

**The University of Florida Historic Campus**

The University of Florida Historic Campus belongs not only to its community and alumni, but to the universal heritage of institutions of higher learning. In dramatic contrast to its opening in 1906 with two unfinished buildings and 102 students, the University of Florida entered the 21st century as one of the nation's largest public, land-grant research institutions and one of the most comprehensive universities in the United States, encompassing virtually all recognized academic and professional disciplines. Tracing its roots to a parent institution founded in 1853, the University of Florida marks 2003 as its sesquicentennial and 2006 as the Centennial of the Historic Campus. The University of Florida was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989.

**The Early Campus: 1905-1925**

The Florida Legislature in 1905 adopted the Buckman Act that consolidated the system of higher education and led to the establishment of the University of Florida in Gainesville. The young state of Florida was seeking an architectural image for its flagship university that would compare favorably with respected institutions. Architect William Edwards presented a Collegiate Gothic plan that fulfilled that association. Edwards would design the buildings that formed the core of the University mission, culminating in the Library and the focal point University Auditorium.

**The Campus After the Florida Boom 1925-1944**

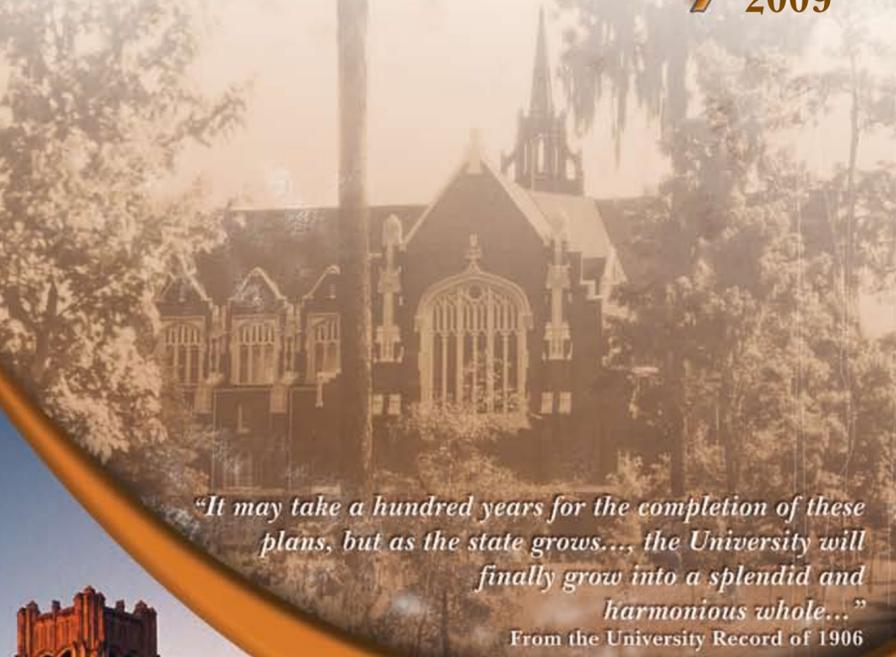
In 1925 the University named Rudolph Weaver head of the new School of Architecture and the second University Architect. Weaver's understanding of the importance of continuity was a significant contribution to the campus image. Construction was constrained by the collapse of the Florida Boom and the stock market crash of 1929, but funding through government programs promoted an increase in craftsmanship and art in architecture. Dayer Hall, the Mucoco Tower of Sledge Hall, and Leigh Hall illustrate this evolution in the campus Collegiate Gothic.

**Post-World War II Campus 1944-1956**

Guy Fulton, who succeeded Rudolph Weaver as University Architect, directed a dramatic period of growth as Veterans supported by the GI Bill flooded the campus and the University of Florida became coeducational. The surge from 600 students during wartime to 10,000 in 1948 demanded new space for administration, student services, classrooms and housing. Remarkably, Fulton inaugurated an era of campus architecture that was compatible yet transitional to the new modern ideals. The foundation was established for the cohesiveness and harmony that characterize the campus today.

