



# MONROE COUNTY CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT II, CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT #19.h.sm.200-040 MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONSERVANCY, INC.



AHC TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 1230  
JUNE 2019

MONROE COUNTY CULTURAL RESOURCE  
ASSESSMENT II  
CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
GRANT #19.h.sm.200-040  
MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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## **NONDISCRIMINATION**

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## CONSULTANT SUMMARY

From January through May, 2019, the Archaeological & Historical Conservancy, Inc (AHC) conducted a cultural resource survey and update of selected previously recorded terrestrial archaeological sites and historic structures located in the Florida Keys within unincorporated Monroe County. The assessment included a survey of previously undocumented historic structures that had turned 50 or more years old since the last assessment in 2016 (Carr et al. 2016). The study reviewed numerous previously recorded archaeological sites within the selected project areas and archaeological sites throughout the Keys to determine the impacts of Hurricane Irma in 2017. The principal focus of the historic architectural assessment was Duck Key, Conch Key, and Indian Mound Estates on Sugarloaf Key to determine whether any of those areas may qualify as an historic district. The assessment was conducted for Monroe County under a grant from the Florida Division of Historical Resources.

The project area consists of a chain of islands extending 180 miles from Key Largo southwest to Key West. The project excluded the municipalities of Key West, Marathon, Layton and Islamorada (Figure 1). Excluded from the assessment were State and Federal properties.

This assessment was conducted to fulfill historic and cultural resource requirements for Florida's Chapters 267 and 373 and cultural resource requirements of the Monroe County Historic Commission. This assessment was conducted in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), as amended in 1992, and 36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties. The work and the report conform to the specifications set forth in Chapter IA-46, Florida Administrative Code.

The Florida Keys total 65,443 acres with current population concentrated in Key West, Stock Island, Boca Chica, Marathon, Key Largo and Islamorada and in a string of communities distributed along the Overseas Highway (U.S. 1). Most of the upland areas are developed or impacted with the exception of Federal and State preserves; the largest upland preserve being the Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammock State Park containing 2454 acres (Wilder et al. 2014).

This assessment included an archival review and pedestrian surveys, both architectural and archaeological, and completion of Florida Master Site File (FMSF) forms. Twenty nine previously recorded archaeological sites and 13 previously recorded historic structures reviewed for changes since 2016. Two historic structures were determined to have been destroyed (Appendix I). Additionally, eight archaeological sites and 90 historic structures were newly documented. A total of eight archaeological site forms and 104 historic structure forms were completed or updated for this assessment.

Recommendations are provided in this report regarding the protection of significant cultural resources including a potential historic district for Conch Key, resource groups on Duck Key and in Indian Mound Estates on Sugarloaf key, and guidelines for the effective protection of archaeological sites.

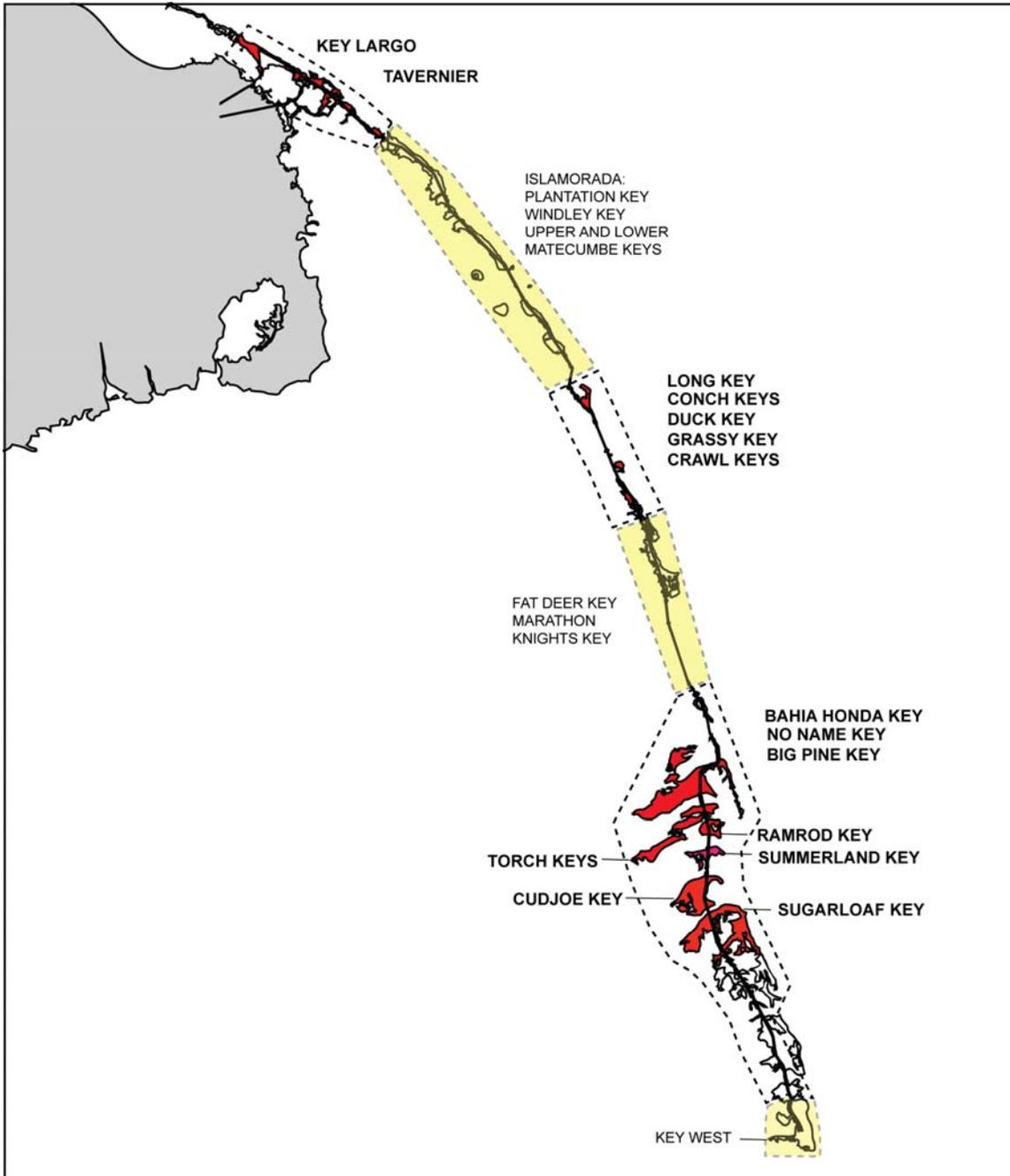
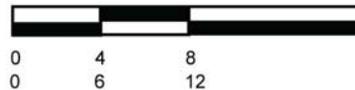


Figure 1. The Florida Keys showing location of project area divisions.

-  = PROJECT AREA
-  = ASSESSED KEY OR PART OF KEY
-  = EXCLUDED (FEDERAL, STATE, MUNICIPAL) AREA



## PROJECT SETTING

The Florida Keys consist of an island chain that extends approximately 180 miles from Soldier Key in southern Biscayne Bay in Miami-Dade County south to Key Largo in and west to Key West in Monroe County, and west to the Marquesas Keys and the Dry Tortugas. The chain has about ninety-five percent of its land mass in Monroe County. The current study addresses the unincorporated portions in Monroe County from northern Key Largo south and west to Boca Chica east of the City of Key West. Excluded from this study are the municipalities of Islamorada (which encompasses Plantation Key, Windley Key, and Upper and Lower Matecumbe Key), Layton, Marathon, and Key West. Also excluded are all State and Federal lands.

