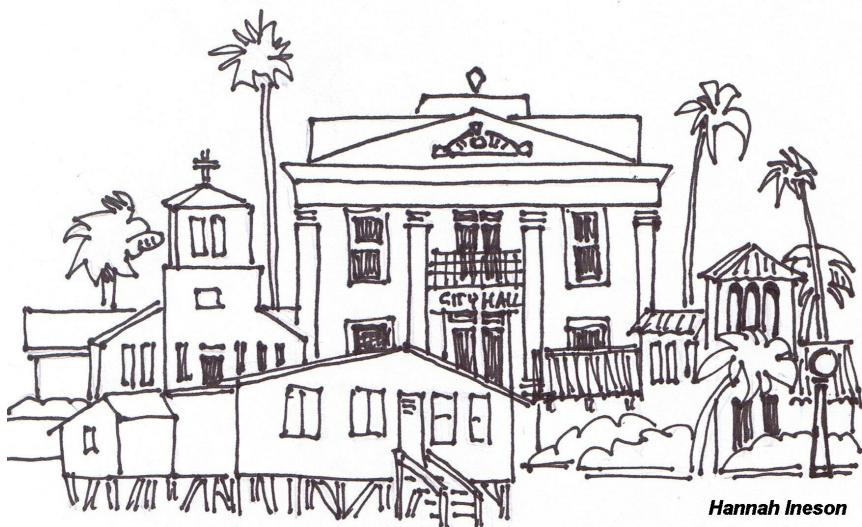

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1



The property on the river was homesteaded by William Smith Allen in the 1870s until it was bought by George Storter, Jr, in the late 1880s. He and his extended family were prominent in the area and operated a post office and general store. Barron Collier bought the holding in 1922 and converted it into a club for his guests and executives. U.S. Presidents and celebrities have been visitors. It was sold by the Collier interests in the 1960s and purchased by the Bowen family in 1971.

This is our Headquarters for the Everglades Homes Tour. If you have questions, you can find us here.

In the lobby we have an exhibit by local artists and a signing by the authors of books with a local interest including our history.

mark here if visited

② 207 Storter Avenue North



One of the original 1920's Collier buildings, this was the home of Mrs. Duncan, the first nurse to serve Everglades City. It was adjacent to the Juliet Carnes Collier Hospital. In 1947 Gretchen Gerish, a Registered Nurse, along with her husband Albin (the new airport manager) raised their family here until it was purchased by the Pollock family and eventually owned by artist Camille Baumgartner (who added a "studio" in 1990). When the current owners purchased the house in 1994, they completely renovated it with Dade County pine floors.

A few years ago the owners became fascinated with various palm species and acquired a fair number of unusual palms, not terribly common in most landscape uses. Examples are the Petticoat Palm, the Old Man Palm, the Bailey Palm, and the Buccaneer (which is native).

mark here if visited

EVERGLADES HOMES TOUR

Saturday, March 13, 2010, Everglades City, Florida

312 Storter Avenue North

3



The cottage was constructed in 1925. The history of the house includes the statement that it was originally two houseboats that were bolted together. It was owned by a local fishing guide and family for many years. The yard has numerous palm trees and a large Banyan. The great variety of trees was brought to the previous owner as gifts by a friend in the nursery business.

The renovation began with the purchase of the property in 2001 and took almost two years. The original bead board was cleaned and reinstalled as part of the restoration to the old Florida style. The Shiplap siding is a duplicate of the original on the exterior. The property extends to Copeland Avenue and includes the barn on the back lot.

The renovation was extensive and a positive experience. It was exciting to restore an historic jewel.

mark here if visited

④

406 Riverside Drive



Located directly on the Barron River, this charming home was built in 1965 as part of the "Villas Homeowners Association" and featured in *Family Circle Magazine* the same year! The article stressed the modern conveniences of the small group of vacation get-away homes in the peaceful surroundings of Everglades City, a fishing and boating paradise.

Due to damage from Hurricane Wilma in 2005, the house was stripped down to the bare walls and completely redone.

Note that many of the newer houses are built on stilts. In the 1970s it became mandatory to raise living quarters above the flood plain. The lower level may be used for parking vehicles or for utility rooms. However, even before that law, builders reacted to Hurricane Donna in 1960 by raising new structures.

mark here if visited

Everglades Community Church ⑤



The Everglades Community Church began as a Presbyterian congregation in 1923. The original church was gifted by the estate of Barron Gift Collier where terms stipulated the church be built by 1940 and become a non-denominational house of worship. Fellowship Hall was added in the late 1950's and the carillon that sounds hourly was installed in 1969.

