# EVERGLADES HOMES TOUR

### SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2013

from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

in historic Everglades City, Florida



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### **McLeod Park**





McLeod Park was named after Daniel W. McLeod, the Mayor from 1923 until 1959, and his wife Lucy McKeown McLeod.

Until Hurricane Donna in 1960 the property had housed the library, a cafe, and commercial buildings facing onto Broadway. In 1968 the City acquired the land and the Lions Club suggested a park to be named after the McLeods

The Pavilion was constructed in the 1980s. It is used for local events and is the focus of the famous Everglades Seafood Festival which started to raise funds for the playground here.

The stone monument on the circle was built in 2008 by ESHP after a generous donation from the McLeods' grandson.

This is our Headquarters for the Everglades Homes Tour. If you have questions or need more tickets, visit us here.

There is an Arts & Crafts sale, with local history book signings, under the Pavilion on March 9, starting at 10:00 a.m.



### **Everglades City Hall**



This majestic neo-classical building was completed in 1928. It served as the County Courthouse and as the seat of Collier County which was established in 1923. Additions, including the front portico, were constructed in the late 1940s and in 1956 as more space was needed.

A referendum in 1959 decided to move official business to East Naples, nearer to the shifting population. The building was adopted as Everglades City Hall in 1963.

In 2005 Hurricane Wilma devastated the deteriorating structure and it was only through the perseverance of Mayor Sammy Hamilton (pictured above) that it was restored to its proper grandeur.

It currently houses the City offices, a branch of Collier County Public Library, a County tax collector and County clerk, and the ESHP Historical Library.

## Everglades Community Church (2)





Everglades Community Church is proud of its stained-glass windows and grateful to the donors who made their installation possible. The Church is launching an explanatory booklet at our Homes Tour this vear and welcomes visitors to admire these artistic creations.

Everglades Community Church began as Presbyterian congregation in 1923. This land was gifted by the estate of Barron Gift Collier with the stipulation that the church be built by 1940 as a nondenominational house of worship. The original Fellowship Hall was added in the late 1950s and the carillon was donated in 1969.

In 2008 the building was returned to its 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 erected in early 2009. In 2010, the sanctuary was enlarged and the stained glass windows installed. The Fellowship Hall was rebuilt in 2011 and named after Louise Collier Jinkins, niece of Barron Collier.



### **Rod & Gun Lodge**



This property was homesteaded by William Smith Allen in 1870. He grew vegetables on the bank of the river and sent them by sailboat to the busy port in Key West where his brother was an important citizen.

When Allen retired in 1887, George Storter, Jr, bought the property. He and his extended family were prominent in the area. George operated a post office and general store and welcomed visiting anglers as he enlarged the original Allen home.

Barron Collier bought the holding in 1922 and converted it into a club for his guests. U.S. Presidents and celebrities have visited and enjoyed meals cooked by the famous chef "Snooky" Senghaas.

The Rod & Gun was sold by the Collier interests in the 1960s and purchased by the Bowen family in 1971 who still operate it as a delightful historic restaurant and lodging.

### **407 Riverside Drive**





This home on stilts was built in 2003 by the owners who had a vision for the vacant lot, a pie-shaped piece taken out of a larger property, which other people had thought nothing could be done with. They designed the house and oriented it to gain the best view of the river.

Built as a fishing retreat, the bedrooms have a maritime theme: dolphin, redfish, stone crab. The living areas have a blue-green color scheme to reflect the water. The loft space is the sewing & quilting area, the products of which can be seen on the beds.

One of the owners said, "As a land planner and landscape architect, I admired the layout of the town as a beautiful example of city planning and it reminded me of small rural towns where I had spent time with my grandparents. It's a genuine authentic community."



### 405 Allen Avenue



This old home has obviously been enjoyed by its current owners who have expressed their artistic talents in the decoration of the porch and within. The hand-made driftwood porch is symbolic of the name of the owner's business.

The house was built in 1954 and was purchased by the present owners in 1999 from their neighbors. The original house did not include either of the rooms off of the living room.

The building is made of Dade County pine and has the original hardwood floors. It withstood Hurricane Donna in 1964 and has been home to many local families whose children have been raised here.

