

John F. Horr, his wife and their family consisting of one son and one daughter, were living on Horr's Island in 1901. Captain Horr was U. S. Marshall for 17 years with headquarters at Key West during the Spanish-American War and later at Jacksonville. He used Horr's Island chiefly for vacation purposes, although he had a caretaker who managed a small citrus grove and the growing of pineapples. It is said that alligators were so numerous on Horr's Island and in the general vicinity that they were killed chiefly for their teeth. Both Captain Horr and his wife have been dead for several years.

John Curry, a one-armed and very corpulent man, lived on Curry's Island which is due south from the John Stephens' house at Caxambas. He was a single man who made his living by hunting and trapping. He was not related to the Curry family of Key West, and died some years ago at Henderson's Creek.

J. H. Newell in 1901 was living on Dismal Key. He was an itinerant preacher. He and his wife, whose maiden name is not recalled, were separated and she lived on Pig Key, immediately east of Caxambas in Barfield Bay. Their daughter, Charity, married "Judge" Addison.

In 1901, Blue Hills Plantation at the extreme northern end of Horr's Island was occupied by John Weeks who, at one time, lived at the mouth of Allen's River, now named Barron's River, across from Everglades. He died at Blue Hills and is buried there. One of the three daughters who were living with him on Allen's River when the Allen family arrived in Everglades, married one of the Barnes who lived at the Grocery Place, and one of this family is the present Mrs. George Cole of Everglades.

Pettit, father of C. W. Pettit, now living at Goodland Point, was, in 1901, living at Goodland Point where he reared his family. He owned the entire eastern end of the peninsula known as Goodland Point, and grew vegetables as well as a small citrus and mango grove. He later sold all of his holdings at Goodland Point except the northeastern end, where his son C. W. Pettit now lives and has sold off several small lots in a subdivision. The present road leading to Goodland Point was constructed by C. W. Pettit about 1938 with the assistance of Collier County.

Jim Daniels, who came from Key West via Shark River, was located in 1901 on Grocery Bay near the mouth of Royal Palm Hammock Creek and was engaged in cutting wood for the Key West market. Later, he located on a high mound on what is now known as "The Old Daniels Place" on Collier Bay. This house was originally built by Joe Addison, brother of "Judge" Addison. Mr. Daniels died about 1957.

Surveyor William Roberts of Mullock Creek near Estero in 1901 was living at the Roberts Place on Collier Bay, which Bay is sometimes called Roberts Bay, although the generally accepted bay of that name is immediately north of the present Scripps's School property near Caxambas. Mr. Roberts was drowned about 1932 while employed as a game warden by the National Audubon Society.

What is now known as the "Old Tyler Place", immediately east of the present Marco-Caxambas road and south of the first sand hill coming from Marco, was started by Tyler, who planted the present mango grove. This property was later acquired by the late Barron Collier.

Immediately northeast of the Tyler place on the bay was the present "Old Addison Place", started by Joe Addison, brother of "Judge" Addison, who sold to the late Barron Collier, removed to Naples and died *in Ft. Myers*.

Dr. Olds, settled on what is now known as the "Old Olds Place" about two miles up the channel from Marco. He had two daughters and, after living on the place about 15 years, Dr. Olds and his family moved back north from whence they came originally. He was a practicing medical doctor and practiced on Marco Island during his residence there.

George Eubanks, who came from Clearwater, settled at the "Old Eubanks Place" about 1 mile above the "Olds Place". He later operated a store at Marco and his son, Harvey Eubanks, is still living at Marco.

Gatchell bought a lot at Caxambas from J. M. Barfield and also purchased the Frank Sayles property. Sayles was originally from the West, was an old bachelor in 1901 and died in Fort Myers. The Gatchell place was acquired by the late Barron Collier.

The Burnham Clam Factory was started at Caxambas about 1903 and the Doxsee Clam Factory began operations at Marco about 1911.

The original store built by J. M. Barfield on the present site of the wharf at Caxambas was built in 1904 and, after being severely damaged by a hurricane, about 1940, was torn down. The Heights Hotel was built by J. M. Barfield as a home in 1900 and was later enlarged to accommodate tourists.

The Post Office was established in 1903 and was named by Mr. J. M. Barfield, Caximba which, according to the late Mrs. Juana Rojas Stephens, wife of Mr. John Raymond Stephens, who was born in Matanzas, Cuba, means in Spanish, "Place of wells". It is a known fact that fresh water may be obtained in shallow wells in the sand back a few hundred feet from the high water mark on the Marco Island beach and, also, at Cape Romano.

Mr. John Laud Collier moved to Caxambas as a bachelor and constructed a home which was later enlarged and is still occupied by collateral members of the Barfield family. Mr. Collier married while living at Caxambas, later sold his property to the late Barron Collier and removed to Fort Myers, where he is still living.

-Marco Island was very isolated in the early days and, as Fort Myers was difficult of access and, having no railroad connection, was a poor point of supply, practically all lumber and supplies for the Island were purchased in Tampa and transported to the Island by schooner. Mail was received by schooner from Punta Rassa three times weekly at Marco and, the first mail carrier after the establishment of the Post Office at Caxambas was A. T. Stephens who carried the mail from Marco to Caxambas by

foot. Sometimes, when weather was favorable, Mr. Stephens carried the mail by boat.

There is the remains of an old bridge across an estuary leading into the extreme northern end of Clam Bay. The reason for this bridge was that, in the very early days, the Collier home was across the pass west of Marco and teams were driven along the beach, thence across this bridge to the settlement west of Marco.

What is now known as the Old Georgia Fruit Farm on high ground south of John Stephens' Creek was originally settled by "Judge" Addison. Later it was taken over by _____ Stephens, father of Thomas Stephens of Atlanta, who is not related to the A. T. Stephens family. An Aunt of Thomas Stephens was a schoolteacher at Marco and married W. D. Collier.

