



Friends of the Museum of the Everglades

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Keeping History Alive at Our Museum

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Great Floridians Honored at the Museum



Deaconess Harriet Bedell, born in 1875 in Buffalo, NY, was an Episcopal missionary. Her first assignments were in Oklahoma and Alaska. In 1933 she was on a lecture circuit seeking donations for her Alaska mission when she was invited to speak in Miami. She visited a Seminole reservation, the condition of which convinced her to stay in the area and help them.

She re-opened the Glade Cross Mission in Everglades and sought to revive the authentic patchwork, doll making, and basket weaving skills of the Indians. She took their native crafts, sold them to retailers in large cities, and bought food and supplies, which she gave back to the Indians. After Hurricane Donna damaged the Mission in 1960, she moved to the Bishop Grey Retirement Inn in Davenport, FL, where she died in 1969. Her feast day of January 8th on the Episcopal Church calendar is scheduled to be approved during the Convention in 2009.

Deaconess Harriet Bedell's Great Floridian plaque is located at the Museum of the Everglades, 105 West Broadway, Everglades City, Florida.

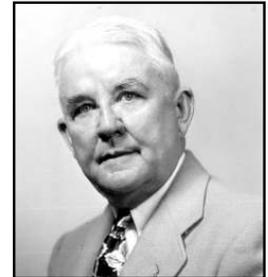
To read more, see:

http://www.diosef.org/conv03_resolutions2.pdf

<http://satucket.com/lectionary/Bedell.htm>

<http://www.ewhp.org/resources.htm>

David Graham Copeland, born in 1885 in Bamberg, SC, was educated at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.



After experience in the Navy, he came to Florida work for Barron Collier as chief engineer for the completion of the Tamiami Trail (US- 41). Copeland managed the entire project and the Trail was finished in April 1928. He also oversaw the planning and construction of Everglades (now Everglades City), which was the seat of Collier County from 1923 to 1962.

Copeland managed 40 Collier companies operating from Everglades including hotels, a steamship line, the United Telephone System of Florida, Bank of Everglades, retail stores, an ice plant, and schools. He was instrumental in bringing the Atlantic Coast Line Railway to southwest Florida.

He was Chairman of the Collier County Board of Commissioners from 1929 until 1947 and from then until 1949 as a State representative who supported conservation and opposed excessive taxation. He was also on the commission that established Everglades National Park in 1947.

He wrote an unpublished history of the area which became the basis for Dr. Charlton Tebeau's Collier County history, *Florida's Last Frontier*. David Graham Copeland died in 1949.

David Graham Copeland's Great Floridian plaque is located at the Museum of the Everglades, 105 West Broadway, Everglades City, Florida.