

# The Mayors of Tampa

1856 - 2015



The  
**Mayors**  
of **Tampa**  
1856 - 2015

A project of the

*City of*  
**Tampa**  
Florida

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# Acknowledgements

Shirley Foxx-Knowles, CMC  
City Clerk, City of Tampa

*The Mayors of Tampa* was published by the City of Tampa as a biographical and administrative overview of its mayors from Joseph Bradford Lancaster (February 14, 1856) through the current mayor, Bob Buckhorn (2013).

This publication is instrumental for anyone who is interested in gathering information about the history of Tampa and, specifically, the mayors of the City. It should be a “must have” for local historians.

There are many contributors to thank for their invaluable assistance. These include former Assistant City Archivist Craig A. Tuttle for laying the foundation for this project and former Archives and Records employee, Halsey Pelt, for the initial formatting and design of the publication.

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# Tampa's Early Years

Rodney Kite-Powell

Saunders Foundation Curator of History, Tampa Bay History Center

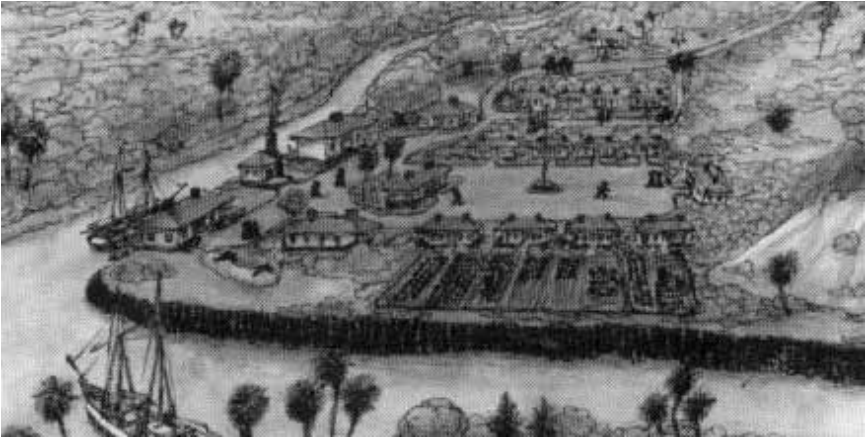
Florida traces its historical roots back to the early days of Spanish exploration, but Tampa's founding is much more recent. Though Spanish conquistadors and missionaries came through the area in the 16th and 17th century, the City traces its origins to a small village located on the northern boundary of Fort Brooke (founded in 1824), which itself sat at the mouth of the Hillsborough River.

The first post office, established in 1831, officially designated the area Tampa Bay, but the name was soon shortened to Tampa. The first town plots were laid out in 1838 by Judge Augustus Steele, but these were invalidated by the US government because they included Fort Brooke property. Despite the slow start and small size, Tampa was still the second largest settlement in south Florida. Key West and Pensacola – with populations hovering around 3,000 people each – vied for the honor of Florida's largest city.

Florida, and Tampa along with it, began to grow slowly but steadily after the major hostilities ended between the federal government and the Seminole Indians following the Second Seminole War (1835-1842). The Armed Occupation Act of 1842 spurred much of this growth, and white settlers, including several who owned slaves, continued to move into the Tampa Bay area.

In 1847, the federal government reduced the size of Fort Brooke and transferred the excess land to Hillsborough County. The land was platted for sale by future Tampa Mayor John Jackson, and the proceeds funded the construction of a new county courthouse in Tampa, which by this point was the county seat. Until 1855, Hillsborough County covered most of southwest Florida, including present-day Polk and Pinellas Counties to the east and west, plus all of the counties to the south as far as today's Charlotte and Glades Counties.

Tampa received a city charter in December 1855 from the State of Florida. Prosperity seemed certain, but national politics held different plans. Sectional differences between Northerners and Southerners, which had been simmering for years, finally reached the boiling point. On January 10, 1861, Florida became the third state to secede, or withdraw, from the United States.



*Fort Brooke: This drawing depicts the fort's strategic position at the mouth of the Hillsborough River. Date of Drawing: 1850*

The city endured four years of strife during the American Civil War, including occupation by Federal troops in 1864, and by the end of the 1860s the city faced a bleak future. Former Confederate officer and Tampa citizen John T. Lesley ran for mayor in Tampa's 1869 election with a simple campaign promise: vote for him and he would abolish the City of Tampa. His "No Corporation People's Ticket" won and, the story goes, the newly elected officials did not take office, thereby allowing the city's 1855 charter to lapse, effectively eliminating the City of Tampa as a legal municipality. Four years would pass before any sort of



*Built in 1854, the Hillsborough County Courthouse was located on the present site of the Police Department. The courthouse was often used for meetings by the mayor and city council. Date of Photo: 1886*

municipal government would take charge in Tampa and another ten years would go by before the economic and emotional depression that had gripped Tampa was replaced by optimism.

Hope did eventually come to Tampa and it arrived on steel rails via a steam powered engine. Henry Plant's decision to make Tampa the railhead for his South Florida Railroad, and Tampa Bay a main port for his steamships, revolutionized the area. Plant's arrival in 1883 was the first of three monumental developments for Tampa in the 1880s. The second followed two years later when Vicente Martinez Ybor and Ignacio Haya decided to open cigar factories just outside of Tampa. Ybor City would eventually become home to hundreds of cigar factories and tens of thousands of workers. It was also around this time that phosphate was discovered in the area's rivers, particularly the Hillsborough and Peace, as well as in the ground in eastern and southern Hillsborough County.

Tampa's population exploded, from 720 people in 1880 to over 5,500 in 1890. New neighborhoods blossomed with these new arrivals. Preceding Ybor City were Tampa Heights (originally known as North Tampa) and Hyde Park. Together with Ybor City and what is now downtown Tampa, these four areas formed the first four wards of the new City of Tampa, which received its charter from the state on July 15, 1887. Tampa was finally realizing the success that had been anticipated thirty years earlier.

Growth, driven by both the cigar industry and the port, continued to push Tampa's population upward. The summertime population leaped dramatically in



*Built in 1890, the first City Hall housed the council chambers, offices for the mayor, council members, city clerk, and other senior officials while the other side housed the Tampa Police Department. Date of Photo: 1892*



1898, when Tampa was one of three port cities selected as the port of embarkation for troops bound for Cuba and the Spanish - American War. During the summer months of June, July and August, Tampa's population swelled by over 40,000 temporary residents. The small city was overwhelmed, but managed. Although local merchants saw increased profits in the summer of 1898, there was no direct, long term, benefit to Tampa. There were some indirect bonuses, not the least of which was the Army Corps of Engineers agreeing to dredge a shipping channel from Tampa Bay into Hillsborough Bay to downtown Tampa.

In the first decade of the 20th century, Tampa emerged as the financial and business center of central Florida. The city's population, which had tripled between 1890 and 1900, reached 37,000 by 1910. Much of the population growth was attributed to the cigar industry, which brought immigrants from Cuba, Spain, and Italy into Ybor City and the rest of Tampa and the City of West Tampa. The region endured extreme highs and lows in the following decade, weathering an influenza epidemic and the loss of her namesake Coast Guard Cutter in the Bristol Channel during World War I, while the same time producing tens of millions of cigars and, importantly, ships for the war effort. The Florida Land Boom followed the war, and by 1925 Tampa and its suburbs contained close to 100,000 people. New neighborhoods, like Beach Park, Davis Islands, and Forest Hills, joined older ones, such as Seminole Heights, Sulphur Springs, and the newly-annexed West Tampa to push Tampa to greater heights.

The land boom ended as quickly as it began, and by 1927 economic depression had set in. The collapse of the real estate market was the primary cause, but other factors like the appearance of the Mediterranean fruit fly and the initial decline of the cigar industry, played a role as well. When the stock market crashed in October 1929 the rest of the country was simply joining Florida in the Great Depression.

Tampa received government support through the federally funded WPA during the depression, which helped construct the Peter O. Knight airport on Davis Islands as well



*Built in 1915, the present City Hall is an important Tampa landmark.*



*Intersection of Tampa and Cass Streets. Date of Photo: July 11, 1925.*

as repair and enhance the sidewalk and balustrade along Bayshore Boulevard. Additional government support, in the form of military shipbuilding contracts, also benefited Tampa's economy. This all would pale in comparison, however, to what would come during the early 1940s.

World War II was a watershed time in Tampa history. During the war years of 1939 - 1945, thousands of servicemen and women, and their families, would come to Florida. Tampa sported three military bases: MacDill Army Air Base, Drew Field and Henderson Field. In addition, shipbuilding firms buzzed with activity 24 hours a day. The two largest, Tampa Shipbuilding and Engineering Company and McCloskey Shipbuilding Company, employed hundreds and produced cargo and navy vessels for the war effort.

After the war, many of the servicemen and women returned to the area – where they once trained for the war – to live and start families. The wartime growth continued, but in different areas. Tampa's port was thriving. MacDill Army Airfield would evolve to MacDill Air Force Base, home to the United States Central Command, while Drew Field became Tampa International Airport. Busch Gardens occupies much of the area formerly covered by Henderson Field.

The post-war years brought another land boom, but the mid-20th century



*Aerial view of Tampa looking east. Date of Photo: 1938*

version was different. New arrivals to Tampa and Florida were greeted with modern conveniences virtually unheard of in the 1920s – home air conditioning and mosquito control. Those two factors, along with the increased availability of automobiles and good roads on which to drive them, fostered incredible growth to Tampa and the surrounding area. Tampa's suburbs, many of which were established in the 1920s, began to fill up with new homes and new residents. Tampa grew physically through annexation, particularly the 1953 annexation of most of the Interbay Peninsula.

The cigar industry, once the economic engine of the city and the region, was in rapid decline by the mid-1950s, so the city's economy needed to become more diverse, including the addition of manufacturing jobs and the creation of industrial parks to accommodate them. Also during this time, increased suburbanization began to take its toll on Tampa's downtown businesses. A general shift from a mix of department stores, small businesses, five and dime stores, and office buildings became dominated by business and bank buildings. Annexations continued, too, particularly in the northern portion of the city and into New Tampa.



*Aerial view of Downtown Tampa. Date of Photo: January 2012*

The same trends continued through the 20th century, but by the turn of the 21st century Tampa appeared to be at a crossroads. The city's downtown core began to show new signs of life, though recovery from the effects of suburbanization would be slow. Several new projects, including new history, art, and children's museums, a riverwalk, and residential projects began to inject new life into downtown Tampa. Today's city stretches from the Hillsborough-Pasco County line to the north down through the Interbay Peninsula and is home to close to 350,000 people, three professional sports teams, and, just as in the 1850s and 1880s, a lot of potential.

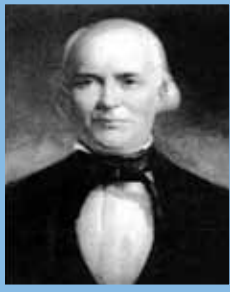
# City of Tampa: Incorporation Timeline

- January 18, 1849** Fourteen men met at the county courthouse to discuss incorporating the village as a town; unanimously vote to establish the Village of Tampa with a trustee form of government.
- January 25, 1849** Tampa elects five trustees with M.G. Sikes serving as president of the governing body. Thomas P. Kennedy, Jesse Carter, C.A. Ramsey, and William Ross trustees; James Gettis, first town clerk.
- October 10, 1852** Officials learn they had no legal authority to levy taxes and on this day, the electors vote to abolish the village government. The corporation of the Town of Tampa was dissolved by an act of the county commissioners and its assets ordered turned into cash with which to pay its debts.
- September 10, 1853** The electors vote 23 to 2 to reestablish the government; citizens vote to organize as the Town of Tampa with a Board of Trustees form of government. John Darling, elected president.
- September 15, 1855** Citizens vote to abolish the town government and establish a city charter. A majority vote to adopt a city charter, elect a mayor and council, and have the corporation validated by the state legislature.
- December 15, 1855** Governor Broome signs a Special Act of the Florida Legislature, grants the corporation a charter for the City of Tampa.
- February 16, 1856** First election under the city charter: Judge Joseph B. Lancaster elected mayor; Councilmen Micajah C. Brown, C.Q. Crawford, B.J. Galer, and D.A. Branch; William Ashley, clerk; E.N. Lockhart, treasurer; and A. C. Pacetty, marshal.
- January 10, 1861** Florida secedes from the Union; federal blockade begins in July.

- February 22, 1862** Confederate military authorities suspend the City's government. Major Thomas takes charge of the city in the name of the Confederacy; John Jackson, elected February 3, cedes civil authority to Major Thomas.
- July 15 1865** Arrival of federal occupation troops
- October 25, 1866** Elections held per the state legislature to reorganize the city's incorporation. E. A. Clarke elected mayor; Dr. L.A. Lively, R.F. Nunez, Josiah Ferris, and B.C. Leonardi, councilmen; and John G. Robles, marshal. In order to meet financial obligations, occupational taxes were levied; many objections were raised; protests ensue with talk of real estate taxes; a "no corporation" slate of officers pledge to discontinue the government until better times return.
- March 1, 1869** Citizens of Tampa vote overwhelmingly for the No Corporation People's Ticket. The platform of this party was to close the city government in Tampa, thus forcing the state legislature to revoke Tampa's Charter. The charter was revoked on October 4, 1869 due to the deadline in a state act providing for the reorganization of municipalities.
- October 4, 1869** County commissioners decreed that "as a City of Tampa has forfeited its charter, all property of the City shall be taken over by the county clerk."
- August 11, 1873** Citizens hold a public meeting to vote to re-incorporate the Town of Tampa and select a candidate for mayor, James E. Lipscomb.
- August 11, 1873 to July 15, 1887** Town of Tampa – the non-charter years  
 "Mayors" of the period: Lipscomb, Harlan P. Lovering, Thomas E. Jackson, Dr. John P. Wall, Henry Clarke Ferris, G. B. Sparkman, Duff Post, and Herman Glogowski; new charter April 1887(Grismer).
- July 15, 1887** City of Tampa is organized under special act of the state legislature that abolished the town governments of Tampa and North Tampa and established the City of Tampa. G.B. Sparkman elected mayor under new city charter; first city officials took office on July 17; new city seal adopted. The old town of Tampa became the First Ward, North Tampa, Second Ward, Ybor City entered the city.