The Florida Keys total 65,443 acres with current population concentrated in communities such as Key West, Stock Island, Boca Chica, Marathon, and Islamorada and in a string of communities along the Overseas Highway (U.S. 1). A large portion of the upland areas are developed and intensely impacted. The largest upland preserve is the Dagny Johnson Key Largo Hammock State Park containing 2454 acres (Wilder et al. 2014).

The climate of the Florida Keys is characterized as seasonally wet with warm humid summers and mild-dry winters. Rainfall averages 42 inches per year due to the relatively small land mass. The climate can be unstable with storm surge, heavy rains and high winds associated with tropical hurricane activity (Marlowe and Henize 2007).

The Atlantic Ocean borders the southern and eastern shore of the Keys and Florida Bay abuts to the north and west of the keys. The Florida Keys can be separated into two distinct physiographic divisions: the first comprising the Upper and Middle Keys and the second the Lower Keys. The Upper and Middle Keys are narrow and elongated or rounded islands that extend in a southwesterly arc. The Lower Keys are large, irregular islands with their major axis (north/south) oriented at right angles to the Keys island chain.

The Florida Keys are formed of two geological substrates. The Upper and Middle keys are mantled by the Key Largo Limestone, a porous Pleistocene era “raised coral reef” (Randazzo and Halley 1997) which is the oldest geologically. The Lower Keys beginning at or about Big Pine Key are formed surficially by Miami oolite, a medium to hard limestone comprised of denser calcium carbonate particles.

The Upper and Middle Keys have a central upland ridge of fossilized coral rock (the Key Largo formation) that extends the full length of the island. The elevation of the ridge is up to 12-16 feet above sea level, but most locales are considerably less, generally 4-6 feet. The coral rock bedrock is heavily eroded with solution holes, the result of

millennia of acid leaching and erosion from water action on the underlying rock substrata. Despite the appearance of occasional freshwater pockets in the numerous solution holes, Key Largo limestone does not retain fresh water due to numerous lateral fissures in the rock which allow increased outflow. In addition, these fissures allow salt water intrusion in response to tidal influence resulting in increased mixing and dissipation of any fresh water (Monroe County 1986:16).

The Lower Keys were formed as the result of a formerly submerged oolite bank (the Miami oolite formation) dated to 110,1000  $\pm$ 20,000 BP (Broecker and Thurber 1965). Since the oolite has fewer lateral connections than the Key Largo limestone, outflow is slower. Tidal amplitude is lower as well, resulting in less mixing. Cementation crusts within the oolite also tend to limit evaporation (Monroe County 1986:16). This allows the occurrence of freshwater lenses in the Lower Keys. In addition, pothole wells with fresh water are common throughout these Keys. The Miami oolite being the younger formation slightly overlies or overlaps the Key Largo Limestone and geological formation extends into the recent period (U.S. Geologic Survey 2013).

The soils of the Keys are alkaline and consist of shell, organic matter, with either disintegrated coral rock or Miami oolitic limestone (Craighead 1971:81). At present, overlying sediments are conspicuously sparse, often being less than 10 cm in depth. Deeper sediment deposits occur in solution holes, and these deep sediment solution holes often were targeted by early settlers as agriculture plots for pineapples and citrus plants. Some deep sediment deposits contain black earth midden soil associated with prehistoric occupation. Early settlers often borrowed from these middens to acquire the organically rich soil for their gardens. Formerly, soil composed of hammock peat and litter, about 6 to 18 inches thick, covered high, well drained limestone rock outcrops that supported tropical hardwood hammock (Craighead 1971:81-2).

Vegetative communities are characterized as six distinct types: Mangroves; beach berm/dunes; transitional wetlands; tropical hardwood hammocks; transitional pineland/hardwood hammocks; pine rockland; and freshwater wetlands (Henize 2007).

The Florida Keys have extensive offshore reefs, patch reefs, seagrass flats, tidal zones, and mangrove swamp areas that are important to area fish and wildlife. The prehistoric Indians and early settlers extensively exploited these ecological zones.

Much of the upland Keys area was covered by hardwood hammocks prior to development. Primary climax hammocks are now rare because these areas were selectively logged and cleared during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. However, many areas of vigorous secondary hardwood hammock communities have regenerated. A comprehensive survey of the surviving Keys hardwood hammocks was done by Art Wiener in 1980 (Wiener n.d.).

Botanical studies, notably that done by George Wilder in upper Key Largo (Wilder et al. 2014) has inventoried in the largest contiguous, relatively undisturbed Keys hammock a total of 417 species, of which 300 are native to Florida. Many of these species are tropical to neo-tropical and are found only in the immediate area.

Hammock covers the upland community of most of the islands of the Keys and is bordered by a transitional zone. This transitional zone may be composed of either a salt marsh or a buttonwood association or both. If both are present, the salt marsh is usually closer to the shoreline. The buttonwood association is usually composed primarily of buttonwood (*Conocarpus erectus*), grasses, and halophytic ground cover. The marsh is primarily composed of non-woody plants although mangrove and buttonwood may be present. Common species to the marsh include saltwort, salt grass, chestnut sedge, key grass, glasswort, sea purslane, and cordgrass.

Closer to the shoreline can be found the three mangrove species common to the Keys. In some keys, the mangroves encompass a considerable area of the key. In addition, small areas of freshwater wetlands can be noted in Key Vaca. These are usually the circular pothole wells that are found in the hammock and are characterized by either red or white mangrove or buttonwood growing in the middle of a dense hammock.

Keys hammocks are communities of succulent or deciduous plants that have adapted to growth on nearly bare rock and in seasonally xeric (dry) conditions. These plants are frequently thorny and/or poisonous (ex. Cacti, wild lime, poisonwood, manchineel) that further defends against being eaten or disturbed. The plants grow on terrain that is solutioned, exposed limestone in a topography called karstic (with holes, crevasses, and eroded surfaces). Leafy detrital matter, and material such as decomposed seagrass carried in by storm surges form pockets of soil in solution holes and crevasses in the rock, allowing this plant community a scant growing medium. Hammocks can be characterized as palm hammocks, cactus hammocks, and low or high hammock depending on vegetative makeup or situation. Where soils are deeper (such as prehistoric midden sites), the tropical hardwood hammocks can be much more luxuriant with high canopy growth and increased diversity of species. Pristine climax hardwood hammocks of tall canopy height are of limited extent. Some of the shrubs and trees present are Jamaica thatch palms, pigeon plum, wild tamarind, gumbo limbo, Jamaica dogwood, willow bustic, poisonwood, blolly, mastic, short-leafed fig, black ironwood, wild dilly, darling plum, stoppers (*Eugenia* spp.), crabwood, wild coffee, randia, hog plum, Jamaica and limber caper, princewood, strongbark, lancewood, soldierwood, milkbark, cinnamon bark, and as many as fifty other species characteristic of mature tropical hardwood hammocks. These trees form a dense coppice with little understory vegetation and abundant leaf litter.