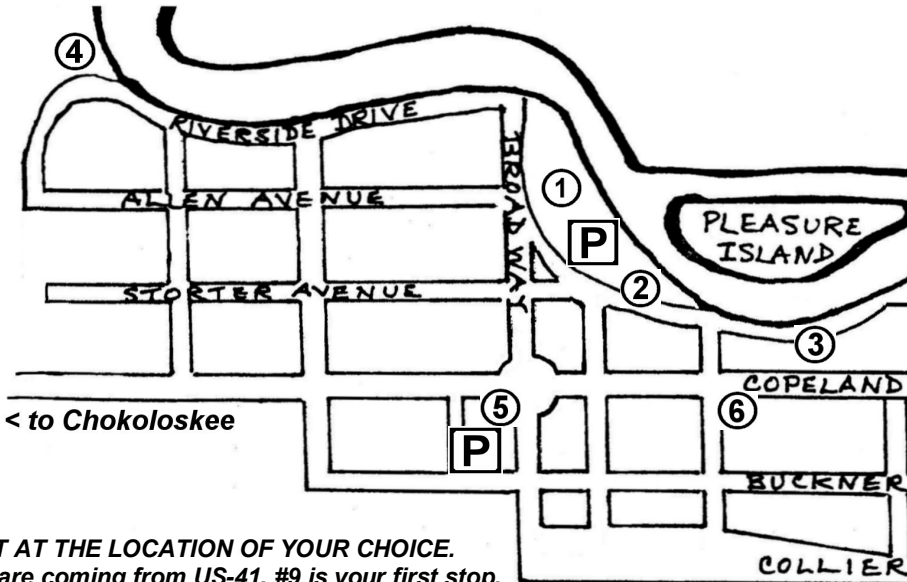
In 2008 the building was returned to its original historic design; the removal of plastic cladding from the bell tower revealed ogee moldings and a circular window on the steeple. The state historic sign was installed in early 2009.

Stained glass windows are being added in stages through congregational donation and presently include six symbolic depictions of Christ's life, the four apostles, and the four pillars of the church. Windows currently under construction will depict eight parables of Jesus.

mark here if visited

EVERGLADES HOMES TOUR

Saturday, March 13, 2010, Everglades City, Florida



START AT THE LOCATION OF YOUR CHOICE.

If you are coming from US-41, #9 is your first stop.

If you are coming from the south, #4 is your first stop.

LOOK FOR THE BALLOONS IN FRONT OF EACH BUILDING.



photo courtesy of Florida State Archives

Barron Gift Collier (1873-1939) got “sand in his shoes” when he first visited Florida in 1911 and went on to buy over one million acres in this area.

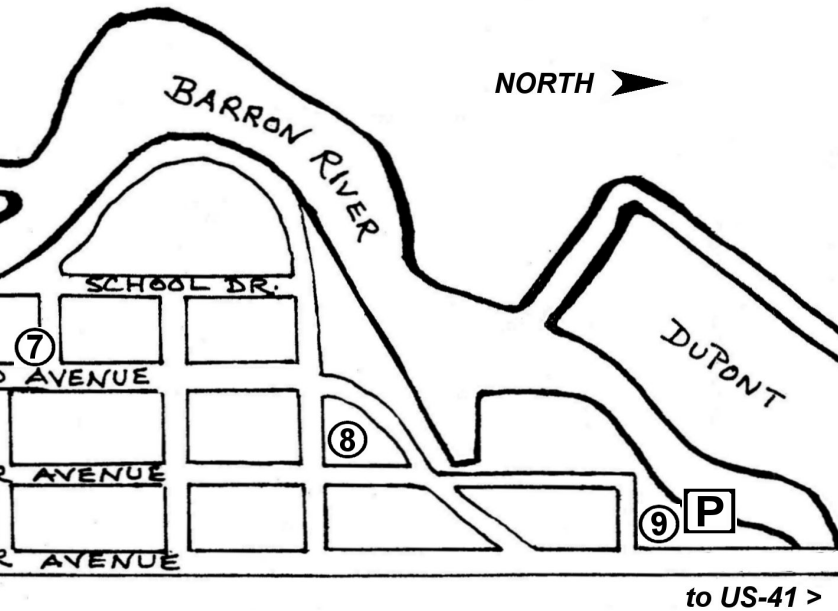
Collier made his fortune in streetcar advertising and was a prominent figure in New York where he had moved from his native Memphis.

He persuaded the Florida legislature to carve out a County in his name if he would complete the Tamiami Trail across the unsurveyed Glades.

He not only constructed the Trail under great difficulty but built the planned town of Everglades with houses for workers and public buildings.

EVERGLADES HOMES TOUR

Saturday, March 13, 2010, Everglades City, Florida



This majestic neo-classical building was the County Courthouse completed by Barron Collier in 1928 as the seat of his new County. A referendum in 1959 decided to move official business to East Naples and the building was taken over as Everglades City Hall in 1963.

In 2005 Hurricane Wilma devastated the decaying property and it was only through the perseverance of Mayor Sammy Hamilton that it was restored to its proper grandeur.

It currently houses the City offices, a County branch library and tax collector, a branch of the Shamrock Bank, and the ESHP office.