## JOSEPH BRADFORD LANCASTER



**Tampa's 1st Mayor**  
**February 14, 1856 – November 25, 1856**  
**Lawyer and Politician**

**Born:** 1790, Kentucky

**Died:** November 25, 1856, Tampa, Florida

Joseph B. Lancaster was a Florida Supreme Court judge (1851), speaker of the Florida House (1843-1847), and mayor of Jacksonville, Florida (1846-1847). Lancaster and his wife Annie moved to Hillsborough County in 1853 with their daughters Laura Louise and Eliza Caroline.

Four years after statehood, on January 18, 1849, Tampa's population had increased to officially incorporate as the "Village of Tampa." Tampa was home to 185 inhabitants, not including military personnel stationed at Fort Brooke. However, the town's first census count in 1850 listed Tampa-Fort Brooke with 974 (441 residents and 533 military personnel).

Tampa was reincorporated as a City on December 15, 1855, and Judge Joseph B. Lancaster became the first mayor in 1856. He had served successfully as judge of Alachua County, chief clerk of the Territorial House of Representatives, a captain of volunteers during the Second Seminole War (1835-1842), and a customs collector.

Elected only months after the beginning of the Third Seminole War (1855 – 1858), Lancaster's administration dealt almost exclusively with war-related issues. The constant threat of attack produced an influx of settlers seeking refuge to a city that had little means nor funds to feed, shelter, or care for them. Lancaster sought assistance from the state, which could provide only limited funds, and was in need of recruits for the war effort. The City's financial base worsened when the Florida Railroad Company chose to extend the line to Cedar Key instead of Tampa. Lancaster died while in office, serving less than one year as Tampa's first mayor.



## DARWIN AUSTEN BRANCH



Tampa's 2nd Mayor

*Acting*

November 25, 1856 – December 6, 1856

Physician

Born: November 28, 1832, Vermont

Died: August 16, 1858, Tampa, Florida

Born in 1832, Darwin Branch was trained as a physician. Politically dynamic, Branch served from 1854 to 1855 as Secretary for the Florida Know-Nothing Party (also known as the American Party). The Know-Nothings in Florida and other southern states were adamant that the national party support a strong pro-slavery platform. This platform was adopted at the 1856 Presidential Convention that nominated former President Millard Fillmore. After Fillmore's defeat in the presidential election the Know-Nothing Party's deteriorated as a national party.

Darwin Branch remained politically active in Tampa and served as President of Tampa's City Council in 1856. In early September of 1856, Mayor Lancaster became too ill to perform his duties and as City Council President, Darwin Branch became the acting mayor.

Although he stepped in for Mayor Lancaster at this time, he was not officially recognized as acting mayor until Joseph Lancaster died on November 25, 1856. At twenty-four years old, he was Tampa's youngest mayor until James Lipscomb (who was twenty-three years old when he took office) in August of 1873.

During his short term, Branch essentially served as a caretaker until December 6, 1856 when the City Council appointed DeLaunay as acting mayor to complete the remainder of Lancaster's term of office.

## J. ALFONSO DELAUNAY



Tampa's 3rd Mayor  
December 6, 1856 – February 9, 1857  
Lawyer, Hotel Manager, Postmaster

Born: 1810, Virginia

Died: July 28, 1865, Tampa, Florida

The son of a Revolutionary War veteran, DeLaunay moved to Tampa in 1848. He operated the Palmer House Hotel and was active in city and county government. On December 21, 1852, DeLaunay was appointed postmaster of Tampa serving in this position until April 1861.

Alfonso DeLaunay married Victoria Montes de Oca, daughter of Don Juan Montes de Oca, a "Spanish gentleman of high family" who settled at Spanishtown Creek (Hyde Park). Don Juan was an interpreter for the Army at Ft. Brooke. When his wife died, the young Victoria was "adopted" by Nancy and Robert Jackson.

During his administration, Mayor DeLaunay attempted to manage the influx of local settlers arriving in Tampa to escape attacks by the Seminoles. Concurrently, DeLaunay guided the transition of the City's administration to conform to the procedures established by the Legislative Act of December 15, 1855, which provided 160 acres of land to homesteaders.

In 1858, he became editor for the *Florida Peninsular*, but resigned in early 1860 to establish the *Sunny South* newspaper. A strong supporter of secession, DeLaunay ceased publication of his newspaper when the Civil War began and hid the presses in the interior of Florida to prevent their confiscation by Union troops. In April 1861, the Confederate government appointed DeLaunay Confederate States postmaster and deputy inspector of customs for the Port of Tampa. He later served as a private in the Confederate Army and was mustered out on April 26, 1865. After the war, he returned to Tampa.

## DARWIN AUSTEN BRANCH



Photo Not  
Available

Tampa's 4th Mayor  
February 9, 1857 – February 10, 1858  
Physician

Born: November 28, 1832, Vermont

Died: August 16, 1858, Tampa, Florida

During Branch's second term, the City levied annual taxes on saloons, liquor and beer retailers, pool halls, bowling alleys, ferry operators and peddlers. Branch also had judicial authority as mayor and presided over crimes committed within the city limits. However, most of the cases presented before the mayor's court were for assault, drunk and disorderly conduct, and petty theft.

The 1850s decade was a turbulent time in Tampa's history. In April 1855, 70 miles of railroad track had been completed down the peninsula from Fernandina and 30 additional miles to Gainesville had been graded. Everyone expected the rail to connect to Tampa. Senator David Levy Yulee, president of the Florida Railroad, was blamed by Tampa citizens for the failure to bring the railroad to Tampa rather than Cedar Key. Train travel to Tampa was still 30 years in the future.

In May 1858, 124 Seminoles and Black Seminoles were deported from the area on the steamship, Grey Cloud, headed across the Gulf of Mexico to the Indian Territory (now Oklahoma) stopping at Egmont Key to board 41 more deportees. By 1860, the Secretary of War had released the fort property to the Department of the Interior. Subsequently, the military property and fort were leased to James McKay.

Toward the end of Branch's second term, a yellow fever epidemic descended on Tampa devastating the city and surrounding areas. Residents quickly fled the city for the interior of Florida and other states to escape the ravages of the epidemic. Many of the residents who stayed were either dying, too ill to move, or caring for family members that were sick. Yellow fever took the lives of Branch's mother and sister, and on August 16, 1858, Darwin Branch succumbed to the disease.

## MADISON POST



Tampa's 5th Mayor  
February 10, 1858 – February 12, 1859  
Store and Hotel Proprietor

Born: January 22, 1815, New York

Died: October 26, 1867, Tampa, Florida

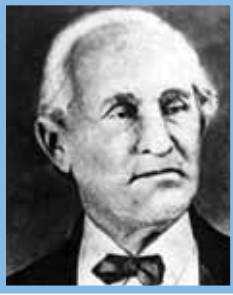
Madison Post moved to Tampa in 1849, one year after a hurricane devastated the area. Post first worked as the manager of the Tampa Hotel (Kilgore) and later purchased a general store on Lafayette Street (now Kennedy Boulevard). Politically active, Madison Post was an early member of the American Party ("Know-Nothings") who supported a pro-slavery, anti-immigration, and anti-Catholic platform.

Confronted with an empty treasury, Mayor Post and the City Council established new ordinances and substantially increased license fees reestablishing Tampa's financial resources. One ordinance was passed setting the price for a license for retailing "spirituous liquors at \$25 and an annual tax on all free Negroes." Schools that had been closed were reopened.

In the spring of 1858, volunteer soldiers encamped just outside of Tampa found themselves with much idle time and no pay. These idle hands turned to drinking and misbehavior. Mayor Post, John Henderson, Henry A. Crane (the editor of the *Florida Peninsular*), and other prominent citizens organized a vigilante group. According to a newspaper source, this situation resulted in "at least one man hanging to a tree in the streets of Tampa." Called "regulators," these vigilante groups were determined to rid the area of unwelcome elements in the community.

With the outbreak of the Civil War, Post enlisted as a private in the Confederate Infantry, served as a Confederate deputy marshal, and as a tax assessor for Florida's Confederate government. Post despised the presence of Republicans and their beliefs as a systematic destruction of traditional Southern institutions.

## JAMES MCKAY, SR.



Tampa's 6th Mayor  
February 12, 1859 – February 1, 1860  
Cattleman, Shipping, Real Estate

Born: March 17, 1808, Scotland

Died: November 11, 1876, Tampa, Florida

James McKay left home as a young man to become a mariner. In 1837, McKay married Matilda Cail in Edinburg, Scotland. Before immigrating to the United States in 1846, the couple had four children: George, Sarah, James, and John. Four more children, Donald, Marion, Matilda, and Almeria Bell, were born in Tampa. McKay opened a general store on Franklin Street, a saw mill on the Hillsborough River, and he invested in real estate. He purchased two schooners, Sarah Matilda and Emma, which he used to transport cargo and cattle from Tampa to Cuba, Central, and South America beginning in 1858.

As mayor, McKay established standard procedures and forms for licenses, ordinances, and legal notices. He set rules for the Jackson Street ferry service to ensure the safety of passengers and cargo. McKay pursued the purchase of the Fort Brooke military reservation. He succeeded in renting it, but the outbreak of the war upset his plans as the garrison was occupied in April 1861 by Confederate troops and Martial Law was soon declared in Tampa.

On October 14, 1861, a Union patrol ship seized McKay's vessel for transporting contraband for the Confederacy. McKay was imprisoned and released in March 1862, after taking a written oath of allegiance to the United States. He wrote to the U.S. Adjutant General that he would do everything in his power "... for the restoration of the Union."

In 1863, McKay was appointed head of the Fifth Commissary District for the Confederate Army. The Cattle Battalion, known as the "Cow Cavalry" (1864), is considered the creation of James McKay, Sr. After the war ended, McKay resumed his cattle and shipping business.

## JOHN P. CRICHTON



Tampa's 7th Mayor  
February 1, 1860 – February 2, 1861  
Physician

Born: September 7, 1821, St. Mary's, Georgia  
Died: November 8, 1893, Tampa, Florida

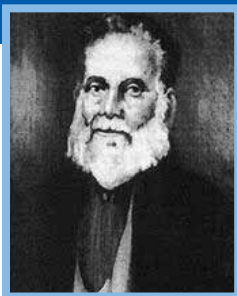
John Crichton attended New York State Medical College. When he arrived in Tampa, he began a successful medical practice, was a member of the Board of Health, and committed to politics. Crichton married Adelaide Christy Kennedy, the widow of Thomas P. Kennedy, a local merchant. Crichton and his wife had three children. One daughter, Mary, married James McKay, Jr. with whom she had nine children.

As with many southerners, Crichton was afraid and angry over the anti-slavery violence in Kansas and growing abolitionist movement in the northern states. Only months before his election, on October 16, 1859, John Brown, with 22 men, captured the federal arsenal at Harper's Ferry, Virginia. In Tampa, there was fear that abolitionists would attempt a widespread uprising. With the unofficial support of the mayor, residents took it upon themselves to expel anyone suspected of abolitionist sentiments and, in some cases, those that were northern born.

The State of Florida passed an ordinance of secession on January 10, 1861, and soon became one of the states of the "Confederate States of America." In September 1861, the "Sunny South Guards," a local company commanded by Captain John T. Lesley, was mustered into service.

The official response of Mayor Crichton and the City Council was to establish a "City Watch." Under the auspices of the city marshal, local men, between the ages of 18 to 45, patrolled the streets and outskirts of Tampa. While they never found any signs of insurrection, the "City Watch" did arrest citizens for drunk and disorderly behavior, petty theft, and alerted residents of fires.

## HAMLIN VALENTINE SNELL



Tampa's 8th Mayor  
February 2, 1861 – May, 1861  
Landowner, State Legislator

Born: 1810, Savannah, Georgia

Died: January 1886, Gainesville, Florida

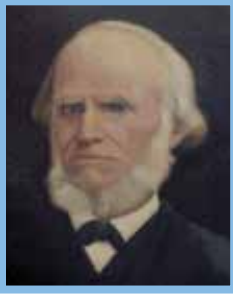
Hamlin Snell moved to Calhoun County, Florida in the late 1830s where he served as the county's representative in the 1840 Legislative Council. In 1842, he moved to Sarasota where he established a small plantation and is credited as the first person to plant guavas in Florida. In 1854, he was elected state senator for the 18th District, then comprising Hillsborough, Levy, and Hernando counties. In 1851, he was elected senate president. In 1857, he was elected speaker of the state house. Snell moved to Tampa in late 1857. On June 19, 1858, he replaced James T. Magbee as deputy collector for the Port of Tampa.

On January 10, 1861, delegates to the state convention voted 62 to 7 to withdraw from the Union, making Florida the third state to secede. Many of Florida Unionists left for Key West, as well as northern and western states. In many cases, residents who could not sell their property simply left it abandoned.

Nine days after his election, the 20th Florida Regiment assumed command at the abandoned Fort Brooke and declared Tampa under Martial Law. City government continued to operate, but its activities were subject to the approval of the Confederate commander. The value of Tampa's port was recognized by both the Union and Confederate governments and soon the first ships of the Union Blockade appeared in Tampa Bay. Snell and other City officials served without pay during most of their term when all City salaries were cancelled after May 20, 1861.

In mid-May 1861, he resigned as mayor and left Tampa. City Council President John Jackson became acting mayor and issued a promissory note of \$299.58 to repair cannon carriages and ammunition for the defense of the City. Hamlin Snell never returned to Tampa.

## JOHN JACKSON



Tampa's 9th Mayor  
May, 1861 – February 3, 1862 - *Acting*  
February 3, 1862 – February 22, 1862  
Engineer, Surveyor, Merchant

Born: June 1809, Ballybay, County Monaghan, Ireland

Died: November 4, 1887, Tampa, Florida

John Jackson immigrated to the United States in 1841 with his brother, Thomas. They traveled to New Orleans, Louisiana, where John worked as an assistant city engineer. In 1843, John Jackson was hired by the federal government to survey land in present-day Palmetto, Florida. After completing the assignment, Jackson was given a permanent position as a federal surveyor. The federal government gave Jackson a large land grant in Hillsborough County.

