

Harris School Replica: A Brief Introduction

History of Site before Actual Structure was Built

- Original school built in eastern Lealman community at 4600 Haines Road.
- In the early 1900s, the Lealman area had few settlers and remained decidedly rural in character.
- Earlier schools in Lealman area (but not on the same site) included the “Hammock” School (opened 1880), Lealman School Number One (built 1898), and Lealman School Number Two (replaced the 1898 structure in 1908).

Construction Information for Original Structure’s Namesake

- Named in honor of William Beasley “Uncle Bill” Harris, who served as a school trustee for fourteen years and as a county commissioner for fourteen years.
- Harris’s maternal grandfather was Elza B. Lealman, a Georgia native and early settler along the Pinellas peninsula who is the namesake of the unincorporated Lealman communities.
- In November 1901, Harris married Mary Ellen “Mamie” McMullen, eldest of John James McMullen’s ten children.
- William and Mary Ellen (Eleanor) Harris had six children who endured long horse-and-buggy journeys to distant schools.
- Harris cultivated citrus and helped to develop roads and internal improvements in the Lealman area.
- Daughter Myrtle Elsie Harris later served as a teacher and principal at Lealman Avenue Elementary during the early 1930s (a different school).
- “Uncle Bill” died on the evening of Halloween 1940. Colleagues on the county commission promptly expressed their grief at his passing.

History of Use

- Harris recruited volunteer labor and donated land and money for the school.
- Harris School fell under Special School Tax District Seven, the Lealman district.
- Classes began at the school in 1912 and continued through 1923.
- Replica at Heritage Village resembles building as it was originally constructed.
- By late 1910s, school officials modified the structure to include indoor flush toilets, a workroom, and a larger blackboard.
- Overcrowding of school by early 1920s (as enrollment approached forty students) led school officials to replace this structure and construct new buildings on the Harris campus.

Significant Events/Activities at the Structure and in the Surrounding Community

- The Harris School served children of remote areas in eastern Lealman.
- By 1916—as a way of teaching agricultural skills to students in rural schools—Superintendent Dixie M. Hollins launched a “Pig Club” in many schools. Students in this club learned how to cultivate crops and raise pigs during summer months and lulls in the citrus growing and tourist seasons. Frank Maurice Harris, one of “Uncle Bill” Harris’s sons, participated in the Pig Club.

- Enrollment at school increased as infrastructure improvements and the “good roads movement” brought more residents into eastern Lealman.
- Construction on a replacement building occurred as the 1912 structure experienced overcrowding. During the 1924-1925 academic year, enrollment in the “new” Harris School soared to over 100 pupils.

Creation of the Replica at Heritage Village

- As early as May 1980, park management planned to construct or (preferably) relocate a schoolhouse to Heritage Village.
- An examination of former school buildings in Ozona, Dunedin, and elsewhere failed to locate an appropriate (and ready-to-move) structure. Park leaders looked at least as far as Walton County, Florida, for a suitable structure.
- Planned as a partnership project between Heritage Village, the Board of County Commissioners, and the Pinellas County School Board.
- Don Williams’s architectural firm, students at the Vocational-Technical Education Center, and other partners assisted with the supplies and labor for construction of the replica.
- Constructed in 1987 to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of Pinellas County’s independence and the county school system.
- Book closet in Harris School replica came from old Largo High School building, once located on the present site of the Pinellas County Schools administrative offices.

Harris School

Overview

The Harris School replica at Heritage Village, constructed in 1987, commemorates the seventy-fifth anniversary of Pinellas County's independence and the beginnings of the Pinellas County school system. This structure also recognizes the creative labors of William Beasley "Uncle Bill" Harris, a longtime resident of the Pinellas peninsula who served fourteen years as a school trustee and fourteen years as a county commissioner. Through a partnership between the school board and the Pinellas County Board of Commissioners, county officials commissioned Williams Architects Chartered Ltd. to draw plans to recreate the one-room schoolhouse originally located at 4600 Haines Road.

