

U.S. CIVIL RIGHTS TRAIL JOURNEY

FLORIDA



Augustine Foot Soldiers

Dedicated to those who participated in the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s in St. Augustine. They protested racial discrimination by marching, picketing, kneeling-in at churches, sitting-in at lunch counters, wading-in at beaches, attending rallies, raising money, preparing meals and providing safe haven.





St. Augustine - Mims (1 hr. 34 mins.)

Mims - Vero Beach (1 hr. 21 mins.)

Vero Beach - Sarasota (3 hrs. 6 mins.)

The U.S. Civil Rights Trail spans 14 states, features more than 100 sites and highlights the country's civil rights story. Your journey along the trail begins in St. Augustine, Florida.

DAY 1 – ST. AUGUSTINE

National Historic Preservation District

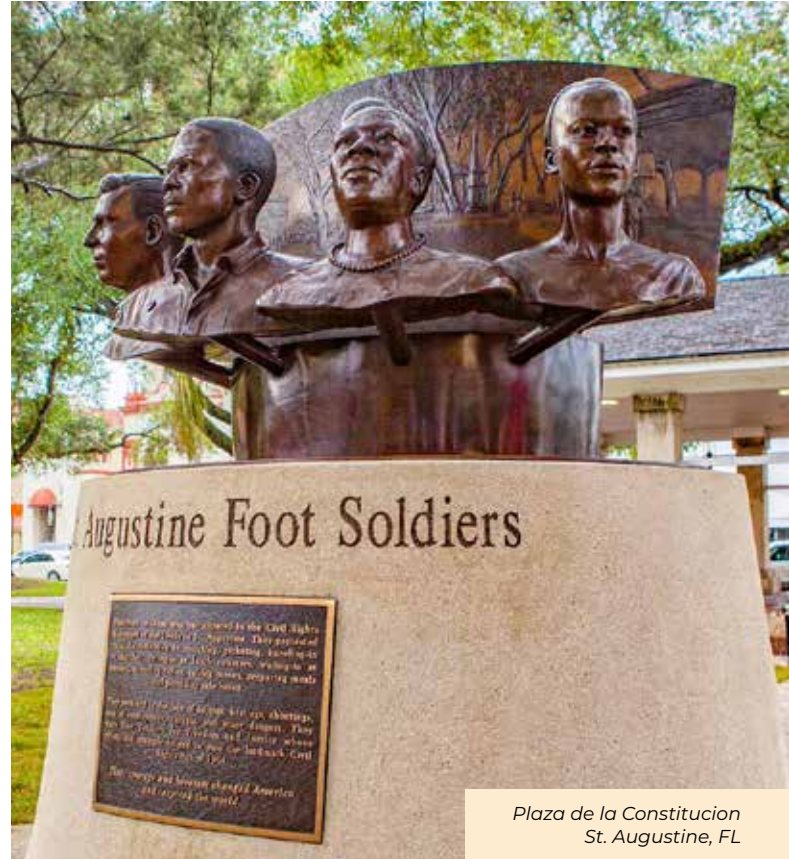
During the Civil Rights Movement, the city of St. Augustine gained national attention as neighborhood churches, businesses and parks became sites of meetings to plan peaceful marches in protest of racial segregation.

Dr. Robert B. Hayling, a profile in courage, was a 30-something African-American dentist and former Air Force officer who would lose his dental practice and nearly his life while leading the local struggle.

The Southern Christian Leadership Conference supported these efforts, and many well-known activists such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the Rev. Ralph Abernathy and Andrew Young attended meetings and participated in the protests. Through historic preservation efforts by the city of St. Augustine, you can visit many of the locations where these events took place.

