plan can be implemented using existing staff and funding. However, a number of continuing activities and new activities with measurable quantity targets and projected completion dates are identified that cannot be completed during the life of this plan unless additional resources for these purposes are provided. The plan's recommended actions, time frames and cost estimates will guide the DRP's planning and budgeting activities over the period of this plan. It must be noted that these recommendations are based on the information that exists at the time the plan was prepared. A high degree of adaptability and flexibility must be built into this process to ensure that the DRP can adjust to changes in the availability of funds, improved understanding of the park's natural and cultural resources, and changes in statewide land management issues, priorities and policies.

Statewide priorities for all aspects of land management are evaluated each year as part of the process for developing the DRP's annual legislative budget requests. When preparing these annual requests, the DRP considers the needs and priorities of the entire state park system and the projected availability of funding from all sources during the upcoming fiscal year. In addition to annual legislative appropriations, the DRP pursues supplemental sources of funds and staff resources wherever possible, including grants, volunteers and partnerships with other entities. The DRP's ability to accomplish the specific actions identified in the plan will be determined largely by the availability of funds and staff for these purposes, which may vary from year to year. Consequently, the target schedules and estimated costs identified in Table 5 may need to be adjusted during the ten-year management planning cycle.

# Table 5 John Gorrie Museum State Park Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates

Sheet 1 of 4

Goal I: Provide	administrative support for all park functions.	Measure	Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10 years)
Objective A	Continue day-to-day administrative support at current levels.	Administrative support ongoing	С	\$56,000
Objective B	Expand administrative support as new lands are acquired, new facilities are developed, or as other needs arise.	Administrative support expanded	UFN	\$(
Goal II: Protect of condition.	water quality and quantity in the park, restore hydrology to the extent feasible, and maintain the restored	Measure	Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10 years)
	There are no natural communities at this developed museum park.			
Goal III: Restor	e and maintain the natural communities/habitats of the park.	Measure	Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10- years)
	There are no natural communities at this developed museum park.			
Goal IV: Maint	in, improve or restore imperiled species populations and habitats in the park.	Measure	Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10- years)
	There are no imperiled species at this developed museum site.			
Goal V: Remov	e exotic and invasive plants and animals from the park and conduct needed maintenance-control.	Measure	Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10- years)
Objective A	Annually treat 1.25 acres of exotic plant species in the park.	# Acres treated	С	\$800
Action	Annually check all three parts of the park for exotic plant species	Annual check for exotics completed	С	\$800
Objective B	Implement control measures on any nuisance animal in the park.	# Species for which control measures implemented	С	\$250
Action	Continue to coordinate with local animal control to remove feral cats as needed	# Animals removed	С	\$250

# Table 5 John Gorrie Museum State Park Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates Sheet 2 of 4

NOTE: THE DIVISION'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED BY THE MANAGEMENT PLAN IS CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR THESE PURPOSES.

Goal VI: Protect,	preserve and maintain the cultural resources of the park.	Measure	Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10- years)
Objective A	Assess and evaluate 1 of 2 recorded cultural resources in the park.	Documentation complete	С	\$2,000
Action 1	Park staff will annually evaluate the Museum to identify any potential damage or threats to the structure and prioritize repairs or preservation projects needed.	Annual evaluation completed,repairs prioritized	С	\$1,000
Action 2	Park staff will annually evaluate the structures in the John Gorrie Complex (Gorrie tomb, Gorrie monument, walkways) to identify any potential damage or threats to the structure and prioritize repairs or preservation projects.	Annual evaluation completed,repairs prioritized	С	\$1,000
Objective B	Compile reliable documentation for all recorded historic and archaeological sites.	Documentation complete	LT	\$2,400
Action 1	Florida Master Site File (FMSF) forms will be completed for the Gorrie tomb and Gorrie Monument.	Forms completed and submitted	ST	\$200
Action 2	The park staff will work to obtain additional documents or copies actually written by Dr. Gorrie, as well as collection artifacts for the museum exhibits related to his accomplishments and biographical details.	Documents and objects obtained	С	\$2,000
Action 3	Draft and get approved a Scope of Collections statement	Scope of Collections complete	ST	\$200
Objective C	Maintain 1 of 2 recorded cultural resources in good condition.	# Sites in good condition	LT	\$141,300
Action 1	Prioritize and carry out needed upgrades and repairs on the museum building.	Repairs or upgrades completed	LT	\$100,000
Action 2	Develop and implement a plan to clean and repair the tomb and monument in order to maintain them in good condition.	Plan developed and implemented	ST	\$4,300
Action 3	Develop and implement a landscaping plan for the property	Plan developed and implemented	ST	\$7,000
Action 4	Research and implement a method to reduce temporary pooling of storm water on the grounds	Plan developed and implemented	UFD	\$30,000