On July 22, 1847, he married Ellen Maher. The Jacksons had four children: Thomas, James, Kate, and John. Jackson was hired by the Hillsborough County Commission to survey and map the Town of Tampa – the county seat. Jackson named many of the streets for U.S. Presidents, founding father Benjamin Franklin, military figures such as William Ashley, and himself. In 1849, he and his wife established a general store on the corner of Washington and Tampa streets. Jackson and his wife, Ellen, also led a movement to have a Catholic priest brought to Tampa. His children were the first in Tampa to be baptized in the Catholic faith.

Jackson served as acting mayor until his election February 3, 1862. Jackson has the dubious distinction of serving the shortest term as an elected mayor in Tampa history - 19 days. In late April 1861, Tampa was placed under Martial Law. On February 22, 1862, the mayor, City Council and other officials were dismissed by the Confederate Commander at Ft. Brooke. This event was more of a formality since both the military commander and Hillsborough County government had assumed control over the municipality the previous year.



## MILITARY RULE

### Confederate Military Authority February 22, 1862 – October 25, 1866


At the conclusion of the Third Seminole War in 1858, the last troops were withdrawn from Ft. Brooke. On July 25, 1860, the Secretary of War notified the Secretary of the Interior that the army was to turn over the property to the Department of the Interior.

Despite setbacks during the preceding decade, Tampa and Hillsborough County were thriving at the beginning of the fateful 1860s. The population alongside Ft. Brooke had grown from a town of 441 people in 1850 to 885 inhabitants by 1860. Hillsborough County's population of 2,377 in 1850 grew to 2,981 (2415 white and free blacks; 125 slave owners with 566 slaves) by 1860.

In May 1861, several weeks after the Confederate attack on Fort Sumter, Mayor Hamlin Snell resigned, sold his properties, and left Tampa. As a port city, Tampa would be a target for a naval blockade, invasion, and occupation. Consequently, many residents chose to leave and even abandoned their homes and other property rather than remain in the city. Unionists, subject to increasing threats and violence, left for Key West to seek the protection of its federal garrison.

With the departure of so many residents, the tax base was drastically reduced and the city was teetering on collapse. Naval records show that Tampa Bay was first blockaded in November 1861, by a small squadron of barks and schooners.

The residents were very concerned about what would happen to them and their property. A record in the County Commissioners Minute Book states that the clerk of court was ordered to remove books and papers to Cork (after 1890, Dover). During the bombardments the women would take their children and some provisions and “go away out into the country up onto high land [where Seventh Avenue now is], beyond the reach of the shots from the gunboats.” It is told that when the Union Navy launched a cannon ball into the living room of the Ferris home in 1862, the family never bothered to repair the hole. The

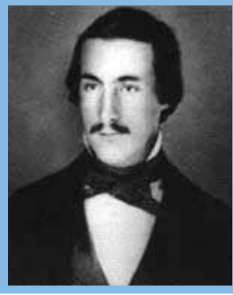


Sunny South Guards trained at night by torch light. Later, a company of regular Confederate infantry replaced the militia.

By December 1861, the Confederate military commander at Fort Brooke was the de facto authority in Tampa. John Jackson, who had served as acting mayor after the resignation of Hamlin Snell, was elected mayor February 2, 1862, but served only 19 days when the Confederate commander at Fort Brooke abolished the municipal government in Tampa.

On October 16, 1863, the U.S.S. Adela and the Tahoma proceeded up the Bay and bombarded Tampa. A force of 85 men landed at Gadsden Point and marched northward to a point six miles north of the city on the Hillsborough River. There they destroyed the Scottish Chief and Kate Dale, Captain McKay's ships. By mid-1863, Confederate troops at Fort Brooke were withdrawn and replaced with local militia. Services in Tampa were provided by Hillsborough County.

In August 1866, John Jackson, ordered an election. Madison Post, mayor in 1858 and who served in the Confederate Army, was elected, but the election was declared invalid. In October 1866, Governor David Walker appointed a commission to reorganize the government of Tampa.



## EDWARD A. CLARKE

Tampa's 10th Mayor  
October 25, 1866 – December 1866  
Merchant

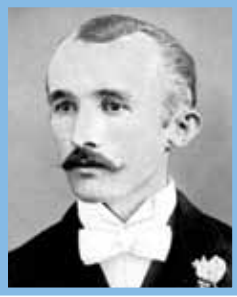
Born: 1831, Cornwall-on-the Hudson, New York  
Died: November 10, 1886, Tampa, Florida

Edward Clarke moved to Tampa in 1853, where he opened his “Blue Store,” a general store on the corner of Marion and Washington streets. He sold everything from candy to plows. In 1855, Clarke married Helen Branch, the daughter of Dr. Franklin Branch and the sister of Dr. Darwin A. Branch, who served as Tampa's third mayor. Helen passed away three years later of yellow fever. In 1861, Clarke married Sarah Wall, sister of Dr. John P. Wall (physician and a mayor of Tampa). The couple had a daughter, Flossie.

Clarke was a member of the Southern Branch of the American (Know-Nothing) Party and served as Hillsborough County delegate to the 1856 Know-Nothing Party Presidential Convention. He was also a master mason of the Hillsborough Lodge.

During the Civil War, Clarke served as a Confederate States deputy marshal, a Confederate Army private, and blockade-runner until his capture and imprisonment in late 1864. After the war, he returned to Tampa to find many of the homes and businesses abandoned and in severe decay. Residents attempted to restore the city government, but it took over a year before municipal elections could be held.

As mayor, he and the City Council passed ordinances to control riots, disturbing the peace, and drunk and disorderly conduct; levied fees on liquor stores, billiards halls, theaters, ferry, wharf, and dray and dog owners to fill the city treasury. Severe shortages of food and hard currency caused widespread theft, especially of cattle. On October 30, 1866, in an effort to control cattle rustling, the City Council ordered the city marshal to check the brands and ear marks of all cattle butchered and offered for sale and to provide butchers with a list of the brands of missing cattle. For the first time in the City's history, the firing of a pistol or rifle within the City limits was prohibited and all persons violating such a law could be fined from two to \$10.



## JOSIAH A. FERRIS

Tampa's 11th Mayor

*Acting*

January 1, 1867 – March 1, 1869

Store Owner, Cattleman

Born: August 5, 1836, New Jersey

Died: November 28, 1901, Tampa, Florida

Born in New Jersey, Josiah was one of six children born to William and Elizabeth Ferris. The family moved to Tampa in 1841 where William initially worked as a paymaster at Fort Brooke and later established a general store near the fort. Josiah Ferris enlisted in the militia during the 3rd Seminole War (1855-1858) and, later, served in the 4th Florida Regiment. Josiah became a co-owner of his father's store and cattle business. After the Civil War, Josiah established a successful jewelry business in downtown Tampa.

In October 1866, Ferris was elected to City Council and was appointed Council President. After Mayor Clarke unofficially left office in December 1866, Josiah Ferris became acting mayor. One of the first major problems faced by his administration was the yellow fever epidemic that swept through Tampa in July 1867. Many residents became seriously ill and those who could fled to the rural areas and other towns. The few physicians that remained in Tampa could do little but provide some comfort to the afflicted because no one knew the cause of the disease let alone a cure. With an empty treasury, city officials could do little more than set up a quarantine station at Ballast Point where a port physician examined passengers and crews.

In late 1867, Republican administrators accompanied by federal troops arrived in Tampa to enforce the government's Reconstruction policies. To this end, they appointed individuals to enforce these policies. As a result of their presence, Mayor Ferris and City Council had little actual authority and served more as custodians until March 1, 1869 when new elections were held.

After leaving office, Ferris returned to his jewelry business but, on August 14, 1877, ran for city clerk and was elected. He held this position for the next nine years.

Josiah Ferris passed away in Tampa on November 28, 1901.

## JOHN THOMAS LESLEY



Tampa's 12th Mayor  
March 1, 1869 – November 4, 1869  
Cattleman, Sheriff, Lumberman

Born: May 12, 1835, Madison County, Florida  
Died: July 13, 1913, Tampa, Florida

John Lesley and his family moved to Tampa in 1848. John married Indiana Childs Livingston, a descendant of Philip Livingston, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. They had three children: John Thomas, Emory, and Mary. Following the death of Indiana, he married Jane Lucy Sandwich, who bore him a daughter, Emma.

During the Third Seminole War, Lesley enlisted as a private in the Florida Militia and rose to the rank of lieutenant. At the beginning of the Civil War, Lesley formed a company of infantry (attached to the Fourth Florida Regiment) and was elected its captain. He saw active service, mainly in regions between Tampa and the Everglades. In October 1862, he was promoted to major. He eventually served in the Army of Tennessee before returning to Tampa in 1863 to organize a cavalry company for the home guard.

Captain Lesley, as he was thereafter known, returned to the cattle business, served as city marshal for two years, and built a sawmill that supplied most of the lumber used to rebuild Tampa. When John Lesley ran for mayor, on the "No Corporation People's Ticket," he stated that the City Charter should be revoked by the State Legislature because of the City's financial state and its ineffectiveness made it pointless to have a charter.

Lesley won the election and kept his promise. October 4, 1869, Tampa's Charter was revoked by the state legislature. John Lesley and the other officials did not meet to reorganize and all the men resigned. Several days later, officials from Hillsborough County appropriated all City property and assumed responsibility for providing services to the residents. Lesley served as a Florida State senator (1883-1885) and as mayor of the Town of Fort Brooke from 1886 until it was annexed in 1907.

## JOHN ALEXANDER HENDERSON

July 6, 1870 – August 11, 1873

Attorney, Civic Leader



Born: 1840, Georgia

Died: 1907

### *Tampa's Non-Chartered Years*

John Henderson was born in Georgia to John Andrew and Margaret Collins Henderson, the second of six children. The family moved to Tampa in 1847 where his father opened a general store that catered to the soldiers at Fort Brooke. The Henderson family along with those of the Jackson, Branch, Givens and other early settlers helped to establish the Village of Tampa.

Henderson studied law under Judge James Gettis, a member of another important pioneer family of Tampa. He would later go on to become a prominent attorney and civic leader. With the outbreak of the Civil War, Henderson enlisted in the Confederate Army and was commissioned as a lieutenant. He served four years in the army and was mustered out in May 1865.

After the City's Charter had been revoked on October 4, 1869, Tampa residents became the responsibility of Hillsborough County. While the county took over some of the city's services, it became obvious that Tampa needed some form of municipal government to administer and monitor these services. In response, the city held a municipal election on July 6, 1870, in which John Henderson was elected Mayor. While the state and the county did not legally recognize Henderson, he maintained a semblance of local government to administer county services.

On August 11, 1873, a public meeting of "persons residing within the original 160-acre township" took place at the County Courthouse. The vote was 48 to 0 for incorporation as a town. James Edgar Lipscomb, at age 23, was voted the first mayor of the Town of Tampa. The corporation went by the name Town of Tampa until it was granted its second City Charter by the Florida State Legislature in 1887.

## TOWN OF TAMPA: NON-CHARTER MAYORS

August 11, 1873 – July 15, 1887

### [13] James E. Lipscomb

August 11, 1873 – August 13, 1876



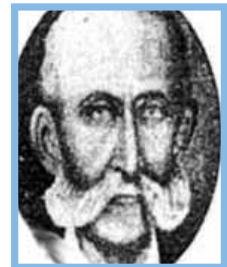
James Lipscomb arrived in Tampa in 1869 during a time of physical and political reconstruction. The Union blockade ruined the city's economy and the regular bombardment of Tampa had damaged or destroyed most of its buildings. Federal troops were stationed in Tampa to enforce the Reconstruction policies of the federal government. Powerless to govern themselves, many citizens decided to divest themselves of the responsibilities of municipal government. In subsequent years, there were attempts to reincorporate the city, but the voters rejected these efforts.

Infamous Judge James T. Magbee hauled future-mayor Lipscomb into court, in 1871, on contempt charges. Lipscomb arrived carrying his shotgun, which fired into the ceiling instead of the judge when a colleague pushed the muzzle up as the trigger was pulled. The contempt charges were forgotten. A year or so later, Lipscomb arrested Magbee for drunkenness.

With his election came demands for better transportation. New boat lines began to serve the port and in 1871, a stagecoach line was established between Gainesville and Tampa – a two day journey.

### [14] Harlan Pierce Lovering

August 14, 1876 – August 14, 1877



Arriving in 1872, Harlan P. Lovering opened a cedar mill and general store. His business, located on the banks of the Hillsborough River, employed many loggers and mill hands to cut cedar for use in making pencils. In 1876, pragmatic-minded politicians realized a bipartisan

## TOWN OF TAMPA: NON-CHARTER MAYORS

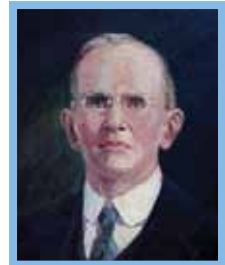
August 11, 1873 – July 15, 1887

election ticket. Republican Lovering was elected mayor and William C. Brown, a Democrat, remained the town clerk. During his term of office, Lovering attempted to revitalize Tampa's business community, increase City revenues, and improve services. The first public school building in Tampa was built in 1876 at the cost of \$2,350 from a tax levy of five mills.

### [15] Thomas Edward Jackson

August 14, 1877- August 14, 1878

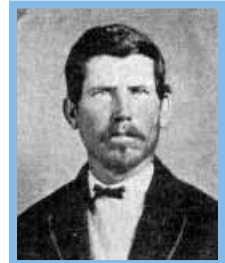
Tampa born Thomas Edward Jackson and council members raised the real estate taxes and license fees on businesses and residents to improve the town's infrastructure and services. Real estate taxes were 60 cents per \$100 valuation [equivalent rate in 2011, \$15.79]. In 1885, Jackson joined the group organizing the Board of Trade. In March 1889, Jackson was re-elected mayor.



### [16] John P. Wall, M.D.

August 14, 1878 – August 14, 1880

John P. Wall was born in Jasper, Florida, September 17, 1836. Wall served as a surgeon with the Confederate Army and later as health officer of the Port of Tampa. He helped establish and was the first president of the Tampa Board of Trade. Additionally, he was the first editor of the *Sunland Tribune*, a benefactor of the *Tampa Tribune* and a founder of the Florida Medical Association.