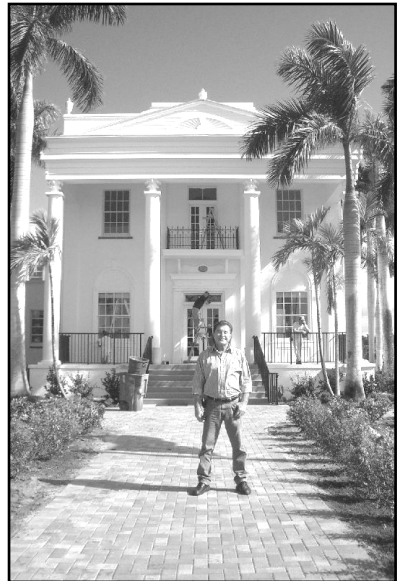


photo by Marya Repko

EVERGLADES HOMES TOUR

Saturday, March 13, 2010, Everglades City, Florida

⑥ 302 Copeland Avenue North



An early Collier house, built in Dupont and moved to Copeland Avenue in Everglades City. Like many Collier homes it was constructed almost entirely of Dade County Pine, a subspecies of heart pine. A survivor of several hurricanes, the resilience of the original construction is a testament of the strength of the wood. Considerable upgrades have been completed but the original form has been preserved.

The garage to the east was added by the owners and painted in the same cheerful colors as the house.

The new owners cleared the lot of invasive tree species (Melaleuca and Australian Pine) and replanted with various species of native and sub-tropical palms. Renovation was begun in 2005 and continues today.

mark here if visited

EVERGLADES HOMES TOUR

Saturday, March 13, 2010, Everglades City, Florida

405 Copeland Avenue North

7



This is an old Collier house built of Dade County Pine with red oak floors. It was originally a 2 bed, 1 bath. Now it is 2 bed, 1.5 bath with the added porch on the back.

The front room was a porch at some point, but we know it has been enclosed since the 1950's as there are people in town that played in that room. We have remodeled all of the rooms except the kitchen and front room. The kitchen is next!

We have owned the house since March 1993. There was much roof and water damage after Hurricane Andrew and the no-name storm. It had old jalousie windows, no air conditioning, and zero appliances. It was a bare bones fixer-upper that we absolutely loved and still do.

The landscaping was planted by us; in fact, we grew all of the big royal palms and coconuts from seeds.

mark here if visited

EVERGLADES HOMES TOUR
Saturday, March 13, 2010, Everglades City, Florida

⑧

Ivey House



The original building on the corner was a recreation hall for Tamiami Trail workers, initially in Dupont across the river, and then in its current location. It was turned into a boarding house operated by Earl Ivey, an dredge-master on the Trail. He and his wife Agnes bought the establishment in the 1960s. It is said that the food was very good and that she would play the piano in the lounge after dinner.

The present owner bought the old building in 1989 as B&B lodging for participants in his canoe tours. The addition was built in 2001 and includes a tropical swimming pool. The Ivey House is proud to have been named a “Green Lodging” in 2007.

You are invited to stop in for a cup of coffee or tea and to explore the gift shop and pool area.

mark here if visited

Everglades Isle

9



This area was farmed by George Storter, Sr, in the late 1880s and then became part of his son's holding which stretched all along the east side of the river from the Rod & Gun. When Barron Collier owned it after 1922, it served as a shipping area.

After the Collier interests left the area, it became a "fish camp" (trailer park) operated by one of Ted Smallwood's sons from Chokoloskee. The VR Corp next door was established in the early 1980s and there were plans for this parcel to contain holiday stilt villas. One row of them was built and the rest of the property was rented to RV'ers by the Harmon family.

The property changed ownership in 2004 and construction began on this luxury motor coach resort. The lighthouse building is the clubhouse for residents, with a theater and gym and bar.

mark here if visited

EVERGLADES HOMES TOUR
Saturday, March 13, 2010, Everglades City, Florida



**EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR
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Welcome to our inaugural Everglades Homes Tour!

***We hope you enjoy these glimpses of private houses
and the surrounding buildings in our historic city.***

The Everglades Society for Historic Preservation (ESHP) was founded in 2004 to “Save City Hall” but our mission is much broader. We aim to preserve all historic sites, structures, documents, artifacts, and memories within the Everglades area. Our sphere of interest includes the neighboring villages of Chokoloskee, Ochopee, Lee Cypress, Copeland, and Jerome plus the wild lands and water that surround us.

ESHP is a Florida corporation and has federal 501(c)(3) not-for-profit status. Members meet for social and educational gatherings, take part in local events, and operate the Historical Library & Archive housed in its City Hall office. The Society issues a monthly newsletter during the winter season and maintains a website www.evergladeshistorical.org.

If you would like more information about ESHP, contact any of the Directors: Mike Danosky, Patricia Huff, Jane Rackley, Marya Repko, Pat Rinkevich, Jean Schultz, and Terry Smallwood.

ESHP WOULD LIKE TO THANK

the owners of the homes and buildings

the docents who have volunteered their time

the advertisers who have supported this booklet

FOR MAKING THIS TOUR POSSIBLE

The Everglades Society for Historic Preservation, the owners of the buildings on this tour, and the members, agents, or employees of either shall not be responsible for any injury, loss, or damage sustained during or in connection with this tour and shall have no liability for loss or damage.

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