Keys pinelands or rockland pinelands are maintained by two factors: periodic fires which perpetuate the pineland plants and prevent the transition to hardwood hammock and underlying lenses of fresh water which are characteristic of Miami Oolitic formations in the Lower Keys. The vegetation consists of mature slash pines; young pines; other trees and shrubs (such as poisonwood, black bead, locustberry, pisonia, and long-stemmed stopper), and palms (which are generally keys thatch or silver palms), together with an understory of grasses, golden creeper, bluestem, dropseed, three-awn grass, adderbrake, pine ferns, a few cabbage palms, and possibly partridge pea and wild croton. (Henize 2007)

Pinelands are found presently in the Lower Keys, although a stand of pines was reported on Key Largo by Stevenson (1969:7). The pines are located over the freshwater lenses of the Biscayne aquifer that exists on the Lower Keys. Slash pinelands are a fire climax community, that is, in absence of fires they will be replaced gradually by tropical hardwood hammock (Monroe County 1986:161).

Freshwater pothole wells are common in the Lower Keys. These are usually vegetated by sawgrass and/or cattails as well as the more ubiquitous buttonwood or mangroves. These wetland communities are found usually in hardwood hammocks or pinelands (Monroe County 1986:165). A notable example in the middle Keys is found at Crane Hammock in a large permanent ponded feature that was the source in both pre- and post- historic times for freshwater (Carr et al. 2003). Many freshwater marsh plants such as pond apples, leather ferns, and sawgrass can atypically occur in these isolated wetlands.

Beach berms, many caused by hurricane and storm surges, occur throughout the shorelines of the Keys and are composed of calcareous sand and/or shell and coral hash. They may range in height from mean high water to more than eight feet above sea level (Monroe County 1986:165-6). Common berm plants include sea oats, cordgrass, Keys spider lily, scaevola, bay cedar, sea lavender and in some cases, coastal hardwood hammocks.

## CULTURAL SUMMARY

The Florida Keys are situated within the Glades culture area originally defined by M.W. Stirling (1936) as a distinctive cultural area to include all of southern Florida. John M. Goggin defined more specific boundaries for the area and identified three inclusive sub-areas (1947). These are the Calusa sub-area in southwest Florida, the "Tekesta" sub-area for southeast Florida and the Florida Keys, and the Okeechobee sub-area around Lake Okeechobee. Goggin classified these sub- areas on the basis of his recognition of their distinctive natural environments, the different tribes in those regions during historic times, and differences in the archaeological record between the areas.

Since Goggin's work, there have been several amendments to these definitions, perhaps one of the most important being the recognition of the Okeechobee sub-area as a distinctive cultural area apart from the Glades area. Research there by William Sears at the Fort Center site on Fisheating Creek identified maize pollen in association with a major complex of mounds and earthworks (Sears and Sears 1976). Intensive agriculture is not recognized as part of the Glades tradition of hunting, fishing, and gathering subsistence that is considered typical of southern Florida (Goggin 1949). This area is now referred to as the Belle Glade cultural area even though the occurrence of maize agriculture in the area has been discredited (Thompson et al. 2013).

The area north of Naples to Cape Haze has been reclassified as the Caloosahatchee Area (Sears 1967; Griffin 1974). Milanich and Fairbanks (1980) identified this area as extending southward to near Cape Sable. However, archaeological research in the Ten Thousand Islands, including test excavations at the Turner River site (Ehrenhard et al. 1979) and test excavations at Addison Key (Beriault and Carr 2009) indicates a distinctive ceramic tradition for the Ten Thousand Islands area. Preliminary analysis indicates that during the period of ca. AD 800-AD 1000, the predominant decorated types of pottery in the Ten Thousand Islands were Gordon's Pass Incised, Sanibel Incised, and Fort Drum Incised. These decorated ceramic types are found infrequently, at best, in the Gulf area north of Wiggins Pass or within the Florida Keys or other parts of southeast Florida. This distinctive ceramic tradition during that period undoubtedly reflects a separate tribal group in the Ten Thousand Island area from those using the plain, undecorated pottery typical of the Caloosahatchee area to the north or the decorated pottery types of Opa-locka Incised, Key Largo Incised and Dade Incised typical of southeast Florida. The lack of awareness by archaeologists of the distinctive ceramic traits of present day Collier County reflects the minimal amount of stratigraphic research that has been conducted there. Furthermore, because the area's ceramic types became more similar to those of southeast Florida by ca. AD 800-1000, there is the appearance of uniformity between southwest and southeast Florida by the middle of the Glades II period and through part of the Glades III period. This apparent cultural uniformity during the Late Formative Period has misled some investigators (i.e., Milanich and Fairbanks 1980)

who have failed to note the distinctive trait assemblages between the various South Florida areas through time.

## **PALEO-INDIAN PERIOD (14,000 - 8500 BP)**

Archaeological evidence indicates that the Paleo-Indian arrived in Florida at least 14,000 years ago (Halligan et al. 2016). Most of the evidence from South Florida has been confined to the Cutler fossil site in Dade County (Carr 1986, 2012, 2015) and from southwestern-Florida, particularly from Little Salt Spring (Clausen et al. 1979), and Warm Mineral Springs (Cockrell and Murphy 1978),

A growing body of paleoecological data indicates that during the Late Pleistocene, Florida would have been drier with cooler summers and relatively warm winters (Carbone 1983). Reduced cyclonic activity, because of cooler temperatures, would have made southern Florida more hospitable, but a scarcity of fresh water may have reduced areas selected for habitation. Carbone (1983) presents data indicating that Florida and the entire Southeast was an environmental mosaic of diverse microhabitats. Delcourt and Delcourt (1981) hypothesized that 18,000 years BP southern Florida was covered with scrub vegetation consisting of xeric herbs and shrubs (rosemary and sandhill polygonella, etcetera), with interspersed scrub oak. By 10,000 BP forests of oaks and pines were expanding and the scrub vegetation was being replaced by oak savannah (Delcourt and Delcourt 1981).

The Paleo-Indian may have lived in southern Florida in association with mammoths, bison, ground sloths, and other types of megafauna. Deposits of fossilized Pleistocene faunal bones have been uncovered by dredging operations from several locations in southwestern Florida, and on the southeast coast, from solution holes in south Dade County. Martin and Webb (1974) noted the wide range of grazing ungulates and sloths indicating more extensive grasslands than present. With the extinction of the megafauna by about 11,000 BP, the Paleo-Indian apparently made an effective adaptation to the emerging wetlands of southern Florida, and began to establish the patterns of subsistence that were to provide the basis of resource procurement for the subsequent 8000 years.

Cockrell and Murphy (1978) provide an excellent location model for Early Man sites throughout Florida, and present a convincing case for the existence of submerged sites off the Florida coastline – since proven to be correct. These submerged sites are evidence of extensive sea level changes ranging from between 30 m to 100 m below the present level (Fairbridge 1974). This sea level decline would have greatly expanded the area of the Florida peninsula. The present day Florida Keys would have been part of a connected land mass of the southern peninsula. Any Paleo-Indian sites would probably be submerged and closer to the Late Pleistocene shores although one site at Grassy Key, 8MO1297, suggests the possibility of Paleo sites on the current island mass.

## **ARCHAIC PERIOD (8500 - 2500 BP)**

During the Wisconsin Post Glacial, the sea level rose and greatly diminished Florida's land size. It has been calculated that the rate of sea level rise was approximately 8.3 cm per 100 years from 6000 to 3000 BP. That rate has decreased to about 3.5 cm per 100 years, from 3000 BP to present (Scholl et al. 1969). By 5000 BP cypress swamps and hardwood forests characteristic of the subtropics began to develop in southern Florida (Carbone 1983; Delcourt and Delcourt 1981). The Archaic Period was characterized by an increased reliance by the native populations on shellfish and marine resources and a generally expanded hunting, fishing, and plant gathering base throughout southern Florida.