### **Everglades Airpark**





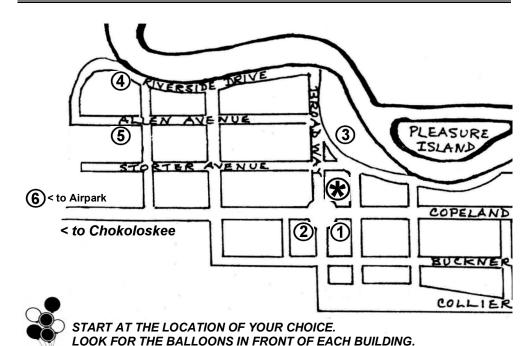


ECity Airpark in 1947 at opening of Everglades National Park by President Harry S Truman photo courtesy of Florida State Archives

The airport was a grassy strip in the late 1940s when the Collier brothers flew from Palm Beach for meetings here after their father Barron Collier died. It was managed by Albin Gerish whose wife was the nurse attached to the Everglades hospital.

In the mid-1950s the airport was leased to the City and in 1961 permission to land was granted by the FAA who provided funds for the runway. The County took over in 1968 and extended the runway to 2400 feet. The new offices were built in 1996 and new hangars were completed in 2010 after the old ones had been damaged by Hurricane Wilma in 2005.

Everglades Airpark has the distinction of having the FAA identifier "X01".



🏶 For information & more tickets, visit McLeod Park.



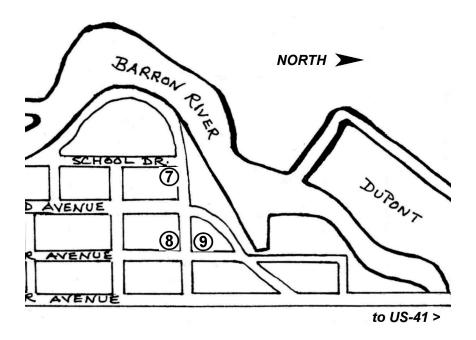
photo courtesy of Florida State Archives

Barron Gift Collier (1873-1939) got "sand in his shoes" when he first visited Florida in 1911 and then bought over one million acres in this area.

Collier made his fortune in streetcar advertising and was a prominent figure in New York after leaving his 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.



David Graham Copeland (1885-1949) was the engineer who supervised the building of the town and the Trail. He had been educated at South Carolina Military Academy and Rensselaer Polytechnic before serving in the Navy.

In 1924 he was hired to work in Collier County and soon became manager of the Collier Corporation's many business interests. He was also Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners from 1927 to 1947 and then served in the Florida House until his death in 1949.

Copeland was an avid historian and compiled a large volume of notes.

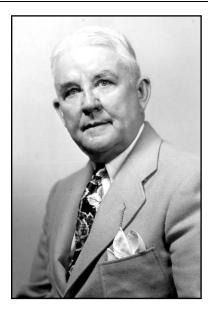


photo courtesy of Florida State Archives



### First Baptist Church



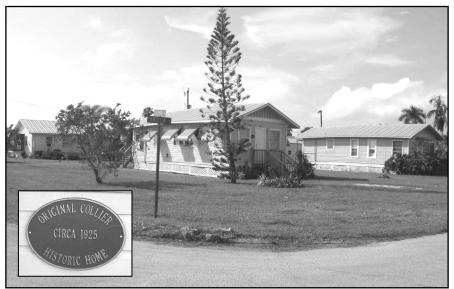
First Baptist Church began life as a Methodist church building donated to the Everglades Baptist Chapel by the C. J. Jones family in 1956 in memory of their son Jerry after the logging company and sawmill in Jerome had closed.

The building, which is made of "pecky cypress", was brought to Everglades City and placed on its present site. The old Chokoloskee school house was moved nearby as a Sunday School but destroyed during Hurricane Donna in 1960. A new Sunday School was built in 1964 and the church constituted in 1971. The Fellowship Hall was built in 1996 with the help of the North Carolina Baptist Men.