The first Harris School served the Lealman community from 1912 until 1923. With volunteer labor and materials donated from the community, Harris oversaw construction of this one-room boarded structure. As one of its earliest official duties, the newly-formed Pinellas County Board of Public Instruction provided seats and desks for the structure. By the early 1920s, enrollment rose from fifteen students to nearly forty. During its eleven years of service, school officials also redesigned the structure with an addition near the portico that provided indoor water flush toilets, a workroom, and more space for a larger blackboard. A nearby windmill sat to the rear of the school building, along the west side of Haines Road. Despite these improvements, the school's physical plant could not accommodate the growing number of school-age children who lived in the area as the land boom brought new settlers to Pinellas County. Classes came to an end at the original Harris School in 1923. The following year, a new Harris School—with space for six teachers—opened on the site.¹

Pioneer Settlers and Education in the Lealman Area

The unincorporated Lealman community derives its name from Elza (Elsey) Beazley Lealman. Natives of Georgia, Lealman and his wife, Elenor, settled in Hamilton

¹ Pinellas County, Board of Public Instruction, *The Golden Anniversary of Pinellas Schools, Celebrating 50 Years of Educational Progress: Superintendent's Semi-centennial Report, 1912-1962* (St. Petersburg: Modern Printing & Publishing, 1962), 14, 49; *Senior Voice Newspaper*, January 1987. The seats and desks in the Harris School replica are not from the original structure.

County by the late 1840s as farmers. Sarah, their daughter, was born in northern Florida about 1849, probably on the farmstead. Records indicate that Lealman purchased land in Florida as early as 1 April 1859, when he acquired a 40.07 acre tract from the Newnansville land office in Alachua County. Sarah Lealman later married James W. Harris, who was also a native of northern Florida. In 1873, James and Sarah Harris had a son, William, while living in Suwannee County. A few years later, they moved to the Pinellas peninsula, where they homesteaded on a parcel about 5½ miles north of present-day downtown St. Petersburg. Thus, W. B. Harris—whose patronage of the Harris School benefited early settlers in Lealman—can claim that community’s namesake as his maternal grandfather.²

Although parts of Haines Road pass through St. Petersburg and the boundary between the city and unincorporated county appears transparent today, early settlers in the Lealman area truly lived in a remote, rural setting. Before the “good roads movement” reached the Pinellas peninsula in the late 1910s and early 1920s, many areas of unincorporated Lealman seemed far removed from the new city of St. Petersburg. A primitive structure known as the “Hammock” School opened in 1880 as the earliest school building in the Lealman area. The school operated out of a house once owned by a man named Hammock. Students sat on split-log benches added to the simple home, where Mary Marston earned \$15 per month plus boarding expenses to offer a three-month term of classes.³

Lealman School Number One, constructed in 1898, marked the first formal schoolhouse in the Lealman area. J. C. Williams, a St. Petersburg entrepreneur and son of “General” John Constantine Williams, donated an acre of land for the school site with the stipulation that Lealman residents would receive support from Hillsborough County to construct the one-room frame schoolhouse. Kate Blanton served as the first teacher. For

² United States Census Office, *Population Schedules of the Seventh Census of the United States, 1850, Florida* (Washington: National Archives, 1964). Digital images from many census records are also available through genealogical databases, such as <http://www.ancestry.com>. W. L. Straub, *History of Pinellas County, Florida* (St. Augustine: The Record Co., 1929), 317; *St. Petersburg Times*, 31 October 1940; *Clearwater Sun*, 31 October 1940. According to obituaries appearing in the *Clearwater Sun* and the *St. Petersburg Times*, W. B. Harris first came to the Pinellas peninsula in 1878 when five years of age. Straub’s *History of Pinellas County*, however, claims that Harris first arrived in 1876, when three years of age.

³ *Golden Anniversary of Pinellas Schools*, 10.

the next ten years, this small structure built near the present-day intersection of 42nd Avenue and 46th Street North served the students of the Lealman frontier. By 1908, community members auctioned this original structure and secured \$840 from the school district trustees for a new building. Lealman residents provided the labor, and classes soon began at Lealman School Number Two, located on the same site as the recently sold 1898 building. This two-room building had a removable partition to separate the pupils. Students in the front room enjoyed factory made desks and seats, while students in the other room used the older hand-made furniture from the 1898 school. In 1917, five years after Pinellas County's independence, authorities approved the construction of a stucco building known as Lealman-Clearview School. After the October 1921 hurricane destroyed the bridge to Seminole near Long Bayou, enrollment at Lealman-Clearview grew. By 1922, the school employed Gladys Walsingham as an "assistant teacher" to work with the new students. To accommodate continued growth in the unincorporated area, the school board purchased a ten-acre parcel for \$40,000 in December 1925 near present-day 41st Avenue and 35th Street North that became the site of Lealman Junior High (now Lealman Intermediate). Classes began at the junior high in September 1927. By 1931, a newly-constructed Clearview Avenue Elementary replaced the 1917 stucco structure as enrollment continued to increase.⁴

