



WALKING TOUR OF DOWNTOWN TAMPA



- A Robert E. Lee Marker**—at Kaley Plaza on the Riverfront
- B Father Ryan Stained Glass Window** - Sacred Heart Catholic Church
- C Oaklawn Cemetery Confederate Monument, USS Sagamore Cannonball Marker, Monument to Darwin B. Givens and Final Resting Place of** Capt. H.L. Mitchell (Florida Governor), Capt. J.T. Lesley, Pvt. T.K. Spencer and dozens of other Confederate soldiers and sailors
- D Capt. John T. Lesley House Marker**—residence of founder of Sunny South Guard
- E Site of Fort Brooke**—no longer exists - comprising southernmost part of downtown. Approximately west from Morgan Street and south from Washington Street.
- F James B. McKay Marker**—in Poe Plaza—Mayor and Confederate Blockade Runner targeted in the "Battle of Ballast Point" aka "Hillsborough River Raid"
- G Memoria in Aeterna Monument and Marker**— both in front of "Old Hillsborough County Courthouse"
- H Hillsborough Lodge #25 F & AM**—home lodge of many prominent Confederate soldiers and civilian officials including notables: Joseph P. Robles, John T. Lesley, Gov. Henry Laurens Mitchel and John Darling.
- I James B. McKay Plaque**—in courthouse square
- J First Church Building Marker**—Rev. Capt. Leroy Lesley



Did You Know?

U.S. Army Col. Robert E. Lee visited Tampa Bay while surveying the coastline for fortifications in his service with the Corps of Engineers. Lee is most known for his command of the Army of Northern Virginia for the Confederacy.

The United Daughters of the Confederacy supported the construction of a Sacred Heart Catholic Church in 1889 by donating the Jesus in the Garden stained glass window. The Romanesque style structure replaced the original church built in 1859, named St. Louis Church, making it the 3rd church in Tampa and the 1st Catholic Church in West Florida. The window was dedicated to Poet-Priest of the Confederacy, Father Abraham Ryan.



C. S. A. President Jefferson Davis appointed Tampa Free Mason and County Commissioner John Darling as receiver of monies for the Confederate States land office in Tampa.

On Christmas Day 1863, the USS Tahoma bombed Tampa's civilian population for two hours as a "Christmas Present from Uncle Sam".

James McKay, born in Scotland, built the second Hillsborough County Courthouse and was elected Tampa mayor in 1859. In defiance of the Federal blockade on Southern shipping, his steamers the Katie Dale and Scottish Chief continued trade until the Battle of Ballast Point when Federals, bent on retribution, burned the vessels down to the water line, while moored upriver, near present day Lowery Park.



5 year old Darwin B. Givens alerted Tampa town on May 5th 1864 that "The Devils are Coming". Some of the leading citizens of the Town were arrested, the Florida Federal troops pillaged and looted the town and the Fort Brooke defensive cannons were captured or destroyed. The town was occupied until threats of Capt. J.J. Dickinson's cavalry imminent arrival cleared out the invaders.

The first church building in Tampa, a white frame structure, was completed in 1851 under the super intendency of Rev. Leroy G. Lesley. Thomas J. Jackson, a soldier stationed in the region, donated \$5 in gold in 1846 for the building fund. Rev. Lesley, a veteran of the 2nd Seminole War, was called to the ministry and moved his family to Tampa, including son John T. Lesley, and began the work on the Church. He would return to soldiering, starting his own commissary company for Florida's "Cow Cavalry".



HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR

featuring

Downtown Tampa's Confederate History



Fort Brooke