



# McINTOSH GAZETTE

McIntosh, Florida

"FREE"

October 5, 1985

## Welcome to the Twelfth Annual 1890's Festival

It is with great pride that the people of McIntosh welcome you to journey into the past of their Victorian town. A town that is wary of change and strives to preserve its precious history.

The population of about 400 has remained virtually unchanged for nearly 100 years, but the town still flourishes and maintains its original charm and character.

The old homes stand just as resolute as the day they were built, and the people who live in them today are not unlike the people who originally settled McIntosh. They are a hearty stock, drawn to a slower-paced life, strong and enduring like the homes they live in.

McIntosh has become a fine example of restoration and preservation, not only in the state of Florida, but throughout the nation. It was recorded in 1984 on the National Register of Historic Sites.

The town has further sought to preserve its past with a special "Historic District" zoning ordinance.

So we welcome you to walk down the oak covered lanes of McIntosh, and for six enchanted hours, allow the magic of the past to carry you back in time — back to the 1890's.



The Ciotti Family welcomes you to historic McIntosh.

### ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE 1890's FESTIVAL October 5, 1985

11:00 a.m. Grand Parade  
Dan Sharp, Master of Ceremonies

#### CIVIC CENTER

11:30 a.m. Ocala Civic Theatre - "Fiddler on Roof"  
12:00 Noon Main Stage - Van Ness Park  
North Marion High School Band  
12:30 p.m. Announcements  
1:00 p.m. Gainesville Ballet Children's Ensemble  
1:30 p.m. Jugglers  
2:00 p.m. Tampa Pipe Band  
2:30 p.m. Homecoming Program  
3:00 p.m. Ocala Mus-O-Cali - Barbershop  
3:45 p.m. Quilt Raffle - Festival  
4:00 p.m. Dennis Stowe Variety of Music

#### McINTOSH HOTEL

1:00 p.m. Cloggers - Sundancers and the Sundance Kids  
3:30 p.m. Cloggers - Sundancers and the Sundance Kids

#### DEPOT

Train Exhibit  
Historical Slides of McIntosh  
Variety Music  
Fantasy Gospel  
Bill "Fingers" Munroe Ragtime

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## Tour of Homes

Welcome to the 1890 Edition of the Tour of Homes, one of the most popular features of the annual McIntosh 1890s Festival.

On it you will find the Ciotti house built in 1885; the Weidegreen house built in 1890 and a modern brick ranch-style home that has been designed and furnished to fit into the Victorian setting of the town.

Tickets are \$3 for the entire tour, and can be purchased from the booth catty-cornered to the southeast corner of the park.

The map located on page 16 of this newspaper will show you the location of the ticket booth and the stops along the tour. If you should still have trouble finding a particular house, ask at the information booths that have been set up at the west end of the park. Guides at these booths will be glad to point you to your destination.

In addition to these homes, please visit the four churches of McIntosh. These churches are open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., the same hours as the homes, but are free to the public and not part of the tour proper. The map on page 16 indicates the location of these churches.

The **Methodist Church** was moved, pulled by mules, in 1895 and served as the Sanctuary for all denominations in the early years of the town. Look at the old picture of the Church in the Vestibule.

In 1903 the **Baptist Church** was built on the Wire Road (now U.S. 441). The beautiful stained glass windows were a gift from the J.K. Christian Family.

The **Christian Church** (1904) boasts an open belfry which still rings out each Sunday as a call to worship. To the right of the Church is the site of the first permanent school house in town (1889) which had an enrollment of about twelve pupils.

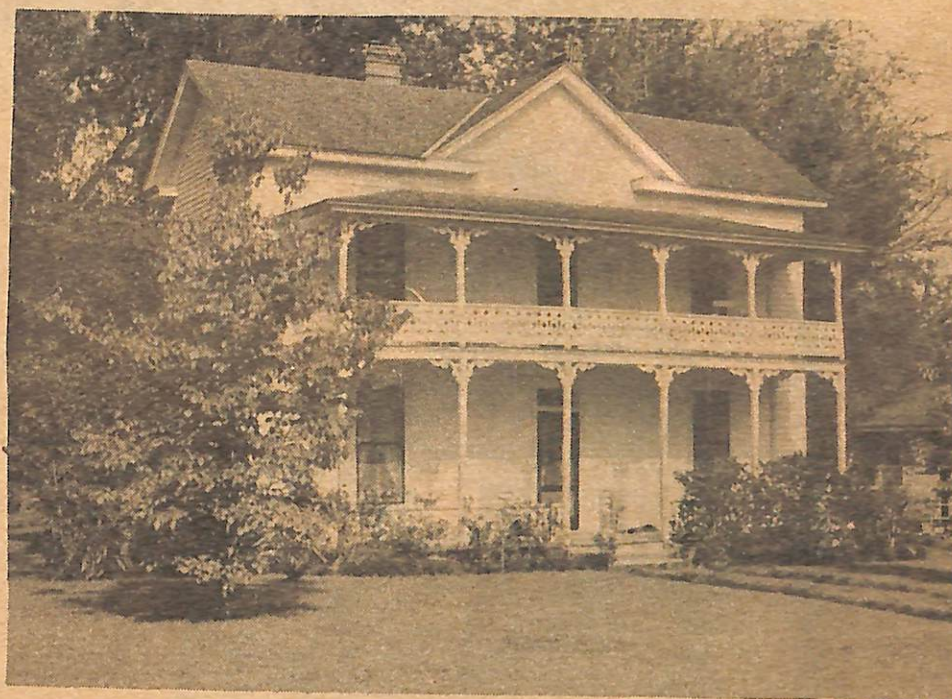
The **Presbyterian Church** (1907) started as the Center Point Church in Boardman in 1885. It has just finished a major restoration program. The windows were re-sealed and a Lexan covering put on to protect the larger windows from storm damage. Ailing plaster was patched and the Sanctuary painted to bring out the vivid colors of the windows. Sconce lights installed in 1952 were removed and hand cast reproduction electric lights from the turn of the century were put in. The Eastlake pulpit furniture had previously been refinished.