Archaeologists were not aware until recently of the extent and nature of Archaic Period sites in southern Florida. The earliest dated archaeological materials of this period are from the Bay West site (8CR200), a cypress pond mortuary situated in Collier County northeast of Naples (Beriault et al 1981). It is likely that the Bay West site was a water-filled solution hole that provided a fresh water source during the much drier mid-Archaic period. Radiocarbon dates recovered there indicate a temporal range of 5500 BP-7000 BP. This chronology and the cultural materials, particularly the preservation of organic materials, are very similar to those recovered from Little Salt Spring, 110 km to the north (Clausen et al 1979). These mortuary ponds, sinkholes, and springs are the principal known type of cemeteries of the Archaic Period throughout central and southern Florida.

Extensive shell middens were formed throughout southwestern Florida from 5000-4000 BP. Horseshoe-shaped ridges similar to the archaic shell rings of the Georgia and South Carolina coast occur along the southern Gulf Coast, specifically on Horr's island (McMichael and Milanich 1979) and at Bonita Springs (Goggin n.d.). Pre-ceramic cultural horizons on tree-island sites have been reported within the eastern Everglades (Mowers and Williams 1972). Radiocarbon samples dating peat strata that were intermixed with cultural material suggest that occupation may have begun on certain tree islands while they were still inundated (Carr et al 1979). It is likely that prehistoric occupation of these "wet" tree islands may have been an important contribution toward their physiographic and floristic development.

The Late Archaic Period is distinguished by the development of fiber-tempered pottery, the precursor of a ceramic tradition that provides chronological markers for the subsequent three millennia. The Late Archaic Orange series of fiber-tempered pottery is well documented by Cockrell on Marco Island (1970), and undecorated fiber-tempered pottery has been recovered on the southeast coast from several sites (i.e., 8DA1081, Carr 1981). Sites containing fiber-tempered pottery have been dated from as early as 3400±100 BP on Marco Island, and dates of ca. 2500 BP at the Firebreak site (Beriault et al unpublished) and 3000-4000 BP along Biscayne Bay (Carr 1981). Fiber-tempered

pottery has been reportedly at 8MO25 on Key Largo (Eyster personal communication) but that claim has not been confirmed.

### **GLADES PERIOD (2500 BP - 500 BP)**

Goggin (1947) defined three time periods for south Florida's prehistory. Using decorated pottery types that have subsequently proven to be effective time markers, he created the Glades I, II, and III periods. These divisions have proven most useful in extreme southern Florida. The Glades I early period (500 BC- ca. AD 200) is characterized by the use, of undecorated sand tempered pottery. Ceramic decorations in extreme southern Florida were developed between AD 200 and AD 500 with the inception of the Fort Drum decorated series. While decorated types begin during the Late Glades I period, future 'revisions of the Glades period could simply make the first appearance of decorated ware coincide with the inception of the Glades III period as Goggin had originally intended.

During the Glades II period (AD. 750-AD. 1200), there are shifts in ceramic styles that allow the archaeologist to accurately divide the period into three subperiods based on the relative frequency of certain decorative styles (i.e., Key Largo Incised, Miami Incised, Sanibel Incised, etcetera). Mound construction was also initiated during this period, reflecting the rise of a stratified society with a select ruling and/or priest class.

During the Glades III period (AD 1200-1500), there is a shift in ceramic decorations. Griffin reports the near absence of decorated pottery between AD 1000 and AD 1200 (Griffin 1974). Occurrences of St. Johns tradeware increased along the east coast, and a thriving trade network that brought a variety of exotic resources such as lithic tools and ornaments is evident. Tainos may have arrived in south Florida from eastern Cuba and/or the Bahamas in AD 1575. Such a visit is described by Fonteneda (True 1946).

### **EUROPEAN CONTACT PERIOD (CA. AD 1513 - 1763)**

The European contact period coincides with Goggin's Glades IIIc period and is distinguished in extreme southeastern Florida by the appearance of Glades tooled pottery and a general introduction of European materials into the Indian artifact assemblage. When the Europeans arrived in the sixteenth century they encountered a thriving population with at least five separate tribes in southern Florida: the Tequesta in southeast Florida, the Calusa in southwest Florida, and the Jeaga and Ais along the east coast north of the Tequesta, and the Mayami near Lake Okeechobee. European accounts indicate that the Calusas maintained political dominance over these other tribes. It has been estimated that there were about 20,000 Indians in South Florida when the Spanish arrived (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980). In the eighteenth century the Indians of the Keys were referred to as the Matecumbes (Wilkinson N.D.)

By 1763, when the English gained control of Florida, that population had been reduced to only several hundred. The Keys were the last refuge of South Florida tribes. Harassed by raids from Creeks, who as allies of the English ventured southward to take slaves, the last of the south Florida tribes migrated to Cuba with the Spanish (Romans 1775). Some of these Indians, reportedly unhappy in Cuba, returned to Florida and became known as the Spanish Indians (Sturtevant 1953). The Spanish Indians eventually became part of the Seminoles, who had fled into South Florida during the early nineteenth century.

### **LATE COLONIAL (1763-1819)**

The Florida Keys were sparsely populated during this period. The exodus of the South Florida Indian tribes from the area had been completed by the time of the inception of British rule in 1763—most had left for Cuba between 1709 and 1763 (Worth 2003). Some Creeks and other North Florida Indians were reported in the area, but their use of the Keys was largely for hunting and fishing. During the twenty years of British rule over East Florida, no settlements were attempted in the Keys, although a stream of Bahamians began to use the Keys for fishing, wrecking, logging, and settlement. It was during this period that the surveyor Gerald De Brahm completed a coastal map of East Florida. Other Europeans frequented the area by ship for water and provisions. The reintroduction of Spanish rule in 1783 did not change the growing use of the Keys by native Bahamians.

### **EARLY NATIONAL PERIOD (1819-1865)**

The United States purchase of Florida from Spain was the impetus for the American settlement of the Florida Keys. An exodus of Bahamians to the Keys occurred during this same time period. The U.S. Navy established its anti-piracy headquarters in Key West early in the early 1820s. Key West retained its strategic military significance through the end of the Civil War. Cuban fishermen were using the area and many maintained dual citizenship in accord with the Florida purchase stipulations between the U.S. and Spain. Early in this period a settlement of blacks—possibly escaped slaves—was reported on Key Largo. These blacks may have migrated with Seminoles to Andros Island in the Bahamas ca. 1819-1821.

It was during this period that the Seminole Indian Wars were fought. That included the dramatic raid on Indian Key by Spanish Indians in 1840. The wars caused the depopulation of the Keys with most of the displaced people moving to Key West. Prior to the raid on Indian Key, the residents of the islands had temporarily separated from Monroe County, joining newly-formed Dade County with Indian Key as the county seat.