Dr. Wall made a thorough study of the yellow fever epidemic and was one of



## TOWN OF TAMPA: NON-CHARTER MAYORS

August 11, 1873 – July 15, 1887

the first to advance the theory that it was spread by mosquitoes. After being elected mayor, Wall transferred the quarantine station from Ballast Point to Big Grassy Island (now a part of Davis Islands). When his term as mayor ended, Wall devoted his time toward establishing a state medical association.

### [17] Henry Clarke Ferris

August 14, 1880 – February 19, 1881

Interested in civic affairs and local politics, Ferris successfully campaigned for mayor in August 1880. At the age of 32, he was one of Tampa's youngest mayors and the second Tampa native to hold this office. On February 19, 1881, after serving only six months in office, Ferris was compelled to resign. He had moved outside the City limits, thus violating the City Charter. City Council President Matthew Haynsworth became acting mayor until March 22, 1881, when he resigned. George Sparkman was sworn in as mayor to complete Ferris's term.



### [18] Matthew E. Haynsworth, Acting

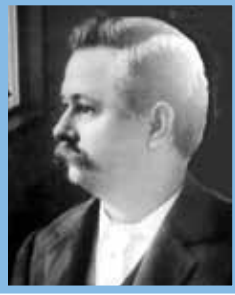
February 19, 1881 – March 22, 1881

Matthew Haynsworth was elected to the City Council on August 14, 1880 and, three days later; he was elected City Council President. On February 19, 1881, Mayor Ferris was forced to resign after it was learned he moved outside the city limits in violation of the City Charter. Haynsworth was sworn in as acting mayor but resigned four weeks later stating that he no longer wished to serve. On March 22, 1881, the City Council appointed George B. Sparkman as acting mayor. Haynsworth returned to City Council and completed his term.



<sup>1</sup>Welch, W.Curtis. *Tampa's Elected Officials: A Narrative Chronology of Municipal Elections and Tampa's Elected Officials from 1849-1886*. Tampa: City of Tampa Archives, April 1997, p.13.

## GEORGE BASCOM SPARKMAN



Tampa's 19th Mayor – Town of Tampa

*First Term*

March 22, 1881 – Aug. 14, 1883

Lawyer, Judge

Born: September 20, 1855, Simmons Hammock (Dover, FL)

Died: August 31, 1898, Tampa, Florida

The son of Elijah Bird Sparkman and Sarah Ann Mizell Sparkman, George attended local schools and graduated in September 1877, from the University of Virginia Law School. He returned to Tampa where he opened a law office with his cousin, Stephen M. Sparkman. The success of his law practice encouraged his strong interest in local politics. On April 26, 1883, George married Mary Kershaw in Madison County, Tennessee. The Sparkmans had seven children.

Elected on March 22, 1881, Sparkman replaced acting mayor Matthew E. Haynesworth. Sparkman also served on the City Council from August 13, 1884, to August 13, 1886, and from March 4, 1891, to March 4, 1892. He was a judge for the Sixth Circuit Court (1893 – 1894).

Knowledgeable of the city's history when a railroad was built to Cedar Key instead of Tampa, Mayor Sparkman and the City Council gave an exclusive franchise for the Jacksonville, Tampa, and Key West Railroad to lay tracks along Spring, Water, Polk, and Whiting streets. Unfortunately, within a short time, the company lost its assets. It would be only a short time before Mr. Henry B. Plant would engage the city. In the summer of 1883, Tampa's Town Council gave the railroad franchise to Henry B. Plant, this time for \$30 a year, giving him the riverfront area between Polk and Twiggs streets. Locomotives arrived by schooner in September, and the completion of the South Florida Railroad gave new life and hope to the area.

**Tampa's 20th Mayor – Town of Tampa***First Term***August 14, 1883 – August 13, 1886****Dentist, Town Marshal****Born: 1853, Tampa, Florida****Died: May 19, 1915, Tampa, Florida**

Duff Post was the son of Tampa Mayor Madison Post (1858-1859). Duff Post established a dental practice, became involved in local politics, and was a city marshal. On January 3, 1879, he married Alberti Johnson, a native of Savannah, Georgia. In addition to his dental practice, Post opened an ice cream saloon and restaurant in the Masonic Lodge Building on March 31, 1877. From 1881-1883, he served as captain of the Fourth Regiment of the Florida Militia.

In 1883, Post was elected mayor, the second native of Tampa to hold the office. He served three successive one-year terms at an annual salary of \$300. Post's administration gave Henry Bradley Plant authority to extend his railroad system and steamship company to Tampa. On July 5, 1883, the mayor and council leased the land on Polk, Zack, and Twiggs streets to the Plant Investment Company for \$30 a year. Plant used this land to construct the western terminal points of the railroad, a wharf to serve as a dock for railroad materials, and passenger and freight stations.

In July 1885, as Tampa's legal affairs became more complex, the City Council voted to permanently retain a city attorney. On June 11, 1886, an ordinance was adopted to enforce the yellow fever quarantine lines from Port Tampa to Ballast Point. Dr. John P. Wall was also appointed quarantine inspector and provided with a hospital to treat individuals afflicted with the disease.

During this time, the first two police officers were hired, Jim Roach and Frank Jackson. They were paid \$30 per month. Another major impact on Tampa's growth was the establishment of the cigar industry in Ybor City. Vicente M. Ybor and Eduardo Marara encouraged other cigar manufacturers to relocate to Tampa because of the climate, excellent land, and sea transportation.

## HERMAN GLOGOWSKI



Tampa's 21st Mayor – Town of Tampa

*First Term*

August 13, 1886 – July 15, 1887

Merchant

Born: April 29, 1853, Wilhelmsbruck, Prussia (Germany)

Died: December 3, 1909, Tampa, Florida

Herman Glogowski immigrated to the United States in 1867, where he spent 15 years working in New York City's garment industry. In late 1882, Glogowski moved to Gainesville, Florida and in the summer of 1883, he married Bertha Brown. The couple had four children: Walter, Nat, Bernie, and Tillie. The following year, they moved to Tampa where he opened a men's clothing store on Washington Street. He was active in Masonic work and he was the first Jewish mayor of the City.

On February 2, 1887, Mayor Glogowski and City Council met with a representative from the Plant South Florida Railroad to discuss plans for constructing a bridge across the Hillsborough River and a hotel on the opposite bank. Keenly aware of the economic benefits a railroad, bridge, and major hotel would bring to Tampa, the proposal was discussed with C. L. Ayres, president of the North Tampa Town Council, and Vicente M. Ybor and Eduardo Manrara of Ybor City. Each of the individuals agreed to the annexation of their towns to Tampa.

On the strength of these proposals, Glogowski successfully led a coalition to lobby the Florida legislature to incorporate Tampa as a City. This incorporation was essential in order for Tampa to obtain the necessary funds to improve the water and sewage systems, police and fire departments, and other public works and services. On July 15, 1887, the state legislature passed an Act of Incorporation of Tampa as a City.

## GEORGE BASCOM SPARKMAN



Tampa's 22nd Mayor

*Second Term*

July 15, 1887 – March 8, 1888

Lawyer, Judge

Born: September 20, 1855, Simmons Hammock (Dover, FL)

Died: August 31, 1898, Tampa, Florida

### *First Tampa Mayor under the New City Charter*

On July 15, 1887, George B. Sparkman again ran for mayor in a hotly-contested campaign. Local newspapers and a number of citizens complained that Sparkman had bought the election by providing voters with alcohol and easy women on Election Day. While there was evidence to support these accusations, Sparkman's attempt to influence the voters hardly gave him a landslide victory. He won the election by only 14 votes.

Under the provisions of an act passed by the State Legislature and approved by the governor of Florida in July 1887, the charters of Tampa and North Tampa were abolished and the boundaries of the City of Tampa were expanded. The City's Charter specified that the municipal government was to be administered by a mayor and eleven councilmen, two elected from each of the four wards and three elected from the city-at-large and to include the election of the city marshal, city clerk, treasurer, tax assessor, and tax collector.

Under the new charter, Candido Angel Ybor, son of Vicente Martinez Ybor, the founder of Ybor City, was the first Hispanic to be elected to the City Council.

The new City seal, a casual depiction of Henry B. Plant's steamer, Mascotte, was adopted. The Mascotte was used because the ship brought tobacco and passengers from Havana, Cuba to Tampa, Florida. This also symbolized the area as a distinct cultural area.

## HERMAN GLOGOWSKI



Tampa's 23rd Mayor

*Second Term*

March 8, 1888 – March 6, 1889

Merchant

Born: April 29, 1853, Wilhelmsbruck, Prussia (Germany)

Died: December 3, 1909, Tampa, Florida

Through the course of this period, Tampa received its waterworks, public transportation, sewers, paved streets, and electric lights. Streetcars, first pulled by a steam engine, would transverse a route from downtown Tampa to Ybor City. In 1893, the Tampa Street Railway and Power Company converted its steam-powered train to electric streetcars, allowing Tampa to boast being the first city in Florida to have an electric streetcar system. By 1899, Tampa's streetcar system came under the ownership of Tampa Electric Company and 21.5 miles of track carried Tampa residents between Ballast Point, De Soto Park, Ybor City, and West Tampa all for a nickel.

Tampa grew from a “sleepy, shabby, southern town” of 720 people (5,814 Hillsborough County) in 1880 to nearly 16,000 by 1900. In April 1888, J.A. Wood, a New York architect, approached Mayor Glogowski and Tampa officials with a proposal to build a hotel for Henry B. Plant. However, Plant wanted concessions concerning taxes and a bridge constructed over the Hillsborough River. At Glogowski's urging, the council agreed, and on July 26, 1888, the mayor laid the cornerstone of the Tampa Bay Hotel. The hotel's grand opening occurred on February 5, 1891.

*In Tampa, Jewish immigrants found surprisingly little anti-Semitism, instead electing Herman Glogowski as mayor in 1886. Reelected four times, it was he who led the procession into the grand ballroom when the Tampa Bay Hotel opened.*

Doris Weatherford, Real Women of Tampa & Hillsborough County

According to the late James W. Covington, Ph.D., in his work, *The Mayor's of Tampa: A Brief Administrative History*, University of Tampa, “...So much was accomplished during the terms of George B. Sparkman, (1887-1888) and Herman Glogowski, (1888 – 1889) when the pay was \$72.50 a month, it would be difficult to say that other subsequent mayors or city councils accomplished more in the growth of the City.”

## THOMAS EDWARD JACKSON



Tampa's 24th Mayor  
March 6, 1889 – March 5, 1890  
County Treasurer, Merchant, Real Estate

Born: July 9, 1852, Tampa, Florida  
Died: 1935, Tampa, Florida

Thomas Jackson attended Hillsborough County schools and Fordham University in New York. He worked in Tampa's customhouse and later in the family business. His father, John Jackson, served as mayor for a period of less than 30 days in February 1862. Jackson married Kate Etta Warner of Omaha, Nebraska, on November 3, 1877. The couple had four children: Mary Ellen, Bernier, Lulu Marguerite, and John Edward.

Thomas Jackson was a prominent member of the Board of Trade (Chamber of Commerce) originally organized on May 7, 1885. One of the most important achievements of the board was the part it played in bringing the cigar industry to Tampa.

Jackson and council members raised the real estate taxes and license fees on businesses and residents to improve the town's infrastructure and services. Common complaints from citizens at the time were the vast amounts of sawdust and wood chips that were being dumped in the river from the logging mills on the Hillsborough River. This debris was blown into the eyes and mouths of residents and stuck to their clothes. With Jackson's support, City Council passed an ordinance that required log mills to discard sawdust and wood slivers at least a mile from Tampa. Fines were also imposed for illegal dumping in the Hillsborough River.

During his term of office, he focused on capital improvements, expanding City services, and encouraging commercial development in Tampa. He pushed for a bond to provide sewers and paved street. He later served as treasurer for Hillsborough County and county commissioner, and as a real estate investor.

## HERMAN GLOGOWSKI



Tampa's 25th Mayor

*Third Term*

March 5, 1890 – March 4, 1891

Merchant

Born: April 29, 1853, Wilhelmsbruck, Prussia (Germany)

Died: December 3, 1909, Tampa, Florida

Over half of the city's inhabitants in 1890 were immigrants and their children, the majority of who came from Spain, Italy, and Cuba. As mayor, Glogowski, was confronted with an imperiled cigar industry. By mid-decade, nearly 3,000 workers, receiving close to \$2 million a year in salaries, would produce about 88 million cigars annually. However, a proposed tariff bill, sponsored by then future-president William McKinley, threatened to impose a duty on imported tobacco. Tampa relied on tobacco grown in Cuba and the city feared for its economic survival. To protect the industry and its workers, the Tampa Board of Trade, in cooperation with the city council, sent a committee to Washington to protest the bill. Glogowski joined the delegation and helped to win an exemption for tobacco.

During Mayor Glogowski's third term, several issues confronted the new mayor and City Council. Citizens wanted a fire alarm system, which would include placing a bell in the cupola of the city hall, and there was a need to establish hours for the driving of cattle across the Lafayette Street Bridge (Kennedy Boulevard).

A new city hall was completed in August 1890, which served as city offices and the fire department. Mayor Glogowski laid the cornerstone of the Tampa Bay Hotel (now the University of Tampa). On June 22, 1905, the City came into complete possession of the hotel. In 1899, he was a founding member of the city's first synagogue – Schaari Zedek.



## DUFF POST



Tampa's 26th Mayor

*Second Term*

March 4, 1891 – March 4, 1892

Dentist, Town Marshal

Born: 1853, Tampa, Florida

Died: May 19, 1915, Tampa, Florida

In 1890, the population of the city increased to 5,532 from 720 residents in 1880. This increase reflected the widespread and diverse economic growth from the Plant railroad, hotels, cigar industry, phosphorus mining, and expansion of the city's port. As the population increased, the government imposed higher taxes to make capital improvements, provide new services and expand existing ones in order to meet the needs of the increasing number of residents.

