

- (p) Mr. House thinks that the Grocery Place was first settled by John Weeks before Weeks came to the mouth of today's Barron's River. Weeks was a roamer and never stayed long in any one place. He died somewhere around Marco. One of Weeks' daughters married a son of Barnes who settled on the Grocery Place. Mrs. George Cole of Everglades is the daughter of the son of Mr. Barnes and a granddaughter of John Weeks.

On Fahkahatchee Island, lived John Yeomans and a Mr. Chamberlain who was killed by Jim Yeomans, a son of John Yeomans. Jim Yeomans also settled on a mound at the head of Fahkahatchee River near the present Fahkahatchee filling station on the Tamiami Trail.

Phineas Myers was the first settler on Russell Key and was followed by a Mr. Gaskin, who was the last settler on that island. Mr. W. W. House hauled produce for Gaskin by schooner to Key West.

On Pavilion Key, in 1900 was living the Rowe family. Mr. Rowe married the mother of Henry Thompson, Sr. now living at Chokoloskee.

At the mouth of Lostman's River, Harry Brown, a bachelor, was the first settler. He was no relative of the Browns living at Chokoloskee today, and died at Chokoloskee. After Harry Brown, Lem Hamilton occupied the place and is still living there.

- (q) On the Chatham Bend place located on Chatham River on the north bank about 2 miles from the mouth, is a mound and old settlement. Mr. House does not recall the name of the original settlers, but, in 1900, the place was occupied by E. J. Watson who came from the West via Arcadia, Florida, where he shot Quinn Bass not fatally. Mr. Watson lived at the Chatham Bend place for 15 or 20 years before he was killed at Chokoloskee.

Among those living with Watson was Dutchy Melvin, an escaped convict from Key West and a Mrs. Hannah Smith of Immokalee, who cooked for Watson and a negro. *WV*

The body of Mrs. Hannah Smith having been washed up or exposed by high tide, inquiry developed that no one else was on the place. Watson reported that they had all gone to Cuba but, when the body of Mrs. Smith was discovered by Mr. Cannon and a small boy who occupied the Chevalier place and had reported their findings to Mr. Thad Williams, who was a clam digger at that time, further inquiry was made. A negro by the name of Roberts escaped to Fort Myers and reported to Sheriff Tippins that 3 persons had been killed by Watson. Watson went to Fort Myers and, through the help of Walter Langford, who had married Watson's daughter, managed to allay suspicion and was returned to Chokoloskee by Sheriff Tippins, Bob King, then a very young guide, handling the boat which returned Watson.

When he stopped at Chokoloskee, Watson claimed that the killing had been done by a Mr. Cox and that he, Watson, was returning to the Chatham Bend place to kill Cox. Watson was told to bring back Cox's head and not his hat as proof. Watson proceeded to the Chatham Bend place and returned in a few days to Chokoloskee with a hat and landed with a loaded gun. On landing he was confronted by Mr. D. D. House and

others. Watson and D. D. House simultaneously aimed their shotguns at only a few paces and both pulled triggers at the same time but both guns failed to fire, whereupon W. House and a negro, Henry Short, both fired to protect Mr. House's father, D. D. House. Watson was killed instantaneously. This occurred in 1910.

(r) Mr. House relates that many Indians traded at the Storter store and Mr. Storter permitted them to sleep in the attic of his store. On one occasion, Brown Tiger broke through the ceiling and stole various articles. When the matter was reported to the other Indians, they located Brown Tiger and made him make restitution.

(s) Mr. W. W. House relates that he, Tom Roberts (brother of the surveyor Billy Roberts), Lump Alford, C. S. Smallwood, and Jordan killed 4,500 alligators in a period of 3 weeks in 3 small lakes near the Tamiami Trail, now called Roberts Lake. The skins were hauled in wagons to the head of Turner's River, then transported by boat to the Storter store in Everglades where they were sold.

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18. From reference GCXCI, (Ms. Interview 1947.)