## The Thomas-Ciotti House

*Flowers courtesy of Crevasse's Regency Florist*



Celebrating its centennial this year is the Thomas-Ciotti House, built in 1885 by J.S. Thomas. His daughter, Mayme Thomas McFadden inherited it and lived there until the early 1970's. Sometime around WWI, Miss Mayme followed the fashion of most owners of older, large houses in McIntosh and opened her home to boarders. When Frank and Laurel Ciotti purchased the house in 1983, only two other families had resided there and aside from 98 years of normal "wear and tear", the house was in fairly good structural condition.

The exterior of the house is symmetrical in the style of Classic Greek Revival - somewhat unusual for houses built in Victorian times. Its double stacked porches with gingerbread brackets still provide a cool, quiet place to sip lemonade and watch the world go by on a hot summer day.

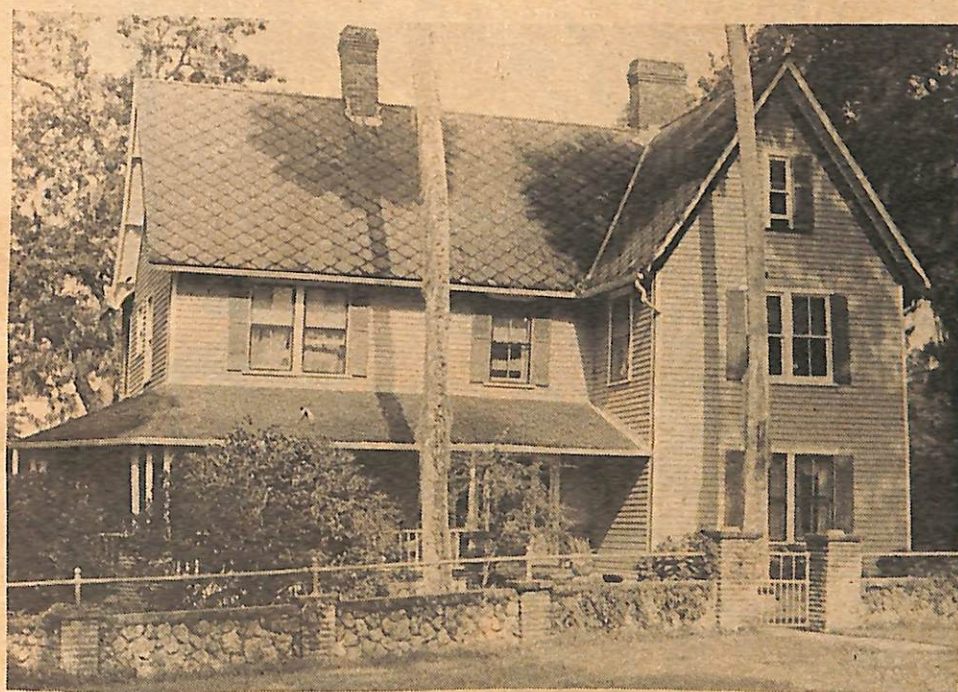
The house was built from locally milled heart pine. The wood resins are so hard that driving or removing a nail is certainly a task worth discussion! The interior floors are wide plank pine and a pine divider from the 1920's breaks the long central hall. An unusual feature is the reverse stairwell to the second floor. There are four working fireplaces, two of which boast elaborate pressed wood designs.

When the house was remodeled in the 1920's, the swirl pattern plaster was applied in the parlor and original dining room - now the family room. The picture rails still remain in three rooms and the downstairs hall, and several board and bead ceilings may be seen.

Originally, the house had four bedrooms. The Ciotti's have converted the downstairs bedroom to a dining room. The same room has also served in the past as a hat shop and once housed the town library. Laurel disposed of the wood paneling in the bedrooms and redecorated in Victorian style. All the wallpapers she has chosen have roses in the patterns. Original fixtures in the bathrooms include a clawfoot bath tub. Several of the light fixtures are the old electric ones purchased when the house was converted from gas lighting. The kitchen was enlarged by the previous owners to include the back porch. A large island and rough pine siding set a country-kitchen mood. Its cozy setting seems to be the true heart of the home.

The yard on the north side of the house which now includes a swimming pool and guest cottage was originally an orange grove. The remaining orange trees were killed in the winter freezes of 1983 and 1984. One of the largest oak trees in town with a circumference of more than 31 feet provides shade for the back yard. A cypress "tobacco barn" stands behind the house. Numerous old tools and farm implements that the Ciotti's have unearthed in the yard are displayed on its walls.

As the Thomas-Ciotti House enters its second century, Frank and Laurel are busy planning future restoration projects. They invite you to explore, reminisce, and enjoy a McIntosh Homecoming.



## The Norsworthy-Wiedegreen House

*Flowers courtesy of Archway Flower Shop, Ocala, Florida.*

The Norsworthy-Wiedegreen House (1890) is a good example of the old Victorian farmhouse. It was built by William Gist and sold in 1893 to W.G. Norsworthy, a Canadian who came to raise citrus. The family continued to reside in the house for the next 53 years, when it was sold and turned into apartments.

The house is built entirely of pine, probably locally milled. The staircase and mantels are the finest elements in the house, with their beautiful wood graining. There is a total of six fireplaces (which was the original heat source) and the house was lighted by gas through an extensive network of pipes.

The large kitchen was originally connected to the house only by a breezeway. The purpose of a separate kitchen was to spare the house the extra heat from cooking in the summer and also as a measure of fire protection.

The rock wall is reminiscent of the fact that almost all houses in town once had walls or fences to keep the pigs and

cows out of the yard. This wall was built by Mr. Norsworthy's brother, a stone mason, sometime before World War I. Notice the stone bench in the front corner, which was used as a "courting bench" by many young people of McIntosh who are now in their 70's, 80's and 90's!

Sandy and Eric Weidegreen bought the house in June of 1975 and have worked hard outside and inside. The veranda was restored (the side had been enclosed for another room); new columns and rail were added. Two kitchens were removed, passages closed, woodwork and staircase in the hall stripped and refinished — to say nothing of lots of painting! The Wiedegreens have been collecting antiques since their marriage and find the unity of the older house and period furniture a healthy atmosphere to live and work. Notice the French rosewood sofa and old harmonium in the parlor and the handmade pine bedroom suite in the guest room. Portraits of Mr. Wiedegreen's great-grandparents join guests ready to eat in the dining room.





