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Laurel in Sarasota County, Florida — The American South (South Atlantic)

Laurel Turpentine and Lumber Industry

Inscription. ♦ The naval stores industry provided employment for workers leaving the plantation system following the Civil War. Some laborers were leased by private companies from state or county prisons. This leasing system brought about conditions of peonage to many workers. Following public outcry the state legislature prohibited the leasing of convicts. Turpentine processing and lumber milling reached this area around 1910. One of the early stills and prisoner stockades operated by the Hall and Harrison Turpentine Company was located west of the Seaboard Air Line Railway in Nokomis. The still worked land north of Nokomis and south of Venice.

Later, 4,000 acres were leased from the estate of Mrs. Potter $\,$ Palmer for developing a turpentine operation called the McKeithan Still after Sam G. McKeithan, the manager. It was located northeast of the Seaboard Air Line Railway where it now

LAUREL TURPENTINE AND LUMBER INDUSTRY

Photographed By Julie Szabo, January 20, 2008 1. Laurel Turpentine and Lumber Industry

crosses Laurel Road. A cemetery for Blacks, evidence of which has disappeared, was located on a knoll east of the still. About 1925 turpentining was replaced by the lumber business. J. Ray Arnold Lumber Company's large mill was north of

AND LUMBER INDUSTRY Later. 4.000 acres were leased from the estate of Mrs. Potter Palmer for developing a turpenting operation called the McKeithan Still after Sam (McKeithan, the manager. It was located northeas of the Seaboard Air Line Railway where it nov crosses Laurel Road. A cemetery for Blacks evidence of which has disappeared, was located on a knoll east of the still. About 1925 turpen thing was replaced by the lumber business. ing was replaced by the lumber business. J. R. Arnold Lumber Company's large mill was north on the still's Black housing. The mill was connected by rail to nine or ten smaller mills. By 1930 the iber had been sawed and hauled out.

Photographed By Julie Szabo, January 20, 2008 2. Laurel Turpentine and Lumber Industry Marker Reverse

America. Touch for directions.

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Topics. This historical marker is listed in these topic lists: African Americans • Cemeteries & Burial Sites • Horticulture & Forestry • Industry & Commerce. A significant historical year for this entry is 1910.

Erected 1987 by Sarasota County Historical Commission.

Location. 27° 8.318′ N, 82° 26.743′ W. Marker is in Laurel, Florida, in Sarasota County. Marker is at the intersection of Laurel Road East and Mission Valley Blvd., on the right when traveling west on Laurel Road East. Touch for map. Marker is in this post office area: Nokomis FL 34275, United States of

Other nearby markers. At least 8 other markers are within 2 miles of this marker, measured as the crow flies. Laurel Turpentine Company / Blackburn Sawmill Quarters (approx. 1/4 mile away); Johnson Chapel / Albee Quarters (approx. half a mile away); Shakett Creek / Estuary "the cradle of the ocean" (approx. 3/4 mile away); Venice Post Office (approx. 0.9 miles away); Turpentine / Venice Ice House (approx. 1.2 miles away); Knight Memorial/Area First Cemetery (approx. 1.3 miles away); History of Nokomis / Fred Albee (approx. 1.4 miles away); Nokomis School (approx. 11/2 miles away).



3. Laurel Turpentine and Lumber Industry

Credits. This page was last revised on June 20, 2018. It was originally submitted on January 21, 2008, by Julie Szabo of Oldsmar, Florida. This page has been viewed 2,480 times since then and 50 times this year. Last updated on September 27, 2008, by Philip Lohrenz of Staten Island, New York. Photos: 1, 2, 3. submitted on January 21, 2008, by Julie Szabo of Oldsmar, Florida. • Kevin W. was the editor who published this page.

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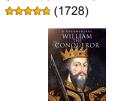
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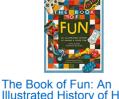


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