

The Zora Neale Hurston Dust Tracks Heritage Trail in Fort Pierce, Florida

Zora Neale Hurston Dust Tracks Heritage Trail commemorates the life of author Zora Neale Hurston through the prism of her Fort Pierce years. Markers along each stop of the trail, where memories of Zora coalesce, focus the light of her life's story onto her final days.

Zora Neale Hurston, writer and ethnologist, storyteller and dramatist, drew inspiration from the African American folklore of Florida. She chose to express scholarship through art and let the folklore live through her work. Live, it did. She published seven books and nine more appeared posthumously. She wrote more than 140 short stories, articles, poems, songs and plays. That Zora's writings, so earthy, so often hinging for effect on a turn of phrase, are sold in bookstores around the world validates her vision and attests to the universality of her art. Her books have been translated into languages as different as Swedish, Italian and Korean.



Zora Neale Hurston Dust Tracks Heritage Trail invites you to follow Zora's travels in Florida and the Caribbean on the historical maps featured on the kiosks. Then turn to the city map on the other side of the kiosks and of this brochure for a guide to the eight spots on the Trail in Fort Pierce.

DIRECTIONS TO TRAIL MARKER #1 AT THE HURSTON LIBRARY, 3008 AVENUE D: From I-95, take Exit 131 (Orange Avenue) east. Turn left on 25th Street (north). Turn left on Avenue D, the Hurston Library is located on the right. From Florida's Turnpike, take the Fort Pierce exit east. Follow Okeechobee Road/Virginia Avenue to 25th Street and turn left (north) to Avenue D. Trail Markers are located throughout the City, see enclosed map.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Florida Humanities Council
National Endowment for the Humanities
Friends of the St. Lucie County Library Inc.
School Board of St. Lucie County
St. Lucie County Cultural Affairs Council
St. Lucie County Historical Commission
St. Lucie County Historical Society
The New York Public Library
Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations
Rollins College Archives, Special Collection
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Zora Neale Hurston Trust
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St. Lucie County Historical Museum
St. Lucie County Library Department
St. Lucie County GIS Division
United States Post Office, Zeta Phi Beta
Just Cause Media, Johnnie Stover
Patrick Duval, Art by Joseph Murray
Art by Patricia McCarren, The Benton Family
The Bolen Family, Gertrude Walker
The Sexton Family, Rufus Alexander Family
Sarah's Memorial Chapel
Backus Gallery and Kathleen Fredrick
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St. Lucie County

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St. Lucie County

ZORA NEALE HURSTON DUST TRACKS HERITAGE TRAIL





Fort Pierce, Florida

Zora Neale Hurston in Fort Pierce

KEY TO TRAIL MARKERS

- 1 HURSTON LIBRARY, 3008 Avenue D: This branch of the St. Lucie County Public Library System has a large collection of audio-visual resources on Zora.
- 2 LINCOLN PARK ACADEMY, 1806 Avenue I: Zora taught English here. She received her BA from Barnard College, studying under Franz Boas, the "Father of Anthropology," at Columbia University.
- 3 ZORA NEALE HURSTON HOUSE, 1734 Avenue L: Zora lived here in a house owned by Clem C. Benton, a physician and humanitarian who befriended Zora and allowed her to live there rent free.
- 4 GRAVESITE, Avenue S and 17th Street: When Zora was buried, it was Genesee Memorial Gardens. It was the Garden of Heavenly Rest when author Alice Walker marked her grave with a headstone in 1973.
- 5 FORT PIERCE CHRONICLE, 1529 Avenue D: This building was the headquarters of the *Chronicle* whose editor, C. E. Bolen, persuaded Zora to come to Fort Pierce and write a column for the paper.
- 6 MEANS COURT SCHOOL, 532 N. 13th Street: Here stood the first public school in town built for African American children. Lincoln Park Academy was later founded on the same site.

- 7 PEEK FUNERAL CHAPEL, 728 Avenue D: On January 28, 1960, memorial services were held here for Zora. More than a hundred people, many from distant places, came to pay their respects.
- 8 BACKUS STUDIO, 122 Backus Avenue: Zora used to listen to the jazz jam sessions held here on Friday nights at the studio of artist A. E. "Bean" Backus.

-  DUST TRACKS HERITAGE TRAIL
-  MAIN ARTERIES TO THE TRAIL

Taylor Creek

Northwest

Moore's Creek

Sample Oaks

Oakland Park

