

The 1978 pamphlet entitled "St. Armands Circle" notes that Ken Thompson, Sarasota's longtime city manager, while visiting San Simeon, the California estate of William Randolph Hearst, happened upon lighting fixtures around the pool. The design is based on a limestone relief of the Greek head - Winged Victory - at the Ringling Museum. A Tampa company cast the double-headed statue in caryatid style from the design & the lamps were installed on the Circle Park in the mid-1960s.



Adopted by City of Sarasota; Cast concrete

College of Art & Design. The sculptor was Ethelia Patmagran of the Ringling St. Armands Key & its famed Circle. Bust dates to 1986. It was John Ringling's vision that led to the creation of the pool. The design is based on a limestone relief of the Greek head - Winged Victory - at the Ringling Museum. A Tampa company cast the double-headed statue in caryatid style from the design & the lamps were installed on the Circle Park in the mid-1960s.



Adopted by Denise Mathys; Bronze

Original in the Louvre, Paris. Borghese family members were prominent art collectors who owned this work which was found in the city of Antium in the 17th Century AD. The warrior is depicted as he protects himself from attack with his shield (at one time attached to the arm guard on left arm). Also by Chiruzzi Foundry. **



by Agostino (c. 170 - 86 BC); Bronze

Diana, born in Delos, just before her brother Apollo; was the Goddess of the Hunt & was considered the queen of the wild animal kingdom as she was often accompanied by wild beasts. Roman adaptation after an original created circa 330 BC by Leochares (?). Louvre, Paris. ***



("Diana of Versailles"); Marble

Shows moment of rest between the athlete's backward swing & unwinding forward motion, combining the appearance of movement with classical formalism. Presents the ideal representation of a youthful athletic body. Museo Nazionale Romano. By Chiruzzi Foundry, Naples, Italy. **



Adopted by Jean & Morton Garmann; Bronze (Discus Thrower); by Myron (c. 460 BC)

Start tour at St. Armands (Harding) Circle Park

A Walking Guide To The Harding (St. Armands) Circle Historic District

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places



Dionysus (Bacchus), the god of wine, represents both the intoxicating power of wine & its social & beneficial influences. **



Adopted by Carolyn Michel & Howard Millman; Limestone & Shell

Michelangelo was an Italian Renaissance painter, sculptor, poet architect, & engineer. His versatility in these disciplines was of such a high order that he's often considered a contender for the title Renaissance man, along with his rival & fellow Italian Leonardo da Vinci. **



Adopted by Joanna & Jim Grace, Mary Adland, MD & Richard Guinn, Edward & Betty Levi; Marble

E-Asclepius (God of Medicine; wife Ioon McCallister & Ed Pinto)
F-Bounty (Lynches Pub & Grub)
G-Water (Amphritrite, wife of Neptune (Sandra Bower))



A-Music (Ioon McCallister & Ed Pinto)
B-Flora (Officer D. Franklin, Wm. & Connie Shey, Ethna & Sherri Kelloway)
C-Learning (Aristotle (Mrs & Marty Rappoport))
D-Sculpture (St. Armands Circle Association)



6. Allegory of Sarasota - Its Seven Virtues (Sarasota's Seven Virtues (with their adopters ** ** *); Marble; ©2007; Created and designed by Edward Pinto)

John Ringling Boulevard (Head east from Circle)

See why we're known as Florida's Cultural Coast®

Sarasota County hosts an eclectic variety of cultural activities to delight your inner connoisseur. Admire the rich scenes of the Renaissance at The Ringling Museum of Art, applaud as the cobalt blue curtains open at the Sarasota Opera House and stroll among the artisan shops and these amazing white marble statues on St. Armands Circle. From ballet to blues, the arts of Sarasota County will bring you to a standing ovation.



LONGBOAT KEY | SARASOTA | LIDO KEY | SIESTA KEY | VENICE CASEY KEY | MANASOTA KEY | ENGLEWOOD | NORTH PORT

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** Purchased by John Ringling in the 1920s. *** Purchased by Save Our Statues (SOS) in 2007.

