


1-1-1960

# President Kennedy made last speech in Tampa

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## Scholar Commons Citation

Dunn, Hampton, "President Kennedy made last speech in Tampa" (1960). *Digital Collection - Florida Studies Center Publications*. Paper 2706.

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# Photouring Florida

By HAMPTON DUNN



## PRESIDENT KENNEDY MADE LAST SPEECH IN TAMPA

By HAMPTON DUNN

TAMPA --- Like many other communities, this deep South city feels an attachment to the late President John Fitzgerald Kennedy. For it was here during a visit on Nov. 18, 1963, the youthful Chief Executive made what turned out to be his last public address. Four days later, out in Dallas, Tex., an assassin's bullet cut short the life of the President.

Tampa and Tampanans will long remember Kennedy. They changed the name of Lafayette Street, originally honoring the Frenchman by that name, to John F. Kennedy Boulevard, almost immediately after the President's untimely demise. The President had traveled the length of the boulevard during his visit.

Today, on that boulevard and at the entrance to the University of Tampa and Plant Park, stands a simple but attractive monument honoring the late President. It was in this park that Kennedy's local campaign for Presidency was launched in the bandshell. A committee headed by Robert Florio financed the memorial with public subscription amounting to \$18,000.

Sculptor Bernherdt Zuckerman of New York and Italy did the high relief sculpture on marble slab, of white Carrara marble. The backdrop is of black pearl granite.

The memorial was dedicated on May 30, 1966, by U.S. Congressman Sam Gibbons, a close friend of the President who escorted him throughout that last visit to Tampa. Gibbons called Kennedy a "martyr...to the new frontier of the human spirit."