- (a) Interview with Mrs. Grace Averitt Sawyer by D. Graham Cope-land in Everglades, Florida, April 2, 1947.
- (b) Mrs. Sawyer was born in 1901 at Port St. Joe, moved with her father and family to Wauchula and thence to Marco in 1914, where her father John Averitt became an employee in the clam packing factory of the J. H. Doxsee Company.
- (c) Grace Averitt married Richard Sawyer at Marco in 1918 and her sister Susie Averitt married Arthur Kirkland who was living at Henderson Creek.
- (d) When the Sawyer family reached Marco in 1914, the following families were living there:

Surveyor _____ Roberts and family were operating a boarding house on the site of today's Marco Lodge;

J. H. Doxsee and family who were operating the clam factory;

Captain W. D. Collier and family;

Mr. _____ Cannon and family, consisting of his wife, Roy, Dan, Rand and several daughters. Mrs. Cannon is now living in Fort Myers and one of her daughters is Mrs. Elmer Aldacosta who now lives in Naples;

David, Alfred and John Weeks;

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Daniels, whose wife was named Sally;

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Pettit;

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Stephens, who operated a store at Marco.

- (e) At that time the following were living at Henderson Creek:

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Walker;

Mr. and Mrs. _____ Kirkland, who were the parents of Arthur Kirkland, who married Mrs. Sawyer's sister Susie;

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Carroll who worked for a Mr. Davenport, a bachelor, who operated the grove and place later occupied by the late David Morrissey, who married a sister of the present Graham Whidden, County Commissioner from the Immokalee District.

19. From reference CCXCII, (Official Records of Collier County.)

- (a) The following is a list of early deeds as shown on the Collier County records, which have been copied from the official records of Monroe and Lee Counties.

In this list, the abbreviation "U.S." signifies deeded by United States; "I.I.Bd." indicates Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida; and "Bd. Ed." indicates Florida State Board of Education.

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Description
1/20/82	U.S.	W.T. Collier	4 & 5-5-52-26
7/12/82	U.S.	Jno. F. Horr	6, 7 & 8-22-52-26
2/10/83	I.I. Bd.	Jerem'h. Fogarty	4 & 10-24-52-26
7/24/83	I.I. Bd.	F.A. Hendry	4-47-29
10/ 5/83	U.S.	W.D. Collier	3 & 4-6-52-26
12/15/83	I.I. Bd.	Fla. L. & Imp. Co.	50, 568 A. in Tships. 48, 49 & 50, R
6/30/84	U.S.	L.W. Johnson	2, 3 & 5-21-52-26
2/28/85	U.S.	W.D. Cash	5-6 & 3, 4 & 5-7-52-26
3/20/85	U.S.	W.C. Maloney, Jr	6-23-52-26
3/20/85	U.S.	P. McKeown	1-17 & 9-20, 52-26
3/20/85	U.S.	W.H. Williams	1-22 & 4-23, 52-26
3/27/85	Bd. Ed.	James Harden	16-48-25
4/10/85	U. S.	C.A. Brown	1-25-51-25
4/10/85	U.S.	E.H. Stillman	11-14 & 7-15, 52-26
5/ 9/85	U.S.	Jno. W. Roberts	14-18-52-27
5/15/85	Bd. Ed.	Henry W. Snell	2-16-50-25
5/12/85	U.S.	Jerome H. Pettis	4-2-53-26
5/16/85	I.I. Bd.	H.C. Curry	26-46-28 (Lake Trafford)
5/20/85	U.S.	A.J. Moggoeasi	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 8-33-52-26 (Kice Island)
5/20/85	U.S.	P. Cosgrove	2-6-52-26
5/25/85	U.S.	Geo. Hudson	2-15-52-26
5/26/85	I.I. Bd.	James Harden	26-48-26 (Near Horse Creek)
6/ 3/85	U.S.	E.V. Stephens	2 & 7-31-51-26
7/13/85	I.I. Bd.	I.S. Singletary	18-46-28 (Corkscrew)
7/30/85	I.I. Bd.	W.F. Powell	18-46-28 (Near Lake Trafford)
11/24/85	Bd. Ed.	J. Newton Smith	4-16-50-25 (Today's Naples Gold Coast)
12/17/85	Bd. Ed.	Jas. M. Raleigh	16-48 & 49-25.
3/21/86	I.I. Bd.	R.F. Wilkinson	6-47-29 (Old Wilkinson place near I
3/25/86	I.I. Bd.	D.W. Wilkinson	36-46-28
3/13/86	U.S.	Jno. W. Malone	4, 5 & 7-26-52-26 (Blue Hills?)
5/ 5/86	Bd. Ed.	Hugh A. Corley	16-52-26
5/20/86	I.I. Bd.	Wm. A. Rawls	6, 7 & 8-48-25 (Bonita Beach)
7/3/ 86	Bd. Ed.	I.L. Harris	16-50-26 (Rattlesnake Hammock)
7/ 9/86	Bd. Ed.	Edward Lewis	16-48-25
9/25/86	I.I. Bd.	Chas. F. Adams	25-49-25
3/14/87	Bd. Ed.	G. Brooksmith	16-48-25
4/ 4/87	I.I. Bd.	McIntosh & Graham	9-50-25 (In present Town of Nap
5/11/87	I.I. Bd.	Pierce & Pendleton	11 & 14-23-49-25 (Came from Ke
8/ 1/87	I.I. Bd.	D.F. Cagay	11 & 14-48-25.
6/18/88	U.S.	P. McKeown	8 & 9-7-52-26
1/23/89	U.S.	J.A. Meredith	2-36-51-25
2/15/89	I.I. Bd.	C.L. Mitchell	23-49-25
3/ 3/90	U.S.	Wm. S. Calhoun	3-31-51-26
6/ 5/90	U.S.	D.T. Stanton	3 & 9-9-52-26
2/24/94	U.S.	Robert Everett	4-32-51-26
3/ 8/94	U.S.	Isah Hall	5-17-51-26
9/28/94	U.S.	Jos. B. Williams	5, 9 & 10-24 & 2-25, 51-25
11/15/94	U.S.	Thos. E. Hart	4 & 15-30-51-26
3/28/95	I.I. Bd.	Thos. E. Hart	10-31-51-26
4/ 5/95	I.I. Bd.	O.B. Hall	1-6-52-26
4/12/95	I.I. Bd.	John A. Blom	4-52-26
4/18/95	I.I. Bd.	Cornelius Buckley	8-5-52-26
4/24/95	I.I. Bd.	N. Walker	4-33-51-26
4/24/95	I.I. Bd.	V. McIlvain	6-33-51-26

