

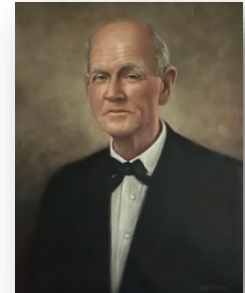


# *Quincy Garden Center* HISTORY

204 EAST JEFFERSON STREET, QUINCY, FLORIDA 32351

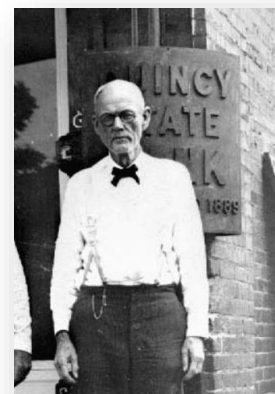
850.627.2437

The Quincy Garden Center is located in the Historic "Pat Munroe House", built in 1893 by Mark "Pat" Munroe and his wife, Edith Adelaide Walker Munroe. In 1974, John Bates, a grandson of Pat and Edith Munroe, purchased the property and donated the house and grounds to the City of Quincy for the cultural benefit of the people of the community. The Munroe House has since served as the Quincy Garden Center since 1975 and is currently maintained by the members of the Garden Club.



When the house was built, Mr. Munroe wanted a functional house to accommodate his large family. He had the home built with heart pine in a simple unadorned style. The house has outstanding features such as stained-glass windows, ornate mantels and plaster ceiling medallions. The property on which the house sits consists of approximately one-half a city block, and it is enclosed on the south side by a white picket fence just as it was in the early days of the twentieth century. The yard is landscaped with azaleas, camellias, magnolias and live oaks. The descendants of Mark Welch Munroe, Jr. and Ruth Bailey Munroe have recently enclosed the large backyard with a brick fence, patio and pergola to enhance the backyard for weddings and entertaining.

Mr. Mark "Pat" Munroe, a prominent Quincy businessman, was President of The Quincy State Bank for fifty years. This bank was the first state-chartered bank in Florida. Mr. Munroe's father, William Munroe, emigrated from Inverness, Scotland in 1836 to join an older brother, Dr. Thomas Munroe, in North Florida. Mr. Munroe single-handedly helped the town survive the Great Depression. He is credited as advising his neighbors to invest in the Coca-Cola Company early on, leading Quincy to become the richest town per capita in the United States for a time. You can read more about the Coca-Cola millionaires of Quincy by visiting: <https://www.floridamemory.com/items/show/324844>.



Mr. Munroe was the head of a large family. He first married Edith Adelaide Walker, the sister of one of his Emory University classmates. They had ten children before her death in 1896. He married for the second time in 1912. His second wife was Mary Frances Gray,



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and eight children were born from this marriage. Mr. Munroe died in 1940. His widow continued to live in the house until her death in 1972.

In October 2008, the house was dedicated as a historic home and placed on the State of [Florida Registry of Historic Homes](#).

As Garden Club members, we are proud to have such a lovely and historic home. This house represents the beauty and graciousness of Quincy and provides a special setting for many civic and social functions in our city.

If you are interested in membership, please call us at 850-627-2437 or email us at [quincygardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:quincygardenclub@gmail.com).