## The Myhre Home

*Flowers courtesy of Julia's Fantasy Flowers*



In the beginning days of McIntosh, approximately the late 1880's, this property was owned by Mr. Neal. Since this was a rich farming area, he used the land as a "mule lot," where he also quartered "horse and buggies!" When modern tractors came into use replacing the old method of farming he built a large barn that housed the tractors and equipment.

After Mr. Neal passed away the property was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. F.A. Cockrell. He was a fruit and vegetable broker here in McIntosh, who owned and operated the warehouse down by the railroad tracks. His business was shipping fruit and melons by railroad to northern cities. Mr. and Mrs. Cockrell hired the Smith brothers to build the house for them, bringing in the white brick all the way from Texas. While the house was being built they lived in a log cabin next

door to the property. Upon the completion of their home they moved in to enjoy their new home beautifully placed under giant oak trees which adorn the property - the largest oak is said to be over 200 years old. After Mr. Cockrell retired, he moved back to Tampa, Florida.

After his death the house was sold to Joe and Helene Derita. Mr. Derita was an architect and made many improvements on the house. His wife, Helene was instrumental in establishing the library at the Presbyterian Church in McIntosh. After Mr. and Mrs. Derita had lived here awhile, they sold the house to Willard and Mary Hurst, who resided here about 5 years. In March 1985, Lew and Nancy Myhre purchased the house and are now the present happy owners!



The Christian Church and Old School (which burned to the ground).



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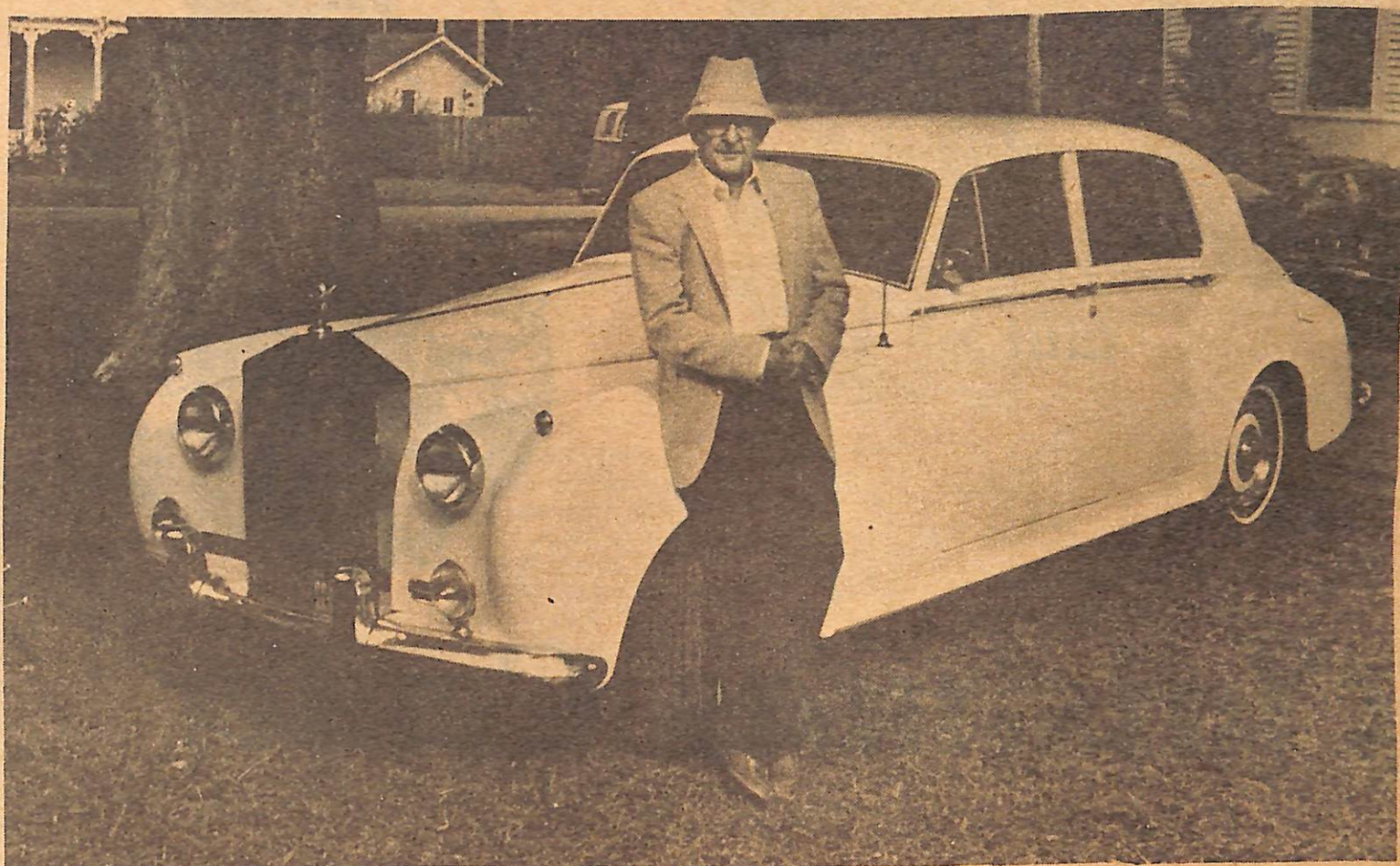
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By Ray Washington



Colin Lindsey by his Rolls Royce.

