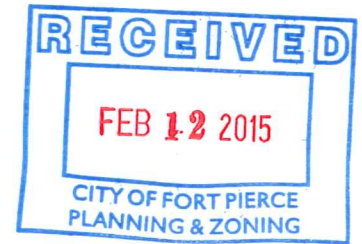


*SLC Agape Senior Recreational Center*  
*Zora Neale Hurston Exhibit*

809 N. 9th Street  
Ft. Pierce Fl. 34950  
772/465-8990



Fort Pierce City Hall  
Historical Preservation Dept.  
100 U.S. Highway #1  
Fort Pierce, Fl. 4950

January 12, 2015

This letter is submitted requesting the old SLC Welfare Home, at 809 N. 9th Street be placed on the Historical Registry. It was the last residency of renowned writer, folklorist, anthropologist, playwright and poet, Zora Neale Hurston.

Since her passing on January 29th, 1960 many have taken an interest in her life. Today, at the 809 N. 9th Street address, an exhibit of Zora's life and death is now on display. A number of visitors have stopped by to see the room Zora passed away in, replicas of her bed, typewriter, furniture and family pictures. A copy of the original death certificate shows the removal of her body from the home to Peaks Funeral Home. A letter written by Abbiejean Russell, the welfare home's supervisor, confirms Zora's stay as a patient. All this and more are all on display. We hope to entice our youth, teachers, professors and out of town visitors to come and learn of this remarkable person.

This building for the past forty five years until today, has served seniors breakfast, lunch and provides recreational games for the men and women of their peers to play. I, Brenda Cooper for the past twenty years, have been associated with this center. As director, board member and now curator of the exhibit, I pledge to keep this building active with senior and the memory Zora.

Please find pictures of students, teachers and out of town visitor enjoying the exhibit.

I hope you take this matter into consideration.

Respectfully yours,

  
Brenda M. Cooper/Curator





THIS DOCUMENT HAS A LIGHT BACKGROUND ON TRUE WATERMARKED PAPER. HOLD TO LIGHT TO VERIFY FLORIDA WATERMARK.

OFFICE of VITAL STATISTICS

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH  
BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS

CERTIFICATE OF DEATH

STATE FILE NO. **60-004315**

BIRTH NO.

**6602** FLORIDA

REGISTRAR'S NO. **39**

|   |                                  |   |   |   |   |
|---|----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| 1. PLACE OF DEATH<br>a. COUNTY<br><b>St. Lucie</b>  |                                  | CODE NO.<br><b>6602</b>   | 2. USUAL RESIDENCE (Where deceased lived, if institution: Residence before admission)<br>a. STATE<br><b>Florida</b> |   | b. COUNTY<br><b>St. Lucie</b>                   |
| b. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION<br><b>Ft. Pierce</b>   |                                  | c. IS PLACE OF DEATH INSIDE CITY LIMITS?<br>YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>   |   | c. CITY, TOWN, OR LOCATION<br><b>Ft. Pierce</b> |   |
| d. NAME OF HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION<br><b>809 North 9th. St.</b>   |                                  | e. LENGTH OF STAY IN 1b<br><b>2 yrs.</b>  |   | d. STREET ADDRESS<br><b>1734 School Court</b>   |   |
| 3. NAME OF DECEASED (Type or print)<br>First Middle Last<br><b>Zora Neil Hurston</b>  |                                  |   | 4. DATE OF DEATH<br>Month Day Year<br><b>January 28th 1960</b>  |   |   |
| 5. SEX<br><b>Female</b>   | 6. COLOR OR RACE<br><b>Negro</b> | 7. MARRIED <input type="checkbox"/> NEVER MARRIED <input type="checkbox"/><br>WIDOWED <input type="checkbox"/> DIVORCED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 8. DATE OF BIRTH<br><b>Jan 7 - 1903</b>   | 9. AGE (In years last birthday)<br><b>57</b>    |   |
| 10a. USUAL OCCUPATION (Give kind of work done during most of working life, even if retired)<br><b>Writer &amp; anthropologist</b> |                                  | 10b. KIND OF BUSINESS OR INDUSTRY<br><b>Author</b>  | 11. BIRTHPLACE (State or foreign country)<br><b>Florida</b>   |   | 12. CITIZEN OF WHAT COUNTRY?<br><b>U. S. A.</b> |
| 13. FATHER'S NAME<br><b>Deceased</b>  |                                  |   | 14. MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME<br><b>Deceased</b>   |   |   |
| 15. WAS DECEASED EVER IN U. S. ARMED FORCES? (Yes, no, or unknown) (If yes, give war or dates of service)                         |                                  | 16. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.   | 17. INFORMANT'S SIGNATURE<br><b>Margaret Page</b><br>Address <b>Lincoln Park Academy</b>                            |   |   |

|  |                                |  |  |
|--|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 22a. SIGNATURE<br><b>Margaret Page</b>                   | (Degree or title)<br><b>MD</b> | 22b. ADDRESS<br><b>755 ... Fla</b>                             | 22c. DATE SIGNED<br><b>2-3-60</b>                                      |
| 23a. MANNER OF REMOVAL (Specify)<br><b>Funeral</b>       | 23b. DATE<br><b>2-7-60</b>     | 23c. NAME OF CEMETERY OR CREMATORY<br><b>Genevieve Gardens</b> | 23d. LOCATION (City, town, or county) (State)<br><b>Ft. Pierce Fla</b> |
| 24. FUNERAL DIRECTOR'S SIGNATURE<br><b>Dorothy Baker</b> |                                | 25. DATE RECD. BY LOCAL REG<br><b>2-6-60</b>                   | 26. REGISTRAR'S SIGNATURE<br><b>Alice Henderson</b>                    |

*C. Meade Grijj*, State Registrar

Date Issued: **FEB 18 2013**

THE ABOVE SIGNATURE CERTIFIES THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE OFFICIAL RECORD ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE.

WARNING:

THIS DOCUMENT IS PRINTED OR PHOTOCOPIED ON SECURITY PAPER WITH WATERMARKS OF THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA. DO NOT ACCEPT WITHOUT VERIFYING THE PRESENCE OF THE WATERMARKS. THE DOCUMENT FACE CONTAINS A MULTICOLORED BACKGROUND, GOLD EMBOSSED SEAL, AND THERMOCHROMIC FL. THE BACK CONTAINS SPECIAL LINES WITH TEXT. THE DOCUMENT WILL NOT PRODUCE A COLOR COPY.



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VOID IF ALTERED OR ERASED

VOID IF ALTERED OR ERASED



May 7, 1971

Mr. Robert Hemenway  
Associate Professor  
American Studies Program  
University of Wyoming  
Box 3334, University Station  
Laramie, Wyoming 82070

Re: Zora Neale Hurston

Dear Mr. Hemenway:

Your letter of May 10th in regard to the above captioned person was referred to me for reply since I was executive director of St. Lucie County Welfare Association for twenty-two years prior to my retirement in February 1967.

On May 12, 1959 Zora Neale Hurston applied to this agency, and was granted assistance for prescription drugs. At that time her other needs were being met from the rent of one of her rooms and benefits from a sick and accident insurance policy.

On June 9, 1959 she had drawn the last of her insurance claims for the calendar year, and in addition to drugs, was approved for food vouchers.

The latter part of September 1959 Miss Hurston, a victim of hypertensive heart disease, was regressing both physically and mentally. On October the 29th she was admitted to St. Lucie County's Lincoln Park welfare home, 809 N. 9th Street, and died in the home on January 28, 1960.

Prior to Miss Thurston's admission to the welfare home, we had a number of friendly chats. She referred with pride to Eatonville, Florida where she grew up, and to her early days at Columbia University. She spoke of her work as a novelist and we discussed other subjects pertaining to local and national affairs of the day. I was attracted to Miss Thurston as a person, not because of her accomplishments.

I contacted Mrs. Marjorie Silver and Mr. Leroy Floyd, and learned that you had visited Fort Pierce and had spent



# Zora Neale Hurston Historical Sites

1. Hurston Library  
3008 Avenue D
2. Hurston House  
1734 Avenue L
3. Chronicle News  
1529 Avenue D
4. Lincoln Park Academy  
1806 Avenue I
5. Backus House  
122 Backus Avenue
6. SLC Nursing Home  
809 N. 9th Street
7. Peeks Funeral Chapel  
728 Avenue D
8. Grave Site  
Avenue S. & 17th Street



**EXHIBIT & SENIOR CENTER**  
As it looks today and it still serves the elderly

For Information On Historical Tours Call: 772/332-1220

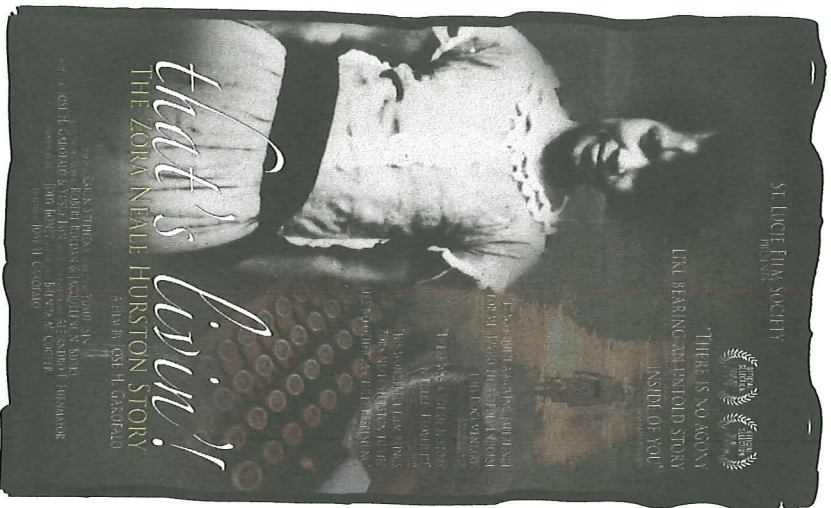


2014



# "Pat's Spin"

(Lirin spelled the way Zora spelled it in her writings)



**A ZORA NEALE HURSTON DOCUMENTARY**  
Filmed in the City of Fort Pierce, FL, this uplifting story of an iconic African American Author, who wrote the well known novel *'Their Eyes Were Watching God'*, is on DVD and can be purchased at the Zora Neale Hurston Exhibit.