# Table 5 John Gorrie Museum State Park Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates Sheet 3 of 4

NOTE: THE DIVISION'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED BY THE MANAGEMENT PLAN IS CONTINGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND OTHER
RESOURCES FOR THESE PURPOSES.

RESOURCES	FOR THESE PURPOSES.			
Goal VII: Prov	ride public access and recreational opportunities in the park.	Measure	Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10- years)
Objective A	Maintain the park's current recreational carrying capacity of 144 users per day.	# Recreation/visitor	С	\$11,400
Objective B	Expand the parks recreational carrying capacity by 0 users per day	# Recreation/visitor	С	\$0
Objective C	Research and develop a plan to support the upgrade of the museum exhibits	# Interpretive/education/ recreation programs	UFN	\$5,300
Objective D	Develop new interpetive, educational and recreational programs	# Interpretive/education/ recreation programs	UFN	\$5,600
Goal VIII: Des	velop and maintain the capital facilities and infrastructure necessary to meet the goals and objectives of this lan.	Measure	Planning Period	Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10- years)
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<b>Measure</b> Facilities maintained	•	and Expense Cost* (10- years)
management p	lan.		Period	and Expense Cost* (10-years) \$134,000
management p Objective A	Maintain all public and support facilities in the park.  Continue to implement the park's transition plan to ensure facilities are accessible in accordance with the	Facilities maintained	Period C	and Expense Cost* (10- years) \$134,000 \$9,000
management p Objective A Objective B	Maintain all public and support facilities in the park.  Continue to implement the park's transition plan to ensure facilities are accessible in accordance with the American with Disabilities Act of 1990.	Facilities maintained Plan implemented	Period  C  LT	and Expense Cost* (10-

# Table 5 John Gorrie Museum State Park Ten-Year Implementation Schedule and Cost Estimates

Sheet 4 of 4

NOTE: THE DIVISION'S ABILITY TO COMPLETE THE OBJECTIVES OUTLINED BY THE MANAGEMENT PLAN IS CONTINED RESOURCES FOR THESE PURPOSES.	NGENT ON THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING AND OTHER
Summary of Estimated Costs	
Management Categories	Total Estimated Manpower and Expense Cost* (10- years)
Resource Management	\$146,750
Administration and Support	\$56,000
Capital Improvements	\$464,000
Recreation Visitor Services	\$156,300
Law Enforcement Activities <sup>1</sup>	
	1Law enforcement activities in Florida State Parks are conducted by the
	FWC Division of Law Enforcement and by local law enforcement
	agencies.



#### **Purpose of Acquisition:**

The State of Florida has acquired the site that constitutes the initial area of John Gorrie Museum State Park in honor of Dr. John Gorrie and commemorating the centennial of his official filing for patent of ice machine.

#### **Designation:**

John Gorrie Museum State Park is named after Dr. John Gorrie in recognition of his contributions. Dr. Gorrie was a physician, a scientist, an inventor, a humanitarian and is considered the father of refrigeration and air conditioning. When he was living in Apalachicola, Florida, he was not only a resident physician at two hospitals and received patent for a machine to make ice, but at various times he also served as Postmaster, President of Pensacola's Apalachicola Branch, Secretary of Masonic Lodge and was one of the founding vestrymen of Trinity Episcopal Church.

