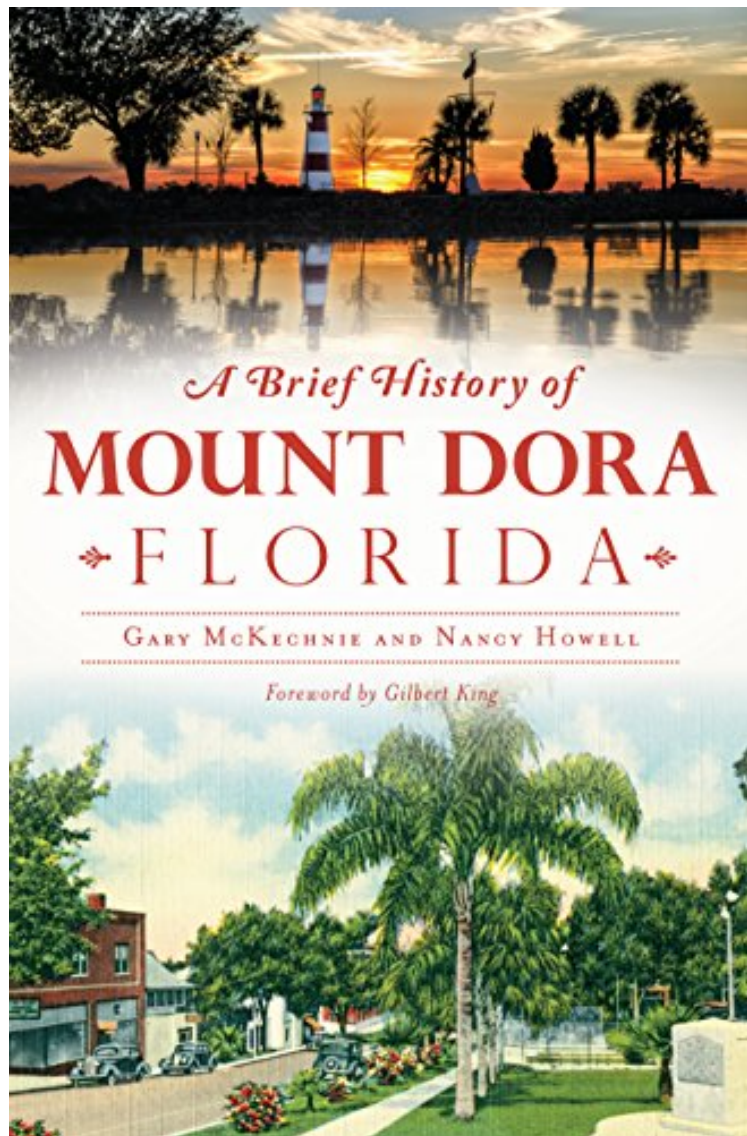


[FREE] A Brief History of Mount Dora, Florida

A Brief History of Mount Dora, Florida

Gary McKechnie, Nancy Howell

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Mount Dora is known for its southern charm and New England look, yet its history is just as engaging. The "Festival City" began with the arrival of pioneer families such as the Drawdys, Simpsons and Tremains. In the 1880s, it became

a popular destination for Chautauqua events, when visitors gathered beside Lake Gertrude and Lake Dora for educational and cultural enrichment. In the twentieth century, Mount Dora weathered economic setbacks and racial conflict before becoming a premier city of the arts. Today, this beautiful lakefront community welcomes thousands of visitors to its numerous festivals, events and active shopping village. Join authors Gary McKechnie and Nancy Howell as they celebrate the intriguing history of their town.

About the Author Nancy Howell is a former television producer and on-air personality who currently owns and operates the Coconut Cottage Inn BB and runs Mount Dora Productions with her husband, Gary McKechnie. She also serves as the executive director of the Mount Dora Music Festival and has volunteered extensively throughout the community for many years. Her service on numerous local boards, committees and organizations has left an immense impact on the historical and cultural legacy of Mount Dora. Gary McKechnie is a former stand-up comedian, improv actor and author of the nations best-selling motorcycle guidebook, Great American Motorcycle Tours. He has written for National Geographic, Walt Disney World, Fodors, Rand McNally, People, Washington Post, Chicago Tribune, Atlanta Constitution, Orlando Sentinel, Miami Herald and many more. McKechnie also lectures on American travel, culture and music aboard the Queen Mary 2, Queen Victoria and the ships of Seabourn and Silversea.