The Harris Family and the 1912 Schoolhouse

W. B. Harris married into a Pinellas pioneer family when he exchanged vows with Mary Ellen (or Eleanor) "Mamie" McMullen on 11 November 1901 in a ceremony held in the Largo area. Mary McMullen, born in Largo on 27 May 1881, was the eldest of ten children born to John James McMullen (born on the McMullen homestead near Coachman on 15 October 1853) and Joseph Drayton "Jo" Ramage McMullen (born in Ocala on 11 November 1857). Shortly after their wedding, William and Mary Harris established a family at their home in the Lealman area. They celebrated the arrival of six children: Frank Maurice (the eldest, born in 1902), Edna Gertrude, Vera (Verne) Claire, Myrtle Elsie, and twins Orville S. and William August. By the end of the first decade of

⁴ Ibid., 11-15, 55, 57; Patricia Perez Costrini, ed., *A Tradition of Excellence, Pinellas County Schools: 1912-1987* (Clearwater: Pinellas County School Board, 1987), 84-85.

the 1900s, either Harris or his wife had to endure the daily journey by horse and buggy to Lealman School Number Two so that their eldest children could attend classes. With his growing business interests in St. Petersburg, Harris soon grew tired of the trek along unimproved roads and paths to the distant school. Hoping to see his children gain an education closer to home, Harris took matters into his own hands, recruited volunteer labor, and donated land and money for the construction of a one-room schoolhouse for children who lived on the outskirts of St. Petersburg.⁵

Classes at Harris School began in 1912, the same year that the Pinellas peninsula gained its independence from Hillsborough County. Fifteen pupils—including Harris’s children—attended the first term of classes taught by Rosa Kilgore. During its early years, the school lacked indoor plumbing, water, or toilet facilities; workrooms or storage areas; and an adequate blackboard. Indeed, the replica at Heritage Village portrays the structure as originally constructed, without subsequent improvements. While county coffers provided a minimum foundation for schools, local areas and municipalities established special school tax districts as a way to supplement county expenditures. In his January 1916 report that reviewed the first four years of the Pinellas school system, Superintendent Dixie M. Hollins fondly described the “Will Harris” School in Special School Tax District Seven—the Lealman district—as a “modern one-room building, erected after a model exhibited at the St. Louis exposition.” By early 1916, both Harris School and Lealman School Number Two had enclosed fences, improved schoolyards, and small library collections. Both operated for eight-month terms and each had graduated students from the eighth grade during the 1914-1915 academic year.⁶

While Superintendent Dixie Hollins touted the progress of Pinellas schools since independence from Hillsborough, many of the earlier educational traditions remained. Despite the growth of St. Petersburg, Clearwater, Tarpon Springs, and other municipalities along the peninsula, the county’s character remained decidedly rural and agricultural. Educators, realizing that many citrus and tourist-related jobs disappeared

⁵ Genealogical information from McMullen biographical files at Heritage Village and “Ancestry World Tree: Lineage of Allen Martin and Related Families,” *Ancestry Plus*, <http://awt.ancestry.com>. See also: *St. Petersburg Times*, 31 October 1940, 3 March 1964; Straub, *History of Pinellas County*, 317; *Senior Voice Newspaper*, January 1987.

⁶ *Golden Anniversary of Pinellas Schools*, 14; *Largo Sentinel*, 13 January 1916.

during the summer months, sought a solution to keep boys and young men from becoming too idle as the school year came to an end. Hollins had a solution: After talking with several community leaders, he approached the school board with a plan to organize a Pig Club for boys throughout the county. According to Hollins's plan, bankers and members of the business community would advance funds to allow the school district to buy a number of pigs and give them to boys throughout the county.⁷ Hollins continued:

[Each participant] will agree to repay, when he disposes of his hog, the cost of the pig with the usual rate of interest on the money, and will agree to raise in the aggregate one-half acre in various crops with which to raise and fatten the pig and to report his success at given times.⁸