### **Sequence of Acquisition:**

On April 15, 1955, the City of Apalachicola donated the initial area of John Gorrie Museum State Park to the Florida Board of Parks and Historic Memorials (FBPHM), predecessor in interest to the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks (DRP). Since this initial donation, the city and Mabel L. Osborne donated several lots to FBPHM. The initial city donation and these subsequent donations constitute the current area of John Gorrie Museum State Park. On September 28, 1967, FBPHM transferred and conveyed its title interest in John Gorrie Museum State Park to the Trustees of the Internal Improvement of the State of Florida, which is currently known as the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund of the State of Florida (Trustees).

#### **Title Interest:**

The Trustees holds fee simple title to John Gorrie Museum State Park.

# Lease Agreement:

On January 23, 1968, the Trustees leased John Gorrie Museum State Park to FBPHM under a ninety-nine (99) years generic lease, Lease No. 2324. In 1988, the Trustees assigned a new lease number, Lease No. 3626, to John Gorrie Museum State Park, without changing the terms and conditions of Lease No.2324.

According Lease No. 2324, DRP manages John Gorrie Museum State Park for the specific purpose of public outdoor recreational, park, conservation, historic and related purposes.

#### **Special Conditions on Use:**

The John Gorrie Museum State Park is designated as a single-use property to provide resource-based public outdoor recreation and other related uses. Uses such as water resource development projects, water supply projects, storm-water management projects, and linear facilities and sustainable agriculture and forestry are not consistent with the purpose for which DRP manages the park.

#### **Outstanding Reservations**

**Type of Instrument:** Special Warranty Deed

Grantor: City of Apalachicola

**Grantee:** The State of Florida

**Beginning Date:** April 15, 1955

**Ending Date:** Forever

**Encumbrance:** According to this special deed, should said property used for any purpose other than a state memorial by the state of Florida, the title conveyed by this deed shall immediately revert to the grantor.



# Orman House Historic State Park and John Gorrie Museum State Park Advisory Group Members

# Local Government Representatives

The Honorable Cheryl K. Sanders, Chair Franklin County Board of County Commissioners 33 Market Street, Suite 203 Apalachicola, Florida 32320

The Honorable Van Johnson, Mayor City of Apalachicola 1 Avenue E Apalachicola Florida, 32320

Ms. Betty Webb Administrator, City of Apalachicola 1 Avenue E Apalachicola, FL 32320

Ms. Leslie Cox, Member Franklin Soil and Water Conservation District 17413 NW Leonard Street Blountstown, Florida 32424

#### Agency Representatives

Mr. Josh Hodson, Park Manager Orman House Historic State Park John Gorrie Museum State Park 1900 East Gulf Beach Drive St. George Island, FL 32328

Mr. Lee Edmiston Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve (ANERR) 108 Island Drive East Point Florida, 32328

Mr. Mike Wisenbaker Archeology Supervisor Bureau of Archeological Research 1001 De Soto Park Drive Tallahassee, Florida 32301

# <u>Tourism/Economic</u> <u>Development Representatives</u>

Ms. Anita Grove, Executive Director Apalachicola Bay Chamber 122 Commerce Street Apalachicola, Florida 32320

Mr. Curt Blair Franklin County Tourist Development Council P O Box 819 Apalachicola Florida 32329

# <u>Historical Resource</u> <u>Representative</u>

Mr. Mark Curenton Historian Apalachicola Area Historical Society 34 Forbes Street, Suite 1 Apalachicola, Florida, 32320

Mr. Jimmy Mosconis, President, Board of Directors of Three Servicemen Statue South, Inc. P.O. Box 172 Apalachicola, Florida 32329

# Environmental and Conservation Representatives

Mr. Ted Ruffner Florida Native Plant Society 246 Gramercy Plantation Blvd. Eastpoint, Florida 32328

Mr. Sean McGlynn Apalachee Audubon Society North Florida Chapter of the National Audubon Society P O Box 1237 Tallahassee, Florida 323020-1237

## <u>Citizens Support Organization</u> <u>Representatives</u>

Mr. Tom Daly President, Friends of Franklin County State Parks 107 17<sup>th</sup> Street Apalachicola, Florida 32320

## **Adjacent Land Owner**

Ms. Susan Clemenston, Representative of Trinity Episcopal Church P O Box 338 Apalachicola, Fl. 32329

The Advisory Group meeting to review the proposed land management plan for Orman House Historic State Park and John Gorrie Museum State Park was held at the City of Apalachicola on Wednesday, March 19, 2014, at 9:00 AM.