- (j) When the A. T. Stephens family first came to Caxambas with John Green, they settled on what is now known as the "Old Mann Place", later they bought the former home of J. M. Barfield, dismantled the place and barged the lumber to Grocery Bay across Royal Palm Hammock Creek from the Barnes habitation about 1/4 of a mile from the mouth of the Creek. Jim Daniels lived across the Creek from Barnes, who grew and ground sugar cane in the original sugar cane mill in that vicinity.

Still later, the Stephens family removed the house back to Caxambas and located on the site of the present John Stephens house. Later, after his marriage, Mr. Barfield removed the original house to the site of the present Sulzer house.

17. From reference CCLXXXIX, (146. Interview 1947)

- (a) Interview with Mr. W. W. House by D. Graham Copeland at the residence of Mr. House in Everglades, Florida on April 9, 1947.
- (b) William Worlick House was born in Hendersonville, North Carolina in 1881, and married Nettie Margaret Howell at Chokoloskee, Florida, in 1910.
- (c) Mr. House came with his father, David Daniel House, and his mother, born Ida Blanche Borders of Hendersonville, North Carolina, to Ocala, in 1886 as a boy of 5.
- (d) From Ocala, the family moved in 1891 in a one-horse wagon to Harbor View on Charlotte Harbor. The family remained at Harbor View until 1895 and then moved to Turner's River, settling on the present site of the large mounds on the east bank of that river about $3/4$ of a mile from the mouth of the river. At that time, his father bought from Dr. Harris of Key West a vegetable packing house -- one story about 50 feet wide by about 100 feet long -- and a two story dwelling and office building for the sum of \$2,000.
- (e) Dr. Harris had acquired the property from Captain Turner, who remained on the place as a tenant until his death before the House family arrived. Captain Turner was the original settler on Turner's River and his wife removed to Key West soon after her husband died.
- (f) The House family remained on the place for about 5 years, removing about 1900 to Chokoloskee, because the land had become salty from too intense cultivation and flooding during hurricanes. The House family raised eggplants, sugar cane and peppers, which produce was packed in the packing house and shipped by schooner to Key West, where it was handled by W. T. Cash, Curry Sons and others for shipment to New York or sale in the local market. After the House family moved to Chokoloskee, several other people lived on the property but did no farming, and the hurricane of 1910 completely destroyed the packing house and other buildings, after which no one lived on the property.
- (g) On two comparatively small dirt and shell mounds about $1/4$ mile north of the Tamiami Trail at the Turner's River bridge, Jim Demere, Sr. settled about 1905. Mr. Demere sold out to Captain George Storter and a Mr. Ellis who used the property as an orange and grapefruit grove. Prior to Demere using the property, the mounds were occupied by Tommy Osceola and his family. This spot was the head of navigation by small boats during the rainy season and, nearby, is a small lake which never goes dry even in the dry season.

- (4) The old trail used by the Indians led from these mounds to Immokalee via the site now known as Rock Island about 3 miles south of today's Mules City. This old trail branched soon after leaving the mounds to the northeast and ended at Fort Shackelford in the present Seminole Indian reservation. From old Fort Harrell, which is at the head of small boat navigation on New River in Township 53-31, a trail also led to old Fort Shackelford, about 3/4 of the distance of which was on the old trail from the mounds on Turner's River above referred to.
- (1) When the House family settled at Chokoloskee in 1900, the following families were living on that Island:

William Wiggins, who was originally from Wauchula,
Two brothers by the name of Santini,
A Mr. Santana who married a Santini, and
The C. G. McKinney family who came from Fort White
originally.

The Santini brothers and Mr. Santana were Catholics who came from Key West. One of the Santinis operated a schooner to Key West and Santini Bay is named for them, although no settlement was made on that bay.

All of the people living at Chokoloskee at the time made their living chiefly by fishing and plume hunting, for both of which ready markets were found in Key West.

- (j) In 1900 on Halfway Creek were living the families of Ben Brown, Bill Brown, Liza Hall, mother of Captain Charley Boggess, George Howell, Yeomans and Lockhart, all of whom raised sugar cane and bananas for Key West.
- (k) In 1900, the Sand Fly Pass place was occupied by Joe Wiggins who operated a small store, traded with the Indians and handled plumes. Wiggins was not the original settler and he moved to Key West later selling his place to Captain Charley Boggess for \$400.00.
- (l) In 1900 Captain George Storter and his brother, R. B. Storter, were living at Everglades, they having purchased their property from the original settler, Captain Allen.
- (m) In 1900, Walter Langford and a Mr. Roach opened the Deep Lake Grove, although most of the improvements were made at a later date.
- (n) Mr. W. W. House thinks that the expensive sour orange grove on the mound about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles Northwest of Deep Lake is the original West Hinson Grove.
- (o) Concerning other early settlements on the coast, according to Mr. House, were the following:

Black Hills, on the upper reaches of today's Barron's River, about 2 miles upstream from Everglades, was first occupied by Joe Williams. He knows nothing about the Layne place except that the first settler died there after making the first trip ever made from the coast through the Big Cypress, except for such trips made during the Seminole Indian War. Jim Daniels preceded Layne, who had a syrup mill. Still later Captain George Storter had a sugar mill on the site of the present employment office in Everglades.

John Phineas Daniels moved from the Layne place to a place at the mouth of Fahkshatchee River and East River.

Mr. House did not know John Gomez except by reputation which was not good.

Dismal Key was occupied by the Newell family when Mr. House came here and Horse Key was occupied by the Moore family in later years.

Four Brothers Key is located about halfway between Dismal Key and Panther Key but he does not recall the name of the brothers who gave it its name.