



Florida Trust for Historic Preservation
P. O. Box 11206 Tallahassee, Florida 32302
(850) 224-8128

DISASTER REPORT FORM

Property Name: Everglades Bank Building
Property Address: 201 Broadway
Reviewer: Bert Bender Date of Review: November 17, 2017

General Observations	Flood Damage	Wind Damage	Impact Damage	Comments
Foundation	✓			Perimeter stem wall sound, but entered vents
Walls				OK
Porches	✓			Mud caked floor
Windows and Doors				Altered – aluminum awning
Soffits and Trim		✓		
Gutters and Flashing		✓		
Roofing				Not accessible
Chimney				
Landscaping				

If the interior was available for inspection, then complete the following items:

General Observations	Water Damage	Wind Damage	Impact Damage	Comments
Walls and Doors	✓			Building Flooded
Floors and Ceilings	✓			
Electrical Systems	✓			
Mechanical Systems	✓			

Observations and problems which need to be addressed:

The flood level covered the porch floor and standing water was above the bottom of the crawl space access holes. Some windows are damaged (no historic windows exist). Facias and trim are damaged, including moldings. The stair and balcony are in dangerous disrepair. This is a significant local resource, listed on the National Register, that is in need of substantial rehabilitation work. We recommend that an assessment be conducted by a preservation professional to determine what work is required. Ideally, the assessment would be a full historic structures report, but if funding is limited, an abbreviated report should be conducted.



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Background from: *Historic Building around Everglades City*

A Walking Tours Guidebook:

“Founded by Barron Collier, the Bank received its Charter in 1923. Temporary offices were located in a small building across Broadway until these imposing premises, designed by William O. Sparklin, were ready. The building faces toward the river and the “heart” of the city to attract clients by boat. The original interior was an octagon of mahogany and marble.

This was the only bank in Collier County for about 26 years. It remained in continuous operation, despite the Depression, until 1962 when the county seat and most of the Collier Corporation’s activities moved to Naples. The charter was sold to the Bank of Immokallee.

Offices on the top floor were used by Humble Oil from the 1940’s for over twenty years while they exploited the oil in Sunniland (some 30 miles north of SR-29). The County School Board then took over their space.

In the early 1970’s, the building was owned by novelist Buck Dawson and used as a boarding house. It was bought by Joe and Rusty Rupsis who lived here and published the *Everglades Echo*, a weekly newspaper founded in 1979. After the *Echo* title was sold in 1988 to the Tuff family, the bank building changed hands. It was a time-share and later a Bed & Breakfast. It still takes overnight visitors but also has a full spa.

The original floors and large vault can still be seen. A large attic fan keeps the building cool.

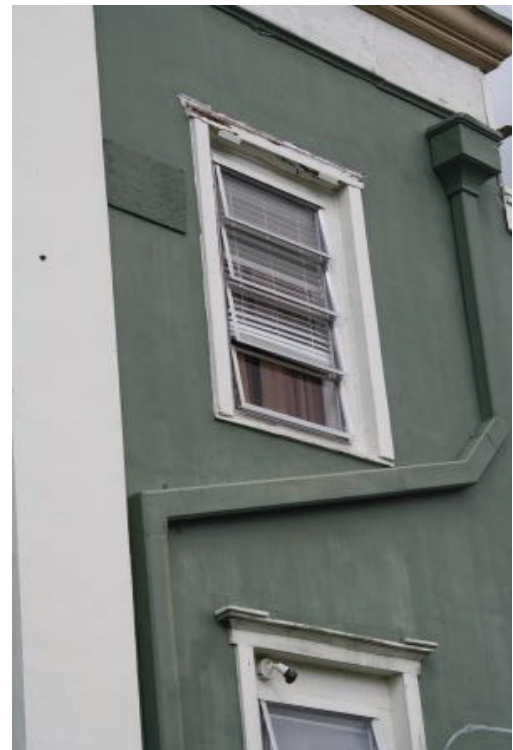


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Signature: 

Date: January 5, 2018