EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Dedicated to our Unique History

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

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WHO ARE WE?

ESHP is a 501(c)3 charitable corporation of concerned citizens who are interested in preserving all **historic sites**, **structures**, **documents**, **artifacts and memories** within the Everglades City area. The Society was founded in late 2004 and initially concentrated on City Hall restoration.

Members participate in local events such as Art-in-the-Glades and Seafood Festival. ESHP sponsored a dinner for artist George Furrer (who contributed his drawing as the logo for our fundraising), held a "Nostalgia Night" for local residents to share stories and old photos, and organize various other gatherings through out the year.



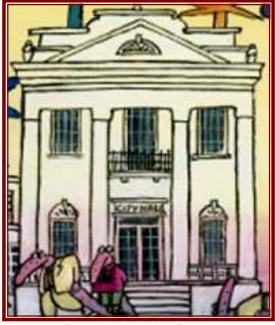
EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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Dedicated to our Unique History



From a drawing by Jurg Furrer

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OUR HISTORY

The area was settled after the Civil War for farming, fishing and hunting. The produce was taken by boat to Key West, the county seat. In the village of Everglades, the Storter family ran a trading post and welcomed sports fishermen in what is now the Rod & Gun. In Chokoloskee, Ted Smallwood and G.C. McKinney operated stores for the settlers and Native Americans scattered in the Ten Thousand Islands. Other family names of the time are Boggess, Brown, Daniels, Hamilton, House, Smith, and Weeks.

In 1922, Barron Gift Collier bought out the Storters and built up the town of Everglades as the headquarters for his agricultural land holdings and as the engineering center for the construction of the Tamiami Trail from Naples to the Dade County border. The Trail (US-41) opened in 1928, as did the rail link to Immokalee. Everglades was also the seat of the newly-formed Collier County.

In the 1930s tomatoes were grown around Ochopee and Copeland, thanks to the Gaunt, Janes, and Webb families. Logging of pine and cypress took place in the Fakahatchee and Big Cypress with settlements for workers in Jerome, Lee Cypress and Pine Crest. Deep Lake had farmed citrus since 1911 and had a primitive rail line to the river as early as 1913.

Fortunately, many of the original buildings remain: Bank, Laundry, Depot, Rod & Gun, Ivey House, Masonic Lodge, Courthouse, Smallwood Store, various churches, and some private dwellings.







OUR PROJECTS

CITY HALL

The restoration of City Hall, the old Collier County Courthouse built in 1928, was our first project. Thanks to FEMA and Mayor Sammy Hamilton, it has been completely rehabilitated.

BRICK BY BRICK CAMPAIGN

ESHP sold engraved bricks that were placed in the sidewalk leading up to City Hall.

LAMP POSTS

The original street lights date from the late 1920s and are still in use daily but many are in need of repair or should be replaced. ESHP is involved in preserving this stately street furniture.

HISTORICAL SIGNAGE

Only a few of our old buildings have any indication of their history. ESHP is working with the owners of historical structures and the authorities to have signs erected that show how proud we are of our heritage.

MAIN STREET

ESHP is involved in the national Main Street program which helps to rehabilitate historical city areas without letting them become "any town, any place" landscapes.

HISTORICAL LIBRARY & OFFICE

ESHP has a secure archive of historical books, documents, and pictures which is housed in its office upstairs at City Hall and is available for researchers. Items may not be removed but can be copied. A computerized catalog and scanned images are available. The office also has bibliographical resources for historic preservation to aid local residents.

"SAVE OUR STRUCTURES"

ESHP offers help to owners of old buildings and other structures in the applications for grants and for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.