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THEY WALK IN HONOR AT FLORIDA SOUTHERN

By HAMPTON DUNN

LAKELAND -- A stepping stone a year is added to the distinctive "Honor Walk" at Florida Southern College here.

The idea for the walk came from the rich mind of the late Dr. Ludd M. Spivey, who was Florida Southern President from 1925 to 1957. His plan was to recognize one outstanding member of each graduating class since the founding of the college in Leesburg back in 1885. The college later was moved to Sutherland (now Palm Harbor) north of Clearwater. After most of the campus buildings were destroyed by fire in 1921, the college was relocated in Lakeland.

Many alumni who visit the campus stop by the Honor Walk to reminisce about names of their classmates. Four members of the present college staff were Honor Walk honorees -- Corning F. Tolle, '27, director of community and alumni affairs; Harris G. Sims, '28, former editor of the Lakeland Ledger, who is a journalism professor and secretary of the college Board of Trustees; Miss Oween Sumner, '29, college librarian, and Mrs. Margaret Sharp Dowdy, '165, who is on the library staff.

Honor Walk stones also carry the names of two early graduates, both of whom are retired Methodist ministers now living in Lakeland -- the Rev. R. Ira Barnett, class of 1900, and the Rev. J. H. Daniel, '13. The name of Loyal Frisbie, editor of the Polk County Democrat, Bartow, was added in 1937. State Rep. Quillian Yancey of Lakeland, '49, also left his mark at the school. A late entry is Miss Irene Taylor (see photo), formerly of Miami, now of Mobile, Ala., class of 1967.