**University Architect: Guy Chandler Fulton**

THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA  
*Historic Campus*  
2009



*"It may take a hundred years for the completion of these plans, but as the state grows.... the University will finally grow into a splendid and harmonious whole..."*  
From the University Record of 1906

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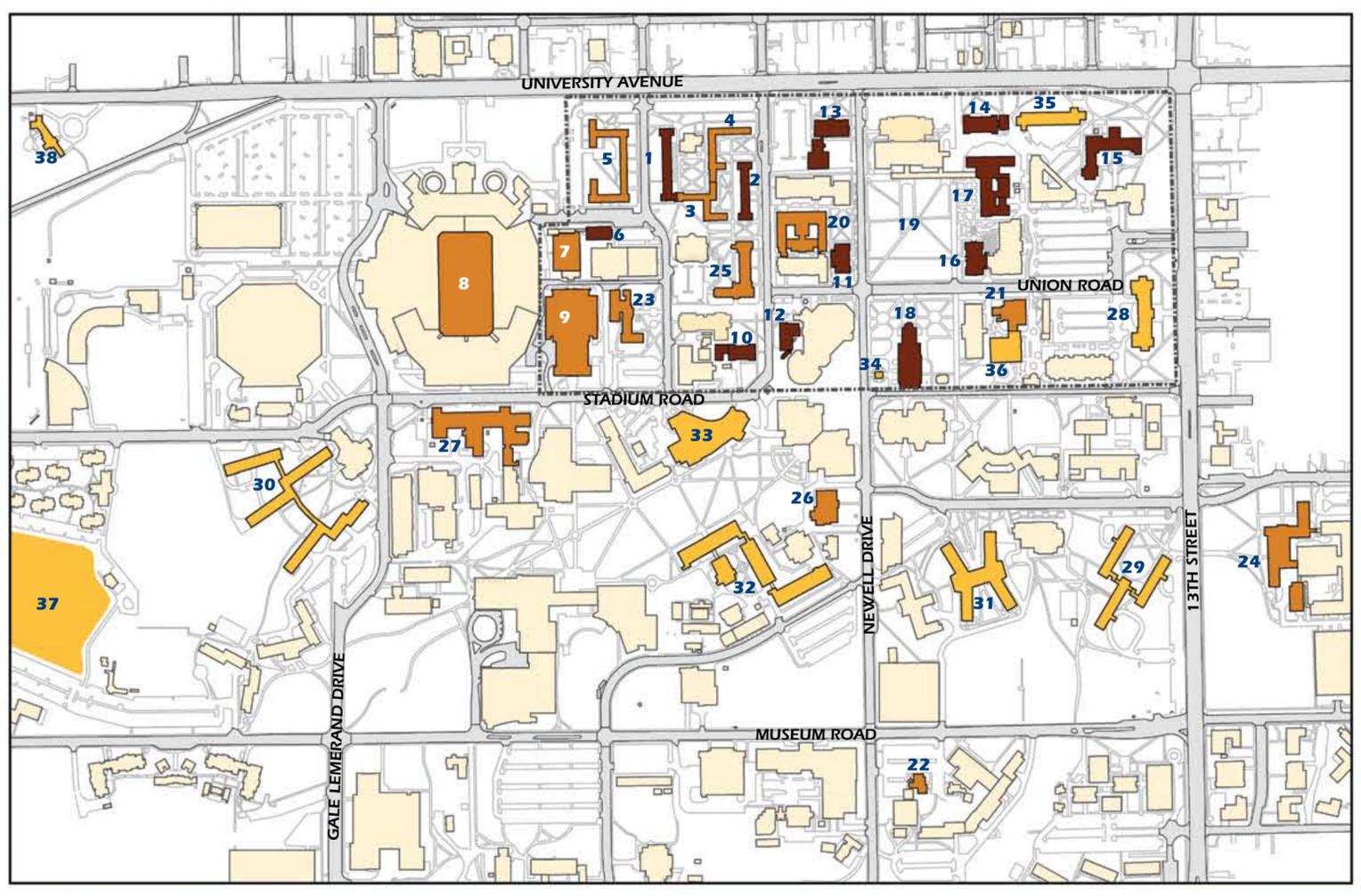
[www.facilities.ufl.edu/cp/hpp.htm](http://www.facilities.ufl.edu/cp/hpp.htm)