4/10/85	U.S.	C.A. Brown	1-23-51-25
4/10/85	U.S.	E.H. Stillman	11-14 & 7-15, 52-26
5/9/85	U.S.	Jno. W. Roberts	14-18-52-27
5/15/85	Bd. Ed.	Henry W. Snell	2-16-50-25
5/12/85	U.S.	Jerome H. Pettis	4-2-53-26
5/16/85	I.I. Bd.	H.C. Curry	26-46-28 (Lake Trafford)
5/20/85	U.S.	A.J. Moggoeasi	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 & 8-33-52-26 (Kice Island)
5/20/85	U.S.	P. Cosgrove	2-6-52-26
5/25/85	U.S.	Geo. Hudson	2-15-52-26
5/26/85	I.I. Bd.	James Harden	26-48-26 (Near Horse Creek)
6/3/85	U.S.	E.V. Stephens	2 & 7-31-51-26
7/13/85	I.I. Bd.	I.S. Singletary	18-46-28 (Corkscrew)
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3/21/86	I.I. Bd.	R.F. Wilkinson	6-47-29 (Old Wilkinson place near)
3/25/86	I.I. Bd.	D.W. Wilkinson	36-46-28
3/13/86	U.S.	Jno. W. Malone	4, 5 & 7-26-52-26 (Blue Hills?)
5/5/86	Bd. Ed.	Hugh A. Corley	16-52-26
5/20/86	I.I. Bd.	Wm. A. Rawls	6, 7 & 8-48-25 (Bonita Beach)
7/3/86	Bd. Ed.	I.L. Harris	16-50-26 (Rattlesnake Hammock)
7/9/86	Bd. Ed.	Edward Lewis	16-48-25
9/25/86	I.I. Bd.	Chas. F. Adams	25-49-25
3/14/87	Bd. Ed.	G. Brooksmith	16-48-25
4/4/87	I.I. Bd.	McIntosh & Graham	9-50-25 (In present Town of Nap)
5/11/87	I.I. Bd.	Pierce & Pendleton	11 & 14-23-49-25 (Came from K)
8/1/87	I.I. Bd.	D.F. Cagay	11 & 14-48-25.
6/18/88	U.S.	P. McKeown	8 & 9-7-52-26
1/23/89	U.S.	J.A. Merdith	2-36-51-25
2/15/89	I.I. Bd.	C.L. Mitchell	23-49-25
3/3/90	U.S.	Wm. S. Calhoun	3-31-51-26
6/5/90	U.S.	D.T. Stanton	3 & 9-9-52-26
2/24/94	U.S.	Robert Everett	4-32-51-26
3/8/94	U.S.	Isah Hall	5-17-51-26
9/28/94	U.S.	Jos. B. Williams	5, 9 & 10-24 & 2-25, 51-25
11/15/94	U.S.	Thos. E. Hart	4 & 15-30-51-26
3/28/95	I.I. Bd.	Thos. E. Hart	10-31-51-26
4/5/95	I.I. Bd.	O.B. Hall	1-6-52-26
4/12/95	I.I. Bd.	John A. Blom	4-52-26
4/18/95	I.I. Bd.	Cornelius Buckley	8-5-52-26
4/24/95	I.I. Bd.	N. Walker	4-33-51-26
4/24/95	I.I. Bd.	V. McIlvain	6-33-51-26
4/25/95	I.I. Bd.	Chris Johnson	8-31-51-26
5/2/95	I.I. Bd.	John Weeks	3-3-51-25
5/2/95	I.I. Bd.	Neil Harris	9-11-51-25
5/9/95	I.I. Bd.	Wm. T. Neel	9-5-52-26
6/6/95	I.I. Bd.	Frank Sayles	3-15-52-26
12/23/95	I.I. Bd.	Madison Weeks	1-3-51-25
2/28/96	I.I. Bd.	Henry J. Weeks	8-24-51-25
4/15/96	U.S.	Fred B. Ludlow	1-20 & 4-21, 52-26 (Pineapple plan)
11/11/96	U.S.	R.A. Demeritt	3-51-26 (Palmer Grove, Henderson C)