Mayor Post and his administration directed their attention toward such civic improvements as the construction of paved sidewalks, road improvement, and provisions for a cleaner city. Since everyone used horses, the problem of polluted water drainage from the stables was great and a demand for the expansion of the sanitation system was needed. City Council member Silas L. Biglow was appointed the first head of the Department of Sanitation. He was hired at a monthly salary of \$100, and he was given teams of horses, wagons, and a stable at 6th Street and Maryland Avenue.

With the donation of land for streets by the citizens of the City, houses were moved, fences torn down, and streets were extended into "the scrub" (the African-American section of the city). The fire company continued their request for one more fire station. Land was donated and the request for \$60 to build a reel house was granted.

## HERMAN GLOGOWSKI



Tampa's 27th Mayor

*Fourth Term*

March 4, 1892 – March 10, 1893

Merchant

Born: April 29, 1853, Wilhelmsbruck, Prussia (Germany)

Died: December 3, 1909, Tampa, Florida

Tampa, from 1892 to 1893, was a city that would experience many changes on both a local and national level. The 1892 cigar workers strike included strikers of both sexes as workers sought an increase in wages, secure employment, union recognition, and the appointment of a foreman. The mayor told the cigar workers that they would have the “full protection of the law.”

In 1892, the first cigar factory, owned by the Del Pino brothers, opened at the corner of Pino (Howard) and Antonio (Union) streets in West Tampa. The workers would walk through mosquito and alligator infested woods and marshes to get to work until the streetcar line was extended to the area a few years later.

In an era when women could not own property, become doctors, hold public office, nor vote, Mrs. Eleanor (Ella) Collier McWilliams Chamberlain of Tampa, was the first woman in Florida to speak on women's suffrage. In the fall of 1892, she returned to Tampa from the Woman's Inter-State Conference in Des Moines, Iowa. She was successful in having the first article of the “enfranchisement of women” published in the local paper. Mrs. Chamberlain lived in Tampa for 51 years and was active in the movement until it became a reality.

The Tampa Street Railway Company incorporated on February 12, 1885. The company was given permission to extend the streetcar tracks across the Lafayette Street Bridge to the area west of the river, due to the development of Hyde Park. By 1894, the line had been extended to Ballast Point, DeSoto Park, and West Tampa. With the acquisition of the Tampa and Palmetto Beach Railway Company line, which ran from Seventh Avenue and 22nd Street to DeSoto Park, Consumers' was the only company providing electric transportation in Tampa.

Herman Glogowski's life ended tragically at the age of 56. On December 3, 1909, the buggy in which he was riding collided with a truck at an Ybor City street corner, as the former Tampa mayor and leading civic booster was showing a visiting salesman around the city.

## FREDERICK A. SALOMONSON



Tampa's 28th Mayor

*First Term*

March 10, 1893 – March 9, 1894

Railroad, Real Estate

Born: July 20, 1860, Alamo, Overijssel, Netherlands

Died: December 19, 1911, Tampa, Florida

Frederick Salomonson arrived in the United States in 1882 as a representative of a Dutch syndicate that owned land in Florida. Salomonson decided to remain in Florida and moved to Jacksonville where he worked for two years for a railroad company.

In late 1884, Salomonson moved to Tampa where he established a real estate business. With his real estate partner, John Fessenden, he co-founded the Tampa Real Estate and Loan Association in 1887.

Frederick Salomonson married Florence Augusta Newcomb on January 31, 1885 in Tampa, Florida. They had four children: Marie, Lodwoyk "Lodie," Freida, and Wilhelmina.

Salomonson also became involved in local politics and served on the City Council from March 6, 1889 to March 5, 1890. During his first administration, Mayor Salomonson focused on capital improvement and other projects that facilitated the social and economic growth of Tampa.

## ROBERT W. EASLEY



Tampa's 29th Mayor  
March 9, 1894 – March 8, 1895  
Lawyer, Newspaper Owner

Born: 1848, Pototoc, Mississippi

Died: August 14, 1896, Mississippi

Robert Easley moved to Tampa in 1891. An attorney by profession, Easley purchased a 50 percent interest in the *Tampa Tribune* and served as its business manager. His business and legal skills lead Easley to become president of the Tampa and Palmetto Beach Railroad. Shortly afterward, he established the Florida Loan and Investment Company. Easley was also a developer of East Tampa.

In 1893, Robert Easley became involved in local politics. He was elected to the City Council and mayor in 1894. During his term, the “Big Freeze” of 1894-1895 destroyed about 70 percent of Florida’s citrus crop. This loss had bankrupted most of the citrus growers in Hillsborough County and the City lost property tax revenues. Mayor Easley and City Council attempted to provide some economic relief to citrus growers, but soon discovered that the loss was beyond their ability.

In poor health, Easley declined to campaign for re-election as mayor. In April 1895, he returned to his native Mississippi where he passed away on August 14, 1896.



## FREDERICK A. SALOMONSON

Tampa's 30th Mayor  
*Second Term*

March 8, 1895 – June 5, 1896  
Railroad, Real Estate

Born: July 20, 1860, Alamo, Overijssel, Netherlands  
Died: December 19, 1911, Tampa, Florida

*Just after midnight on the morning of September 26, 1895, Officer John McCormick and Officer Bishop responded to Salter's Bar, located in an area of Tampa that was known as "the scrub". Upon arrival, Ms. Lula Williams, who made a complaint against Ms. Ela Felter, met the officers. Officer McCormick placed Ms. Felter under arrest.*

*Mr. Harry Singleton, boyfriend of Ms. Felter, came across the street and approached Officer McCormick. Mr. Singleton pulled a .38-caliber revolver and shot Officer McCormick once in the stomach. The resulting wound was instantly fatal to Officer McCormick.*

*The suspect fled on foot and Officer Bishop fired one shot at him, but missed and struck a nearby cabby's horse, killing it. Ms. Felter fled the scene and was later arrested in the morning.*

*A police squad was formed and led by Mayor Frederick Salomonson. After several weeks, the suspect was arrested and charged with the death of Officer McCormick. Officer John McCormick left behind a widow and five children, with no support. Mayor Solomonson requested donations from the citizens of Tampa to assist Officer McCormick's family. The Morning Tribune began the trust fund with a \$5 donation -- nearly a month's salary.*

*Source: Tampa Police Memorial Committee, Inc.*

On June 5, 1896, Mayor Salomonson returned to his real estate business. Three years later, John Fessenden and Frederick Salomonson dissolved their partnership and established separate real estate agencies.

## MYRON E. GILLETT



Tampa's 31st Mayor  
June 5, 1896 – June 5, 1898  
Citrus Developer, Nurseryman,  
Lumber Company Owner

Born: June 3, 1858, Appleton, Wisconsin

Died: September 20, 1922, New York City

Myron Gillett moved to Florida in 1878 where he became one of the most successful citrus growers in Polk and Marion counties. On October 13, 1881, he married Clara Hemmings, with whom he had five children. Gillette established Buckeye Nurseries, the first large nursery in the state. He was one of the founders of the Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association, the forerunner of the Florida Citrus Exchange, of which he became the first general manager. After his citrus crop was destroyed during the “Big Freeze” of 1894-1895, Gillett sold most of his real estate holdings and moved his family to Tampa, where he established the Gillett Lumber Company and the Tampa Building and Investment Company.

During his term in office, Gillett actively supported capital improvements in the city and he increased municipal services to citizens and businesses. Mayor Gillett believed that government support of commercial development created a diverse business community that would ultimately benefit the citizens, local government, and businesses.

D. Collins Gillett, son of Myron and Clara, was born on June 6, 1884, in Weirsdale, Florida. After graduating from the University of the South, he entered business with his father and later developed Temple Terraces.

After leaving office, Gillett returned to his business activities. Several years later he sold his real estate business in Tampa and moved to New York City.



## FRANK C. BOWYER

Tampa's 32nd Mayor  
June 8, 1898 – June 8, 1900  
Real Estate Broker, Businessman

Born: November 6, 1869, Teay's Valley, West Virginia  
Died: October 17, 1925, Tampa, Florida

Frank Bowyer attended the University of Kentucky and in 1890, moved to Tampa. On June 30, 1892, Bowyer married Lula Baldrick and the couple had three sons. Bowyer established a successful brokerage house in Tampa. He later served as the South Florida manager of Southern Bell Telephone and local manager of the Tampa Steamship Company.

As Tampa's resident and tourist populations increased, Bowyer's administration faced a pressing need to improve and expand the City's public works and services. When Tampa was selected as the disembarkation site for the Spanish American War, these proposed projects found a new significance.

The infusion of federal money into the City's treasury offset a large percentage of the funds required to support these projects. Tampa's business center also expanded as companies large and small followed the trail of federal money. Although short-lived, the Spanish American War was an important factor in Tampa's economic growth. It brought millions of dollars to Tampa merchants and other businesses, substantially added to the City treasury, and infused Tampa with a new confidence.

In 1899, Bowyer proposed a plan to issue \$525,000 in bonds to pay down the City's debts and public works projects. He also persuaded City Council to pass ordinances requiring property owners in downtown Tampa to fund the cost of paving the streets and building sidewalks. By the following year, most of the streets in the city's business section were hard-surfaced and had sturdy sidewalks. Mayor Bowyer and the City Council implemented a major overhaul and expansion of the sewage system, underwriting the project by reassessing property taxes. After completing his term as mayor, Frank Bowyer served as president of the Chamber of Commerce for the next 12 years and as chair of the Board of Port Commissioners.

## FRANCIS LYMAN WING



Tampa's 33rd Mayor

*First Term*

June 8, 1900 – June 4, 1902

Real Estate Developer, Businessman

Born: May 9, 1868, New Bedford, Massachusetts

Died: October 29, 1941, Tampa, Florida

Francis Wing arrived in Tampa in 1889 where he opened a furniture store and a laundry. Later, he became a successful real estate developer. In 1922, he built the Puritan Hotel in the Hyde Park district. He was also the director of the Lyons Fertilizer Company.

In 1892, Wing married Annie E. Hale, who had lived in Tampa since the age of one. The following year, they built a house on north Morgan Street where the couple raised their children.

Wing was a member of the City Council during the Spanish-American War and served from June 1898 to June 1900. He ran unopposed for mayor as the Citizens' League candidate in June 1900. During Wing's first administration, Tampa benefited from a steady population growth, due in part by the economic prosperity from cigar manufacturing in Ybor City, phosphorus export, and the Port of Tampa (Port Tampa City 1893 – 1961). The population growth placed an enormous strain on public works and services. In response, Wing and succeeding mayors embarked on capital projects to improve and expand the City's public works and services to the community.

Cigar workers went on strike in 1901, primarily over the manufacturers' intentions to establish branch factories in Jacksonville and Pensacola, an action that some union leaders interpreted as an effort to maintain an open shop. A citizens' committee organized and kidnapped 15 leaders of La Resistencia, the cigar workers' union. Thirteen of them were sent by ship to Honduras with the warning that they would be killed if they returned. This was a challenge to the manufacturers, the American labor movement, and Tampa's administration.



## JAMES MCKAY, JR.



**Tampa's 34th Mayor**  
**June 5, 1902 – June 5, 1904**  
**Master Mariner, U.S. Marshal**

**Born:** November 27, 1842, Mobile, Alabama

**Died:** September 5, 1924, Tampa, Florida

James McKay, Jr. was the oldest son of James, Sr. and Matilda Cail McKay. He attended Tampa's first public school and at the outbreak of the Civil War, enlisted in the Fourth Florida Infantry Regiment. James married three times, first to Mary Crichton, then to Helene Turton and Lillian Warren. McKay and his first wife had nine children: four sons James, Harold, John, and Frederick; and five daughters Sarah, Blanche, Julia, Madge, and Mary.

McKay was later promoted to captain of an independent company of soldiers who were on detached duty to round up and transport cattle for the Confederate Army. After the war, McKay worked as a seaman on his father's schooners and eventually became a master mariner. Following his father's death in 1876, McKay took over the family business, and sold it 10 years later to serve as a captain for the Plant Steamship Company.

McKay became captain of the Mascotte in 1886 and was in charge of the construction of various ships including the Olivette. On September 1, 1894, he resigned to become a U. S. Marshal for the Southern District of Florida. During the Spanish American War, McKay became superintendent of Transport for the U.S. Army. After the war, he served as a marine superintendent. He resigned in 1914 to serve as postmaster of Tampa. McKay served in the Florida State Senate from 1881 to 1893.

His administration emphasized the need for growth and the importance of public investment to service that growth. During his tenure as mayor, McKay made a number of judicial appointments that expedited the City's court system and adopted some policies that appealed to the working classes and union voters.

## FREDERICK A. SALOMONSON



Tampa's 35th Mayor

*Third Term*

June 5, 1904 – June 7, 1906

Railroad, Real Estate

Born: July 20, 1860, Alamo, Overijssel, Netherlands

Died: December 19, 1911, Tampa, Florida

Tampa had grown from a town of 720 residents in 1880 to 15,839 in 1900 and was the fourth largest city in Florida at the turn of the century. By 1900, 28 percent of Tampa's population was comprised of foreign-born whites and 28 percent were African-American. Tampa's political landscape showed both continuity and change.

In June 1904, Salomonson again campaigned for mayor and was elected for a two-year term. During this term, he continued to focus on capital projects, economic expansion, and improvements to city services. During his tenure, new water mains were added and sidewalks were constructed into the Hyde Park area.

It was during Salomonson's administration that the city charter divided its power between a strong mayor and ward elected officials. When his term ended, Salomonson retired from politics and returned to his real estate business.



## WILLIAM H. FRECKER

Tampa's 36th Mayor  
June 8, 1906 – June 4, 1908  
Merchant

Born: 1849, Chatham, New Brunswick, Canada  
Died: April 22, 1914, Tampa, Florida

William H. Frecker immigrated to the United States in 1878. First settling in Chicago, he sold his business and moved in 1894 to Tampa and established the Chicago Furniture House. In 1898, he was elected to the City Council, which had become divided into two opposing groups known as the “Little Four” and “Big Six.”

During his mayoral campaign, William Frecker articulated policies that appealed to both business leaders and the working class. Although a candid supporter of the unions, he also pursued policy that was critical of corporate interests.

