
DOWNTOWN OCALA HISTORIC WALKING TOUR

TURNIPSEED BUILDING

343 NE 1ST AVE, OCALA, FL 34470

Ocala Iron Works was the first business to operate at this site. They had operations here in 1891, and perhaps earlier.

The Turnipseed Building was the first site of Turnipseed Chevrolet. It was originally founded in 1926 and was run by Wilson P. Turnipseed, a prominent Ocala businessman and member of the Ocala City Council. The dealership occupied this site for more than 60 years until they relocated in 1985 to SW College Road. Today the dealership is known as Palm Chevrolet.

After 1985, WMOP radio station occupied the building. Today, The Forge is being built on this site. It is planned to house four restaurants, six bars, and one microbrewery entertainment complex. The Forge will be the first dining and entertainment hub located North of Silver Springs Boulevard in midtown. Its name is a nod to Ocala Iron Works. The Forge includes the WMOP building and two outboard structures on the paved area of the former dealership.



Old Filling Station at Turnipseed Chevrolet



Turnipseed Chevrolet License Plate

A PROJECT BROUGHT TO YOU BY OCALA MAIN STREET AND SPONSORED IN PART BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES AND THE STATE OF FLORIDA



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