Date	Grantor	Grantee	Description
12/11/96	U.S.	Jno.O.Braman	6 & 7-7-52-26
4/9/97	U.S.	Jno.L.Collier	2-7-52-26
4/27/97	U.S.	Edwin V.Stephens	6 & 7-19-51-26
7/ 3/97	U.S.	Geo. B.Eubanks	6-9 & 9-10, 52-26
5/30/99	I.I.Bd.	Henry E.Kinnon	36-46-28 (Near Lake Trafford)
2/ 1/01	Bd.Ed.	T.J.Youmans	16-51-26 (Old Marco Junction).
4/ 9/01	U.S.	Albert Addison	6, 7, 8 & 9-14 & 1 & 2-23-52-26
4/10/01	U.S.	Sam E.Williams	3-31-51-26 & 4-25-51-25
5/24/04	U.S.	Robt.B.Smallwood	4-47-29 (Near Johnson's store, In
9/27/15	U.S.	M.S.Kice	10-20-52-26 (Near Kice Island on C
10/16/95	U.S.	Paul T.Ulrich	8-52-26.

- (b) Practically all of the deeds from the United States were as homesteads at no price per acre. The deeds from the I.I. Board and the State Board of Education varied in price from a minimum of 25¢ per acre to as high as \$1.25 per acre.
- (c) The standard form now appearing on abstracts of title for properties conveyed in Collier County contains the following preamble:

After the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus in the year A.D., 1492, a Spanish Officer named Juan Ponce de Leon, commanding an exploring expedition landed on the Atlantic Coast of Florida in the year 1513, and proclaimed the right of Spain to the country by virtue of discovery. From 1765 to 1783 the Floridas were under the dominion of Great Britain, the territory east of the Apalachicola River being called EAST FLORIDA, and west of said river called WEST FLORIDA.

Under the Treaty of 1821 with Spain, the United States acquired the Floridas, and all the public and vacant lands in the ceded territory became the property of the United States. See Federal Statutes Annotated, Vol. 7, page 810.

At the time of the cession of East and West Florida by Spain, the Indians were occupying portions of the ceded Territory and had possessory rights in the lands by virtue of occupancy. The United States by Treaties and otherwise acquired possession of said lands.

The Act of Congress approved March 3, 1845, admitting Florida into the Union of States, reserved to the United States and exempted from taxation all the public lands lying therein whilst remaining the property of the United States. See U.S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 5, page 742.

The Act of Congress approved September 28, 1850, granted to the State of Florida all the swamp and overflowed lands made unfit thereby for cultivation, which remained unsold at the passage of this Act, and patents by the United States to the State of Florida predicated upon said Act. See U. S. Statutes at Large, Vol. 9, page 519.

The Commissioner of Agriculture of the State of Florida is designated by law as the official custodian of all patents of lands by the United States to the State of Florida, and there is no provision of law requiring that such patents be recorded in the counties wherein the land so patented lie.