Roy Ogles represented Lee Edmiston. County Commissioner Cheryl K. Sanders, Curt Blair, and Sean McGlynn were not in attendance. Mike Weisenbaker from the Division of Historic Resources (DHR) and Lesley Cox (Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District) did not attend but provided written comments. All other appointed Advisory Group members were present. Attending staff were Tony Tindell, Arthur Stiles, Joshua Hodson, Bob Soderholm, Michael Kinnett and Enid Ehrbar. Ms. Ehrbar began the meeting by explaining the purpose of the Advisory Group and reviewing the meeting agenda. Ms. Ehrbar summarized the comments received during the previous evening's public workshop. Ms. Ehrbar then asked each member of the Advisory Group to express his or her comments on the draft plan.

## **Summary of Advisory Group Comments**

**Jimmy Mosconis** (Three Servicemen Statue South, Inc.) stated the statue project started 13 years ago, and it took a great deal of negotiating between the City, state, and their group to get all three parts of the park into the management agreement. In July it will be 6 years since the park was dedicated. He sees the need for volunteers as the number one priority for the park. Mr. Mosconis noted that the City of Apalachicola was one of the founding members of the US Chamber of Commerce. All concurred that the City had been very important in state and national history.

**Mark Currenton** (Apalachicola Area Historic Society) noted that he had already sent staff comments by e-mail (they are summarized below). He also stated that the Historical Society had documents that relate to the Gorrie Museum, and they would be happy to provide copies to the museum.

**Tom Daly** (Friends of Franklin County State Parks) stated the Citizens Support Organization (CSO) works hand in hand with the parks. The CSO has raised money and has done a number of projects at the Orman House such as providing books for the staff to sell to visitors. Mr. Daly questioned if it might be better to consolidate the Orman and Gorrie parks since the John Gorrie Museum does not get that many visitors. He also asked if the old brick cistern and the City water works could be saved. There was rumor that the structure was a Frank Lloyd Wright building. The City was historically an important place and the focus should be on preserving the City's history. Mr. Daly also noted that a private citizen was restoring the Alvan Chapman house using her own funds. Everyone agreed that the historic community should embrace her efforts.

**Susan Clemenston** (Trinity Episcopal Church) discussed the Church's willingness to help with the landscaping for Gorrie Square, especially the portion that adjoins the Church. They have lots of members willing to help; she always appreciates the staff for allowing the Church to use the adjoining park space for their special events. DRP staff explained that once the hardscape/walkways were in and the landscape plan was finished, the park would welcome the church's help. She also questioned if it might be a good idea to work to get a historic marker placed on the site of John Gorrie's house, which was located where the Armory is today. DRP staff explained that the DRP was not in charge of historical markers, but could assist the

city/historical society by putting them in touch with the agency that handles the placement of historical markers. Ms. Clemenston also stated that historic tourism is growing; people love the self-guided tour maps provide by the Chamber.

**Roy Olges** (Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve (ANERR)) stated he reviewed the plans and they adequately address exotic plant and animal species, the preservation of existing natural communities; as well as restricted use of chemicals or sprays. He stated that no one is better than the park service at doing plans for the parks. He stated that the plans addressed all of the ANERR issues.

Mayor Van Johnson (City of Apalachicola) referenced some items that were part of the discussion when the DRP signed the management agreement for Chapman Gardens and Veterans Memorial Park. He asked about the status of the proposed ranger residence and the out parcel where the City water works is located. DRP staff explained that the ranger residence was included in the draft plan as a needed facility. The location needed to be determined. Staff stated the DRP was aware of the current discussions regarding the parcel where the water tower and City water works were located. In the past there was concern about liability related to the condition of the parcel; but staff now understands the City is looking to improve the site and would be glad to discuss options with the City if they would submit a written proposal to the DRP. DRP staff stated they would work with the City Manager regarding who to address the proposal to. Mayor Johnson also asked about the parks interest in the waterfront parcel across from the Orman House. Other advisory group members noted how important the river and the waterfront were to the history of the park/house. DRP staff stated that at this time the plan did not include this parcel as part of the optimum boundary; like everyone, the DRP has limited funds and staff, and this parcel was not currently part of the optimum boundary in the plan.