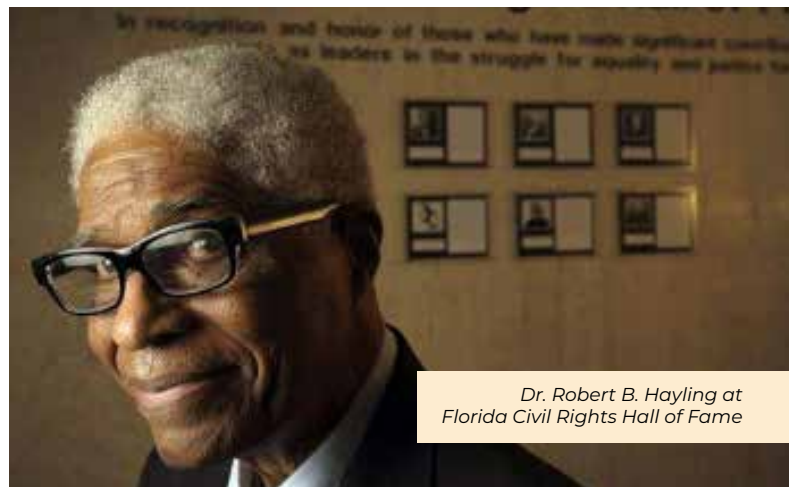
National Historic Preservation District

Take a self-guided tour along the **Accord Freedom Trail** that includes over 31 historical civil rights markers and is accompanied by interpretive information via a cell phone audio tour.



Plaza de la Constitucion
St. Augustine, FL

Spend time exploring the **Plaza de la Constitucion** where numerous night marches organized by civil rights foot soldiers culminated. Today, the Foot Soldiers Monument sits in the southeast corner of the plaza and features four life-size bronze busts, anonymous representations of the many who fought for racial equality. Nearby, in the plaza's southwest corner, is Andrew Young Crossing, which honors Young's bravery in leading a group of demonstrators to the plaza only to be beaten by a mob of segregationists. Bronze replicas of his footprints are embedded in the coquina walkway along with the words "Justice, Non-Violence, Equality and Freedom."



Dr. Robert B. Hayling at
Florida Civil Rights Hall of Fame



Jackie Robinson Training Complex
Vero Beach, FL

DAY 2 – MIMS TO VERO BEACH

*Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park & Museum >
Jackie Robinson Training Complex*

From St. Augustine, head to Mims, where you will begin your journey at the Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park & Museum.



Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park & Museum
Mims, FL

Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park & Museum

The Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park & Museum in Mims celebrates the lives of the husband-wife teachers who opened the first state chapter of the NAACP, fought for equal pay for teachers, started the Progressive Voters League, and investigated lynchings and police brutality. The Moores' efforts for justice and equality cost them their lives when their home was bombed on Christmas Day in 1951.

Jackie Robinson Training Complex

The Jackie Robinson Training Complex in Vero Beach is the only sports property on the U.S. Civil Rights Trail. Robinson, the Hall of Famer and Major League Baseball's courageous No. 42, integrated baseball in 1947. A year later, the club opened Dodgertown, the first fully integrated spring training site in the South. For the next 60 years, ballplayers gathered here to prepare for the upcoming season. In those early seasons, African-American players such as Robinson and fellow Hall of Famers Roy Campanella, Don Newcombe, Joe Black and Maury Wills practiced and played under the admiring and hopeful eyes of local youngsters. Today, the 80-acre complex includes 10 full fields, a competition-size pool, and an 89-room conference center and hotel.



Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Memorial Park & Museum
Mims, FL

DAY 3 – SARASOTA AND NEWTOWN

Newtown African American Heritage Trail

For generations, Jim Crow laws made Florida's beaches off limits to African-Americans. After a 1951 campaign for beach access for Black residents fell on deaf ears followed by years of resistance and delays, **Neil Humphrey Sr.**, Sarasota's NAACP president and the owner of Humphrey's Pharmacy, prompted residents to organize for change. In fall 1955, Newtown residents led by Humphrey began challenging the old order by piling into cars and driving to Lido Beach. They swam, walked the shore and waded into the Gulf of Mexico. This act introduced "wade-ins" to the civil rights lexicon.

The wade-ins drew media attention and opened an early front in the fight for equal rights years before better-known state and national victories of the 1960s. Fewer than two miles of Florida's 825 miles of beaches were open to African-Americans. It took the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to do away with segregated beaches for good.



*Newtown African American Heritage Trail
Sarasota, FL*

Newtown African American Heritage Trail

Your last stop on the Florida Civil Rights Trail journey is the Newtown African American Heritage Trail. Follow the route activists took as they carpoled to local beaches. The 15 historical markers on the trail explore and commemorate Newtown's role in racial integration from 1914 to the present and are part of the Newtown Alive initiative, which was formed to preserve the story of this historically African-American neighborhood. Newtown Alive offers guided, two-hour trolley or bus tours of the area. Guests can hear stories of the 1950s beach caravans, the history of the Newtown community and personal accounts of courage from civil rights trailblazers.

This concludes your U.S. Civil Rights Trail journey in Florida.



*Newtown
Sarasota, FL*