

Ybor City Tampa

Nightlife: The former cigar capital has become the nightclub capital of Florida's West Coast and beyond. The fringe district on the cutting edge was grafted onto Tampa more than a hundred years ago. It is called Ybor (pronounced ee-bore) City after Don Vicente Martinez Ybor, a Cuban exile who opened a cigar factory there in 1886. Renovated and revitalized, the factory is now the fashionable and trendy Ybor Square on Thirteenth Street. It is one of dozens of Spanish-style buildings with wrought-iron balconies and or-

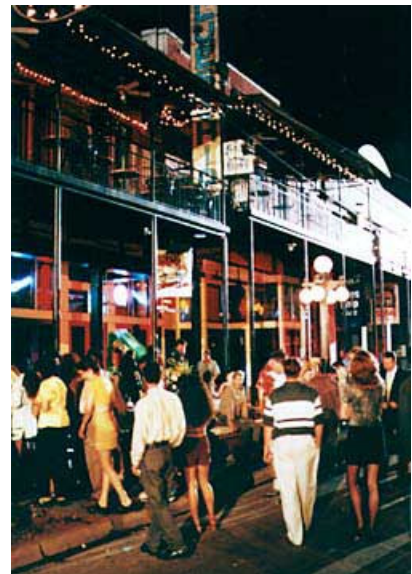
Columbia Restaurant



nate grillwork that house bars, nightclubs, restaurants, shops, art galleries and museums along red brick streets studded with old-fashioned lampposts. The beat of live music that ripples from bars and clubs along Seventh Avenue has turned it into the entertainment hub of the Latin Quarter.

On the right is the University of Tampa, housing the Plant Museum.

(photo courtesy UT)



7th Ave, Ybor City at night