Betty Webb (City Manager, City of Apalachicola) explained that the City would approach the state regarding the water works property after the Public Works and Water Department staff and their equipment was moved. There was discussion and questions by the group about the DRP getting the structure evaluated; regarding the feasibility of possibly saving the structure. DRP staff noted this type of work was usually contracted out. DRP staff said the park staff were thinking about an alternative idea; possibly use the bricks in a walkway within the park and have an interpretive panel about the old water works. Ms. Webb noted that discussions at the time of the lease agreement with the state included the retention of Johnny Meyer Hill, which was planted as an orchard. Mr. Meyer was instrumental in the landfill being cleaned up and turned into Chapman Gardens. She would like to see a reference to this in the plan. She discussed two stormwater projects that were currently underway, to be completed by 2015; neither of these projects are noted in either plan. These may resolve the stormwater issues discussed in the plan. She questioned "boilerplate" language regarding visitor services, food services and lodging and noted the park is not zoned for this. DRP staff explained this was general enabling language related to concessions that are in some state parks. Staff stated that the park would not knowingly do anything inconsistent with local ordinances. Ms. Webb also noted that when discussing other parks and recreational areas, the plan does not refer to other local museums. Ms. Webb also noted only the Orman House is on the Big Bend Scenic Byway, the Gorrie Museum is contributing. She stated that there is no mention of the servant's quarters being located in the floodplain; she hopes parts of the structure can be salvaged and displayed. She noted there was no discussion about tree protection in the plan related to the large trees in

the park. Ms. Webb would also like to discuss partnering with the DRP regarding the Gorrie Museum landscape plan so the traffic circle can be included in the plan, maybe the library too. She also noted that the water tower at Gorrie Square fell during Hurricane Kate in 1985.

Anita Grove (Apalachicola Bay Chamber) stated how helpful park personnel are. She noted the Chamber sends people to the Orman House and they are disappointed with the Chapman Gardens because they are expecting a botanical garden as the name implies. The Advisory Group members discussed this issue; staff explained that a landscape plan for the gardens was underway and the gardens are a work in progress. Advisory Group members suggested perhaps a name change to Chapman Gardens; all expressed how much better the garden looks since it became part of the park. Ms. Grove suggested more interpretive signage and that including a copy of the landscape plan might help. In reference to the discussion of Chapman Gardens and native plants, she cautioned we should be careful not to eliminate the historic landscape of the house; lots of historic landscapes may not be native, but they are important to the history of a site.

**Ted Ruffner** (Florida Native Plant Society) noted a number of references in the plan to exotic species or exotic plants where the reference should probably be limited to invasive exotic species and plants. He discussed the difference in non-native plants that are being planted in the garden verses exotic invasive species. He suggested that a change in language might be needed in order to convey exactly what is intended regarding future plantings in Chapman Gardens. There was further discussion among the group about planting only plants native to the areas verses attractive plants normally seen in the area; many non-native plants do well in the Florida climate, and they have been planted throughout the southeast. Mr. Ruffner suggested several places where native plants were available, as well as several books and lists of plants. He also noted the Native Plant Society would be willing to help the Park if they would like. Mr. Ruffner opined that the budget in the plan did not appear to adequately reflect the discussion in the plan regarding the landscape plan or future plantings. He also suggested a landscape committee could be a valuable conduit for determining the plan for the gardens. The CSO could coordinate and include other interested groups. Everyone discussed the need to balance the desire to maintain the historic landscape, existing Chapman Garden plantings, and the desire to plant native species in the garden.

#### **Summary of Written Comments**

**Mike Wisenbaker** (Division of Historical Resources (DHR)) reviewed the cultural section of the plan and addendums and noted that the Orman House was purchased with P-2000 funds, not CARL funds, agreed the roof needed to be fixed immediately; and there was not much need for further archeological surveys based on the amount of site disturbance. He stated that the park staff had a good handle on the culture resources in the park and were doing a good job protecting and maintaining the resources of the park.