If you witness vandalism in progress relative to our statues, please call the St. Armands Police Patrol @ 941-915-1720.



Adopted by Bob & Judy Gustafson; Sandstone with Shells*
12. Children with Lamb & Melon

Continue on N. Adams Drive to N. Blvd. of the Presidents. Head south to St. Armands Circle & you will see:



Cast Concrete
 Symbol of Florence, as sculpted by Donatello. **
11. Standing Male

N. Adams & turn right (north) to Madison Dr. Head back west on John Ringling Blvd. to

The Three Graces are the daughters of Zeus & Eurynome (his 1st wife); Euphrosyne (Beauty), Aglaea (Charm) & Thalia (Joy) & were thought to be in the service of Venus. There are 2 originals by Canova (1810-1817), one in the Hermitage, the other shared by the Victoria and Albert Museum & the National Galleries of Scotland. Canova led a return to classical style & it's considered to represent a standard of beauty: one that is fitting for the entrance to St. Armands. ***



Adopted by Joan McCallister & Ed Pinto; Entrance Sign adopted by St. Armands Residents Association; Marble
10. The Three Graces, ©2007



Adopted by Mayor Lou Ann Palmer & Commissioner Ken Shelin; Marble
 Symbol of Florence, as sculpted by Donatello. **
9. Marzocco (Lion & Shield)

John Ringling's Vision for St. Armands

John Ringling's travels to the Renaissance cities of Italy inspired his vision of a people friendly place with a central park, broad boulevards, elegant shops and restaurants, beautiful homes, classical statues, pink sidewalks, & lush landscaping.

The Renaissance owed its inspiration to classical Greek & Roman art—art that had beauty as a defining characteristic.

Classical sculpture combined the realistic portrayal of individual beauty & the humanistic aspects of idealized beauty. The Greeks & Romans portrayed their gods as flesh & blood humans. In 1927 John Ringling recreated this beauty on St. Armands.

The Save Our Statues (SOS) project's goal is the preservation of the statues John Ringling purchased in the 1920s. Twenty-one new statues were added in 2007 to enhance his legacy. Two ("Flora" & "Sculpture" at #6) are copies of Ringling era statues in the collection of the Ringling Museum. The new statues evoke attributes of St. Armands & Sarasota.

The St. Armands Residents Association along with the City of Sarasota, Ringling Museum, St. Armands Circle Association, the St. Armands Business Improvement District, the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, & many of the residents & businesses of St. Armands & the surrounding area undertook the Save Our Statues initiative in 2007.

Artistic guidance and installation provided by Jean Lang, Howard Garnitz, Papo Cobian, Jon Dowd and Carl Lamparter, with in-kind services provided by Lovin Construction & Florida Power Solutions.





13. Marzocco

(Lion & Shield)

Adopted by Jill & Bill Rex and Carol & Robert Bergs; Marble

Symbol of Florence, as sculpted by Donatello**



14. Athena Holding Shield

Adopted by Nonie & Roger Slaalien, and Betty and Edward Levi; Sandstone

Athena, the Greek goddess of wisdom, the arts & industry, was the favorite child of Zeus. To help Perseus kill Medusa, Athena took off her shield of polished bronze & gave it to him. She warned him to use it as a mirror so as to avoid the direct sight of Medusa which could turn a man into stone. Perseus killed Medusa & used the severed head to kill a sea serpent & save the beautiful Andromeda. He gave the head to Athena who mounted it on her shield.**



15. Venus de' Medici

Adopted by Jeff & Doris Plunkett; Marble

A traditional representation of Venus (Aphrodite), it's a life-sized marble sculpture depicting the goddess of love & beauty. Original is a 1st century B.C. marble copy, perhaps from Athens, of a bronze Greek sculpture, following the type of the Aphrodite of Cnidos.***



