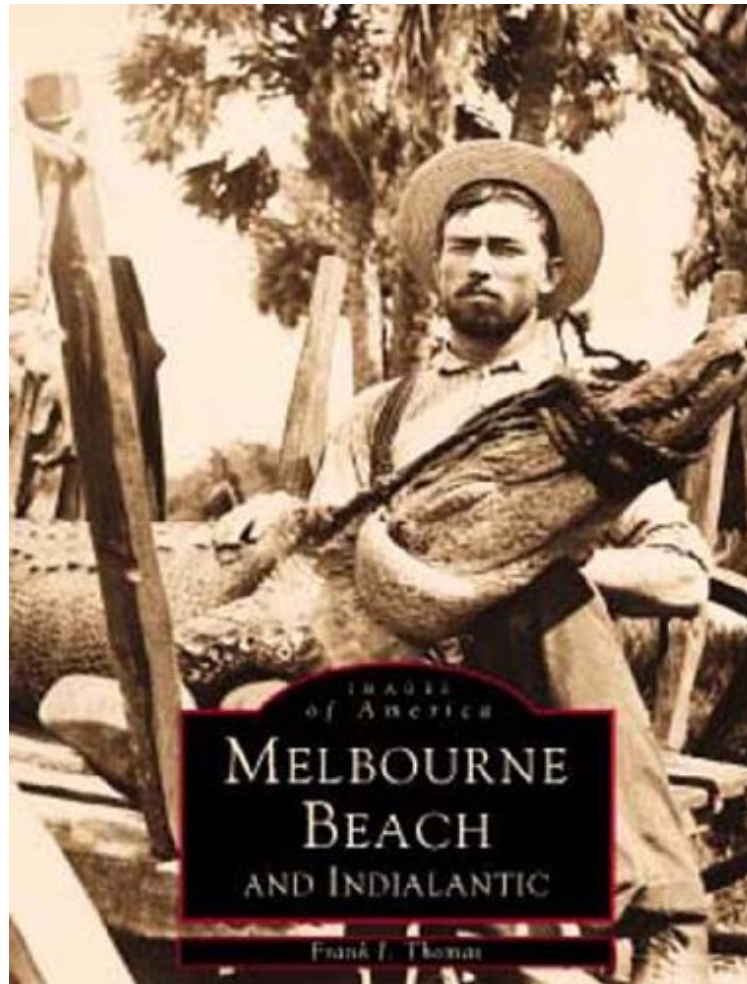


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Melbourne Beach and Indialantic (Images of America: Florida)

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Southward, along the east coast of Florida, stretches a series of long, palmetto-covered islands that beat back the thundering surf of the Atlantic Ocean. Located about midway on this coast, between the Indian Atlantic Bridge in the north and Sebastian Inlet in the south, is the community of Melbourne Beach. Since the historic arrival of Juan Ponce de Leon in the New World on April 2, 1513, at a site now believed to be within the bounds of Melbourne Beach, the area has experienced more than four centuries of progress, struggle, and success. Discover within these pages how the area's residents have made Melbourne Beach the strong and vital community it is today through a fascinating compilation of stories and recollections. Meet such colorful residents as bean farmer R.T. Smith, who had *In Beans I Trust* printed on his stationery, and the forward-thinking real estate developer Ernest Kouwen-Hoven.

About the Author This photographic record tells the story of Melbourne Beach from its earliest Ais Indian inhabitants to the individuals who helped the town grow and prosper during Florida's boom. With images drawn from his personal collection of photographs, postcards, and memorabilia, resident and historian Frank J. Thomas has created a wonderful tour of Melbourne Beach through the years. Its charm and vibrant past as chronicled in this book are sure to entertain and inform both longtime residents and visitors.