**Mark Curenton** (Apalachicola Area Historical Society) reviewed both the plans and had several comments on both the Orman House Historic State Park and John Gorrie Museum State Park.

John Gorrie Museum State Park:

He stated that the current grave site is the third resting place for Dr. Gorrie. He noted that the historical society has documents relating to Dr. Gorrie and will give copies to the museum if they would like them. He suggested a language change to say the museum is located in the Apalachicola Historic District; leave out the reference to which part of the Historic District. The Gorrie monument was dedicated on April 30, 1900 not in 1899. Mr. Curenton questioned a reference in Addendum 3.

#### Orman House Historic State Park:

The plan notes that the original Thomas Orman papers and the electronic copy are stored at the house; Mr. Curenton suggested it might be wise to store them in 2 different places in case something happens to one of the storage places. He stated that the plan notes that the house has a security system, but it is not currently monitored; he suggested this is probably information that should not be shared in a public document. He said the street description regarding the location of the Orman House is not correct and the reference to the "Hill" is more a neighborhood reference than a topographic one.

**Lesley Cox** (Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District) reviewed the Orman House Historic State Park Plan and stated that as a member of the Franklin County Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors, she appreciated the opportunity to review and comment on the Orman House draft plan. She stated she read the document and agreed with the Natural Resources Management Goals.

#### **Staff Recommendations**

The staff recommends approval of the proposed management plans for Orman House Historic State Park and John Gorrie Museum State Park as presented, with the following changes:

- Amend the plan to show the Orman House was purchased with Preservation 2000 funds.
- Make changes to the Orman House Historic State Park plan regarding the house security system, street location of the park, the reference to the "Hill," and remove the reference to the alarm system.
- Clarify the intent in the Orman House Historic State Park plan regarding elimination of exotic invasive plant species in the park. Landscape improvements will reflect the character of the original gardens through the maximum use of native plants and non-invasive ornamentals in attractive formalized groupings; as well as the use of plants from Dr. Chapman's list in developing a plan for Chapman Gardens.
- Reference the importance of Johnny Meyer Hill as it relates to Chapman Gardens.
- Make changes to the Gorrie Museum State Park plan regarding Dr. Gorrie's grave being the third burial site, change the reference to the museum's location in the Apalachicola Historic District, and the monument dedication in 1900.
- Reference the current City stormwater projects in regard to flooding issues at the Gorrie Museum.
- Reference the City's willingness to partner with the park regarding the future landscape plan for the Gorrie Museum and other City property at Gorrie Square.
- Revise the reference to the John Gorrie Museum regarding the Big Bend Scenic Byway.

Additional revisions were made throughout the document to address editorial corrections, consistency of spellings and notations, and other minor corrections.

#### Notes on Composition of the Advisory Group

Florida Statutes Chapter 259.032 Paragraph 10(b) establishes a requirement that all state land management plans for properties greater than 160 acres will be reviewed by an advisory group:

"Individual management plans required by s. 253.034(5), for parcels over 160 acres, shall be developed with input from an advisory group. Members of this advisory group shall include, at a minimum, representatives of the lead land managing agency, co-managing entities, local private property owners, the appropriate soil and water conservation district, a local conservation organization, and a local elected official."

Advisory groups that are composed in compliance with these requirements complete the review of State park management plans. Additional members may be appointed to the groups, such as a representative of the park's Citizen Support Organization (if one exists), representatives of the recreational activities that exist in or are planned for the park, or representatives of any agency with an ownership interest in the property. Special issues or conditions that require a broader representation for adequate review of the management plan may require the appointment of additional members. The DRP's intent in making these appointments is to create a group that represents a balanced cross-section of the park's stakeholders. Decisions on appointments are made on a case-by-case basis by DRP staff.



- City of Apalachicola City Commission 1990. City of Apalachicola Comprehensive Plan. Accessed July 2013.
- FDEP, DRP. 2012. Florida State Park System Economic Impact Assessment for Fiscal Year 2012-2013. Tallahassee, Florida.
- Kennedy, Thomas L. 2001. Phase I Environmental Site Assessment, Pierce Mound/Gaidry House.