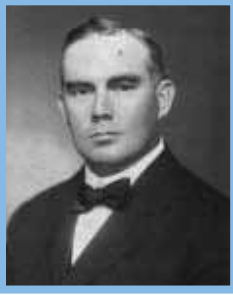
Mayor Frecker persuaded the City Council to “pass ordinances that reduced the rates charged by the Tampa Water Works Company and Peninsular Phone Company.” Tampa also annexed the remainder of the Fort Brooke military reservation that was partially sold to real estate developers.

In 1908, the charter was again revised to include nine wards, each with power to elect its own representatives. Mutual Aid Societies, including El Circulo Cubano, El Centro Asturiano, L'Unione Italiana, and El Ceñtro Español, were flourishing. In addition, new homes and the first skyscrapers were built, and the first automobile arrived in town.

William Frecker campaigned for re-election in June 1908, but was defeated in a close race with Francis Wing, whose public policies mirrored those of Frecker. In June 1910, Frecker again campaigned for mayor against D.B. McKay, but lost by a small number of votes. After his second loss to D.B. McKay in the June 1912 mayoral election, Frecker retired from politics.

In the first two decades of the 20th century, the public sector expanded and new political issues appeared on the public agenda.

## FRANCIS LYMAN WING



Tampa's 37th Mayor

*Second Term*

June 5, 1908 – June 6, 1910

Real Estate Developer, Businessman

Born: May 9, 1868, New Bedford, Massachusetts

Died: October 29, 1941, Tampa, Florida

Francis Lyman Wing was involved in the construction and sale of houses. In 1922, one of his notable structures, the Puritan Hotel in Hyde Park, opened. In addition, Wing served as director of the Lyons Fertilizer Company and served on the boards of several other local businesses.

In his second term, Mayor Wing was the driving force in the construction of the Gordon Keller Hospital. He also attempted to expand the police, fire, and other City departments. He initiated an expansion in sewers and water drainage capital projects and substantial improvements were made to the Port of Tampa.

From 1899 – 1911, the need for additional railroads, other than Henry B. Plant's, to manage the expanding phosphate shipping industry became apparent. The Spanish American War had proven how inadequate the harbor facilities were. Local businessmen and the city administration sought and received funds from the U.S. Congress to deepen (20 feet) and straighten (300 feet) the shipping channel from Port Tampa to downtown Tampa and the Ybor (Creek) Estuary. In 1905, funds were provided to dredge sand to create Sheddon Island (Harbour Island) for phosphate.

After his second term, Mayor Wing retired from politics and devoted himself to business, family, and social activities, which included the Freemasons and the Elks Club.

## DONALD BRENHAM MCKAY



Tampa's 38th Mayor  
*First, Second, and Third Terms*

June 7, 1910 – June 10, 1920

Newspaper Publisher

Born: July 29, 1868, Tampa, Florida

Died: September 7, 1960, Tampa, Florida

Donald Brenham McKay was the son of Captain John Angus and Mary Jane (McCarthy) McKay, Sr. He attended school in Tampa until the age of 14 when he became an apprentice printer for the *Tampa Tribune*, published by James T. Magbee. He became the city editor in 1893 when the newspaper was consolidated with the *Tampa Journal*, forming the *Tampa Times*. By 1900, McKay was the owner of the *Tampa Times* and remained its publisher until 1940. McKay married Aurora P. F. Gutierrez, daughter of Gavino Gutierrez, on October 7, 1900, in Tampa. The couple had 10 children.

The period for 1910 to the 1940s was a time of the White Municipal Party primaries in which no African Americans could vote. In his first electoral victory (1910), McKay narrowly defeated former Mayor William Frecker in a run-off election. As mayor, McKay implemented numerous projects in the “evolving city.” Streets were paved, sidewalks were built and wooden fire stations were replaced with brick buildings. He was re-elected in 1912 and again in 1916.

On New Year's Day 1914, the first commercial airline flight from St. Petersburg to Tampa took place. In 1915, construction on a new, larger City Hall was completed on the same site as the 1891 structure. In 1917, Tampa's first public library opened in West Tampa with funds provided by the Andrew Carnegie Foundation. In 1919, a library for the City's black residents was opened at Harlem Academy. The construction of a new Lafayette Street bridge and main buildings for the South Florida Fair Grounds were major accomplishments of this administration.



## HORACE CALDWELL GORDON

Tampa's 39th Mayor  
June 11, 1920 – January 4, 1921  
Lawyer, Judge, State Attorney

Born: March 13, 1872, Cleveland, Ohio  
Died: June 19, 1924, Tampa, Florida

Horace Gordon was the son of Richard Harper and Lucy Cordelia (Caldwell) Gordon. He received his education in the public schools of Cleveland and at the Jefferson Educational Institute in Jefferson, Ohio. He studied law at the University of Michigan and then at the Cincinnati Law School, graduating in 1895 with a L.L.B. Gordon married Lucy (Louisa) C. Weiner in Cincinnati, Ohio on December 4, 1885. The couple had three children. Horace Gordon and his family arrived in Tampa on December 10, 1895 where he established a successful law practice.

Gordon held many civic positions including president of the Board of Public Works and member of the Port Commission and Board of Trade. In 1902, Mayor James McKay, Jr. appointed Horace Gordon as a municipal judge. Gordon also served as a criminal court judge from 1904 until 1913 when he was appointed state attorney. He served in this position until 1920, when he resigned to campaign for mayor of Tampa.

During his tenure, one of the most destructive hurricanes struck the area on October 25, 1921. The wind associated with the storm reached a recorded velocity of 53.8 miles per hour and gusts exceeded 100 miles per hour. The strong winds downed communication lines and Tampa was isolated for hours. The area was devastated with water rising 10.5 feet above mean low tide. Bayshore Boulevard, the seawall, and most of the waterfront wharves, ships, and businesses were destroyed. Gordon set up emergency services for residents and businesses in order to help repair the damage.

Mayor Gordon's term was cut short when the mayor-commissioner system was adopted in January 1921. He promised to seek reelection under a commission form of government and he abided by that promise.

## CHARLES H. BROWN



**Tampa's 40th Mayor - Commissioner**  
**January 4, 1921 – January 8, 1924**  
**Railroad Contractor, Banker, Real Estate**

**Born:** March 12, 1868, Abbeville, Georgia  
**Died:** January 17, 1928, Tampa, Florida

Charles H. Brown was the son of William H. and Laura (Roberts) Brown. In 1870, his family moved to Hamilton County, Florida, where Brown attended the East Florida Seminary (now the University of Florida) in Gainesville. After graduation, he became a successful merchant, married Margaret V. Gardner and they had five children.

In 1907, Brown and his family moved to Tampa where he established the Tampa and Gulf Coast Railroad and served as its first president. Several years later, he extended the railroad to Tarpon Springs (1910) and St. Petersburg (1914). Brown expanded his business ventures into banking, becoming one of the founders of the Tampa Bank of Commerce and chairman of the Florida Mortgage, Title and Bonding Company. With his extensive real estate holdings in Hillsborough, Pasco, and Hernando counties, he was one of the largest owners of real estate in Florida. He served on the Board of Public Works for the City of Tampa.

Charles Brown was the first mayor of Tampa to serve under the “commission manager” system of government. In 1920, proponents of this system campaigned for its adoption by popular vote with the contention that it was a more direct and efficient municipal structure. This system of government involved electing a mayor-commissioner and four commissioners. As a body, they appointed by majority vote a city manager that served as the administrative head of the City’s government. The mayor held the same administrative power as the commissioners.

The City of West Tampa (1895-1924), Seminole Heights, Jackson Heights, Gary, and other unincorporated areas were annexed during this period.

## PERRY GREEN WALL II



**Tampa's 41st Mayor – Commissioner  
January 8, 1924 – January 3, 1928  
Merchant, Businessman, Civic Advocate**

**Born:** November 22, 1867, Hernando County, Florida  
**Died:** January 25, 1944, Tampa, Florida

Perry Wall was the son of William W. and Minnie (May) Wall. He attended the East Florida Seminary and Colonel Bingham's Military School in North Carolina. In 1884, Wall moved to Tampa where he established a hardware business with his brother-in-law, Peter O. Knight. Perry Wall married Mattie Houston, of Tallahassee, in 1893. The couple had two children: Houstoun and Martha.

In addition to his business activities, he served as chairman of the Congressional and County Democratic Committees and the Executive Committee of the White Municipal Party. In 1890 and 1894, he was elected to the City Council (Board of Representatives) and served as a member of the Hillsborough County School Board (1897-1898). He later served as state chairman of the Government Committee (1930-1932) when he was appointed Harbormaster of Tampa (1932-1936).

When the 20th century began, medical care facilities for Tampa's black citizens were still non-existent. Clara Frye, in 1908, opened the first medical facility for blacks, which became known as the Clara Frye Hospital in 1923. In 1928, the City of Tampa purchased the hospital and 10 years later opened the Clara Frye Memorial Hospital in Roberts City, on the west bank of the Hillsborough River. The facility was demolished in 1973 and Howard W. Blake High School was erected on the site.

Wall's campaign targeted law enforcement and gambling and he won by only 238 votes out of the 7,734 cast. During Wall's term of office, Temple Terrace, originally a 1,500-acre orange grove, was sub-divided (1924). Davis Islands was developed and in 1927, the Tampa Municipal Hospital was built on land (Marjorie Park) previously deeded to the City by D.P. Davis.





## DONALD BRENHAM MCKAY

Tampa's 42nd Mayor

*Fourth Term*

January 3, 1928 – October 27, 1931

Newspaper Publisher

Born: July 29, 1868, Tampa, Florida

Died: September 7, 1960, Tampa, Florida

During the 1916 mayoral campaign, D. B. McKay emphasized his opposition to the commission form of government. He argued that the existing formation provided better representation for all sectors of the population and that the commission form would result in limited focus of powers. With the ratification of the 19th Amendment on August 18, 1920, Tampa women including Kate Jackson, Julia Norris, and Frances Macfarlane, who had long been involved in civic affairs, mobilized in support of the charter. The voters, in 1920, had approved adoption of the commission-manager system, 1,576 to 665. This system was abolished by the voters in 1927 because it proved to be ineffective and cumbersome. The mayor-city council system was reinstated. It was not until 1969 that the Florida Legislature belatedly signed the 19th Amendment.

McKay won in a landslide victory and took office again in January 1928. McKay worked within the commission-manager system (January 3 - 24, 1928) until the new City Charter restored the mayor-city council system.

On July 17, 1929, the Franklin Street Citizens Bank & Trust Company closed. The "crash of 1929" brought unemployment and a halt to the tourist and cigar industry, ending two important resources into the city. Mayor McKay persevered in a time of great hardships.

After he left office in October 1931, D.B. McKay served as director of the First National Bank, president of the Tampa Board of Trade, and was one of the founders and trustees of the University of Tampa. On August 9, 1960, the auditorium at the University of Tampa was renamed in his honor.

From 1945 until his death, McKay wrote a concise history column in the Sunday *Tampa Tribune* called *Pioneer Florida*. McKay's contributions to Tampa and Hillsborough County history were recognized in 1949 when he was appointed as Hillsborough County Historian.

## THOMAS N. HENDERSON



Tampa's 43rd Mayor  
*Acting*

October 27, 1931 – November 3, 1931  
Company President

Born: February 27, 1870, Maysville, Georgia  
Died: October 13, 1944, Tampa, Florida

Born in Maysville, Georgia, Henderson moved to Tampa in 1891 where he opened a meat market, laundry, lumber mill, and the Tampa Harness and Wagon Company. In 1897, he married Nellie Hazon with whom he had three children. Some years later, in 1906, Henderson with George and Alfred Warren purchased the Tampa Coca-Cola Bottling Works, and eventually became president of the company. A strong believer in civic duty, he served as Tampa's Chief of Police, on the Board of Public Works and as a member and, later, City Council President. When Mayor McKay resigned on October 27, 1931, Henderson was sworn in as acting mayor to complete the seven days remaining in D.B. McKay's term.

At the next election, Thomas Henderson campaigned against Robert Chancey for mayor but lost to Chancey by a narrow margin during the primary. After the election, former mayors D.B. McKay, Perry Wall and other leading citizens accused Chancey of voter fraud, ballot stuffing and other illegal activities. Although they were able to substantiate some of their accusations, the evidence was not sufficient to remove Chancey from office. In 1935, Henderson was elected to the Hillsborough County Commission where he served for nine years.

Thomas Henderson passed away in Tampa on October 13, 1944.

## ROBERT E. LEE CHANCEY



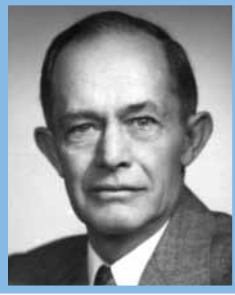
Tampa's 44th Mayor  
November 3, 1931 – November 3, 1943  
Lawyer, County Solicitor

Born: December 16, 1880, Offerman, Georgia  
Died: June 1, 1948, Tampa, Florida

Robert E. Lee Chancey was educated in Georgia public schools and in 1902, received his L.L.B. degree from Mercer University in Macon, Georgia. He came to Tampa on September 5, 1905, where he worked as an attorney with M.B. Macfarlane. Chancey married Jennie E. Cortino on September 10, 1906, and the couple had one son: William. He served as county solicitor from 1917 to 1921 and from 1925 to 1929 and was president of the Hillsborough County Bar Association.

In 1931, he was elected mayor during a strongly contested campaign highlighted by a new state law requiring a non-partisan election board for Tampa. Charges of voter fraud in 1935 resulted in the first voting machines replacing the old ballot boxes. Chancey was confronted with social and economic hardships caused by the Great Depression. There were wildcat strikes by the cigar workers and radical rallies and arrests over race and the ever increasing unemployment (est. 5,000-6,000). The City treasury had dwindled significantly, as people and businesses were no longer able to pay their property taxes. When the City government did not have the money to meet its payroll, Chancey, along with the City Council, reduced the budgets for the police, fire and other departments.

Repairs were made to the Tampa Bay Hotel and in 1933 the University of Tampa was established. The nine-mile Davis Causeway opened in 1934. Federal funds supported construction of the National Guard Armory, Fort Homer Hesterly. In 1935, Tampa received federal relief through the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and Civil Works Administrations (CWA) and some much-needed civic improvements were accomplished. The Peter O. Knight (Municipal) Airport was built, Bayshore Boulevard was widened, and a new seawall was constructed. By 1938, Tampa's economic situation had improved substantially. With the onset of World War II, the growing demand for wartime equipment and materials increased and the local economy improved. MacDill Field (Air Force Base) was dedicated on April 15, 1941.