## **LATE PIONEER PERIOD (1865-1920) – 1950s**

This time period includes the construction of the Florida East Coast Railroad through the Keys. The building of the Key West extension began in 1905 and was completed in 1912. It was the principal economic stimulus for the Keys in the early 20th century, increasing the population with workers, many of whom settled in the Keys after its construction. Islamorada was farmed with pineapple, fostering early communities such as Tavernier, Rock Harbor, and Knights Key which coalesced along the railway line. When the railroad was destroyed in the 1935 Labor Day hurricane the Overseas Highway was built in its right-of-way. Opening the Keys to automobile traffic led to a new boom in development and an expansion of tourism. In the 1940s and 1950s many resorts, trailer parks, and other facilities were constructed on Islamorada and gradually throughout the Keys to accommodate tourism and sports fishing.

## PREVIOUS RESEARCH

Prior to the 1980's, archaeological assessments in the Florida Keys had not been extensive. Early travelers noted unusual ruins and rock works in the Keys as early as the eighteenth century (Romans 1775; Elliott 1803). Local residents "opened" several mounds in Key West in the nineteenth century (Anon. 1839; Whitehead n.d. :97). Whitehead reports that "bones are very often found when digging foundations" (n.d. :97). It appears that Whitehead is the source for the "giant Calusa" myth based on the large size of the bones. Whitehead also reported "embankments along the western and southern shore (which) seem to bear evidence of aboriginal activity" (Peters 1965:37).

The botanist John K. Small (1913) documented two sites in the Keys, one on Big Pine and the other on Key Largo. Stirling visited some sites in the Keys but did not excavate (Goggin and Sommer 1949:28) and discusses the archaeology of the Keys in a general paper on cultural affiliations. Smithsonian zoologist Gerrit Miller pioneered biological archaeology in the West Indies. He also visited sites in the Keys in 1935 including one site in Plantation Key (1936:22). He also collected artifacts at Upper and Lower Matecumbe and at Tea Table Key (Goggin and Sommer 1949:28). Surveyor Karl Squiers made large collections from several sites in the Keys and he published a monograph that described mainly sites in Key Largo (1941:39-46).

Goggin and Sommer excavated at Upper Matecumbe in 1944 (8MO17). The analysis of this site is still the basis for the present synthesis of Keys prehistory. Goggin continued his research in the Keys and surveyed much of the Keys between 1944 and 1948. This work led to a short article on the Upper Keys (1944) and contributed to his unpublished survey of the Glades area (1949). The importance of the Keys to Goggin's cultural reconstruction of South Florida is probably best reflected in his choice of 8MO17 as the site for his archaeological excavation project in conjunction with Yale's Caribbean anthropological program. The 1941 project was conducted as part of the Florida work component to:

*obtain information on the archaeology of a relatively unknown part of the Southeastern United States. It was hoped, in addition, that the data obtained would provide some indication as to the presence or absence of connections between Florida and the West Indies (Rouse 1949:5)*

Avocational archaeological investigations represent most of the subsequent Keys work. The Miami-West India Society conducted excavations at the Wesumkee Site (8MO124) on Summerland Key in the early 1970s (n.d.). The same site was also excavated by Charles Dugger (Dugger 1972a, 1972b). Bill Fournier excavated at 8MO4 and Watson's Hammock between the 1940s and the early 1960s making extensive collections. Fournier's notes were destroyed after his death with the sole exception of the Watson's

Hammock notes which were recovered by R. Blazeveck. These were published in the Griffin, Fryman and Miller report on the Key Deer refuge survey (1975). This survey was performed in response to anticipated development at the Refuge.

Irving Eyster excavated at 8MO25, the Key Largo Site, in the 1960s. In 1975 to 1980 he directed an excavation there with the Archaeological Society of Southern Florida. Due to vandalism, reported by Irving Eyster, only two pits were completed (Fonte, Luer and Allerton 1982). Eyster conducted excavations at Stock Island 8MO2, in 1972 when that site was threatened with being covered by fill, but vandalism and lack of resources from the State prevented an analysis of recovered material or completion of a full report (Eyster n.d.).

Historic archaeological investigations in the Florida Keys are highlighted by excavations at Indian Key (Baker 1973) and several surveys at nearby Lignumvitae Key (i.e. Carr n.d). Recognition of the importance of the nineteenth century pioneer settlements of the Keys is reflected by Eyster's survey and recording of the village of Planter (8MO1972), the first archaeological site of the pioneer period to be recorded in the Keys.

Other professional archaeological surveys include Felton and Tesar's survey of the Lower Keys (1968). In 1979 Lynn Nidy performed an archaeological survey of Key West for the Historic Key West Preservation Board of Trustees (Nolan Shiver and Nidy 1979). The first systematic archaeological survey of the Florida Keys was undertaken by the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy in 1985, beginning with Key Largo (Carr 1985), and subsequently, the Middle Keys (Carr, Allerton and Rodriguez 1987). The results of these projects and a final summation was prepared for the South Florida Regional Planning Council (Carr, et al. 1988).

In the 1980s several surveys were done in response to specific developments. These included Eyster's work on the Long Key Quarry property (1978), Chance's survey of 30 acres on Islamorada (1980), and Hall's survey of the Florida East Coast Railway property on Windley Key (1980).

Previous architectural surveys in the Keys include the Key West historic sites inventory previously cited, and an architectural survey of Tavernier by Sharon Wells (1984). Surveys were conducted by Carr, Allerton, and Rodriguez in 1988; by Henry et al. in 2003; by Otten and Hyland in 2008; and by Hyland in 2009.

The mid 1980s marked the beginning of contract archaeological work in the Florida Keys. This increase was due in part to a greater public awareness of the fragile and finite archaeological resources present in the Florida Keys and was aided by State and County ordinances legislated as part of comprehensive planning to protect those resources. Well

over one hundred cultural resource assessment surveys have been performed in the Florida Keys since the mid-1980s.

The most useful information about the cultural resources of the Florida Keys has been gathered by broad surveys. Examples are work commissioned by municipalities or the United States government, specifically surveys and inventories performed on various military facilities on and around Key West and the Lower Keys (ex. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1995; Griffin and Logriaru 2012). Other surveys have compiled comprehensive archaeological or architectural information. An excellent example is Henry's 2003 architectural survey on the unincorporated areas of Monroe County (Henry 2003).

Other CRM surveys are of specific parcels of land scheduled for development. A limiting factor in much of the archaeological work attempted in the Florida Keys is the shallow nature of the soil mantle which can vary from a few inches to none at all. Frequently the areas surveyed are already highly disturbed by clearing and filling. An example of a well-crafted CRAS survey is provided by Dearborn's 2008 report on a compound of 1930s to 1940s fishing cabins on Sugarloaf Key (Dearborn 2008) that incorporated extensive documentation. Other excellent reports include the 2009 archaeological and architectural survey for the Villages of Islamorada included research and collaboration with local village staff (Miller 2009).

In the last decade there has been a shift toward focusing on broader theoretical implications of prehistoric settlement/subsistence strategies among indigenous populations in both the Florida Keys and elsewhere in southern Florida. Detailed environmental as well as archaeological studies by William Marquardt and Karen Jo Walker of the Florida State Museum at Pineland (Lee County) and other sites in southwest Florida begun in the 1980s and 1990s have laid some of the groundwork for an intense analysis of how and why the early Indians of pre-contact times operated as they did in those unique environments (Marquardt 1992; Marquardt and Walker 2012, 2013).