- 1 Thomas Hall\*
- 2 Buckman Hall\*
- 3 Sledd Hall\*
- 4 Fletcher Hall\*
- 5 Murphree Hall\*
- 6 Women's Gym/Usler Hall\*
- 7 Florida Pool
- 8 Florida Field
- 9 Florida Gym\*
- 10 Newell Hall\*
- 11 Griffin-Floyd Hall\*
- 12 Rolfs Hall\*
- 13 Keene-Flint Hall\*
- 14 Anderson Hall\*
- 15 Bryan Hall\*
- 16 Peabody Hall\*
- 17 Smathers Library East\*
- 18 University Auditorium\*
- 19 Plaza of the Americas\*
- 20 Leigh Hall\*
- 21 Walker Hall\*
- 22 University Police Dept.\*
- 23 The Infirmary\*
- 24 Norman Hall\*
- 25 Dauer Hall\*
- 26 Dairy Science Bldg.
- 27 Weil Hall\*
- 28 Tigert Hall\*
- 29 Mallory/Yulee/Reid\*
- 30 Tolbert
- 31 Broward Hall
- 32 McCarty Hall
- 33 The Hub\*
- 34 Century Tower\*
- 35 Matherly Hall\*
- 36 Carleton Auditorium\*
- 37 Flavel Field
- 38 President's Home

\* National Register of Historic Places

#### LEGEND

- Edwards Era
- Weaver Era
- Fulton Era
- National Register District



## THE EARLY CAMPUS: 1905-1925

For the opening in Fall Semester of 1906, **Thomas (1)** and **Buckman (2)** Halls served all university functions including classrooms, dormitories, dining hall, and administration. The restrained gothic details of these buildings feature a motif above the entries known as the "anguished scholar." Between Buckman and Thomas, the addition of **Sledd Hall (3)** in 1929 and the north extension of **Fletcher Hall (4)** in 1939 created courtyards that feature shaded walks and details ranging from students and officials to sea life and snails. The Mucozo Tower courtyard entrance features sculpture that depicts the friendship of 16th century Spanish explorer Juan Ortiz with Timucua Chief Mucozo. **Murphree Hall (5)** completed the complex in 1939. In 2004 the Yardley Courtyard Fountain marked the south entrance to the dormitory complex.

Athletic and military drill fields were considered from the earliest plan for the land grant university. The team name "Gators" may have originated as early as 1907 and became official in 1911. Funding to complete the **Gymnasium (6)** was secured when the New York Giants accepted an invitation to hold their spring training on campus. The building has been adapted for a gender studies center as Kathryn Chicone Usler Hall. The **Florida Pool (7)** was completed in 1929 and construction began on **Florida Field (8)** in the area designated for athletics in the original plan. The stadium was built into a natural depression and the upper seats were at ground level. After completion of the **Florida Gymnasium (9)** in 1949 the 1919 Gymnasium became the Women's Gym to house women's athletic programs for the newly coeducational university.



Gymnasium

Built as the Florida Experiment Station in 1910, **Newell Hall (10)** represented the close link between the academic mission of the University and agricultural services to the state. Experiment fields were laid out on adjacent grounds and students got hands-on research experience. **Griffin-Floyd Hall (11)** opened as the College of Agriculture in 1912. Reliefs of cornucopia symbolize the bounty of the state's agricultural resources. A stock judging arena and farm machinery room were adjacent to administrative offices and classrooms. Griffin-Floyd Hall was restored in 1992 with the support of Ben Hill Griffin, Jr. The growing importance of the agricultural programs was reflected in the design of the Horticulture Building, now **Rolfs Hall (12)**. Completed in 1927, the building housed classrooms as well as the Agricultural Extension Service and the State Plant Board.

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Anderson Hall

Built in 1914 as the College of Law, **Bryan Hall (15)** is now part of the College of Business Administration. A tower defines the building entrances detailed with scales of justice. Designed by University Architect

**Keene-Flint Hall (13)** was built as Science Hall in 1910 to accommodate the sciences and the University Museum. In 2002, the building was rehabilitated, the entrance and lobby were restored, and the auditorium wing was added with the support of the Keene family. Flanking Science Hall at the original entrance to the University was Language Hall, now **Anderson Hall (14)**. Completed in 1913, it provided language classrooms as well as the offices of the President, the Registrar, and the Graduate School.