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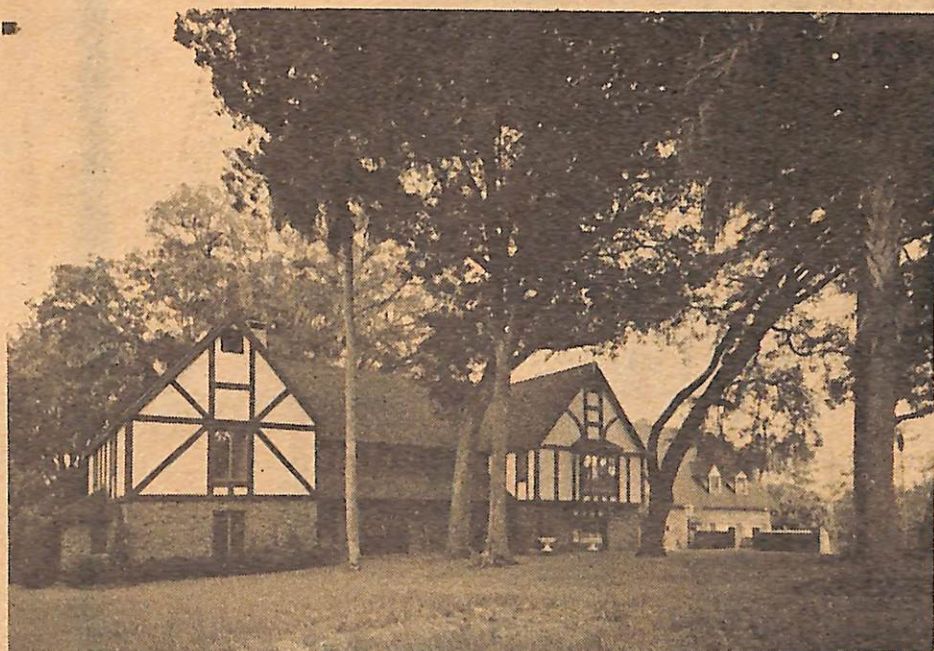
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IN NORTH MARION COUNTY



Listed on National Register and built in 1910. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, spacious hallway opening into formal living and family dining rooms, 4 fireplaces and sleeping porch. \$90,000.00



In the rolling hills west of McIntosh is this magnificent English Tudor home overlooking 65 acres of pasture and trees. Entry is thru 150 year old oak cathedral front doors. The great room has vaulted ceiling with French bronze chandelier. 5,800 square feet consists of 5 bedrooms, 5½ baths, Italian tile floors, formal dining room opening onto courtyard. Truly a gracious home between Ocala and Gainesville. \$582,000.00 - May be sold with 20 acres at \$450,000.



On a quiet oak shaded street is a 3 bedroom, 2 bath, formal living and dining rooms, family room opening onto screened deck. Plus 20' x 40' workshop. \$72,500.00



## A MERCHANT

The mercantile career of Colin Lindsey might have ended in the rocks and brambles of his hometown. Those were the elements through which young Lindsey found himself being dragged by a stubborn mule who did not respect him. The mule, standing near the depot, had waited for the proper moment, growing resentful, hating the lard and pork bellies he had been forced to pull. Suddenly the mule had bolted, and Colin Lindsey, who would not release the reins, was tumbling along behind.

"I didn't want to let go," said Colin Lindsey many years later. "I hated to let go. But I let go."

Having failed to hold the mule, Colin Lindsey walked back to the shopkeeper who had hired him and explained about the rocks and brambles and why the pork bellies and lard had gone undelivered. The shopkeeper looked at Colin Lindsey, who weighed less than 100 pounds, and said two words.

"You're fired," the shopkeeper said.

Colin Lindsey was replaced by an older aspirant, an 18-year-old who had the size and strength and tenacity to control the mule. But there were three stores in town, and Colin Lindsey got another delivery job. He became more tenacious, though his size and strength remained about the same.

In the tradition of the times — this was before the First World War — Colin Lindsey and his determination did not go unnoticed. Visiting in the little town was one Mr. Belk, of Charlotte, North Carolina, who before the turn of the century had begun to expand a modest chain of department stores. When Colin Lindsey finished the 10th grade, he left McIntosh for Charlotte, where he came into Mr. Belk's employ.

In Charlotte, Colin Lindsey moved beyond the mule delivery level. He learned merchandising as he never would have learned it working in the stores of J.C. Turnipseed, Mordecai Gist or Christian & Dixon, which were the centers of commerce in McIntosh. Before he was 20 he had become a store manager and had taken to flying airplanes.

But after seven years in Charlotte, Colin Lindsey returned to Florida and set about to apply what he had learned. He

went to work for Rheinauer and Company in Ocala, just down the road from his hometown. Rheinauer's was the major department store at the time, but Colin Lindsey grew restless with it. In the middle of the Great Depression he opened his own store, and went into competition. Colin Lindsey kept in mind the examples he had learned from his mentor, Mr. Belk, who in the intervening years had expanded from 14 stores to 209, across the south. He began to fly around Florida, watching the growth of its cities, planning a mercantile empire.

The years passed, and the empire grew. Gainesville, 1941. Winter Haven, 1944. Palatka, 1946. Bradenton, 1947. Fort Myers, 1947. Plant City, 1949. Fort Lauderdale, 1949.

In 1952, flying overhead, Colin Lindsey predicted the growth of St. Petersburg, and opened yet another store. In doing so he predicted something else as well. Around the store he had built the first shopping center in Florida.

The idea was so successful that other merchants began to move out of the downtown areas into shopping centers, and Colin Lindsey led the way, expanding across the booming state in partnership with his mentor, Mr. Belk. Mr. Belk died in 1955, but Colin Lindsey kept on adding to the Belk-Lindsey empire, picking up bits of merchandising knowledge that even Mr. Belk had never realized ("Go to the biggest shopping center in town and put in the biggest store").

The last three decades have been full and good for Colin Lindsey, who moved away from his home county the year that Mr. Belk died. He settled on Davis Island, the most exclusive section of Tampa, the city that became the hub of the empire. That same year he took to traveling to every continent, keeping an eye out for mercantile trends at every stop, browsing at Herrod's in London or Guw's in Moscow.

Today he is still in the thick of it, opening stores, traveling around the world. The key to it, he says, is not looking back.

"Things are changing so fast today you have to keep up," he says. "You can't dwell on the past. Basically, I was just in the right place at the right time. And I was lucky enough to know Mr. Belk."

Still, Colin Lindsey can not let the past go completely.

"I wish I'd held on to that mule," the merchant says.

