



Project Updates

- We added 288 items to the online project in May 2025

Uploads to martindigitalhistory.org:

Thurlow Ruhnke/Ricou Negatives

Thanks to Sandy Thurlow for allowing us to scan more of this collection. This month, we added images labeled “Buildings,” which featured many businesses (interiors and exteriors), the House of Refuge (including the turtle hatching initiatives), some developments and individual homes, the Cashel Estate, and many aerial views.



Pitchford's Bar apparently featured painted coconut “heads” in the 1950s.



The Elliott museum's director, Janet Hutchinson and Stephen Kerth sit behind the wheel of a 1903 Antique Reo automobile parked in front of the Elliott Museum.



The House of Refuge featured programs to save turtles at one time.

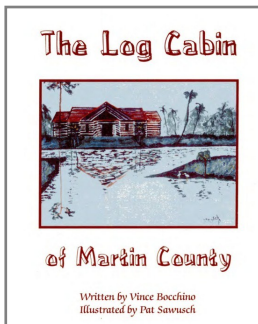
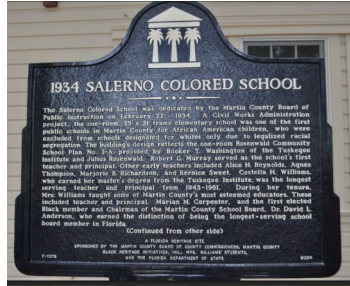


Salerno Post Office, 1959

Uploads to martindigitalhistory.org:

Salerno Colored School Florida Historical Marker

Thanks to all who made this important marker happen and to Julie Preast and Joette Rice for writing the application. We are proud to make the application and images from the unveiling available on MDH.



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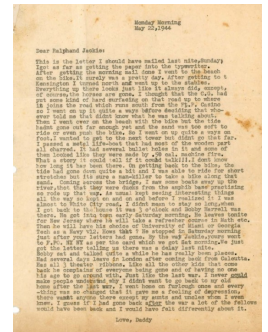
The Log Cabin of Martin County by Vince Bocchino

Thanks to Julie Preast for making the connection with the Bocchino family, allowing us to make this book available online. It details the history of the building, and the process of reassembling the Log Cabin, which is an important venue for community events.

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Ralph Hartman Sr. letters

Thanks to the Historical Society of Martin County for allowing us to digitize these letters. For several years, Ralph Hartman Sr. wrote his sons, serving in the military, daily. Later on, he continued with at least weekly letters to his children as they moved through their lives. He shares news of other Stuart servicemen, community members and relatives, as well as activities and events. Read and get the latest news from 1944 through 1959!



Martin County Celebrates its Centennial in 2025!
Check out the website for events and information!
martincounty100.com

Interested in Martin County history? Visit and
subscribe to Sandra Thurlow's
[Sandy History Lady Blog](http://SandyHistoryLadyBlog.com)



What is Martin Digital History?

The mission of Martin Digital History (MDH) is to encourage the appreciation of Martin County's unique history by collaborating with community members and local organizations to collect, present, and interpret relevant digital content. This participatory archive, orchestrated by the Martin County Library System, is the result of the planning teamwork of several far-sighted community members and organizations, including Sandra Thurlow, Black Heritage Initiative, Stuart Heritage, the Historical Society of Martin County, the Library Foundation of Martin County, and many others. It is open for public participation.

- This newsletter will attempt to keep all informed about the project, including new participants and accessions, plans, events, etc. [Click here to subscribe to this newsletter.](#)
- More information: martindigitalhistory.org
- Feedback, comments, questions? Contact the archivist: Georgen Charnes, gcharnes@martin.fl.us



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