

Spanning one hundred and fifty years, three generations of the Dudley family lived and worked this piece of land which became a significant crossroads community by the 1880s. Dudley Farm represents the evolution of Florida farming from the 1850s to the mid-20th century.

These 18 historic structures make up an authentic farm complex, not a re-creation. In 1983, the last of the third generation, Myrtle Dudley donated her family farm to the Florida Park Service. Today Dudley Farm presents a living history working farm encompassing 325 of the Dudleys' original 640 acres. Crops including field corn, sugar cane and sweet potatoes are cultivated in the old ways using mules.



Dudley Farmhouse 1920s, Myrtle Dudley on right

Dudley relative with livestock; crops in the background



Fannie Dudley at the water tower 1930s

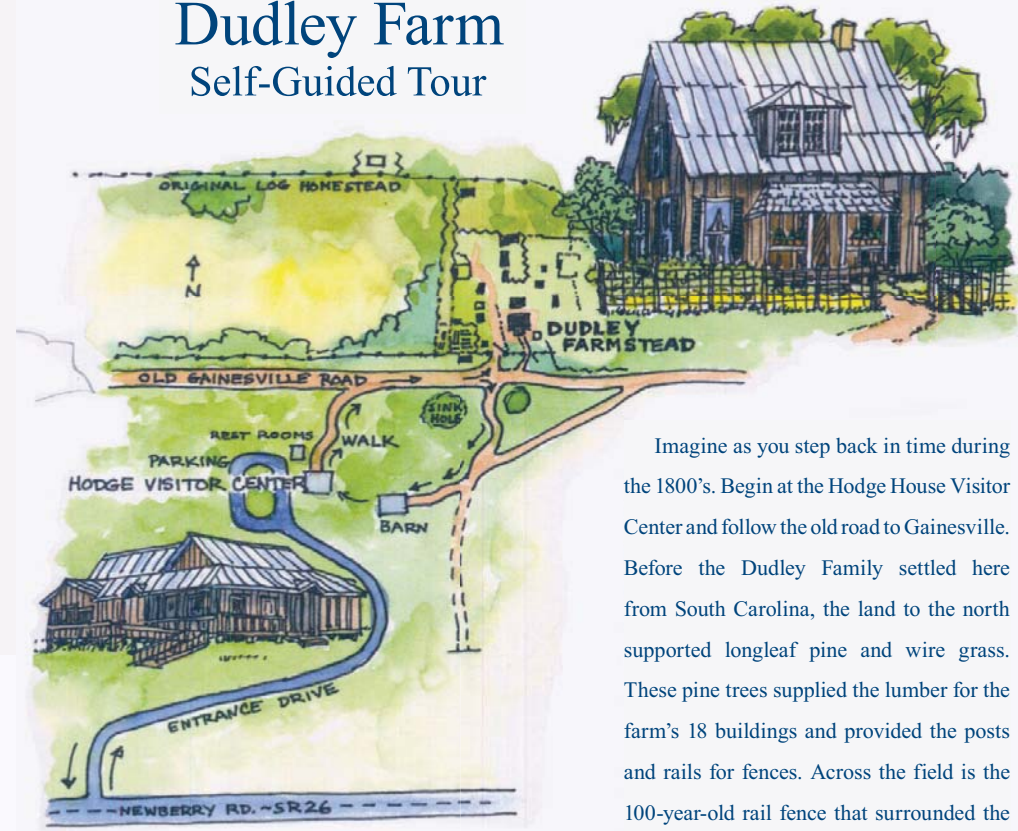
Dudley Farm Historic State Park is open 9 a.m.- 4 p.m. Wednesday - Sunday. Groups need to make reservations at least one month in advance. For information on volunteering or reservations, call (352) 472-1142.

Friends of Dudley Farm is the volunteer Citizen Support Organization established to support the preservation, interpretation, and operation of the farm. Membership information may be obtained by writing to:
P.O. Box 245, Newberry, Florida 32669

Location: 7 miles west of I-75 (Exit 387) on SR 26
18730 W. Newberry Road, Newberry, FL 32669

Illustrations by Kate Barnes

Dudley Farm Self-Guided Tour



Imagine as you step back in time during the 1800's. Begin at the Hodge House Visitor Center and follow the old road to Gainesville. Before the Dudley Family settled here from South Carolina, the land to the north supported longleaf pine and wire grass. These pine trees supplied the lumber for the farm's 18 buildings and provided the posts and rails for fences. Across the field is the 100-year-old rail fence that surrounded the original log home site of Phillip Benjamin Harvey Dudley (P.B.H., Sr.). He established Dudley Farm before the Civil War. His son, P.B.H. Dudley, Jr. developed the 1880s farm that you see today.

The Dudley family in front of the farmhouse, circa 1897.