# Belk Lindsey

PADDOCK MALL  
OCALA

•

OAKS MALL  
GAINESVILLE

•

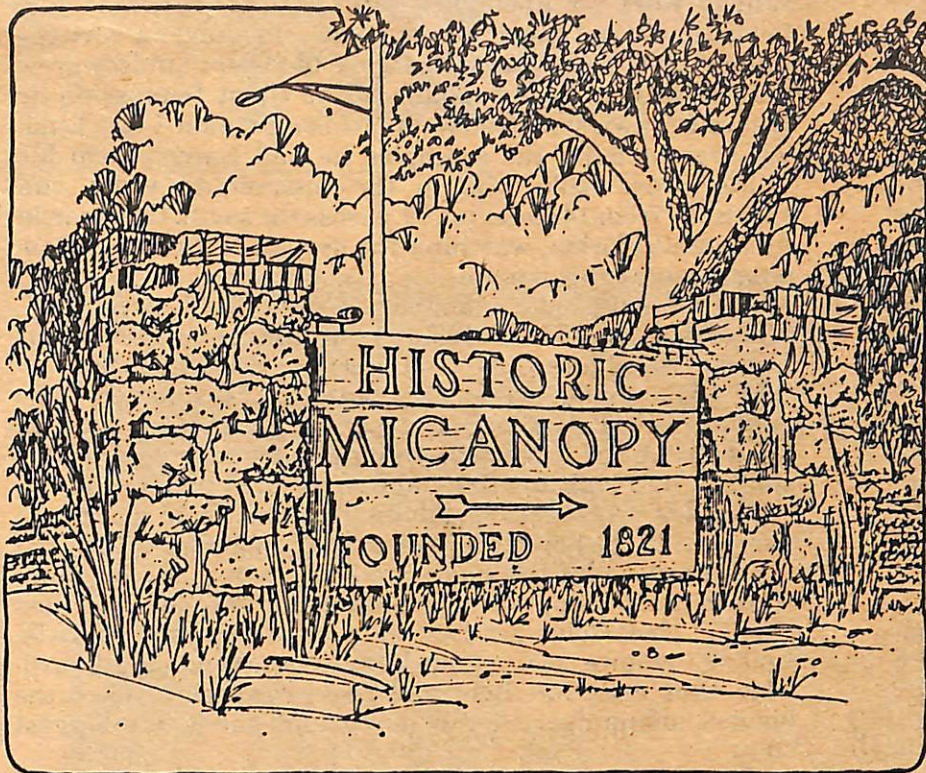
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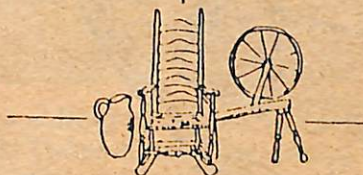
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## Brought to You by "The Friends of McIntosh"

By Frances DeVore

Marion County is steeped in the richest, most exciting history, documented from earliest prehistoric times. Over the years, from the time the Sixteenth Century Spaniards criss-crossed its land and rivers until the present day, the county and its economic and cultural life have many times been the stuff dreams are made of.

Yet with a single-mindedness hard to fathom, these citizens, who should have been proudly preserving their physical heritage, have torn down or neglected to rubble that which people in others would have given much to have had in their midst.

An exception to this peculiar phenomenon is the dedicated little group called The Friends of McIntosh. Many are comparative newcomers to the picturesque little north Marion town with its wide, shaded streets and lovely Victorian homes which are not monuments but places where people live and care for them. Some members do not even live in McIntosh but they, too, care for a gracious way of life that has vanished and believe in honoring its memory.

It seems incredible that about 35 stubborn, hardworking people have successfully tackled what, at times, seemed insurmountable odds, and won, right down to the present time when they were able to save a portion of the track and ties as the abandoned Seaboard Coast Line Railroad line was suddenly being taken up before their eyes. Someday, they hope, there will be a caboose, Pullman car or perhaps an engine to put on the track and complete the picture.

While the old station was a gift, it had to be moved off the railroad right-of-way and years of neglect had turned the now trim little building into a dilapidated eyesore.

But the Friends were determined and they found ways to make money and a good friend, Colin Lindsey, one of McIntosh's most illustrious former residents, was always there when they asked for help in negotiating loans or other needs.

The biggest fund-raiser, and the most fun, is the annual McIntosh 1890s Festival, when thousands of people from all ways of life, walk the streets of the town, tour old homes and the Victorian churches on display, take pictures of Friends and their families strolling in Victorian costumes, buy foods, crafts and antiques and watch outdoor entertainment that ranges from the stirring, kilted bagpipe band to a fresco classic ballet.

But I don't have to tell you that: you are here to see, photograph and remember and I hope to applaud what these people have done not only to preserve the past but to allow us to participate in it.

## History of the Friends

By Alice Warrington.

The preservation and enhancement of the natural and architectural beauty of McIntosh and the promotion of recreational activities in the community was the impetus for a group of people to meet on September 26, 1973 to form an organization to carry out these ends. The idea for such an organization came from citizens, young and old. At the next meeting, with a charter and by-laws written, the club was named the *Friends of McIntosh*, and Dr. E.W. (Ned) Cake was elected the first President.

Charter members were: Sadie Alston, Dottie and Ned Cake, Kay and John Campbell, Betty and Ernie Hopwood, Margie Karow, Susan and Joe Phillips, Katie and Ed Johnson, Bettie McKeone, Mitzie and Robbie Roess, Hester and Roger Stevenson, June and Fred Ward, and Alice and Howard Warrington. Meetings were first held in the Community Center.

The first undertaking was to lease the plot of land next to the Post Office and start the Mini-Park. All met on Saturday to landscape, build a fence and paint. Materials were donated by businesses in Ocala and Gainesville. The little Park was dedicated on October 28, 1973, with a large crowd attending.

When it was learned that the old Depot in town could be had if it was moved off the railroad right-of-way, a string of money making activities followed: bake sales, dinners and the like. But much more money was needed if this landmark to the town's past was to be saved, much less restored. So the 1890 Festival was originated, with the first being held October 19, 1974, and netting the club \$2,738.96. A lot of effort has gone into the Festivals and the Depot since then as you can see.