Harding ESE. Tallahassee, Florida.

University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research (UFL BEBR). 2012. Florida Statistical Abstract 2012.

U.S.D.A.- Soil Conservation Service. 1994. Soil Survey of Franklin County, Florida. In cooperation with the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Agricultural Experiment Stations and Soil Science Department, and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.



Mandarin fine sand (24). This somewhat poorly drained, nearly level soil is on low coastal ridges and knolls in the flatwoods. Slopes range from 0 to 3 percent. Typically, the surface layer is gray fine sand about 4 inches thick. Below this, to a depth of abut 25 inches, is light gray fine sand. The subsoil is about 9 inches of fine sand. It is dark reddish brown that grades to dark brown. The next 27 inches is brown fine sand. Below this to a depth of 80 inches or more is white fine sand that has brown and yellow mottles.

The Mandarin soil has a seasonal high water table at a depth of 18 to 36 inches for 3 to 6 months in most years. The available water capacity is very low in the surface and subsurface layers and moderate in the subsoil. Permeability is rapid in the surface and subsurface layers and moderate in the subsoil. The content of organic matter and natural fertility are low.

Most areas are used for the production of pine trees or support natural vegetation. Some areas have been used for homesite development. The natural vegetation consists of sand pine, slash pine, longleaf pine, and turkey oak and an understory of wiregrass, pennyroyal, and scattered saw palmetto.

**Resota fine sand (29).** This moderately well drained, nearly level or gently sloping soil is on coastal ridges and remnant dunes. Slopes range from 0 to 5 percent. Typically, the surface layer is gray fine sand about 3 inches thick. The subsurface layer is white fine sand about 19 inches thick. The subsoil, to a depth of about 58 inches, is fine sand. It has organic stains at its upper boundary. The upper 22 inches is brownish yellow, and the lower 14 inches is yellow and has reddish yellow mottles. The substratum to a depth of 80 inches or more is very pale brown fine sand that has reddish yellow mottles.

The Resota soil has a seasonal high water table at a depth of 40 to 60 inches for as long as 6 months in most years. The water table is below a depth of 60 inches during dry periods. The available water capacity is very low. Permeability is very rapid. The content of organic matter and natural fertility are low.

Most areas support natural vegetation. Some areas have been developed as homesites. The natural vegetation consists of sand pine, scrub oak, longleaf pine, and turkey oak and an understory of wiregrass, rosemary, and scattered saw palmetto.



These procedures apply to state agencies, local governments, and non-profits that manage state-owned properties.

#### A. General Discussion

Historic resources are both archaeological sites and historic structures. Per Chapter 267, Florida Statutes, 'Historic property' or 'historic resource' means any prehistoric district, site, building, object, or other real or personal property of historical, architectural, or archaeological value, and folklife resources. These properties or resources may include, but are not limited to, monuments, memorials, Indian habitations, ceremonial sites, abandoned settlements, sunken or abandoned ships, engineering works, treasure trove, artifacts, or other objects with intrinsic historical or archaeological value, or any part thereof, relating to the history, government, and culture of the state."

## B. Agency Responsibilities

Per State Policy relative to historic properties, state agencies of the executive branch must allow the Division of Historical Resources (Division) the opportunity to comment on any undertakings, whether these undertakings directly involve the state agency, i.e., land management responsibilities, or the state agency has indirect jurisdiction, i.e. permitting authority, grants, etc. No state funds should be expended on the undertaking until the Division has the opportunity to review and comment on the project, permit, grant, etc.

State agencies shall preserve the historic resources which are owned or controlled by the agency.

Regarding proposed demolition or substantial alterations of historic properties, consultation with the Division must occur, and alternatives to demolition must be considered.

State agencies must consult with Division to establish a program to location, inventory and evaluate all historic properties under ownership or controlled by the agency.

## C. Statutory Authority

Statutory Authority and more in depth information can be found at: <a href="http://www.flheritage.com/preservation/compliance/guidelines.cfm">http://www.flheritage.com/preservation/compliance/guidelines.cfm</a>

#### D. Management Implementation

Even though the Division sits on the Acquisition and Restoration Council and approves land management plans, these plans are conceptual. Specific information regarding individual projects must be submitted to the Division for review and recommendations.

