## DOWNTOWN OCALA HISTORIC WALKING TOUR

## **GOLDMAN BLOCK**

2 W FORT KING ST, OCALA, FL 34471

Goldman Block was constructed in 1891 as a general merchandise store. Early occupants of the building included the Ocala Commercial & Bazaar Co., who sold general merchandise; Bony & Sutherland, a cigar manufacturer; and an attorney's office.

In 1903, Mercy Hospital was established on the second floor to serve Ocala's black community.

The building was renovated in 1925 to have a more modern exterior façade treatment. When it was renovated, it received a masonry sign at the second level with the inscription "Goldman's Block 1925." Beginning in 1925, it housed Goldman's Furniture Store. Babcock Furniture established their business in the building in 1957.

The original building was demolished in 2020. Builders spent a year trying to save the building, but eventually determined that it was too unsafe. However, it was immediately rebuilt to resemble the original building. The new building is also named Goldman Block. Today, it houses Mellow Mushroom.



Goldman Block c.1940



Golman Block c. 2009

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