## CURTIS HIXON

Tampa's 45th Mayor  
November 3, 1943 – May 21, 1956  
Pharmacist, Alderman

Born: November 23, 1890, Louisville, Alabama  
Died: May 21, 1956, Tampa, Florida

Curtis Hixon graduated from the School of Pharmacy in Atlanta, Georgia. Hixon moved to Tampa (1911-1914) to open a drug store with his brother Marvin. During World War I, Curtis Hixon enlisted in the U.S. Navy as a pharmacist's mate. After the war, he purchased King's Drugstore on Franklin Street. Curtis Hixon married Lila Yantis of Sebring, Florida, and they had two children: Joann and Elaine.

Hixon was an alderman and served on the City Council (Board of Representatives, 1929-1937). In 1939, he was elected to the Hillsborough County Commission as representative of the Sulphur Springs and Seminole Heights districts. He took an active role in drafting the street plans for the Sulphur Springs area.

During his first term, Mayor Hixon was confronted with extreme shortages resulting from the war years, illegal gambling, and an ever-increasing demand for city services. Hixon eliminated tax adjustments, adhered to a policy of more frequent audits and collection of overdue taxes. He supported the state's new tax on utilities as necessary to finance improvements.

Drew Field (Tampa International Airport) was deactivated and transferred to the City on October 15, 1947. That same year, with a Supreme Court decision, the end came for the White Municipal Party. African-Americans gained the right to vote in the primary elections.

In 1949, the charter was revised to expand the mayor's duties and administrative authority. A pension system for police and firemen was established and permission to expand the City's limits was given. On May 11, 1956, Mayor Hixon was hospitalized for pneumonia and 10 days later passed away of heart failure. Curtis Hixon had won re-election three times. In recognition of his dedication, an auditorium and convention center beside the Hillsborough River were named in his honor. This area is now known as Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park.

## JUNIE LEE YOUNG, JR.



Tampa's 46th Mayor

*Acting*

May 21, 1956 – October 2, 1956

Insurance Broker

Born: November 21, 1913, Tampa, Florida

Died: 1968, Tampa, Florida

Born in Tampa, Florida, Young was the son of Junie Lee, Sr. and Aleta Chastain Young. J.L. Young, Jr. graduated from Hillsborough High School in 1931. Afterward, Young entered vocational school where he studied bookkeeping and business administration and took correspondence courses in insurance. On January 3, 1940, he married Margaret Virginia Diaz and the couple had two children. Young operated various retail businesses in the City and, in 1946, he helped to organize the Springs State Bank in Sulphur Springs, Florida. (Tampa annexed Sulphur Springs on April 28, 1953).

J.L. Young was active in politics as well as civic affairs and, on July 7, 1953, was elected to the Tampa City Council. On November 1, 1955, he became City Council President and, on May 21, 1956, Acting Mayor when Curtis Hixon passed away. Young campaigned for mayor but lost the election to Nick Nuccio by a narrow margin.

After his defeat, Young also served as a member of the Hillsborough County Zoning Board, Fire Control Board, and the Suburban Sanitary Sewer Board. He was also appointed Civilian Chief Air Warden for Hillsborough County. A member of the Tampa Chamber of Commerce and Committee of 100, Young helped establish the North Tampa Chamber of Commerce and served as its first president.

Junie Lee Young, Jr. passed away in Tampa in 1968.

## NICK CHILLURA NUCCIO



**Tampa's 47th Mayor**

*First Term*

**October 2, 1956 – October 1, 1959**

**Real Estate, Insurance Businessman**

**Born:** October 24, 1901, Ybor City, Florida

**Died:** August 26, 1989, Tampa, Florida

Nick Nuccio was the son of Sicilian immigrants, Vincenzo (Vincent) and Rosalia Nuccio. He attended Hillsborough High School, until his sophomore year and went to work during the war years as a ship fitter. He later operated a real estate and insurance business. In 1926, he began work as a clerk in the post office. Nick Nuccio married Concetta Licata, his partner for 65 years, on July 6, 1924 and they had three children: Vincent, Rosalie (Lillie) and Marietta.

Nuccio first entered politics as a member of City Council (Board of Representatives) from Ybor City (1929 – 1936). He was one of the first politicians to attend a meeting in the African-American community at a time when they still did not have the right to vote. In 1937, he became a commissioner for Hillsborough County and served in this position until 1956.

In 1956, he became the first Latin to hold the office of mayor. During his first term as mayor, Nuccio initiated the construction of more bridges, parks, fire stations, and roads than any previous administration. The Fairyland Amusement Park and Lowry Park Zoo were built during his administration. He placed a high priority on the importance of more industries locating to Tampa and the construction of recreational facilities and parks. Mayor Nuccio is well known for placing benches throughout the City.

The City's 1957/58 budget totaled \$23 million, the largest in its history. The Nuccio administration funded construction of a new incinerator, a new library, and the purchase of the waterfront property between Lafayette and Cass streets from Atlantic Coast Line Railroad.

## JULIAN BARNES LANE



Tampa's 48th Mayor  
October 1, 1959 – October 1, 1963  
Businessman, Dairyman

Born: October 21, 1914, Tampa, Florida  
Died: May 4, 1997, Tampa, Florida

Julian Lane graduated from Hillsborough High School and the University of Florida with a degree in business administration. Lane married Frances LaMott on December 4, 1940. The couple had four children: Susan, Julian, Jr., Virginia, and William. With the United States' entry into World War II, Julian Lane was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army and served until February 28, 1946, when he was honorably discharged as a Lieutenant Colonel. After the war, he established a successful dairy business, and later served as vice president of the Florida Dairyman's Association and president of the Tampa Bay Milk Producers.

During his administration, Lane had to contend with a depleted City treasury, the financial crisis of municipal hospitals and repairs, and expansion of the storm sewer system damage caused by Hurricane Donna. In response, the Lane administration established a program of cost cutting, merging departments and agencies, increasing tax revenue, and enforcing strict adherence to Civil Service hiring guidelines. As part of this program the Clara Frye Hospital was closed and its services merged with Tampa Municipal Hospital (Tampa General Hospital). The Bi-Racial Committee, the first in the state, was formed under his administration.

Mayor Lane and the City Council made improvements to the Davis Causeway public beach, purchased 12.7 acres of land along the Hillsborough River, and appointed a committee to study a construction proposal for Tampa Stadium. Further, Lane's administration implemented the Maryland Avenue Urban Renewal Project and built community centers in West Tampa, Interbay, and Forrest Hills.

In 1961, the Lane Administration helped to facilitate the annexation of the City of Port Tampa to the City of Tampa. In 1966, Lane was elected to the Florida State House and then the senate where he served until 1976. He returned to his dairy business and civic activities.

## NICK CHILLURA NUCCIO



**Tampa's 49th Mayor**

*Second Term*

**October 1, 1963 – October 3, 1967**

**Real Estate, Insurance Businessman**

**Born:** October 24, 1901, Ybor City, Florida

**Died:** August 26, 1989, Tampa, Florida

Curtis Hixon Hall was built in 1965 during the administration of Mayor Nick Nuccio, who advocated for the construction of many public works projects. The building, named for Curtis Hixon, mayor of Tampa from 1943 until his death in 1956. The building was an indoor sports arena, concert venue, and special events center. It was demolished in 1993 and is now the site of Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park, the Tampa Museum of Art, and the Glazer Children's Museum.

During his second term of office, Nuccio presented the City Council and voters with a plan for a county-wide hospital. This plan was defeated. He was successful in the construction of a new bridge to Davis Islands, extension of Interstate-75 (later Interstate-275) to North Tampa, and a \$34 million Tampa International Airport.

Gordon Keller Hospital (Tampa General Hospital) was expanded and Tampa Stadium was constructed through the efforts of the Tampa Sports Authority to provide a new stadium for the University of Tampa Spartans and in anticipation of securing a national football team for the city. The University of Tampa conferred upon him an honorary Doctorate of Humanities in 1966, in recognition of over 40 years of service to Tampa and Hillsborough County.





## DICK GRECO

Tampa's 50th Mayor

*First - Second Terms*

October 3, 1967 – April 1, 1974

Businessman

Born: September 14, 1933, Tampa, Florida

Dick Greco, Jr. was the son of Dick Greco, Sr. (born in Santo Stefano, Sicily) and Evelyn Cotarelo Greco. He graduated from Hillsborough High School, attended the University of Florida, and holds a bachelor of science degree in education from the University of Tampa. Greco has three children with his first wife, Dana. He is now married to Dr. Linda McClintock Greco.

Greco was a member of the City Council (1963-1967) and served as Vice-President of the King-Greco Hardware Company. He was 34 years of age when elected mayor, one of the youngest mayors of a major city. He was re-elected in 1971.

Under Mayor Greco's leadership, Tampa saw a substantial reduction in the crime rate and an increase in police department personnel. In November 1967, Tampa received federal planning funds under the Model Cities Program. Greco dealt with limited revenue, racial tensions, rising crime, urban renewal projects, and the shutdown of Tampa's privately operated bus line.

With support of the City Council, Greco secured funds from the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners to enlarge the seating capacity of Tampa Stadium from 46,500 seats to 70,000 to accommodate the arrival of the Buccaneer's (1976) to Tampa. In addition, \$1.9 million was obtained from the county to expand the central public library system and site preparation was begun for the Hooker's Point sewage treatment plant.

When the Florida State Fair moved from downtown to its present location, Greco worked with State of Florida Representative Terrell Sessums (1963-1974) to acquire the old downtown fairgrounds for the University of Tampa. Catherine Barja, in 1971, was the first woman to be elected to the City Council. Amidst much surprise, Greco resigned as mayor in March 1974 to become vice president of the Edward DeBartolo Company.



## RICHARD L. CHENEY

Tampa's 51st Mayor

*Acting*

April 1, 1974 – June 19, 1974

Insurance Businessman

Born: December 21, 1921, Ohio

Died: June 20, 1974, Tampa, Florida

Richard Cheney was born in Ohio and moved to Tampa in 1953. He was married with three children. Prior to his election to Tampa's City Council in 1967, he had been in the insurance business. Cheney served as City Council President from October 3, 1967 through September 30, 1971 and again from October 1, through April 1, 1974 when he was sworn in as Acting Mayor following Dick Greco's resignation.

During his brief time in this position, he made a great deal of progress. The Tampa By-Pass Canal received funding, and a pension provision for police officers and fire personnel was passed. Other progress included the acquisition of two professional sports teams: the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Tampa Bay Rowdies. Cheney served as Acting Mayor for ten weeks when he suffered a heart attack just prior to speaking at a luncheon. He passed away in Tampa on June 19, 1974.



## LLOYD COPELAND

Tampa's 52nd Mayor  
*Acting*

June 19, 1974 – October 3, 1974  
Supermarket Owner

Born: February 23, 1907, Polk County, Florida  
Died: May 17, 1998, Tampa, Florida

William Lloyd Copeland was born in Polk County, Florida and, as a boy, sold farm produce by the roadside. He later devised a means by which he purchased produce from farmers and then sold it on the streets in Tampa and from house-to-house. In 1934, Copeland opened a small produce market on East Hillsborough Ave and twelve years later, a supermarket on the same site. He was also one of the founders of the Tampa Wholesale Produce Market, board member and its Vice President for more than 20 years.

Elected to City Council in 1959, Copeland was a deeply religious man who opposed issuing liquor licenses and was a strong supporter of taxpayers. He served as Vice Chairman of City Council and, from 1974-1975, as Chairman. With the passing of Richard Cheney on June 19, 1974, Copeland became acting mayor to complete Dick Greco's term. During Copeland's brief tenure, he appointed the Tampa's first Police Advisory Committee, instituted a \$5.5 million crash sewer treatment program, hired new city auditors and helped pass the City's budget. He also persuaded Hillsborough County to co-underwrite the cost to renovate Tampa's playgrounds.

After William Poe was elected mayor, Copeland returned to City Council where he served for the next twenty-four years. In 1981, Copeland became the Vice-Mayor of Tampa until retiring in 1984. Lloyd Copeland passed away in Tampa on May 17, 1998.

## WILLIAM F. POE



Tampa's 53rd Mayor  
October 3, 1974 – October 3, 1979  
Businessman, Insurance Executive

Born: July 22, 1931, Tampa, Florida  
Died: May 1, 2014, Tampa, Florida

William Poe attended Hillsborough County public schools in the Seminole Heights neighborhood. At Hillsborough High School, he served as student body president, president of the Key Club, and treasurer of the senior class. Poe attended Duke University and the University of Florida where he received a B. A. in business administration. In 1956, after serving in the U.S. Air Force, he returned to Tampa and established the W.F. Poe Insurance Company.

After the special election in October 1974 and re-election in 1975, William Poe initiated a major revitalization of downtown Tampa. As part of his plan, Poe secured the City Council's approval to invest \$20 million in public works programs that included street and drainage improvements, a city hall annex, and a riverside cultural center. He also persuaded the City Council to implement a \$35 million program to expand Tampa's water system. Poe cracked down on the growing number of massage parlors, prostitution, and street people. To strengthen the presence of police, he outfitted the department with a new fleet of patrol cars.

In 1975, with the mayor's backing, Tampa Stadium would become the home of the Tampa Bay Rowdies. The team won the North American Soccer League championship in their inaugural year and would play 10 seasons in the stadium.

After his term as mayor, Poe returned to the insurance business. He and Elizabeth (Betty) Ann Blackburn Poe were married for nearly 60 years and had five children. William F. Poe, Sr. served as chairman of the Florida-based property and casualty insurance company of Poe & Associates, which he founded in 1996.

## ROBERT (BOB) MARTINEZ



Tampa's 54th Mayor  
October 1, 1979 – July 16, 1986  
Educator, Labor Relations Consultant,  
Governor of Florida

Born: December 25, 1934, Tampa, Florida

Governor Bob Martinez is the son of Serafin Martinez and Ida Carreño Martinez. He attended Hillsborough County Public Schools and graduated from Jefferson High School in 1953. The following year, he married high school sweetheart Mary Jane Marino. They have two children, Sharon Marie and Robert Alan, and five grandchildren named Emily Ida Keen, Lydia Marie Keen, Robert Alejandro Martinez, Christine Ysabel Martinez and Frank Serafin Martinez.