This initial work has been picked up, added to and refined by the latest generation of researchers such as Margo Schwadron (Schwadron 2010), Victor Thompson (2017), Thomas Pluckhahn (Thompson and Pluckhahn 2014). They and others have built on the earlier studies of resource utilization. An example of concise and useful research in the Florida Keys is the 2018 paper by Traci Ardren and others which examines ongoing work and analysis being performed in the Florida Keys specifically in a reevaluation of the Clupper Site, 8MO17, on Upper Matecumbe Key (Ardren et al 2018). The study provides a valuable first step in careful studies on specific determination of environmental and cultural factors at play in non-agrarian chiefdoms in pre-contact to contact times in the Florida Keys.

Another key player in analyzing, monitoring and helping preserve archaeological resources on public land in the Florida Keys and elsewhere has been the Conservation and Recreational Lands Program or (CARL) which was an outgrowth of the Land Acquisition Trust Fund (LATF) established by the State of Florida in 1964. Since 1989 archaeologists affiliated with the Division of Historic Resources (DHR) have systematically surveyed much of the recent State land acquisitions and advised preserve managers on identifying and protecting archaeological sites and remains. As the Division of Historic Resources states:

*Between 1990 and 2014, PLA (CARL) program staff surveyed 1,268,249 acres of land on 273 state-managed properties. As a result of PLA surveys, a total of 1,441 archaeological and historical sites have been recorded or updated. (Florida Division of Historic Resources website 2018)*

Specifically, in the Florida Keys, CARL has investigated archaeological sites ranging from the Dynamite Dock historic/archaeological site area in the Upper Keys to Curry Hammock in Key Vaca, the Coupon Bight State Buffer Preserve southeast of Big Pine Key, and the origins of the Stone Wall Site (8MO1446) on Lignum Vitae Key. (Van Der Ploeg 2018)

Many CRAS surveys focused on road rights of way, bridges, and associated utilities. Most of these have been performed by Janus Research for the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) and other agencies. A lesser type of cultural resource survey are cellular tower locations, and many of these tend to be limited to Federal Communication Commission forms kept on file by the Florida Division of Historic Resources (FDHR) in Tallahassee.

In 2016 AHC conducted a cultural resource assessment update of the Keys in unincorporated Monroe County under a Certified Local Government grant to Monroe County from FDHR, of which the current assessment is a continuation.

## **METHODOLOGY**

Prior to conducting fieldwork for the Monroe County Florida Keys project, relevant archives and literature were reviewed. This included, but was not limited to, studying previous cultural resource reports for sites in the Florida Keys, reviewing information from the Master Site File concerning previously-recorded sites, and examining black and white as well as color aerial photographs of the project area, that aid in revealing anthropogenic changes to the topography and floral communities.

### **RESEARCH DESIGN**

The principal project goal was to re-survey and update selected previously recorded archaeological sites and historic structures in the Florida Keys within unincorporated Monroe County excluding incorporated municipalities and State and Federal lands, and to locate and assess any archaeological sites previously undocumented and potentially significant historic structures that have turned 50 years old or older since the last survey.

### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES**

This cultural resource survey incorporated the use of certain predictive archaeological site models based on topographic and vegetative attributes that are associated with prehistoric and historic sites in the Florida Keys. These models postulate that tropical hardwood hammocks, elevated beach berms, and transitional zones in close proximity to estuarine systems and deep channels are medium to high probability areas for archaeological sites. The elevation information on the USGS quadrangle maps for the Keys area was also used to identify higher probability areas.

### **HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL SITES**

The historical architectural assessment included a pedestrian survey of Conch Key, Duck Key, and the Indian Mound Estates area of Sugarloaf Key to reassess previously recorded sites, document potentially significant structures that had been overlooked or that have turned 50 years old since the most recent survey in 2016, and to assess the potential for historic districts in each of the three focus areas. Previous reports, review of historical aerial photographs, and interviews with residents were incorporated into this methodology.

### **FIELDWORK**

Pedestrian surveys were conducted at previously-recorded archaeological sites and likely locations of unrecorded sites. Additional information was gleaned from informant interviews. All previously recorded sites were assessed as to their attributes and

preservation condition. Collections were minimal and artifacts deemed diagnostic were sparingly collected or photo documented. All sites were photo documented and field maps created. FMSF forms were updated or newly recorded based on information acquired in the course of the assessment.

The results of research and fieldwork on sites are also described in individual site summaries (see following section); preservation quality was evaluated on a scale of 1-10 with 1 being pristine and 10, destroyed. All notes and photographs are on file with AHC.

Previously recorded historic structures were reassessed as to current condition and historical integrity, and potentially significant structures that had not been documented or that had turned 50 years old since the most recent survey were assessed. All significant structures were evaluated against the criteria for individual listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NHRP) and for potentially contributing to an NHRP eligible historic district. When an individual structure of interest was not located in an actual or proposed historic district, and was not evaluated as individually NHRP eligible, it was assessed as to its significance on the local or county level. All assessed structures were photo documented and Florida Master Site File forms updated or newly recorded based on information acquired in the course of the assessment. All notes and photographs are on file with AHC.

## **COLLECTIONS**

Samples of diagnostic cultural material were collected and accessioned, and are archived at the AHC office and lab in Davie, Florida. Some materials will be transferred to the Florida Keys History Museum.

## **INFORMANTS**

AHC is grateful to several local informants and professional Monroe County staff, notably Alice Allen, Diane Silvia, and Jerry Wilkinson, who were interviewed and provided information about sites and structures in the Keys. Information that was provided by residents of Conch Key, including Linda Sasser and Terry Temperton, and by Sugarloaf Key resident Jeremiah Shaffer, is also greatly appreciated.

# SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

<b>Site Name:</b>	Ramrod Key
<b>State Site Number:</b>	8MO6
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	Maritime hammock/shoreline
<b>Location:</b>	Ramrod Key: Township 66S, Range 29E, Section 31
<b>Site Type:</b>	Prehistoric shell scatter
<b>Site Function:</b>	Habitation, subsistence
<b>Description:</b>	<p>On the western shore of Ramrod Key just south of the boat basin, a large prehistoric shell scatter was observed. The scatter consists predominately of whole and fragmentary conch shells (<i>Strombus gigas</i>) and is interspersed with Busycon and Pleuroploca shells. The conch shells were scattered for about 150 feet along the open rocky transitional zone. The area shows evidence of having been scraped. It is possible that a midden may have been destroyed when the road and/or the boat basin were built. In 1988 Conch shell was noted along the edge of the road adjacent to the scatter. Reports suggest that freshwater ponds were found in the upland hammock (Norris 1987: pers. com.). No changes were observed in 2019.</p>
<b>Historic Context:</b>	None noted
<b>Chronology:</b>	Prehistoric: Indeterminate
<b>Collections:</b>	<p>Material collected by AHC in 1988 includes Strombus outer tips, columella tips, columella; Pleuroploca columella, crown, tip; and a Melongena (king's crown) shell. Similar shell refuse was observed in 2016.</p>
<b>Previous Research:</b>	Goggin 1949: n.p.; Carr et al 1988, Carr et al 2016
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	<p>3 – Fair to poor: 1988 evaluation suggested additional testing is needed to determine the remaining integrity of the site. The site shows evidence of having been bulldozed in the past. No change in 2019.</p>
<b>Ownership:</b>	Private

**Significance and  
Recommendation:**

Unknown eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Site is recommended for additional subsurface testing. Any development of the site should be subject to archaeological documentation including testing and monitoring.

