

LDR 03386nkm^^22003973a^4500
001 SF70000042_00001
005 20080716212606.0
006 m^^^^^o^^c^^^^^^^^
007 cr^^n^---ma^mp
008 041116n^^^^^^^^^xx^nnn^^^^^^^^^o^^^^neng^d
024 8 |a D20-007
040 |a FUG |c FUG
245 00 |a A View of the Tampa Bay Hotel on the Hillsborough River with the hotel's
Plant Park in the foreground. |h [electronic resource].
260 |c 1900.
300 |a 1 photograph (20 x 25 cm)
|a When Henry B. Plant brought the railroad to Tampa in 1884, he opened the
door for many businesses to locate and flourish here. The railroad was at the
center of the city's economy. From downtown it went to Port Tampa where one
could board a Plant steamship to Jamaica, Cuba, New Orleans, Bermuda or other
destinations. A spur of the rail line brought the train up to the west front of the
hotel so guests could depart the train and walk directly into the lobby. The Tampa
Bay Hotel cost approximately 2.5 million dollars to build and \$500,000 to furnish.
Consisting of 511 rooms, some of which were suites of 3-7 rooms, it provided a
degree of luxury never before seen in Tampa. Most of the rooms had their own
baths and all had electricity and telephones. In addition, guests were surrounded
by a varied collection of furniture, porcelains, Venetian-style mirrors, and
500 sculptures gathered by Mr. and Mrs. Plant in their travels in Europe. The Tampa
Bay Hotel opened in 1891 amid wide fanfare and celebration. Henry Plant's dream
was now a reality. The newspapers of the day described it as "brightly
illuminated, filled with sumptuous decorations, thrilling music and graced with
turrets, domes and minarets towering heavenward and glistening in the sun." It
was a Victorian palace. The hotel was a lively place with balls, tea parties, and
organized hunts during the winter social season. It was open seasonally from
December to April in the 1890's. Once a guest arrived at the hotel, he needed to be
entertained. Guests went wild game hunting as well as fresh and salt-water
fishing. Water sports were also included like sailing, rowing, and canoeing. For
the less adventuresome, there were bicycles, carriages, and rickshaws to ride you
around the property. The hotel also offered golf, tennis, shuffleboard, billiards,
and even a racetrack.
506 |a All rights reserved. 2005.
|a Electronic reproduction. |c University of South Florida, |d 2004. |f (University
533 of Florida Digital Collections) |f (dLOC) |f (Florida History & Heritage) |f
(Florida Photographs)|n Mode of access: World Wide Web. |n System

requirements: Internet connectivity; Web browser software.

535 1 |a University of South Florida, Tampa FLorida, Special Collection.
536 |a Funded in part by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS),
Ephemeral Cities Project.

650 7 |a Hotel (Building, Structures). |2 nmc
650 7 |a Tampa Bay Hotel (West Lafayette and Hyde Park Avenue). |2 nmc
650 7 |a Hotels. |2 lctgm
650 7 |a Minarets. |2 lctgm
650 7 |a Historic parks. |2 lctgm
650 7 |a Plant Park (West Lafayette Street opp Hyde Park Avenue). |2 lctgm
650 7 |a Rivers. |2 lctgm
650 7 |a Hillsborough River. |2 lctgm
650 7 |a Piers and wharves. |2 lctgm
700 |a Burgert Brothers, |d 1917-. |4 pht
752 |a United States of America |b Florida |c Hillsborough County |d Tampa.
830 0 |a University of Florida Digital Collections.
830 0 |a dLOC.
830 0 |a Florida History & Heritage.
830 0 |a Florida Photographs.
856 40 |u <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/SF70000042/00001> |y Electronic Resource