The board strongly endorsed his plan, and in early 1916 Hollins began to develop a system of prizes for the boys who participated. By May 1916, Hollins's "Pinellas County Pig Club" saw fifty young men engaged in a "fever heat" competition as they selected their hogs, planted their crops, and tended to the animals. A newspaper report claimed that one boy traveled six miles from his home to town to retrieve his pig, which he carried back under his arm. Another boy met Hollins at a train depot to get his pig; this lad brought the pig home on his wheelbarrow. Children of some pioneer families—including Stansel Taylor of Largo and Sumner Lowe of Anona—became charter members of the Pig Club. Frank Maurice Harris, son of W. B. Harris, also joined the inaugural class of this porcine project. Indeed, the younger Harris may have received guidance from his father, a man who regularly traveled by horse through central Pinellas to tend to his hog traps. Jay B. Starkey, Sr., occasionally accompanied "Uncle Bill" on these journeys.⁹

Enrollment increased in the Lealman school sub-district as infrastructure improved and families came to the area to take advantage of the land boom. On 5 October 1915, Pinellas County commissioners approved a resolution to issue \$715,000 in bonds to construct a network of hard-surface brick roads. This plan called for substantial

⁷ *Largo Sentinel*, 13 January 1916.

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Largo Sentinel*, 13 January 1916, 25 May 1916. Jay B. Starkey, *Jay Starkey's 'Things I Remember,' 1899-1979* (Brooksville: Reprinted from Southwest Florida Water Management District, 1980), 56-57.

improvements to Haines Road and other arteries that connected the Lealman area with St. Petersburg, Pinellas Park, Seminole, and other communities. In November 1916 rankings of attendance and tardiness among the county's twenty-six schools for white children, Harris ranked sixteenth in standing based upon tardiness and last based upon attendance (with an average attendance of 83.6% of pupils, compared with Pinellas Park's top rate of 99.6%). While agricultural duties may have provided some children in the Lealman area an excuse to play hooky, freeholders in the Lealman district knew that growth in enrollments stretched resources at the two area schools. By the fall of 1917, thirty-one students attended "Will Harris" schoolhouse and thirty-eight went to Lealman School Number Two. By early 1918, members of the Lealman sub-district, including trustee W. H. Harris, voted twelve-to-one to approve \$6,500 in bonds for two projects: \$2,000 to remodel Harris School and \$4,500 to replace the 1908 School Number Two with a new structure (Lealman-Clearview School). The district then modified the original frame building at Harris School by adding indoor plumbing and other amenities to accommodate its growing student body. Photographs of the original Harris School indicate the presence of an addition near the stairs and portico entryway by 1919.¹⁰

A New Building Replaces the 1912 Structure

Despite the 1918 improvements to the original Harris School, the land boom sealed the fate of this structure. Families continued to move into new subdivisions along St. Petersburg's border with unincorporated Lealman. While between thirty-four and thirty-eight students crowded into this wooden structure for classes each term between the 1919-1920 and 1922-1923 school sessions, the growing population required a larger facility. Estelle Chapman, acting as both principal and teacher, experienced "school overcrowding" as she tried to instruct and supervise nearly forty children in cramped quarters. By 1923, construction began on a new Harris School. When classes moved from the 1912 structure to the new building with three classrooms in 1924, enrollment

¹⁰ *Largo Sentinel*, 4 November 1915, 9 November 1916, 1 November 1917, 21 February 1918. For photographs of the original Harris School before and after renovation, see: *Golden Anniversary of Pinellas Schools*, 14.

increased to seventy-one students. By the 1924-1925 school year, enrollment again soared to 105 pupils.¹¹

Like its 1912 predecessor, the new structure became an educational cornerstone for the residents of eastern Lealman. In 1926, school officials constructed a cafetorium adjacent to the right of the 1924 building as a place for lunches, assemblies, and programs at the school. By early 1927, concerned parents had formed a Parent Teachers Association (P.T.A.) at Harris School that raised funds to open and equip the cafeteria, acquire a telephone for the school, purchase reference books, and establish a small circulating collection of books for the library. For a brief period during the Depression, authorities closed Harris School and sent children to 54th Avenue Elementary, a boom-era school opened in January 1928 on a site acquired from the O’Berry Grove. When state officials hoped to economize during this period by permanently closing Harris School, its P.T.A. members mobilized and a petition drive began to not only keep the school open, but also to add more classrooms to Harris School. Indeed, by the spring of 1933, P.T.A. members held “penny marches” at the end of each monthly meeting and occasional “spoon shower” pot luck gathering to raise funds and lobby for the school. In an interesting spin on rewarding school achievement, the 1933 Easter egg hunt featured prizes for students who found both the largest number and the least number of eggs.¹²