William Edwards and expanded by Rudolph Weaver, the building incorporates an extension by Guy Fulton after World War II that is both compatible and a statement of its own time with plaques in Moderne detail. This concept of compatibility continues with the adjacent Gerson Hall completed in 2004. The College of Law is now located west of the campus; a Native-American mound near the Holland Law Center is noted by a historical marker, and archaeologists have found evidence of Pre-Columbian settlements on the shores of Lake Alice.

A major gift from the Peabody Foundation funded the George Peabody College for Teachers in 1913. The College of Education moved to new quarters in Norman Hall in 1934. Once the site for printing of the Florida Alligator newspaper, **Peabody Hall (16)** was renovated in 1990 as part of the Criser Center for Student Services. At the focal point of the courtyard framed by Peabody, Criser Hall, and the Library is a sculpture depicting President Albert Murphree, created in 1946 by Paul Manship, sculptor of the Prometheus at Rockefeller Center.

**Smathers Library East (17)**, designed as a part of the Edwards plan and completed in 1926, represented commitment to collection of the scholarly materials which are the foundation of a university. The southwest portico of the Library, designed by Rudolph Weaver, and the present entry foyer, designed by Guy Fulton, continue the tradition of compatible evolution. The original reading room now houses University Archives, as well as the 1954 mural "The History of Learning in Florida" by University art professor Hollis Holbrook.

**The University Memorial Auditorium (18)** is the centerpiece of the campus with spire, pointed arch windows, vaulted timber ceiling with academic gargoyles at the ends of hammerbeam trusses. For many years assemblies and commencement ceremonies were held here, and audiences still enjoy musical and dramatic performances. An administrative tower and wings had been planned, but funds ran out and the temporary north stair was only replaced in the 1976 restoration when the new north wing provided a compatible architectural completion of the building.

**Plaza of the Americas (19)**. The campus green was the focal point of the early campus plans and envisioned as the entrance to the University. In 1925 the University invited landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. to prepare plans to improve the landscape of the quadrangle. In 1931, the space was designated Plaza of the Americas at the first meeting of the International Latin American Association; 21 trees were planted on the Plaza and students presented the flags of the 21 attending nations.



University Auditorium

## THE CAMPUS AFTER THE FLORIDA BOOM 1925-1944

Names of famous men of science and fanciful alchemical figures embellish the façade of the 1927 Chemistry and Pharmacy Building, now **Leigh Hall (20)**. Copper downspouts embossed with chemical symbols and the two story oriel bay window further illustrate the increased detail of this period of campus development.

# THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA Historic Campus

The 1948 expansion continued this concept. The Mechanical Engineering Building, now **Walker Hall (21)** and home of the Department of Mathematics, was built in 1927 adjacent to the 1924 Benton Hall College of Engineering, which was demolished when Grinter Hall was built in 1969.

Station WRUF, chartered in the 1920's as the "Voice of the University of Florida," was one of the country's most powerful college radio stations. Famed sportscaster Red Barber began his career by broadcasting UF sports events for this station. The Tudor Revival studio was designed in 1928 in half timber and plaster. This variation is compatible with the campus and appropriate to the small scale of the building. In the 1950's WRUF moved to new quarters, and the building has since then been the headquarters of the **University Police Department (22)**.



Leigh Hall

**The Infirmary (23)** was designed in 1931 as a central pavilion with wings on either side, adapting the Collegiate Gothic to the medical and health care needs of the students. Whimsical figures depicting medical themes enliven the main entrances. When the University opened in 1906, Edward Rawson Flint served as resident physician, as well as professor of chemistry. Dr. Flint treated patients in his office or their rooms until 1911 when a six-bed infirmary was established on the fourth floor of Thomas Hall dormitory. Resident nurse Mary McRobbie served until 1920. **Norman Hall (24)** was built in 1934 as the P.K. Yonge Laboratory School, a K-12 center for practice teaching and educational innovation, and now serves the College of Education. The Norman Gym now houses the Digital Worlds Institute for the College of Fine Arts. The Florida Union, the present south wing of **Dauer Hall (25)**, was completed in 1936. The funding drive was spearheaded by orator William Jennings Bryan. Major contributions came from the YMCA, which was active in creating student unions nationwide and also founded the Lake Wauberg facility. The Union served as student center for "the boys from Old Florida" until completion of the Hub in 1950. Significant features include a Tudor chimney and bay window with universalist and Florida regional symbols in stained glass. The Keene Faculty Center in the west wing now hosts small lectures and provides a reading room for faculty. Adjacent to this wing was the 1922 Johnson Hall Commons and Rathskeller, destroyed by fire in 1987. When the **Dairy Science Building (26)** was built in 1937, it was distanced from the central campus by planted fields. Reflecting the agricultural roots of the University, the small Collegiate Gothic structure fostered research based on the surplus of milk produced in Florida at that time.