In 1957 Martinez received his B.S. in social science from the University of Tampa. Upon graduating, he taught social studies at Oak Grove Junior High and Chamberlain High Schools. In 1964 he received a M.A. in labor and industrial relations from the University of Illinois. From 1964 to 1966 he represented management in labor and industrial relations matters and in 1966 he became executive director of the Hillsborough Classroom Teachers. In mid 1975 Martinez bought Café Sevilla Spanish Restaurant and Florida Governor Ruben Askew appointed him to the Southwest Florida Water Management District. He managed Café Sevillá and served on the SWFWMD board until elected Mayor of Tampa in 1979.

Bob Martinez served as Tampa's Mayor from 1979 to 1986. His administration is credited with the construction of the Performing Arts Center, Tampa Convention Center, Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo, Refuse to Energy facility, restoration of historic City Hall, downtown Tampa economic revitalization, annexation of new Tampa, promotion of the development of Westshore and redevelopment of West Tampa and Ybor City.

Mayor Martinez resigned his office in 1986 to run for governor of Florida. His Preservation 2000 Environmental Land Acquisition Program was the nation's largest land-purchasing program. Martinez works in the private sector and is active in numerous community organizations.

## SANDRA WARSHAW FREEDMAN



Tampa's 55th Mayor  
July 16, 1986 – April 1, 1995  
Public Administration

Born: September 21, 1943, Newark, New Jersey

Sandra Warshaw Freedman moved with her family to Tampa when she was two years old. Freedman graduated with a degree in government from the University of Miami (Florida) and was a former city, state and Florida intercollegiate tennis champion. She married Michael Freedman, an attorney. They have three children and eight grandchildren.

Freedman served on the City Council (1974 – July 1986) and was the first woman to serve as chair (1983 – July 1986). When Bob Martinez resigned to run for governor, Freedman, as chair of the council, became acting mayor to complete the remainder of his term. She became the first woman to serve as mayor. Tampa citizens elected her to two additional terms in office (1987-1991 and 1991-1995).

Mayor Freedman initiated a task force to halt the escalating drug crime rate; supported police in dismantling “crack houses” and their attack on drugs through the Quick Uniformed Attack on Drugs Squad (Q.U.A.D.), which enabled residents to alert police of suspected drug sales through the use of beepers. These programs resulted in a significant decline in the crime rate for three consecutive years.

She revitalized the housing and urban development agency by creating the Mayor's Challenge Fund, a public-private partnership and she created community programs such as Paint Your Heart Out and the first Women and Minority Business Enterprise Program, which encouraged greater minority participation in city contracts. Mayor Freedman was instrumental in Tampa Heights building and redevelopment projects, the development of the Florida Aquarium, and the construction of the Tampa Convention Center.

During her administration city-wide recycling and water conservation programs were established. In 1990, Tampa was designated the “All-American City.” Sandy Freedman is retired and remains actively involved in community affairs.

## DICK GRECO



Tampa's 56th Mayor

*Third - Fourth Terms*

April 1, 1995 – April 1, 2003

Businessman

Born: September 14, 1933, Tampa, Florida

After more than 20 years in the private sector, Dick Greco returned to Tampa politics and was reelected as mayor on April 1, 1995. He went on to serve two consecutive terms as mayor (1995-1999 and 1999-2003), which gave him the distinction of being one of the only mayors to serve four terms. He remained mayor until 2003 when he could not run for reelection due to term limits.

During his time in office, Greco's administration focused on capital improvements, the commercial development of Ybor City including Centro Ybor, and the Channelside district. He pushed for a half-penny sales community investment tax that helped build Raymond James Stadium and also fund police, fire, and parks redevelopment. Significant advancements took place during his time in office. Raymond James Stadium was built in 1998, and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers went on to win the 2003 Super Bowl. He successfully drew many businesses to the area and encouraged the expansion of college campuses. Hillsborough County Community College completed a successful Ybor City campus expansion in 1999, and Stetson University College of Law secured a location for a campus in downtown Tampa.

Mayor Greco expanded the police force and created sixteen specialized programs to combat crime. As a result, there was an overall reduction in crime during his terms. In 2003, he received the Ellsworth G. Simmons Good Government Award from Hillsborough County. This award is given to a current or former government official or civic leader for improving government through leadership and vision.

Dedicated on May 29, 2008, the Dick Greco Plaza transportation center honors the former mayor of Tampa who was instrumental in bringing the streetcars back to the city.

## PAM IORIO



**Tampa's 57th Mayor**  
**April 1, 2003 – April 1, 2011**  
**Public Administration**

**Born: April 27, 1959, Waterville, Maine**

Pam Iorio was the 57th Mayor of Tampa, sworn into office on April 1, 2003. She attended Hillsborough County public schools and graduated from American University in Washington, D.C., with a B.S. degree in Political Science. Pam Iorio also earned a M.A. degree in History from the University of South Florida in Tampa in 2001. She is married to Mark Woodard and they have two children, Caitlin and Graham.

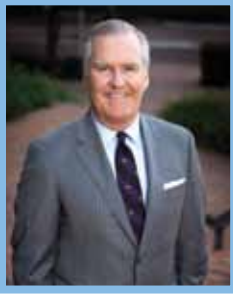
Mayor Iorio began her political career at the age of 26, when she became the youngest person ever elected to the Hillsborough County Commission (1985-1992). A year later she became chairman. After serving two terms on the County Commission, Pam Iorio was elected three times to the office of the Supervisor of Elections for Hillsborough County (1993-2003). In 2000, she was elected President of the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections, becoming the spokesperson for the supervisors during the 2000 presidential election. In 2002, for her work in the area of election reform, she was presented the Leadership Florida Distinguished Alumnus Award, which recognizes statewide leadership in bettering the lives of Floridians.

Mayor Iorio focused on downtown redevelopment with an emphasis on the waterfront. The master plan for the Tampa Riverwalk was completed with major segments constructed. The Curtis Hixon Waterfront Park was built, along with the Glazer Children's Museum and the new Tampa Museum of Art. In the Channel District the Tampa Bay History Center was built on city land, and the waterfront park extended into Channelside.

Neighborhood improvements were a priority with an emphasis on parks, stormwater and transportation – a highlight being the \$100 million 40th Street project. Crime dropped 61.5% in eight years and Iorio appointed Jane Castor as Tampa's first female Chief of Police. Iorio formed the Mayor's Youth Corps, a service-oriented program for Tampa teens. She left office with a tripling of financial reserves to \$150 million even in the aftermath of a recession.



## BOB BUCKHORN



**Tampa's 58th Mayor**  
**April 1, 2011 – Present**  
**Public Administration**

**Born:** July 29, 1958, Evanston, Illinois

Bob Buckhorn was sworn in as the 58th mayor of the nation's 55th largest city on April 1, 2011. Buckhorn believes Tampa's strength is in its diversity. He is focused on building an environment that will move Tampa to the next level and generate new economic opportunities. Buckhorn graduated from Penn State University in 1980 with a degree in Political Science. He is married to Dr. Catherine Lynch Buckhorn, and they have two daughters.

Buckhorn was the Director of Governmental Affairs for the Builders Association of Greater Tampa, and in 1987, became the Special Assistant to Mayor Freedman. In 1995, Buckhorn was elected Tampa City Council and was reelected to the Tampa City Council for a second term.

As mayor, Buckhorn is committed to continuously looking for ways to reduce costs while improving efficiency in city government. In June 2011, he formed the Economic Competitiveness Committee (ECC) to review the City of Tampa's permitting and regulatory processes. The ECC made several recommendations, and the City of Tampa is in the process of instituting those, such as instituting an online permitting system.

Mayor Buckhorn also secured a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation to complete the Tampa Riverwalk, which has been in the making for more than 40 years. Once complete, the Riverwalk will extend from the Channel District around downtown Tampa up to Tampa Heights.

As Tampa's Mayor, Buckhorn is committed to creating a more connected, livable city by focusing on our underutilized riverfront, generating a strong mix-use pedestrian environment, building links between our neighborhoods, and developing an urban pattern that supports transit. To that end, he has invested in the urban core, working to restore the street grid, foster new retail opportunities, and attract new high density residential development.

## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT TAMPA'S MAYORS

### **Longest Serving Mayors:**

D.B. McKay - 38th and 42nd Mayor (June 4, 1910 - June 5, 1920 and January 3, 1928 - October 27, 1931)

Dick Greco - 50th and 56th Mayor (October 1, 1967 - April 1, 1974 and April 1, 1995 - April 1, 2003)

### **Most Non - Consecutive Terms in Office:**

Herman Glogowski - 21st, 23rd, 25th and 27th Mayor - 4 one - year terms

### **First Latin to Serve as Mayor:**

Nick Nuccio - 47th and 49th Mayor (Oct. 1, 1956 - Oct. 1, 1959 and Oct. 1, 1963 - Oct. 1, 1967)

### **First Hispanic of Spanish Ancestry to Serve as Mayor:**

Robert Martinez - 54th Mayor (Oct. 1, 1979 - July 16, 1986)

### **First Woman to Serve as Mayor:**

Sandra Freedman - 55th Mayor (July 17, 1986 - April 1, 1987 and April 1, 1987 - April 1, 1995)

### **First Tampa Native to Serve as Mayor:**

Thomas Jackson - 15th and 24th Mayor (August 14, 1877 - August 14, 1878 and March 6, 1889 - March 5, 1890)

### **Mayors who Died in Office:**

Joseph Lancaster - 1st Mayor (Feb. 14, 1856 - Nov. 25, 1856)

Curtis Hixon - 45th Mayor (Nov. 3, 1943 - May 21, 1956)

R.L. Cheney - 51st Mayor (April 1, 1974 - June 19, 1974)

### **Mayors who Resigned:**

Henry C. Ferris - 17th Mayor (August 14, 1880 - Feb. 19, 1881)

Dick Greco - 50th Mayor (Oct. 1, 1967 - April 1, 1974)

Robert Martinez - 54th Mayor (Oct. 1, 1979 - July 16, 1986)

# INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT TAMPA'S MAYORS

## **Father/Son Mayors:**

**Father:** Madison Post - 5th Mayor (Feb. 10, 1858 - Feb. 12, 1859)

**Son:** Duff Post - 20th and 23rd Mayor (Aug. 14, 1883 - Aug. 13, 1886 and March 4, 1891 - March 4, 1892)

**Father:** John Jackson - 9th Mayor (Feb. 3, 1862 - Feb. 22, 1862)

**Son:** Thomas Jackson - 15th and 24th Mayor (Aug. 14, 1877 - Aug. 14, 1878 and March 6, 1889 - March 5, 1890)

**Father:** James McKay, Sr. - 6th Mayor (Feb. 12, 1859 - Feb. 1, 1860)

**Son:** James McKay, Jr. - 34th Mayor (June 5, 1902 - June 5, 1904)

*D.B. McKay - 38th and 42nd Mayor was the nephew of Mayor James McKay, Jr. and grandson of Mayor James McKay, Sr.*

## **Tampa Mayors Who Served on City Council:**

Darwin Austen Branch - 2nd and 4th Mayor: 1856-1857

J. Alfonso DeLaunay - 3rd Mayor: 1859-1860

John Jackson - 9th Mayor: 1857-1858; 1860-1861

Edward A. Clarke - 10th Mayor: 1856-1857; 1873-1874; 1877-1878; 1879-1880; 1881-1882; 1882-1883.

Josiah Ferris - 11th Mayor: 1866; 1873-1874

James E. Lipscomb - 13th Mayor: 1879-1880

Thomas Edward Jackson - 15th Mayor: 1875-1876; 1881-1882; 1885-1886; 1886-1887; 1888-1889.

Dr. John P. Wall - 16th Mayor: 1881-1882; 1882-1883; 1885-1886; 1886-1887; 1888-1889; 1894-1895.

M.E. Haynsworth - 18th Mayor: 1880-1881

George Bascom Sparkman - 19th and 22nd Mayor: 1884-1885; 1885-1886; 1891-1892.

## INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT TAMPA'S MAYORS

Duff Post - 20th and 26th Mayor: 1889-1890.

Herman Glogowski - 21st, 23rd, 25th, and 27th Mayor: 1891.

Frederick A. Salomonson - 28th, 30th, and 35th Mayor: 1889-1890; 1892-1893.

Perry G. Wall, Jr.: 1890-1891; 1895-1896.

Frances Lyman Wing - 33rd and 37th Mayor: 1898-1900.

William H. Frecker - 36th Mayor: 1898-1900; 1900-1902.

Thomas N. Henderson - 43rd Mayor: 1928-1929; 1929-1931.

Curtis Hixon - 45th Mayor: 1929-1931; 1931-1933; 1933-1935; 1935-1937

Junie Lee Young, Jr. - 46th Mayor: 1955-1959 (note: he served as Acting Mayor from May 21-October 3 in 1956).

Nick Chillura Nuccio - 47th and 49th Mayor: 1929-1931; 1931-1933; 1933-1935; 1935-1936

Dick Greco - 50th and 56th Mayor: 1963-1967

Richard L. Cheney - 51st Mayor: 1967-1971; 1971-1974.

Lloyd Copeland - 52nd Mayor: 1959-1963; 1963-1967; 1967-1971; 1971-1975 (note: he served as Acting Mayor from June 19, 1974 - October 3, 1974); 1975-1979; 1979-1983.

Sandra Warshaw Freedman - 55th Mayor: 1974-1975; 1975-1979; 1979-1983; 1983-1987

Bob Buckhorn - 58th Mayor: 1995-1999; 1999-2003

### **Some of the Mayors Who Also Served as City Employees:**

John A. Henderson, City Clerk

Josiah Ferris - 11th Mayor: City Clerk

John Thomas Lesley - 12th Mayor: City Marshal

Duff Post - 20th and 26th Mayor: City Marshal

Bob Buckhorn - 58th Mayor: Special Assistant to Mayor Sandra Warshaw Freedman

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