**Site Name:** Key Largo #2. Key Largo Rock Mound Midden

**State Site Number:** 8MO26 (also listed as resource group MO1258)

**Environmental Setting:** Maritime hammock

**Location:** Key Largo: Township 61S, Range 39E, Section 28

**Site Type:** Black dirt/shell midden

**Site Function:** Habitation, resource procurement

**Description:** This black dirt midden encompasses a peninsula of elevated coral rock approximately 400 feet by 100 feet that extended into a mangrove swamp. Originally the site supported a lush hardwood hammock, but the development of the Calusa Trailer Park has cleared and leveled much of the site, although the lowest strata of the midden remains intact on portions of the trailer park. It is estimated that the midden's original depth was 50-70 cm. Midden deposition appeared in 1988 to average 20-50 cm. in areas where the site still existed. In 2016 it was observed that most of the site had been removed and the coral rock substrate leveled up to one meter removing all sediments, allowing for expansion of the trailer park to the south on a flat surface. No changes were observed in 2019.

**Historic Context:** None noted

**Chronology:** Prehistoric: Glades IIb

**Collections:** No collections were made during the 2019 survey. Goggin reported that collections he made repose at the Yale Peabody Museum and the Florida State Museum in Gainesville.

**Previous Research:** No formal archaeological excavations have been conducted on this site. John Goggin documented the site in numerous publications (Goggin 1944:17, Goggin and Sommer 1949:92; Carr, et al 1988, Carr et al. 2016)

**Preservation Quality:** 8 – Upper levels of the site have been removed by bulldozing, but some portions of the site survive with

accompanying artifacts and features in the community park and beneath trailer lots in the northern part of the site.

**Ownership:**

Private

**Significance**

**Recommendation:**

Listed on National Register of Historic Places  
All ground disturbances at this site should be conditional on prior archaeological documentation and monitoring during construction as a permit condition.

**Site Name:** Key Largo Rock Mound, Key Largo #3

**State Site Number:** 8MO27 (Also listed in FDMRM as part of resource group MO1258)

**Environmental Setting:** Maritime hammock

**Location:** Key Largo: Township 61S, Range 39E, Section 28

**Site Type:** Constructed rock mound

**Site Function:** Ceremonial? Mortuary?

**Description:** This site lies about 600 feet east of MO26. The mound is composed of loose coral rocks and soil. The mound was flat-topped and kidney-shaped measuring about 100 feet by 55 feet. The top of the mound is about 8 feet above the surrounding terrain. On the east side of the mound appeared a sloping ramp which was partially bulldozed in 1972. Goggin reported that the ramp led to a “stone pathway or causeway about 14 feet wide and 1 foot high.” He stated that the causeway could be discerned for a distance of about 25 feet (1949:35). This feature was no longer visible in the 1988 AHC survey either due to the dense hammock understory or because the land had been cleared since Goggin’s observations. Several large holes dug by treasure hunters are located on top of the mound. These excavations reveal that beneath the mantle of rock boulders are interspersed areas of soil and ash. In 2016 it was observed that the northern tip of the mound had been destroyed by the construction of a property boundary fence. No changes observed in 2019

**Historic Context:** None known

**Chronology:** Prehistoric: Glades II-III. No absolute dates have been determined for this site.

**Collections:** Reports of obsidian knives being found there in the 1930s were regarded as spurious by Goggin (1949:37). Faunal bone and ceramics collected in 2016. No collections in 2019.

**Previous Research:** Goggin 1944:31, 1949:36; Carr, et al 1988.

**Preservation Quality:** 5– Site vandalism and bulldozing have affected about 20 percent of the site

**Ownership:** Private, multiple owners

**Significance and Recommendation:** This is among the last of the known rock mounds in southern Florida and the United States. The site is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Its preservation should be maintained by acquisition as a county park.

<b>Site Name:</b>	Knights Key
<b>State Site Number:</b>	8MO77
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	Filled uplands/ bay bottom
<b>Location:</b>	Knights Key: Township 66S, Range 32E, Section 17
<b>Site Type:</b>	Prehistoric shell and artifact scatter; historic refuse – Gulf/Channel site
<b>Site Function:</b>	Resource procurement
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Goggin reports that a small site was discovered by Plowden who found prehistoric pottery sherds at the water’s edge in the beach sand. However, Goggin observed no appreciable refuse deposit.</p> <p>The key is the site of one of the earliest pioneer settlements on Key Vaca (ca. 1823), and was used by Flagler’s railroad in the early 20th century as one of the major points for rail line transfers.</p> <p>Most of the key is a popular campground and has been altered by fill. The 1988 and 2016 AHC surveys observed conch shells and glass bottle fragments at the surface near a manmade boat basin. No changes observed in 2019.</p>
<b>Historic Context:</b>	1823 settlement; Flagler railway transfer point ca. 1906-1910
<b>Chronology:</b>	Prehistoric: Glades III, Historic: 19 <sup>th</sup> century – early 20th
<b>Collections:</b>	<p>A collection made at this site is housed at the University of Florida Anthropology Laboratory that includes 2 Glades Plain, 1 Belle Glade Plain, and 9 olive jar sherds as well as historic ceramics such as blue featheredge and blue transferware (Goggin: n.p.). Goggin also suggests that a lithic projectile point collected by Ed McCain and in the St. Clair Whitman Collection, is from this site. (1949: n.p.). Dan Laxson reported that prehistoric bone tools and bone ornaments were dredged from the adjacent channel about 50 years ago. Gail Swanson made collections here. Jim Clupper reported a Surfside Incised sherd coming from the site in 2005. In 2016 faunal bone and a worked Strombus columella were observed on the bay bottom near the shore.</p>

<b>Previous Research:</b>	Goggin documented the site in unpublished work (1949: n.p.), Carr et al 1988, Carr et al. 2016
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	The site's preservation integrity has not been determined because the site is covered by fill. Part of the site extends into the bay bottom.
<b>Ownership:</b>	Private, Public
<b>Significance and Recommendation:</b>	Any ground disturbing activities proposed for the park of this site should be subject to archaeological testing and/or monitoring. Knights Key is a potential archaeological zone and is worthy of local designation. Site may potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, but further documentation is needed.

**Site Name:** West Summerland Key # 1

**State Site Number:** 8MO124

**Environmental Setting:** Estuarine tidal swamp

**Location:** West Summerland Key: Township 66S, Range 30E Section 32

**Site Type:** Midden

**Site Function:** Habitation, extractive site

**Description:** Located on the west end of West Summerland Key, north of U.S. 1, just inside the buttonwood/mangrove transition on a beach hash berm. The berm runs parallel to U.S. 1 for about 20 meters. Previous excavations recovered prehistoric pottery, notably Surfside Incised and Glades Plain. During the 2016 survey no subsurface testing was conducted but turbation from crab burrows exposed prehistoric ceramic sherds, including a Surfside Incised rim lug. A diffuse shell scatter of Strombus and Busycon extends about 40 meters from the area of the berm northeast into a red and black mangrove tidal area.

**Historic Context:** N/A

**Chronology:** Prehistoric: Glades II, III

**Collections:** 1 Surfside Incised rim lug

**Previous Research:** Greene, Mark 1972, Wesunee Site Excavation (8MO88); Dugger, Charles 1972,; Eyster, Irving, 1980, Florida Archaeological Site Form; Carr, Robert, 1988, unpublished field notes on record at AHC.

