

DOWNTOWN OCALA HISTORIC WALKING TOUR

MARION HOTEL

108 N MAGNOLIA AVE, OCALA, FL 34475

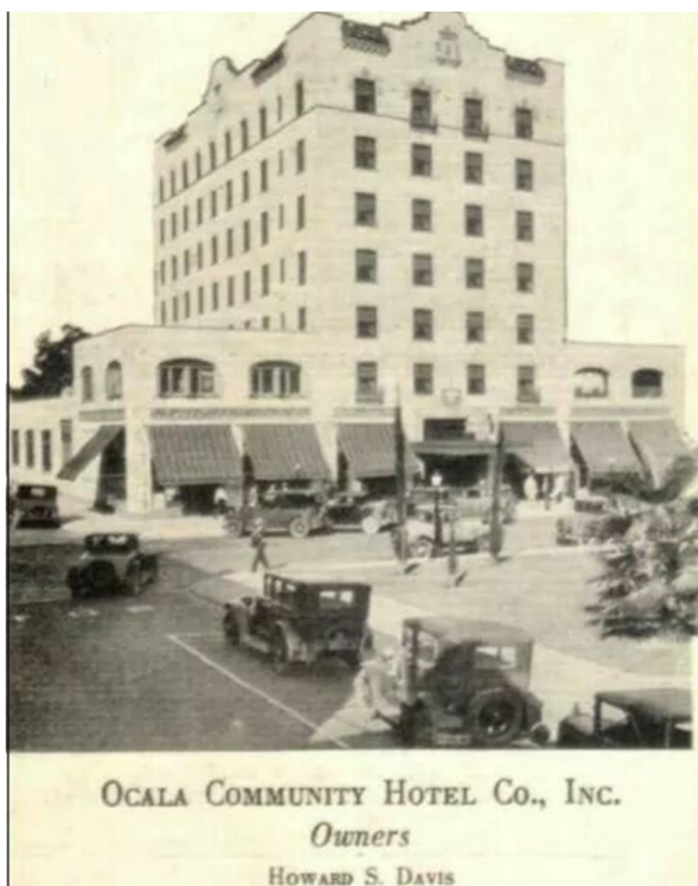
The citizens of Ocala came together to finance the construction of the Marion Hotel in 1927. The costs of the initial construction were financed by the sale of stock certificates sold by the Community Hotel Corporation. They used the slogan, "What Ocala Builds, Builds Ocala." All of the capital was raised in six weeks. The hotel officially opened with a gala celebration in early March, 1927 with 300 people in attendance.

The seven-story, 100 room hotel was built to accommodate Ocala's growing tourism and business. It was Ocala's tallest building for over 60 years and remains one of Ocala's tallest buildings to this day.

The hotel suffered in the 1970s and 1980s, and in the 1990s was converted into office condominiums as the Ocala National Bank building. In 2007, it was renamed the Marion Sovereign Building. Local philanthropists and real estate developer David Midgett began the process to restore the hotel in 2022. He plans to create a fully renovated boutique hotel.



Marion Hotel c.1900



Pamphlet for the Marion Hotel

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A BIG THANK YOU TO THE CITY OF OCALA FOR THEIR SUPPORT AND THE HISTORIC OCALA PRESERVATION SOCIETY FOR HELPING COLLECT ALL THE INFORMATION!