The Harris Family and the Development of Pinellas County

Members of the Harris family continued to participate in the political and economic development of Pinellas County long after the 1924 structure replaced the original namesake school. In earlier years, “Uncle Bill” Harris worked as a pioneer farmer who cultivated fruit (especially oranges) and also helped to develop roads in the Lealman region. He served as a school trustee for fourteen years and later, for fourteen years, as District 1 Commissioner for Pinellas County. A member of the Democratic Party, Harris built a strong following in St. Petersburg. For example, during June 1926 nominations for the County Commission, Harris defeated Ernest Davis by a margin of

¹¹ *Golden Anniversary of Pinellas Schools*, 49; United States Works Progress Administration, *Pinellas County Newspaper Index : W.P.A. Project No. 2865, 1938-1939* (Pinellas County, Fla.: Board of County Commissioners, 1939), vol. 4, 112.

¹² *Golden Anniversary of Pinellas Schools*, 49, 57; *St. Petersburg Times*, 5 February 1927, 18 April 1933.

388 to 136 votes. During the boom era, he became a partner in the Largo real estate firm of Harris and McMullen. He also held posts as a member of the Elks and as a director of First Security Bank in St. Petersburg. Meanwhile, after graduating from St. Petersburg High School, daughter Myrtle Elsie Harris studied music at the Florida State College for Women (now Florida State University) in Tallahassee. She returned to Pinellas County as an educator who, continuing the commitment to education in the Lealman area shown by her father, taught and served as a principal at Lealman Avenue Elementary from 1930 to 1936. In July 1935, she married C. O. (Clowny Oswald) Lowe, the son of landowner and banker Clowney Edgar Lowe.¹³

Newspapers reported the passing of “Uncle Bill” Harris on the morning of Halloween, 1940. On the evening of 30 October, feeling in great health after a recent trip to North Carolina, he experienced “a slight attack of indigestion.” The pain intensified and at 10:00 p.m., he dropped dead at the entrance to the bedroom after suffering a heart attack. His death brought grief to county commissioners and many residents of Lealman who appreciated his “quiet, soft-spoken, and publicity-shunning” demeanor. Commission Chair W. J. Christie lamented the loss of his colleague, noting that Harris “was conscientious and sincere in his duties. . . . There was only one Bill Harris and I don’t believe there could ever be anyone who could replace him.”¹⁴

Controversy later erupted as members of the Pinellas County school board considered closing Harris School in the early 1973. Members of the Harris family had donated the original parcel for the 1912 school with the condition that school officials maintain this site for educational purposes. Any other use invalidated the original deed of gift and would allow the Harris heirs to reclaim the title. In 1931, an adjoining piece of land became part of the Harris School campus when Albert Hoxie deeded part of his holdings to the school system at the time of his death. Similar to Harris, Hoxie provided his parcel with the condition that officials “maintain a building . . . for school purposes.” Hoxie’s deed further restricted the site for use by “white pupils only.” In February 1973, members of the Pinellas County School Board voted to close the 1924 Harris School and

¹³ Genealogical information the C. O. Lowe family derived from information available through *Ancestry World Tree*, at <http://awt.ancestry.com>. *Clearwater Sun*, 31 October 1940; *St. Petersburg Times*, 31 October 1940, 8 January 2000; *Tampa Morning Tribune*, 10 June 1926; Straub, *History of Pinellas County*, 317; Costrini, *Tradition of Excellence*, 133.

transport its students to either Lealman or 54th Avenue elementary schools. Louise H. Kaleel, Hoxie's granddaughter, threatened litigation if the board followed through with its plans to close the school. She had no interest in enforcing the Jim Crow provision of the deed, but hoped her efforts would continue the educational legacy of the Harris School. She could trust in the counsel of her husband, prominent St. Petersburg attorney William C. Kaleel, Sr., to assist her in this endeavor. School administrators revisited their decision, and Harris School remained open.¹⁵

