The 1880-era home at Nehrling Gardens, which is being restored, is open to the public the second Sunc

L eaves crunch underfoot, bamboo cracks in the breeze, ar
vegetation.

Most recently, the Henry Nehrling Society stepped forward to save this Central Florida cultural and histo

“It’s an incredible jewel,” said Theresa Schretzmann-Myers, a recent tour guide. “We are committed to s
A few months ago, the group opened the storied property for tours, inviting people to walk through Nehrl

Former owner Barbara Bochiardy sat on a rocker on the porch, greeting newcomers and talking about h
living there.

Nehrling relocated to Gotha from Sheboygan, Wis., and moved the home by ox cart to what was then La

Many of Nehrling's plants still remain. The property now includes only the 6-acre homestead site, a porti

Theresa Schretzmann-Myers guides Nehrling Gardens visitors on a walk to Lake Nally.

Posters in the living room show what the home and gardens looked like in the past, and books authored

Volunteers have cleared pathways through the property and created both a pollination and a demonstra

Visitors can marvel at the 225-year-old Sago palm, a podocarpus towering above a dilapidated greenho

Barbara Bochiardy, the former owner of Nehrling Gardens, greets visitors.

“We’re finding some really cool stuff on the property,” Schretzmann-Myers said.

Volunteers are still discovering new species.

Individuals and organizations have “adopted” trees and pay for their maintenance. Honorary deeds for 1

“The society aims to create a horticultural educational and wetland restoration center on the property,” s

Meanwhile, work continues to clean up the gardens, restore the home and pay off the mortgage. Donati

“We have so many projects inside and outside,” Schretzmann-Myers said. “More people are needed to s the site.”

Nerhling Gardens, located at 2267 Hempel Ave. in Gotha, is open to the public from noon-4 p.m.