Managers of state lands must coordinate any land clearing or ground disturbing activities with the Division to allow for review and comment on the proposed project. Recommendations may include, but are not limited to: approval of the project as submitted, cultural resource assessment survey by a qualified professional archaeologist, modifications to the proposed project to avoid or mitigate potential adverse effects.

Projects such as additions, exterior alteration, or related new construction regarding historic structures must also be submitted to the Division of Historical Resources for review and comment by the Division's architects. Projects involving structures fifty years of age or older, must be submitted to this agency for a significance determination. In rare cases, structures under fifty years of age may be deemed historically significant. These must be evaluated on a case by case basis.

Adverse impacts to significant sites, either archaeological sites or historic buildings, must be avoided. Furthermore, managers of state property should make preparations for locating and evaluating historic resources, both archaeological sites and historic structures.

#### E. Minimum Review Documentation Requirements

In order to have a proposed project reviewed by the Division, certain information must be submitted for comments and recommendations. The minimum review documentation requirements can be found at:

http://www.flheritage.com/preservation/compliance/docs/minimum\_review\_documentation\_requirements.pdf .

\* \* \*

# Management Procedures for Archaeological and Historical Sites and Properties on State-Owned or Controlled Properties (revised March 2013)

Questions relating to the treatment of archaeological and historic resources on state lands should be directed to:

Deena S. Woodward Division of Historical Resources Bureau of Historic Preservation Compliance and Review Section R. A. Gray Building 500 South Bronough Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Phone: (850) 245-6425

Toll Free: (800) 847-7278 Fax: (850) 245-6435 The criteria to be used for evaluating eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places are as follows:

- Districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects may be considered to have significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and/or culture if they possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:
  - a) are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; and/or
  - **b)** are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; and/or
  - embody the distinctive characteristics of type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; and/or
  - d) have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.
- Ordinarily cemeteries, birthplaces, or graves of historical figures; properties owned by religious institutions or used for religious purposes; structures that have been moved from their original locations; reconstructed historic buildings; properties primarily commemorative in nature; and properties that have achieved significance within the past 50 years shall not be considered eligible for the *National Register*. However, such properties will qualify if they are integral parts of districts that do meet the criteria or if they fall within the following categories:
  - a) a religious property deriving its primary significance from architectural or artistic distinction or historical importance; or
  - b) a building or structure removed from its original location but which is significant primarily for architectural value, or which is the surviving structure most importantly associated with a historic person or event; or
  - a birthplace or grave of an historical figure of outstanding importance if there is no appropriate site or building directly associated with his productive life; or
  - d) a cemetery which derives its primary significance from graves of persons of transcendent importance, from age, distinctive design features, or association with historic events; or

### **Eligibility Criteria for National Register of Historic Places**

- e) a reconstructed building, when it is accurately executed in a suitable environment and presented in a dignified manner as part of a restoration master plan, and no other building or structure with the same association has survived; or a property primarily commemorative in intent, if design, age, tradition, or symbolic value has invested it with its own exceptional significance; or
- a property achieving significance within the past 50 years, if it is of exceptional importance.

# Preservation Treatments as Defined by Secretary of Interior's Standards and Guidelines

**Restoration** is defined as the act or process of accurately depicting the form, features, and character of a property as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of features from other periods in its history and reconstruction of missing features from the restoration period. The limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a restoration project.

**Rehabilitation** is defined as the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations and additions while preserving those portions or features that convey its historical, cultural or architectural values.

**Stabilization** is defined as the act or process of applying measures designed to reestablish a weather resistant enclosure and the structural stability of an unsafe or deteriorated property while maintaining the essential form as it exists at present.

**Preservation** is defined as the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity and materials of an historic property. Work, including preliminary measures to protect and stabilize the property, generally focuses upon the ongoing maintenance and repair of historic materials and features rather than extensive replacement and new construction. New exterior additions are not within the scope of this treatment; however, the limited and sensitive upgrading of mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems and other code-required work to make properties functional is appropriate within a preservation project.