During World War II construction ground to a halt, but design for campus facilities continued. In 1949 the **Florida Gymnasium (9)** was completed. The simplified Collegiate Gothic façade was the gateway for sports events, concerts, and graduations in "Alligator Alley" until completion of the O'Connell Center "O'Dome" in 1980. Since 1949, **Weil Hall (27)** has served as the University's main Engineering and Industries Building. Just across Stadium Road from Florida Field, early engineering students could get a great view of Gator football games from their classroom windows. The brick in English cross bond, clay tile gable roof, and cast concrete details reflect the evolution of the Collegiate Gothic campus.

## THE POST-WORLD WAR II CAMPUS 1944-1956

Enrollment exploded to 10,000 in 1948 and the need for an Administration Building was urgent. Completed in 1951, **Tigert Hall (28)** launched a new era in campus architecture that was both progressive and compatible with its Collegiate Gothic context. The University Seal in the grid of the tower entrance and plaques representing the University's colleges identify the seat of the University Administration. The newly coeducational University opened **Mallory/Yulee/Reid (29)** as its first permanent women dormitories in 1950, with such features as sewing rooms, hairdressing rooms and separate dining facilities from the men on campus. The distance between the **Tolbert (30)** men's dormitories and these halls sparked a 1952 panty raid that caught national attention. **Broward Hall (31)** reflects the angled footprint, breezeways, and corrugated glass block stairwell features of the women's dormitories. Brick and clay tile preserve campus continuity, while a wide fascia at the eaves and modified classical portico offer a prelude to post-modernism.



Tigert Hall

**McCarty Hall (32)** consists of a series of four structures designed for the College of Agriculture in 1956 by University architect Guy Fulton. This building complex built upon the commitment of the land-grant university to agricultural studies and services to the state. These buildings served the dramatic growth of that tradition after the founding of the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences in 1964. The four red brick and concrete structures reflect the Fulton emphasis on climate, cost effective construction, and compatibility.

The Student Services Center, dedicated on November 3, 1950, was renamed the **Hub (33)** by students as a result of a campus-wide contest. The Hub reflects international modern influences, while scale and materials remain compatible with the campus. The curves of the walkway and the circular original post office reflect in curved terrazzo in the former central dining space and curved glass of the former bookstore. The pink marble stair leads to the original ballroom with wood dance floor. In 2007, the Hub received a compatible rehabilitation to house the International Center and Office of Academic Technology. Tracing its roots to a parent institution founded in 1853, the University of Florida marked its centennial in 1953 by dedicating the **Century Tower (34)** to alumni lost in the World Wars. From the Tower, the sound of the quarter hour tolls and the music of the 61 bronze bell carillons project across the campus. Opened in 1953 to serve the College of Business Administration, **Matherly Hall (35)** is representative of the skillful integration of modified collegiate gothic details in the more massive campus buildings of the Post-War era. **Carleton Auditorium (36)** was designed in 1954 to accommodate the growing student population. Behind Walker Hall, the auditorium connects by a breezeway to the 1927 building. The three Flavel Villages were little more than a collection of wartime barracks moved to campus to house the vast number of new students and their families, but their impact as a community helped to shape the diverse student body of the University today. **Flavel Field (37)** is a monument to this important element in University history. Limited funds in the early years of the University had thwarted an official presidential residence.



The Hub

Ironically, it was a budget surplus from Flavel housing that funded the "Official Residence and Reception Center." The **President's Home (38)** opened with the March 1953 celebration of the University's centennial.