Dudley Farm Historic State Park



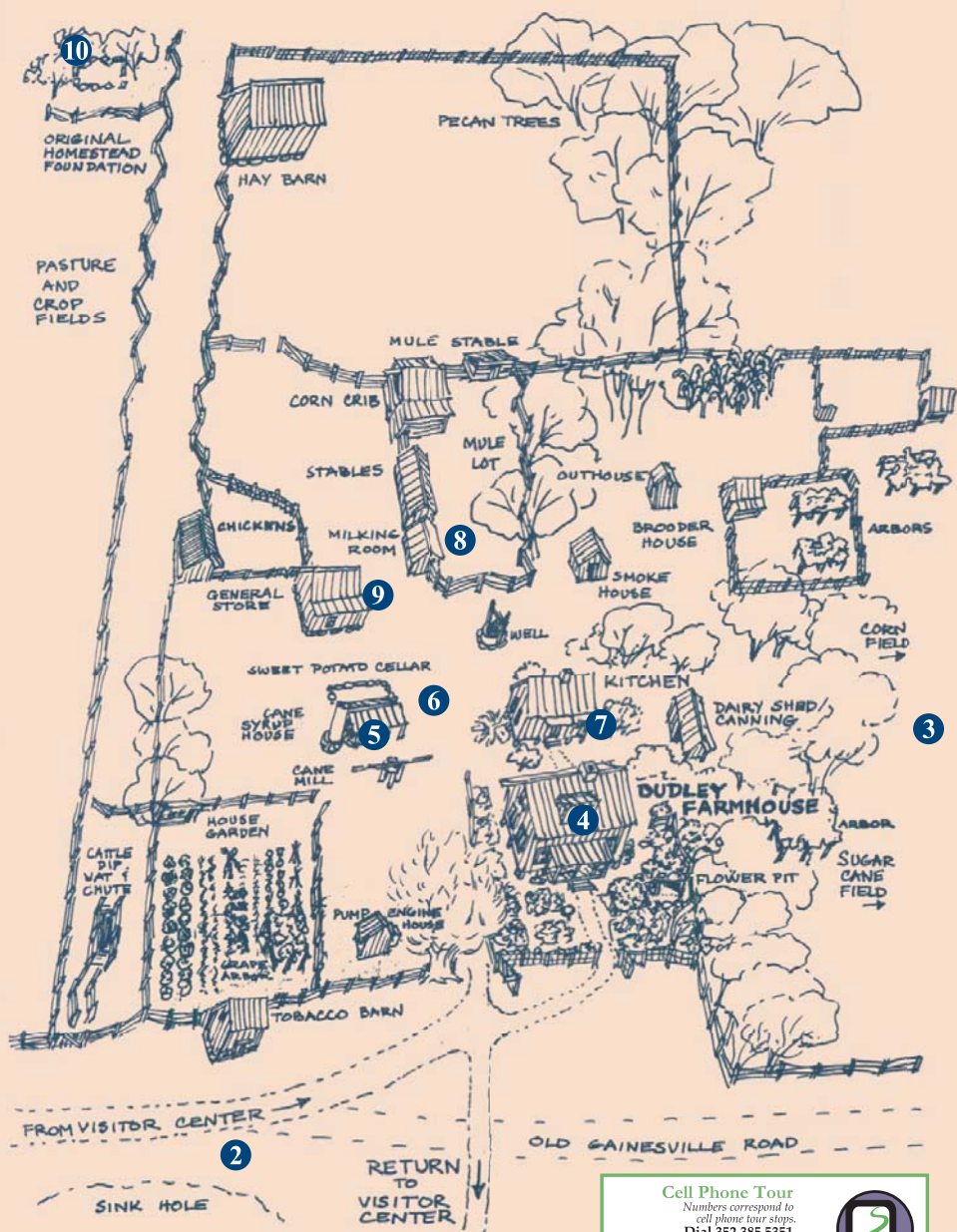
Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Recreations & Parks

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The Cell Phone Tour Program is in partnership with
the City of Gainesville - Parks, Recreation and
Cultural Affairs and Alachua County.

Cell Phone Tour
Available
(See page 2 for instructions)





1 Visitor Center

Cell Phone Tour
 Numbers correspond to
 cell phone tour stops.
 Dial 352.385.5351.
 Followed by the tour stop
 number and the # symbol.



Standard cell phone charges apply.

THE DUDLEY FARMHOUSE was built by P.B.H. (Ben) Dudley, Jr. in the 1880s for a family of fourteen (8 girls and 4 boys). The Georgian style architecture consists of four rooms symmetrically arranged around a central hall. The kitchen was separate.



THE 1880s KITCHEN and dining room were built separate from the farmhouse because of the heat and fire hazard of cooking on a wood stove.

THE FLOWER PIT was built by sisters Myrtle and Winnie Dudley with brother Ralph. The southern exposure provided winter protection for potted plants and bulbs. Roses were planted in the front yard. The side and back yards were more utilitarian in nature, with fruit and nut trees, grape arbors and work areas.

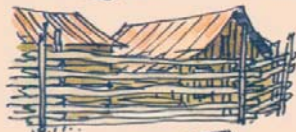


THE DAIRY SHED/CANNING HOUSE provided an area for women's work that included making butter and cottage cheese; canning farm produce, and doing the laundry.

THE SMOKE HOUSE was important as a means of preserving hog meat. The Dudleys butchered hogs after a hard freeze.



THE CHICKEN HOUSES were built to house the 600 hens that Myrtle and Winnie Dudley raised for their chicken business in the 1930s. The brooder house was built for raising baby chicks.



THE MULE LOT AND STABLES were enclosed by split rail fence. **THE HAY BARN** consisted of two rooms and a hay loft where hay, fodder, and grains such as corn, oats, and rye were stored.



THE GENERAL STORE was originally located on the road just outside the front gate. Grits, tobacco, cloth, smoked meats, canned vegetables, hardware goods, and farming supplies were sold. The store also served as a post office for 15-20 families.

THE SWEET POTATO CELLAR stored the sweet potato crop, which was hauled in by the two horse wagon load, then layered with pine straw. Over the lime rock foundation was an A-frame structure with a shingle roof.



THE SYRUP HOUSE COMPLEX was the site for sugar cane syrup making in the fall; hog butchering and scalding in the winter; and lard processing and lye soap-making. The cane mill was powered by a mule or horse grinding the sugar cane into juice.