### 1890s Festival Helpers

Many hours are spent planning to entertain thousands of people each year long before the 1890s Festival actually dawns.

Special thanks go to those who so diligently work to make this a happy day for all ages.

Tour of Homes, Security Setup	Marge Karow Greg Willis, Jim Willis, Ernie Hopwood
Entertainment Advertising	Jane Edney Sharp Piper Hatcher, Jean Willis
Gazette Booths and Food	Piper Laurie Hatcher Sharon Perry
Depot Events	Ernie Hopwood
Parade Marshall	Ray Washington
Quilt and Tickets	Betty Hopwood
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# McIntosh on National Historic Register

## Preservation

McIntosh has achieved national recognition and is recorded on the National Register of historic sites.

The McIntosh Historic District contains a concentration of Victorian residences and commercial buildings that were related to the railroad and have survived as a Victorian town that is proud of its preserved heritage.

## Railroad Town

The revised town plan of 1888, retained the original grid of the 1885 plat, however it subdivided the 65 residential blocks into 47 residential blocks of 4-6 lots each, and 18 commercial blocks of 6-12 lots each. The commercial blocks were located near the railroad right-of-way. This was consistent with the usual layout of railroad towns in Central Florida. The easy access by rail to Northern markets for produce and oranges, as well as the availability of supplies needed by the townspeople, enhanced both town's commercial development in the area adjacent to the railroad, and the general prosperity of the people who settled in McIntosh.

## Early Streets

Streets were laid out in the original plat with North and South right-of-ways 60 feet wide. Avenues ran East and West with 80 foot right-of-ways. The streets were grassy ruts in the 1890's and early 1900's.

## Victorian Homes

The residential part of the town developed west of the railroad and early commercial area because the higher ground was more desirable for homes than the mosquito infested areas near the lake. During the period from the 1880's to the early 1900's frame houses were constructed in this area. Built mostly of hard yellow pine, the predominate architectural styles were Victorian Gothic in two stories. After the turn of the century, one-and-one-half story bungalows began appearing in the neighborhood. Architecture was not limited to formal textbook styles as each owner built to suit his own individual tastes and needs.

## Servants Cabins

During the town's early development, lots were generally 150' x 150'. Many of the original owners bought more than one lot. This left space for servants cabins, examples of which still survive on Sites #17A, #31A, and #54A. Of simple construction, the cabins were usually of two or three rooms. Accessory buildings such as small barns and sheds were also constructed. Surviving accessory buildings are in advanced stages of deterioration.

## Recreation

While no land was originally designated for public recreation, the developers donated Block 49 for Van Ness Park. A series of gazebos were constructed in this area and finally were permanently replaced by a Civic Center Site #19 constructed of Florida fieldstone in the 1930's as a WPA project. Since most of the houses were built before the park was donated, only two face it: the Norsworthy House (Site #47). The remaining buildings were and are street oriented, and built near the winding roadways.

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personal  
touch.*

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### Commercial Area Moved

When 9th Street, the old "wire" and stagecoach road, was widened and paved to become U.S. 441, the commercial area moved from the railroad area to the highway. Commercial development now centers around the sale of antiques and the needs of people passing through on their way to Ocala. The scale of most of these commercial buildings remains the same as the earlier railroad business area. The two story Turnipseed store has been moved to U.S. 441 from the depot area and Avenue "G" and there are several large packing house structures, one still used in the shipment of oranges while the others are either antiques or feed stores.

### "The North Marion News"

The commercial area contained several packing houses, Site #7 the Christian Mercantile Store, the hotel Site #9 a two story Band/PO/Masonic Hall, (now the site of a new Post Office) a millinery store, meat store and by the 1920's a last issue of the newspaper was printed in the 1940's, but the printing presses and trays of hand-set type remain as they were used on the day of the final newspaper, waiting to begin publishing again.

### The Friends of McIntosh

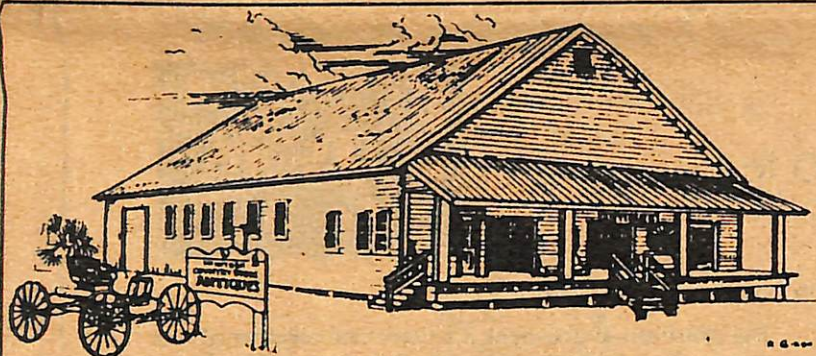
The last train passed through McIntosh in 1974 and a group of local residents called "The Friends of McIntosh" purchased the depot in 1975, and have restored it. It has become a meeting place and museum for all who are interested in Historic Preservation. In order to raise funds for their restoration projects, the "Friends" hold an "1890 Days" festival each autumn, when colorful costumes, entertainment and crafts displays turn back the clock to the days when spindles and gingerbread adorned each house.



Winter vegetables headed for the northern markets.



A canopy of live oak and sable palms.



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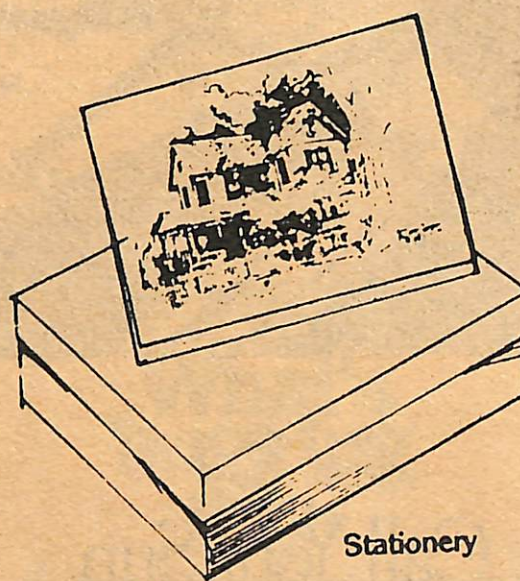
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# McIntosh



Stationery

Be sure and see historic McIntosh Stationery, the latest creation of the friends of McIntosh. These beautifully illustrated pen and ink drawings by Tony Morgan of Gainesville capture the grace and nostalgia of some of our towns most noteworthy and historic homes. They are available at the 1890 Festival or write: Stationery, Box 1890, McIntosh, Florida 32664.  
Price: \$3.00 ppd.



