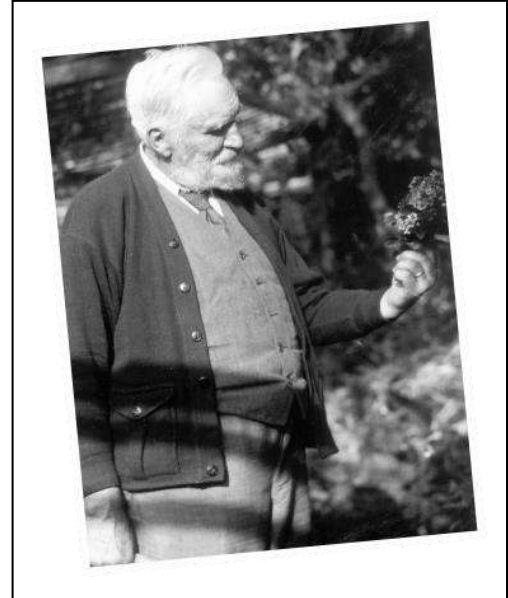


A Once-Famous Man's Garden, in the neighborhood.



From CharacterTowns.com...The relevance of Nehrling Gardens to small cities and towns is that an important individual is celebrated at a place associated with his work. Nehrling Gardens is "old Florida" and the non-profit owners have an educational, historic and horticultural mission...all adding character to the community.



Upcoming Events

Saturday Open Day and Kids Workshop

Sat. Sep 11, 2021

Free Kids Workshop – Pinwheels for Peace

Sat. Sep 11, 2021

Annual Events

Owl Prowl – Art & Wine Wander

Sat. Oct 23, 2021

10th Annual Holiday Amaryllis Festival

Sat. Dec 11, 2021

A **Once-Famous Man's Garden**, in the neighborhood.

Rehabilitating Dr. Nehrling's Historic Gotha Home and Gardens.

Historic Preservation

By preserving this historic home and gardens, we preserve the legacy of Henry Nehrling while inspiring new generations to understand and respect Florida's history.

Horticultural Education

At these original testing grounds of Dr. Nehrling, we continue to research the historic plant genome and educate others on how to incorporate horticulture into daily lives.

Environmental Conservation

Nehrling Gardens is dedicated to establishing an understanding and appreciation of the Florida environment and the responsibilities associated with preserving it.

THIS SITE IS LISTED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

LINK: <https://nehrlinggardens.org/>

Henry Nehrling

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



Portrait c. 1903

A Once-Famous Man's Garden, in the neighborhood.

Henry Nehrling (May 9, 1853 – November 22, 1929, [Herman, Wisconsin](#)) was an [ornithologist](#) and [horticulturist](#).^[1] He developed an interest in nature during hikes to and from school. He was educated at the Teachers' Seminary in [Addison, Illinois](#),^[1] and worked in various states as a teacher so that he could study a wider variety of birds.^[2] In 1890 he became Custodian of the [Milwaukee Public Museum](#)^{[2][3]} where he collected plant specimens for their greenhouse. He also served as the superintendent of the parks in Milwaukee.^[4]

Prior to his retirement, Nehrling had become interested in Florida and bought land in [Gotha](#) in 1884,^[2] and maintained a garden there, naming it [Palm Cottage Gardens](#). At Palm Cottage Nehrling experimented with over three thousand species of plants, trees, shrubs and vines. Three hundred of those became staples in the landscape of Florida.^[4] After a freeze in 1917 killed most of his plants, he relocated to [Naples, Florida](#) and started a new garden there.^[2] Nehrling named his second garden, H. Nehrling's Tropical Garden and Arboretum. At Naples, Nehrling carried on his pioneering work, he grew, hybridized, and popularized many exotic plants for the general public. [Caladiums](#), [palms](#), [bamboo](#) and [Hippeastrums](#) (the latter commonly and erroneously referred to as 'amaryllis') were all introduced to the [United States](#) by way of his [Palm Cottage Gardens](#). He established a strong friendship with [Theodore Luqueer Mead](#) of nearby [Oviedo, Florida](#) and they collaborated on many plant experiments.

Nehrling died on November 22, 1929 and was laid to rest in the Gotha Cemetery. His Naples garden was preserved as the Jungle Larry's Caribbean Gardens, now the [Naples Zoo](#).

In 2009, The Henry Nehrling Society, purchased Nehrling's home and gardens in Gotha.

Implications for small cities and towns: Use what you have to create interest and character. In the case of Nehrling Gardens, the man was famous, world-renowned; yet generally unknown in his adopted hometown. The community rescued his garden and offers it to the community, to school kids and to posterity.

LINK: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Nehrling