

*Preserving and Sharing  
Davenport's History and Heritage*

*Davenport*  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

POLK COUNTY  
— FLORIDA —

Art Credit:  
George Smathers  
Library, UF

[www.davenporthistory.org](http://www.davenporthistory.org)





## Board of Directors

### President

Kathy Blue Linder

[hummerbkat@aol.com](mailto:hummerbkat@aol.com)

### Vice President

Deborah S. Burress

[Deborah.burress@yahoo.com](mailto:Deborah.burress@yahoo.com)

### Recording/Corresponding

#### Secretary

Rachel Castillo-Young

[rcastillo.dhs@yahoo.com](mailto:rcastillo.dhs@yahoo.com)

### Treasurer

Kathy Blue Linder

[hummerbkat@aol.com](mailto:hummerbkat@aol.com)

### Heritage/Research

#### Secretary

Judith Torgersen Thompson

[Jthompson.dhs@gmail.com](mailto:Jthompson.dhs@gmail.com)

### Community Outreach

#### Community Outreach Coordinator/

#### Membership Chairman

Linda Tyler

[863-514-0886](tel:863-514-0886)

#### Coordinator of Marketing and

#### Planned Giving

Cynthia Cook

[Cindyc103@gmail.com](mailto:Cindyc103@gmail.com)

#### Historic Walking Tour Chairman

Billie Sedore

[863-604-5894](tel:863-604-5894)

### Little Free Library/PCLC

#### Steward & Chairman

Frieda Priest

[863-557-3452](tel:863-557-3452)