## Some of the fine recipes in the 1890 Festival Cookbook

### VIRGINIA'S FRUIT COBBLER

- 1 cup fresh or canned peaches  
or cherries
- $\frac{3}{4}$  c. flour, self-rising
- $\frac{3}{4}$  c. milk
- 1 c. sugar
- 1 stick butter

Melt butter in baking dish. Mix flour, sugar and milk. Pour into pan. Add fruit on top. Bake 1 hour at 350 degrees. This recipe produces a dark, chewy crust.

Cherry Badger

### BAKED BEAN MEDLEY

- $1\frac{1}{2}$  lb. ground beef
- 1 small onion (chopped)
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 - 303 size can kidney beans
- 1 - 303 can dry limas
- 1 - 303 size can pork and beans
- $\frac{1}{2}$  c. catsup
- 2 Tbsp. vinegar
- $\frac{1}{4}$  c. brown sugar

Brown together lightly beef, onions and salt. Add the beans, catsup, vinegar and sugar. Mix well. Put in greased casserole and bake 30 minutes in 350 degree oven.

Jo Hamilton

### AUNT SADIE'S SQUASH CASSEROLE

- 2 c. yellow squash, steamed  
with medium onion (drain well)
- 1 medium shredded carrot,  
steam with squash
- 1 pkg. Pepperidge Farm  
herbed crumbs
- 1 c. sour cream
- 1 can cream of chicken soup  
(undiluted)
- salt and pepper to taste
- 2 Tbsp. minced pimento

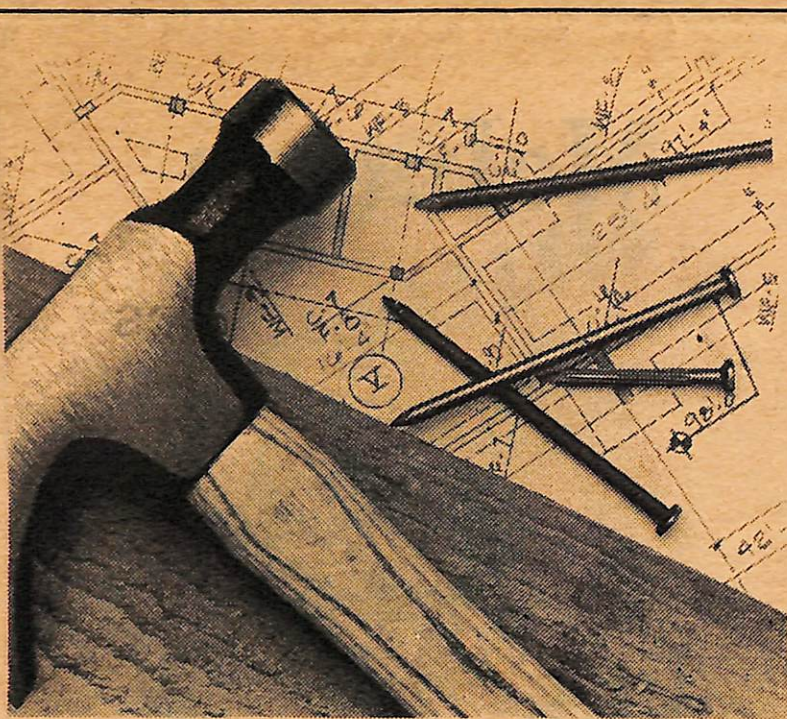
Mix crumbs in low heated pan with  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup oleo. Set aside. In bowl, blend vegetables, sour cream and soup. Place  $\frac{1}{2}$  buttered crumbs in buttered oblong casserole. Pour blended mix over crumbs. Level off. Cover with other half of crumbs. Bake at 350 degrees for 30-40 minutes until bubbly and brown. If crumbs brown too fast, cover with foil.

Amita Karow Crevasse  
Gainesville, Florida

### CORN SOUFFLE

- 1 pkg. Jiffy cornbread
- 1 c. cream style corn
- 1 c. chopped onions
- 3 Tbsp. butter
- $\frac{1}{2}$  c. milk
- 1 egg
- Tabasco Sauce - 1 squirt
- 1 c. sour cream
- 1 c. grated cheddar cheese
- Onions - Sautéed

Combine mix, egg, milk, corn, seasonings. Spread in baking dish with onion on top. Spread sour cream over mixture. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake until bubbly.



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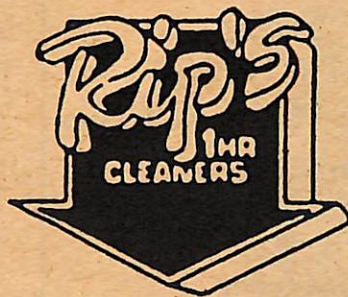
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## 1890 Festival Cookbook



Country Recipes from the McIntosh Area

The 1890 Festival Cookbook is a handsome collection of area recipes. Now in its third printing, it is illustrated by Becky Gaver and Stephen Glisson. Recipes from "Granny Huff's Buttermilk Yeast Bread" to "Orange Marmalade - Mother Richardson's Way" can bring the good food of the old South to everyone's table. The Cookbook makes an excellent gift for the bride or that 'special person' on holidays or birthdays. Or better yet, why not treat yourself! Available in the McIntosh Antique shops or write: COOKBOOK, Box 1890, McIntosh, Florida 32664. Price: \$5.00 ppd.



