

**EVERGLADES SOCIETY FOR
HISTORIC PRESERVATION**
Dedicated to our Unique History

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

date _____

- Individual (\$25) Family (\$40)
 Business (\$100) Patron (\$100)
 Benefactor (\$500) Extra (\$_____)

*Please make check payable to "ESHP" and send to
ESHP, P.O.Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139*

NAME _____

EMAIL _____

STREET / P.O.BOX:

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

ALTERNATE ADDRESS

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CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

MONTHS AT ALTERNATE ADDRESS:

- JAN FEB MAR APR
 MAY JUN JUL AUG
 SEP OCT NOV DEC

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.

ESHP participates in local events such as Art-in-the-Glades and Seafood Festival. The Society organizes informative talks and historical films for members and for the public. Directors are elected to the Board by the members every three years, and are responsible for various projects such as historical signage.



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P O Box 46, Everglades City, FL, 34139
email: ESHP@hotmail.com
www.evergladeshistorical.org

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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 commemorative bricks that were placed in the sidewalk leading up to City Hall.

HISTORICAL SIGNAGE

ESHP worked with the owners of historic structures to erect signs so that visitors can read about our heritage.

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. A computerized catalog of books is on our website and scanned images of old photographs are available.

COLLECTIONS

The **Vallez Collection** consists of five original paintings of local buildings by Jerry Vallez.

The **Klotz Collection** consists of twenty original water colors of local historical buildings. It was donated by the artist's daughter and framed with a grant from the Collier County United Arts Council.

MONROE STATION RESTORATION

Monroe Station on the Tamiami Trail was a rest stop when the new road was completed in 1928 and home to a patrolman with the South Florida Mounted Police. ESHP is helping with the rescue of the iconic building by applying for grants and fundraising.