

Villagers / Sumter, South Carolina

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On disk #5 of The companion series to "the Heeey Baby Days of Beach Music" is "One Step At A Time" a fine 1966 original tune from the Sumter, SC Villagers (featuring Mark Bradley) (there were at least 5 other similarly named groups in the Southeast in the 60's). It was originally released on the local Lamar label. These Villagers , which lasted from 1963 to 1966, also featured Kent Mims, Steve Mims and Merle Warner on vocals, Charles Stafford on bass, and Amy Whitaker on lead guitar, a real rarity for the time. The group had it's origins in The Nomads, Duprees and Marquis, and eventually spawned both The Persians and Footnotes, a group that continues recording today.

Brief Description

Year Established 1963-1966

Favorite Venues

Music Genre/Recordings R&B single: " One Step At A Time" (1966) Lamar

Performer	Now Resides	Instrument	Years In The Band	Notes
Bradley, Mark	Manning, SC	Vocals	1964-1966	Footnotes, Mark Bradley Band, Brandy Band
Mims, Steve	Sumter, SC	Drums	1964-1966	Footnotes, Brandy
Stafford, Charles	Lexington, SC	Bass	1964-1965	Persians, Footnotes, Billy Stewart Band, GA Prophets, Second Nature, Mama's Home Cookin'
Whitaker, Amy	Florida	Guitar	1964-1966	
Mims, Kent	Sumter, SC	Vocals	1964-1966	
Warner, Merrill	Nashville	Vocals	1965-1966	
Saunders, Jimmy	Sumter, SC	Bass	1965-1966	Brandy Band
Parker, Thorny	Sumter, SC	Trumpet	1966-1966	