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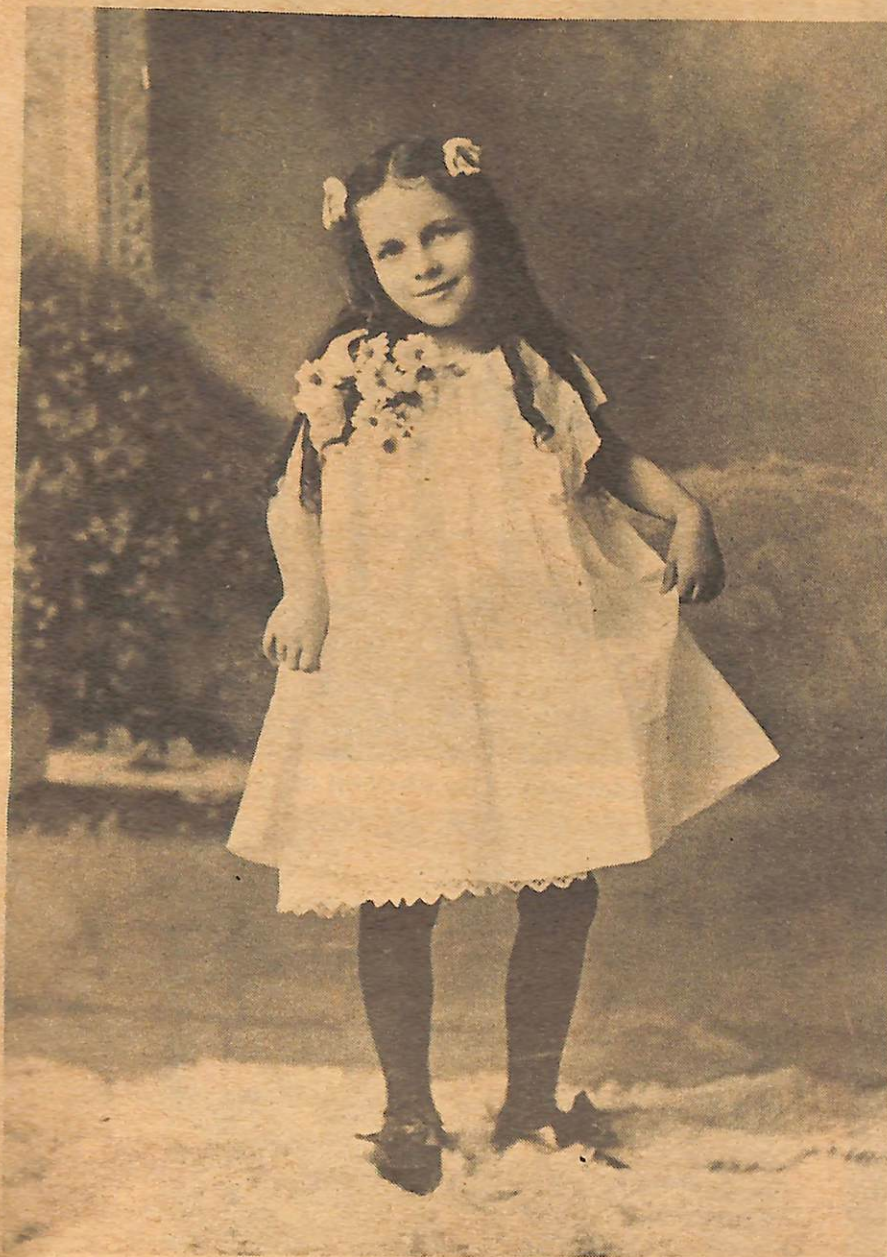
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## Hattie Neal



The sweet smell of an apple cobbler baking in Lulu Neal's oven, is floating about the house and mingling with the laughter of the black-haired little girl.

"Hattie!?, are you sliding down the banister again? You be careful!"

Hattie Neal was a spunky little girl who grew up in the Neal-Blinn house that stands today at the corner of 5th Street and Avenue H. Her father, John S. Neal, moved his family into the house after he finished building it in 1893. Hattie was two-years-old and would live there for the rest of her days.

She went to school in the old schoolhouse near the Christian Church and grew up to be a fine young lady. But for whatever reason, Hattie would never marry.

Her father died in 1917 and her mother only four years later. She mourned and withdrew after the deaths of her parents. She was left at age 30 with only her older brother Barkley at home.

But the aristocratic southern lady was not to be kept down, and she even ventured to New York City once, where she worked as a hostess for the Commodore Hotel. When she told the hotel owner not to flick his cigar ashes onto the hotel lobby carpet, she had worked her last day and returned to McIntosh.

When she got back, she found Barkley had married Ollie Henderson, and she didn't like the idea at all. But she lived in the house with the couple until 1937 when Barkley died, and Ollie went to Jacksonville. (There is a tiny gravestone with the initials "J.S.N." in the backyard of the Neal-Blinn house today, hidden for years beneath the jungle, where the stillborn child of Ollie and Barkley is believed to have been buried.)

Hattie was alone now, with a big house and yard she could not keep up with. The ligustrum, azaleas and bamboo became a barrier between the house and the world. She grew older and her eyes weaker.

But you could still see Miss Hattie walking to the Post Office with the heavily rouged cheeks, wearing one of her hats and startling white gloves.

After breaking her hip, concerned friends moved her into a retirement home in Ocala, where she died in 1978 at age 87.

But the haunting memory of Hattie Neal still remains in the house where she lived. Everytime you see the banister, and smell an apple cobbler baking. You can almost hear the laughter . . .

"Hattie!?"



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# map

Parade Ends

## \*\*\* Parade Route

### 1 Tour of Homes

- A Ticket Sale
- B Ciotti Home
- C Weidegreen Home
- D Myhre Home

### 2 Churches

- F Christian Church
- G Presbyterian Church
- H Methodist Church
- I Baptist Church

### 3 Activities & Exhibits

- J Scheduled Entertainment
- K Bill "Fingers" Munroe Ragtime Train Exhibit (Depot)
- L Trolley Stop
- M McIntosh Cookbook Sale
- N Quilt Raffle
- O McIntosh Clan Exhibit
- P Chicken Barbeque

### 4 Facilities

- Q Information Booths
- R Rest Rooms
- S Ambulance
- T Mini-Park