### Polk County BoCC Liaison/PCHA

#### Heritage Partner Co-Chairman

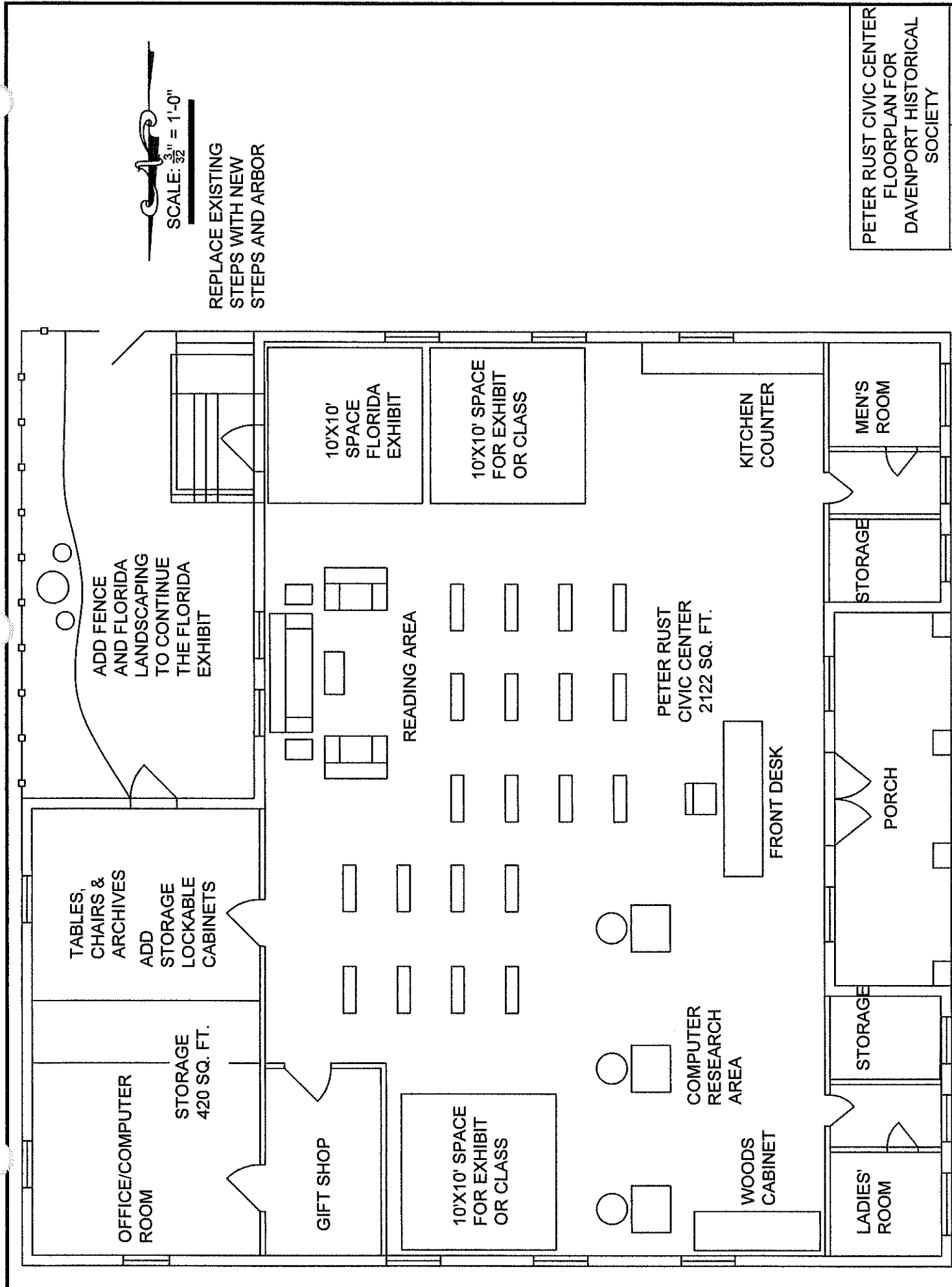
#### Past President DHS

Harriet R. Rust

[quiltsandtea@msn.com](mailto:quiltsandtea@msn.com)

[863-258-7800](tel:863-258-7800)





TABLES,  
CHAIRS &  
ARCHIVES

ADD  
STORAGE  
LOCKABLE  
CABINETS

OFFICE/COMPUTER  
ROOM

STORAGE  
420 SQ. FT.

GIFT SHOP

10'X10' SPACE  
FOR EXHIBIT  
OR CLASS

READING AREA

10'X10'  
SPACE  
FLORIDA  
EXHIBIT

10'X10' SPACE  
FOR EXHIBIT  
OR CLASS

COMPUTER  
RESEARCH  
AREA

PETER RUST  
CIVIC CENTER  
2122 SQ. FT.

WOODS  
CABINET

FRONT DESK

KITCHEN  
COUNTER

STORAGE

LADIES'  
ROOM

PORCH

STORAGE

MEN'S  
ROOM

ADD FENCE  
AND FLORIDA  
LANDSCAPING  
TO CONTINUE  
THE FLORIDA  
EXHIBIT

SCALE:  $\frac{3}{32}" = 1'-0"$

REPLACE EXISTING  
STEPS WITH NEW  
STEPS AND ARBOR

PETER RUST CIVIC CENTER  
FLOORPLAN FOR  
DAVENPORT HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

2/7/2021

JAT





**March 25, 2021**

**City of Davenport City Commission**

**Mayor H.B. Robinson III**

**Vice Mayor Brynn Summerlin**

**1 South Allapaha Avenue**

**Davenport, Florida 33837**

**Commissioner Tom Fellows**

**Commissioner Jeremy Clark**

**Commissioner Bobby Lynch**

**Dear Commissioners:**

**We have previously discussed the use of the Peter Rust Civic Center as the headquarters for the Davenport Historical Society, Inc. (DHS). Our purpose in writing is to provide input requesting a formalized agreement by which a partnership between the City of Davenport and DHS can be reached.**

**The DHS is a 501 ( c ) ( 3 ) organization established in 1997 to preserve the City's history and share its heritage. With the use of the Peter Rust Civic Center, we anticipate the building will be used as presented in the attached outline plan below which will accomplish Davenport's history and heritage goals:**

- **Mobile historic displays**
- **Dedicated artifact space**
- **Florida History Area to accommodate 4th grade school field trips**
- **Registration area for docent led historic district walking tours**
- **Gift shop for sale of books, arts and culture items**
- **Outdoor exhibit area to accommodate Native American Chickee hut, outdoor classroom for lectures and art relating to the history of the area**
- **On line research center with computers for public use with a library of local/national resources**
- **Office**
- **Information station, manned by a volunteer, to distribute brochures and flyers related to the City and Northeast Polk County activities**
- **Archival storage areas for materials used by DHS partners**

In addition to the request for these dedicated spaces, DHS is requesting support from the City of Davenport to provide the following:

- . Telephone connection through the City of Davenport's telephone system
- . Internet connection to the City. DHS website and Emails are already in place
- . Exterior and interior maintenance of Peter Rust Civic Center
- . Utilities
- . Insurance Coverage (the DHS will be responsible for a rider to the city for interior items and also for special events not sponsored by the City)

We anticipate hours of operation for DHS within the Peter Rust Civic Center will be

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday      10:00 am until 4:00 pm

Saturday      10:00 am until 2:00 pm

Monday & Tuesday      Work days

There are no paid employees anticipated at this time for DHS with reliance on member volunteers to operate DHS. There is no admission fee planned for use of the dedicated DHS space for the general public.

Please see attached letters of support and additional information regarding DHS.

Thank you for your willingness to consider this partnership and to support the mission of the DHS. We know that you share our commitment to the preservation of local history and to lives of the residents of the city and beyond. We look forward to further discussion with you as we formalize an agreement that is mutually beneficial.

Sincerely,

Davenport Historical Society, Inc.

Board of Directors