Commemorating Harris's Legacy and Early Education in Pinellas County

The Pinellas County Historical Commission discussed plans for a one-room schoolhouse at Heritage Village long before construction began on the Harris School replica. Meeting minutes indicate that as early as 21 May 1980, Director Kendrick Ford told the Historical Commission that the proposed 1980-1981 budget included funding requests for three major improvements, including \$25,000 to relocate and restore a schoolhouse. Under new business during its 11 June 1980 meeting, the Historical Commission listed the acquisition of a school building as the highest priority at the park, ranking above twenty other suggestions. By February 1981, Ford had searched for a suitable schoolhouse, but had little success. Structures in Ozone and Dunedin were "not very satisfactory." Ford later had to drop plans for the schoolhouse due to budgetary reductions in the 1981-1982 fiscal year. Four years would pass before funding resources permitted the Commission to revisit this proposal.¹⁶

The Pinellas County School Board and the County Commission planned many events to celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the peninsula's sovereignty in 1987. The school district hired Patricia Perez Costrini to oversee its commemorative efforts. Costrini contacted Ford in 1985 to mention the district's interest in either moving an existing school building to Heritage Village or constructing a replica. By this time, Ford had concluded that no suitably-sized structure (such as a one-room schoolhouse) existed

¹⁴ *Clearwater Sun*, 31 October 1940; *St. Petersburg Times*, 31 October 1940.

¹⁵ *Golden Anniversary of Pinellas Schools*, 49. During this same meeting, members of the Pinellas County School Board decided to close another longstanding school in southern Pinellas County, Roser Park Elementary School. *St. Petersburg Times*, 6 February 1973.

¹⁶ Records of the Pinellas County Historical Commission, Heritage Village Library and Archives, Largo, 21 May 1980, 11 June 1980, 18 February 1981, 20 May 1981.

in Pinellas County and had even started to look as far away as Walton County for a building. While members of the Historical Commission agreed to assist Ford in his search for an appropriate, existing structure, Ford and the Commission had to work on a tight deadline: If they failed to locate a structure by February 1986, they would have to move forward with plans for a replica. By May 1986, Ford and Commission members had to select a site for the structure. They considered two locations: one close to the Safety Harbor church and the other adjacent to the Lowe Barn. After examining drainage patterns at these sites, they selected a location north of the Lowe Barn, though they modified their plans in September by aligning the school between the Lowe Barn and the museum building to place it on higher—and drier—ground. The construction team included Bob Fritz of Don Williams’s architectural firm and John Buckles of the Vocational-Technical Education Center. Roesch Housemovers, Inc., built the foundation at no charge and Weiss Lumber Company donated some of the wood used for the replica. Groundbreaking ceremonies for the Harris School replica took place on 25 October 1986, during the Pinellas County Historical Society’s annual Country Jubilee. During late 1986 and early 1987, students in the vocational program provided much of the labor to build the structure.¹⁷

This wood-frame vernacular replica, opened in 1987, portrays the original Harris School as it might have appeared during the period from 1912 to 1918. Many relics adorn the schoolhouse, none of which are originally from the Harris School. These include pictures of President William Howard Taft and President George Washington, an American flag from the period, inkwell desks, movable chalkboards, slates and chalk, and *McGuffey’s Eclectic Readers* and spellers. Desks came from a variety of sources, including Tom Brown (a member of the Campbell family) and an antique shop in Dillard, Georgia. One chalkboard was purchased, the other donated. The book closet came from the old Largo High School, now the site of the school district’s administration building.¹⁸ In front of the school an old bell waits to be rung by the teacher to call pupils into the classroom.

¹⁷ Records of the Pinellas County Historical Commission, Heritage Village Library and Archives, Largo, 20 November 1985, 21 May 1986, 17 September 1986, 19 November 1986; *Senior Voice Newspaper*, January 1987.

The Harris School replica serves as an invaluable educational resource for the community. Teachers who bring classes to this structure may devise their own lesson plans or may acquire some from the Heritage Village pre-visit information packets. Though Pinellas County no longer resembles the agrarian landscape known by “Uncle Bill” Harris, this replica of his namesake school allows students and teachers to experience a rugged structure similar to many found in the pine scrub of early twentieth century Florida.

¹⁸ Interview of Ken Ford, former director of Heritage Village, by Stephanie Ferrell and Jim Schnur, 3 May 2003, Heritage Village, Largo.