**Preservation Quality:** 7- Previous excavations by avocational archaeologists have destroyed 20% of the site. Site could not be assessed during 2019 study because of storm debris.

**Ownership:** Girl Scouts of America

**Significance and  
Recommendation:**

Prehistoric middens in the lower keys are rare and this site should be preserved. Eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places based on criterion D.

**Site Name:** Big Pine Key # 10, Big Pine Key Rockworks

**State Site Number:** 8MO1263

**Environmental Setting:** Estuarine tidal marsh

**Location:** Big Pine Key: Township 66S, Range 29E, Section 26

**Site Type:** Rockworks

**Site Function:** Directional Guide

**Description:** The site is located in an exposed bedrock tidal lowland on the southern portion of Big Pine Key, north of Coupon Bight. This site consists of two rock arrows constructed of limestone rocks on a tidal flat south of Highway 1 on Big Pine Key. One arrow is 11' 5" long, 8' 6" at the base and points to the northeast. Local informants state that this was one of two such arrows but a visit to the easternmost one showed it to be disturbed by treasure hunters and it is no longer distinguishable as an arrow. It is unclear as to what the arrows pointed. It is most likely the arrows pointed towards fresh water wells. No artifacts were found with the arrows so it is difficult to determine their cultural context or age. The site could not be located in 2016 nor in 2019 after Hurricane Irma.

**Historic Context:** Unknown

**Chronology:** Historic: Unknown

**Collections:** None

**Previous Research:** Carr et al. 1988, CARL Survey 1994

**Preservation Quality:** Unknown - Site could not be found either in 2016 or in 2019. It may have been destroyed by treasure hunters.

**Ownership:** Unknown

**Significance and Recommendation:** Significance is undetermined. The area is worthy of further investigation.

**Site Name:** Middle Torch Key # 1

**State Site Number:** 8MO1277

**Environmental Setting:** Rockland Hammock

**Location:** Middle Torch Key: Township 66S, Range 29E, Section 20

**Site Type:** Well

**Site Function:** Historic Homestead

**Description:** The site is dominated by a large Sapodilla tree visible from the roadway and is approximately 100 meters west of the road, in a dense hammock. Three meters east of the large Sapodilla tree is a circular well cut into the bedrock surrounded on three sides by large limestone rocks. one hundred meters W.N.W. of the well, along the open buttonwood- black mangrove transition is evidence of charcoal burning and a fallen rock wall running parallel to the shoreline for about 18 meters.

**Historic Context:** Unknown

**Chronology:** Historic: early 20th century

**Collections:** None during 2019 survey

**Previous Research:** Carr et al 1988

**Preservation Quality:** 1- Site area is undisturbed.

**Ownership:** Unknown

**Significance and Recommendation:** Site area should be preserved. Any permits for ground disturbance and development that area should be subject to conditions of archaeological documentation.

**Site Name:** No Name Key # 3

**State Site Number:** 8MO1280

**Environmental Setting:** Marine hammock

**Location:** No Name Key: Township 66S, Range 29E, Section 13

**Site Type:** Historic homestead: Building remains, cisterns, surface scatter

**Site Function:** Habitation

**Description:** The site consists of two cisterns,(one metal and the other concrete), a square cut well into the bedrock, two modified solution holes and historic surface scatter including foundational debris. The surrounding vegetation includes exotics such as sapodilla and tamarind. Small concentrated Strombus scatters exist on the eastern margins of the site area, interspersed within low piles of coral rocks. Across a north-south footpath to the east along the eastern shoreline of No Name Key is a mixed coral rock/limerock causeway leading roughly from the footpath to the water's edge among red mangroves. Observed there in 2016 was a concentrated scatter of historic bottle fragments. In 2019 it was observed that one of the cisterns had been damaged by Hurricane Irma.

**Historic Context:** Unknown

**Chronology:** Historic: Early 20th century

**Collections:** None during 2016 survey

**Previous Research:** Carr et al. 1988

**Preservation Quality:** 5- The area appears to have been bulldozed in the past. Some collecting has occurred by visitors.

**Ownership:** Unknown

**Significance and  
Recommendation:**

This site area and its significant features should be preserved. The site is eligible for local designation and potentially qualifies for the NR based on criterion A. Site area should be subjected to monitoring if future development is to take place.

**Site Name:** Sugarloaf Key # 4, Lupo Site

**State Site Number:** 8MO1292

**Environmental Setting:** Rockland Hammock

**Location:** Sugarloaf Key: Township 66S, Range 28E, Section 31,

**Site Type:** Historic Settlement: building remains, cistern

**Site Function:** Habitation

**Description:** The site consists of building foundations and historic refuse dispersed throughout a dense hammock. The entire site area shows evidence of bulldozing and clearing activities and multiple spoil berms with foundational and household debris run throughout the area. Notable features include two large cement capped solution holes, several densely concentrated historic refuse piles containing whiteware bearing the manufacturers mark “John Maddock & Sons Ltd” ca. 1896, fragmented aqua, milk and cobalt glass and <15 Strombus shells. A large above ground cistern reported to be on site was not located. No changes observed in 2019.

**Historic Context:** N/A

**Chronology:** Historic: ca. 1900 to 1930

**Collections:** None during 2019 survey

**Previous Research:** None

**Preservation Quality:** 5- Site area bulldozed but some foundation features remain intact.

**Ownership:** Unknown

**Significance and Recommendation:** This site is potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP both individually and as part of a potentially eligible district or resource group. It is also eligible for local designation. The site area provides an example of a pioneer settlement and valuable data on early settler daily life can be gleaned from further investigation. The site should be subject to intensive

archaeological documentation if future development is to occur there, and the structural features should be preserved.

**Site Name:** West Summerland # 2

**State Site Number:** 8MO1294

**Environmental Setting:** Marine hammock, estuarine tidal swamp

**Location:** West Summerland Key: Township 66S, Range 30E, Section 32

**Site Type:** Shell scatter

**Site Function:** Resource extraction

**Description:** The site consists of a coralline beach hash berm on the bayside of West Summerland Key. The berm is located on the channel shoreline, since altered by the construction of the extant Overseas Highway and enclosed by a Red Mangrove strand. A scatter of Strombus shell exists along the berm. In 2019 the site area was fully exposed as a result of Hurricane Irma and the subsequent clean-up.

**Historic Context:** N/A

**Chronology:** Prehistoric: unknown

**Collections:** None during 2019 survey

**Previous Research:** None

**Preservation Quality:** 3- Site was disturbed by Hurricane Irma and subsequent clean-up.

**Ownership:** Boy Scouts of America

**Significance and Recommendation:** Phase I testing is required to determine extent and exact nature and significance of the site.

<b>Site Name:</b>	Garden Cove
<b>State Site Number:</b>	8MO1970
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	Beach berm, maritime hammock
<b>Location:</b>	Key Largo: Township 60S, Range 40E, Section 31
<b>Site Type:</b>	Black dirt/shell midden; historic foundations, cistern
<b>Site Function:</b>	Habitation, resource procurement
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Located adjacent to the Atlantic Ocean, this significant site has both a prehistoric and historic component. The historic component is obvious because a poured concrete cistern occurs. The cistern is well preserved and suggests a date of ca. 1920s-1940s. Despite the cistern's 20th century occupation attributes, there is a high probability that the historic occupation may have begun considerably earlier. A single black glass bottle base, typical in manufacture to those from about 1860, was found on the shore opposite the cistern. