



St. Lucie Historical Society, Inc.
(Established November 18, 1952)
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April 13, 2026

City of Fort Pierce
c/o Audria Moore
Special Projects Coordinator
101 N. US 1
Fort Pierce, FL 34950

Re: World War I Monument Project

Dear Ms. Moore:

The St. Lucie Historical Society has existed for over 75 years and is dedicated to identifying and preserving the history of St. Lucie County. St. Lucie County is very fortunate to have a very significant World War I Memorial and Monument on the grounds of the St. Lucie County Courthouse in downtown Fort Pierce. Shortly after World War I, the Army Corps of Engineers constructed several monuments around the United States that were dedicated to memorializing soldiers who lost their lives during World War I. One of those markers exists on the St. Lucie Courthouse grounds and the names of 19 local soldiers are listed on the monument who lost their lives during World War I.

The monument was clearly constructed by the Army Corps of Engineers because their logo is at the bottom of the monument. The logo represents the City Gate of Verdun France, which was the general location of where the United States began fighting in France during World War I. During World War I, St. Lucie County was larger than it is now as it contained all of Indian River County and portions of Martin and Okeechobee County with a total population of approximately 7,500. Losing 19 local lives during that war was significant, but we know there were actually more local men lost than the named 19 on the monument.

The St. Lucie Historical Society has been hearing rumors that the St. Lucie County Courthouse in Fort Pierce could be moved and that eventually, the grounds might be sold to a private developer. The concern of the Society is that the monument could be lost in the future if it is not properly preserved. At the current time, very few St. Lucie County

officials and residents are aware that the monument exists. For many years, this very nice monument has been hidden in the vegetation on the north side of the courthouse near the Public Defender office.

The St. Lucie Historical Society feels that this monument should be moved from its current location to the new veterans' park on North Indian River Drive where several other monuments have already been moved. We support this move because we feel the monument will be better served and more accessible to the public interested in knowing more about the military heritage of St. Lucie County.

The St. Lucie Historical Society has already made some preliminary contacts to veterans' groups and the DAR, who have expressed keen interest in helping to underwrite the cost of moving the monument to the veterans' park and ensuring that the monument is properly installed and preserved.


The St. Lucie Historical Society has been told that the movement of this monument needs approval by St. Lucie County, possibly the City of Fort Pierce and by the Clerk of Court and possibly the Public Defender.

This time we are requesting the necessary approvals so that we can begin the process of investigating the cost of moving this unique historic monument. The St. Lucie Historical Society wants to make sure this memorial is preserved for future generations, which is the core mission of the Society.

We welcome your response, suggestions and any help that you might wish to furnish in seeing that this memorial is properly preserved.

Very Truly Yours

St. Lucie Historical Society

By 
Nancy Bennett, President

cc: Catherine Barbieri, Esq.