A baptistery with a cross made of the original cypress was completed in 2001 in a design that complements the old cypress interior. New lighting emphasizes the beauty of the wood interior of the sanctuary.

### 110 Camellia Street





This little bright-yellow building on the corner is one of a group of "shot-gun" houses which served as workers' cottages. They were so-named because you could shoot a gun straight from the front door out the back door. This design ensured that the breezes went through and cooled the house in the days before airconditioning.

The building is now used as an artist's studio but had previously been a dwelling for many years.

Notice the oval historical marker to the left of the door which was provided by ESHP. You will see them on about 20 of our older houses, thanks to your support of our Homes Tours.



### **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, a dredge-master on the Trail, and his wife Agnes. It is said that the food was very good and 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 the first "Green Lodging" in Collier County in 2007.

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



# EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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### EVERGLADES HOMES TOUR

Saturday, March 9, 2013, Everglades City, Florida

### **AREA RESTAURANTS**



Camellia Street Grill (695-2003): 12 noon - 9 p.m. daily

City Seafood (695-4700): 6:00 am - 6:00 pm; daily Fish Market also open

**Everglades Seafood Depot (695-0075):** 10:30 am - 10:00 pm; daily

Everglades Scoop (695-2403): 11:00 am - 5:00 pm: daily

Glades Haven Deli (695-2091): 6:00 am - 9:00 pm; daily

Havana Café (695-2214):

7:00 am - 3:00 pm; daily 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm; Dinner Fri-Sat

Island Café (695-0003): 6:00 am - 9:00 pm; daily

Ivey House (695-3299): 6:30 - 9:30 am: daily Continental breakfast, box lunches

Joanie's Blue Crab Café (695-2682): 11:00 am - 4:00 pm; Thurs thru Mon

Oyster House Restaurant (695-2073): 11:00 am - 9:00 pm; Sun thru Thurs 11:00 am - 10:00 pm; Fri, Sat

Pizza Place and Sandwiches (821-9477): 9:00 am - 8:00 pm; daily (takeout)

Rod & Gun (695-2101): 11:30 am - 9:00 pm; daily

Subway at Gator Express (695-3937): 10:00 am - 4:00 pm; daily \$5 specials & 10% discount to locals

Sunset Raw Bar & Grill: (next to Glades Haven Deli) 11:00 am to 6:00 pm; Tues thru Sun Susie's Station (695-2273): 11:00 am - 5:00 pm: daily

The Catch at Port of the Islands (239-394-3005, ext. 507, 1): 12 noon - 10 pm: Tues thru Sun now serving Sunday Brunch

Triad Seafood (695-2662): 10:30 am (call for hours): daily Fish Market also open

Right Choice Supermarket (695-4535): 9:00 am - 7:00 pm, Mon-Thurs 8:00 am - 7:00 pm, Fri, Sat, Sun

Grimm's Stone Crab (695-3222): 8:00 am - 5 pm, Mon thru Sat

Loco's Fresh Produce (239-462-7050): ECity Post Office parking lot 7:00 am - 3:00 pm; Thurs, Fri, Sat Chokoloskee: 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm; Thurs

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#### READ ABOUT OUR HISTORY











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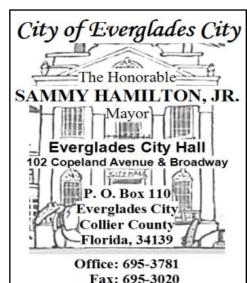
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### EVERGLADES HOMES TOUR

Saturday, March 9, 2013, Everglades City, Florida



# EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Dedicated to our Unique History
P O Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139
www.evergladeshistorical.org

Welcome to our fourth annual 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 which can be read on its website <a href="www.evergladeshistorical.org">www.evergladeshistorical.org</a>. Proceeds from this event will contribute to the installation of historical signage for our older structures.

If you would like more information about ESHP, contact any of the Directors: Helen Bryan, Tod Dahlke, Mike Danosky, Pat Fingeroff, Elaine Middelsteadt, Patricia Huff, Jane Rackley, Marya Repko, and Craig Woodward.

#### 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

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.

NO SMOKING, NO PETS, NO CAMERAS, NO CHILDREN