# THE ZORA NEALE HURSTON EXHIBIT

809 N. 9th Street

Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

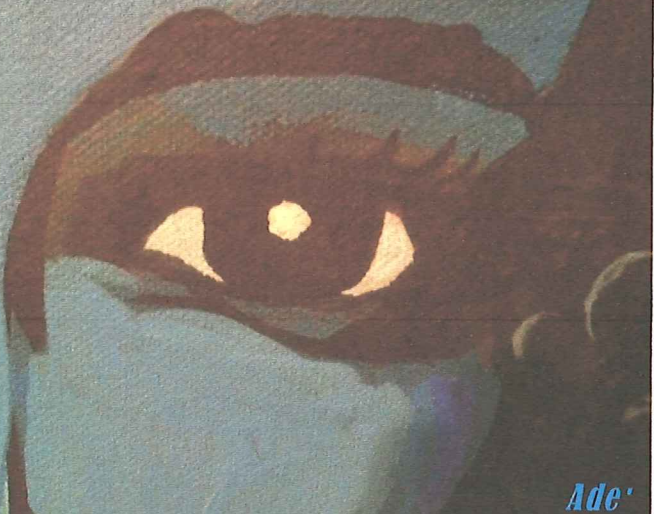


Curator: *Brenda M. Cooper*

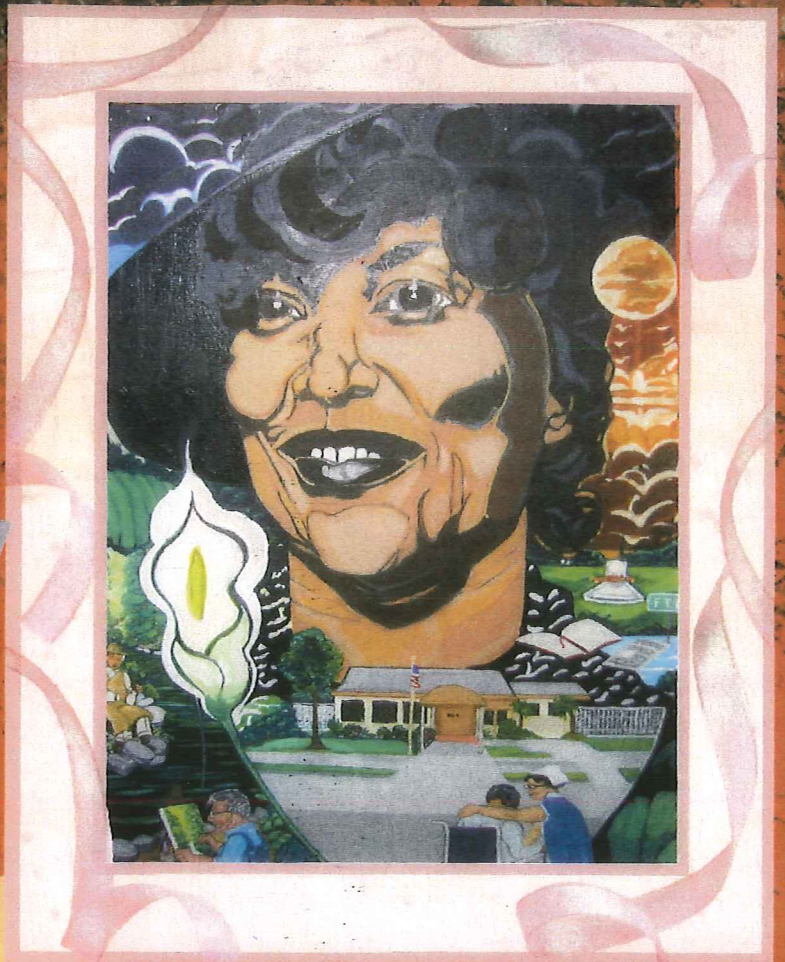
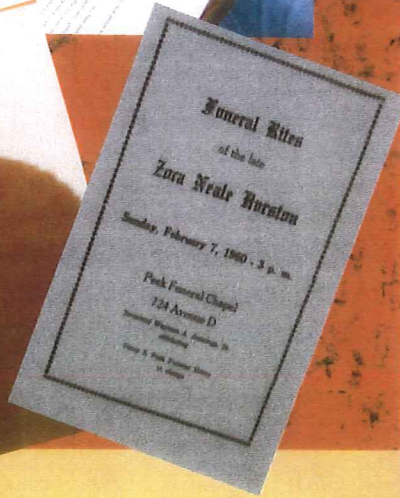
For Information On Zora Exhibit & Sites

Call: 772/332.1220

*"Their Eyes Were Watching God"*



Ade'



January 7, 1891 - January 28, 1960

Born during the time of Jim Crow in Notasulga, Alabama, Zora looked beyond her birth place traveling to Honduras, Haiti, and throughout the Terpentine fields of Florida.

This remarkable brave women captured the hearts and minds of readers everywhere with her novels, plays, articles, and short stories.

Today an exhibit is opened to the community, to celebrate her life and her achèvements.



809 N. 9th Street  
Ft. Pierce Fl. 34950  
772/332-1220