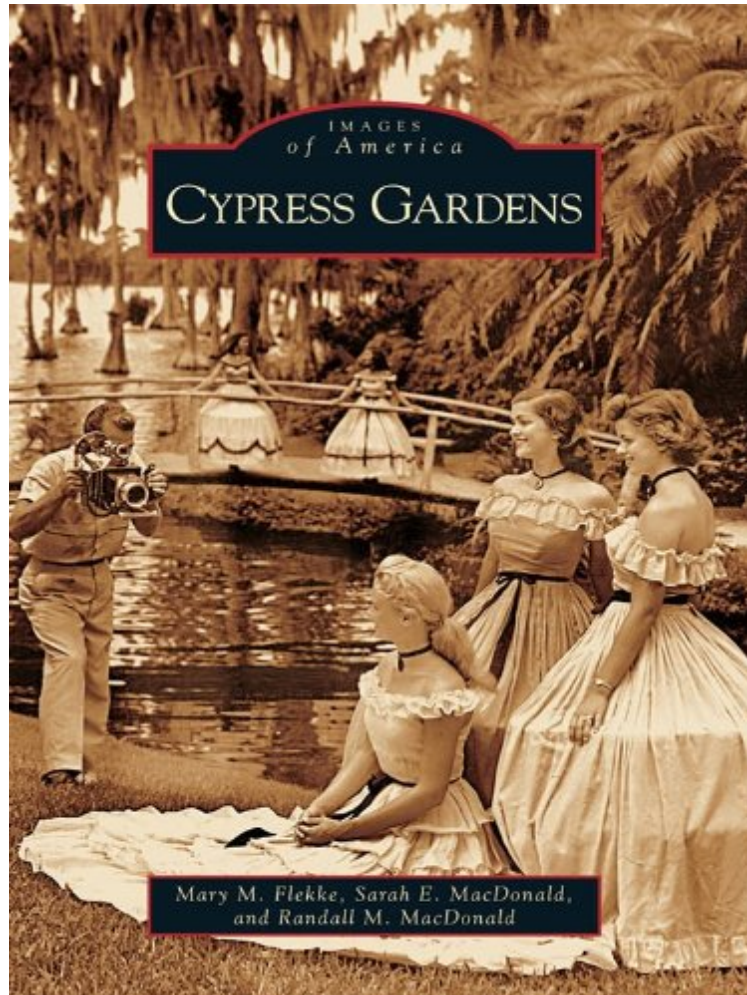


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Cypress Gardens (Images of America)

Mary M. Flekke, Sarah E. MacDonald, Randall M. MacDonald
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Mary M. Flekke, Sarah E. MacDonald, Randall M. MacDonald : Cypress Gardens (Images of America) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Cypress Gardens (Images of America):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Cypress gGardensBy Shelia WadeCypress Gardens has been a great party of my adult years. My dad Alvin (BUD) Ellis worked there for 30 years all total. He started out in gardening and Mr and Mrs Pope found our he was a Police Officer in Indiana they put him in charge of Security. Daddy loved the gardens. We came down from Indiana every years and our kids loved it. With grandpa working there our kids were known by first name, made the rally feel good. Especially when Santa Clause was dodging over them so much. I miss Cypress Garden, wonderful memories.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great book.By E M VicenteI bought it for my mother and she has enjoyed it. I like looking at the historical pictures of a wonderful park we used to visit often.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Another view of FloridaBy Carol HendersonA wonderful

book. Interesting pictures and well-researched information. Here you can trace the beginning and development of one of the quintessential Florida attractions and how it became symbolic of the whole state. It is also fun to learn how dear Cypress Gardens has been and is to the residents of Winter Haven.

Florida's first theme park, Cypress Gardens, was the brainchild of Richard Downing Dick" Pope Sr. With his wife, Julie Downing Pope, he transformed a marshy, lakeside property in Winter Haven into a magnificent garden. The park's first visitors in 1936 toured pathways surrounded by lush plants from around the world. Two years later, electric boats meandered through the park's winding, hand-dug canals. Water ski shows commenced in 1942, and the park became the "Water Ski Capital of the World." The Florida-shaped Esther Williams Swimming Pool still graces the shore of Lake Eloise. The park was a set for dozens of short feature films, a stage for beauty pageants, and a site for special television broadcasts. A butterfly garden, zoo, rides, and the small-town Southern Crossroads shopping and dining area remain popular features. Kent Buescher purchased Cypress Gardens in 2004, and today's expanded Cypress Gardens Adventure Park preserves the family-friendly appeal of Dick and Julie Pope's magnificent park."

Title: Florida's First Theme Park, Cypress Gardens Author: Roland Hopkins Publisher: Carousel News and TraderDate: 4/26/09The historic Cypress Gardens in Winter Haven, FL, is saying so long to all of its amusement park rides. The zoo animals also will be removed as the park owners cite operating and maintenance costs and the inability to compete with nearby Disney World and other parks. The owners are assuring loyal fans of the park, considered Florida's oldest theme park opening in 1936, that the park will re-open in the spring, that the gardens and waterski shows will remain, and the zoo and rides will be replaced with a new water park. While the park is closed for renovations we thought you might enjoy a brief look at some of the history of the park, which now includes the rides as, courtesy of Arcadia Publishing's Images of America Cypress Gardens. BOOK REVIEW: Images of America - Cypress Gardens By Mary M. Flekke, Sarah E. MacDonald, and Randall M. MacDonald Florida's first theme park, Cypress Gardens, was the brainchild of Richard Downing Dick" Pope, Sr. With his wife, Julie Downing Pope, he transformed a marshy, lakeside property in Winter Haven, FL, into a magnificent garden. The park's first visitors in 1936 toured pathways surrounded by lush plants from around the world. Two years later, electric boats meandered through the park's winding, hand-dug canals. Water ski shows commenced in 1942, and the park became the "Water Ski Capital of the World." The Florida-shaped Esther Williams Swimming Pool still graces the shore of Lake Eloise. The park was a set for dozens of short and feature films, a stage for beauty pageants, and a site for special television broadcasts. A butterfly garden, zoo, rides, and the small-town Southern Crossroads shopping and dining area have been part of the park through the years. Kent Buescher purchased Cypress Gardens in 2004, and today's expanded Cypress Gardens Adventure Park preserves the family-friendly appeal of Dick and Julie Pope's magnificent park. Authors Mary M. Flekke, Sarah E. MacDonald, and Randall M. MacDonald are long-time Cypress Gardens visitors. Drawn from the park's archives, the authors' collections, and area libraries, these images trace the development and life of Florida's iconic roadside attraction and celebrate those who make Cypress Gardens memorable. Images of America - Cypress Gardens can be purchased at local and national bookstores or can be purchased at www.arcadiapublishing.com. About the Author Mary M. Flekke, Sarah E. MacDonald, and Randall M. MacDonald are longtime Cypress Gardens visitors. Drawn from the park's archives, the authors' collections, and area libraries, these images trace the development and life of Florida's iconic roadside attraction and celebrate those who make Cypress Gardens memorable.