16. Venus at her bath

Adopted by Aimee Carlson; Sandstone

Traditional representation of Venus bathing.**



17. Neptune, ©2007

Adopted by Judith Zuckerberg & George Kole; Marble

Neptune with fish at his feet. Neptune was the Roman god of the sea & second in power to Jupiter. Neptune ruled with violent fits of temper & fury sparking tempests. His trident launched thunderbolts.***



18. Columbus

Marble

Depicts Columbus with his hand resting on a globe, which is resting on a chart or scroll (perhaps signifying a map or the commission he received from Queen Isabella). These both rest on a support, which has an anchor & sailing ship in bas relief.**



19. Dionysus (Bacchus)

Adopted by Duane & Barbie Henderson; Marble

Dionysus, the god of wine, represents both the intoxicating power of wine & its social & beneficial influences.***



20. Apollo Belvedere

Marble

A Roman copy in marble of the Greek original by Leochares c.4th BC that was rediscovered in the late 15th century. It epitomized the ideals of classical antiquity for Europeans from the Renaissance through the 19th century. Apollo is associated with the arts of music & medicine, & for his role as the leader of the Muses establishing him as a patron of intellectual pursuits. Museo Pio Clementino.***



21. Birth of Venus

Adopted by Dona & Tom Blake; Marble

Depicts the birth of Venus, who was thought to have emerged from the sea as a full-grown woman, arriving at the shore on a shell. The naked goddess is a symbol not of earthly, but spiritual love. Thus, this statue follows ancient traditions, with Venus depicted as slim & long-limbed, with harmonious features. The modest pose is borrowed from the Venus Pudica type of ancient sculpture. The subject matter was immortalized in Botticelli's Birth of Venus at the Uffizzi (Florence).***



22. Apollo & Daphne

Marble

Ovid describes Daphne as Apollo's first love. As she was pursued, she called upon her father Peneus, the river god, to come to her rescue. This statue represents the moment when her father starts changing her into a laurel tree so as to escape Apollo. Original statue is by Bernini (1622-1625) & is located at the Galleria Borghese in Rome.***

Head south on S. Washington Dr. to S. Blvd. of the Presidents (3 blks). Turn left. As you head north back to the Circle you will see:



23. Prometheus Bound

Limestone

As punishment for giving fire to humans, Jupiter (Zeus) had Prometheus bound to a rock with unbreakable chains & set on him an eagle, which ate his liver by day. By night the liver would re-grow, only to have the cycle repeat the next morning.**



24. Roman General

Adopted by Andrew Vac - RE/MAX Excellence Realty; Sandstone & shell

Pomegranates along with helmet off symbolize peace.**



25. Apollo as Hunter

Adopted by Bob & Judy Gustafson; Marble

Apollo, along with his sister Diana, represented the hunt.***



26. Small Children around a Column

Limestone**



27. Man in Cloak Nodding

Limestone

Winter, shown as an old man clutching a cloak to fend off the cold.**



28. Woman in Dress

Adopted by Susie & Bob Orders; Limestone

Fruit crown & fruit in hand likely symbolize Pomona or Persephone.**

29. The Four Seasons Allegory

Spring adopted by Paul & Eugenia Finstad; Marble***



Spring—a maiden holding flowers.

Summer—a maiden holding the fruits of summer.

Fall—a maiden with a scythe & harvested wheat.

Winter—a maiden well protected from the cold.



30. Venus & Cupid

Adopted by Brenda & Geoffrey Michel - The Met; Marble

Venus (Aphrodite) with her son, Cupid. Cupid is seen blindfolding his mother, an allusion to the thought that love is blind.***



31. John Ringling Statue

By Tony Lopez (2001)

Donated by City of Sarasota, St. Armands Circle Association, St. Armands Residents Association, & Commercial Landowners Association

Head south on S. Washington Dr. to S. Blvd. of the Presidents (3 blks). Turn left. As you head north back to the Circle you will see:



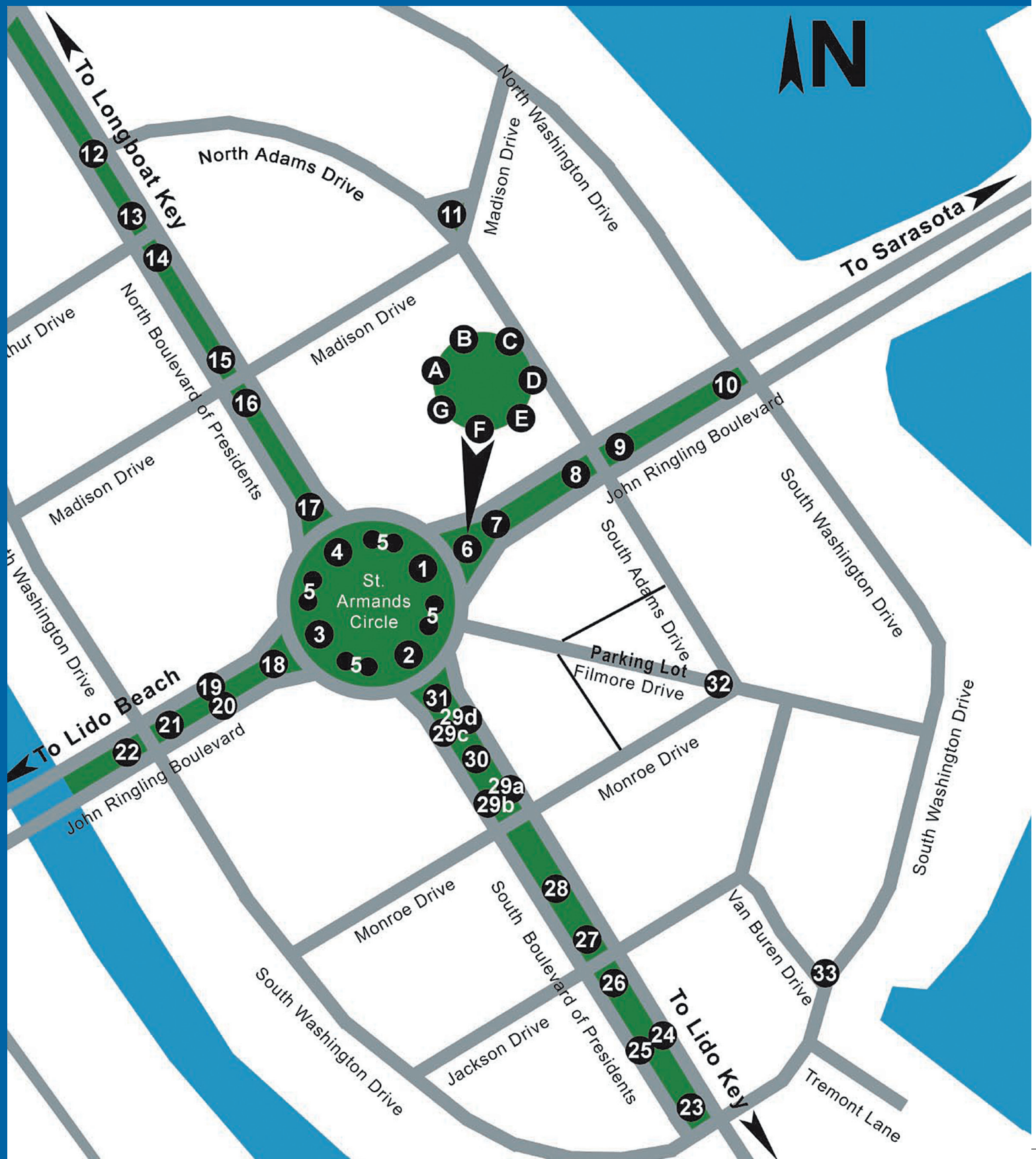
32. Small Children around a Tree

Adopted by Jesse & Betsy Hannan & Jeanne & David Day**; Limestone



33. Hunter and Dog

Dedicated to the late Bob Beardsworth, St. Armands beautification leader; Cast Concrete



** Purchased by John Ringling in the 1920s.

*** Purchased by Save Our Statues (SOS) in 2007.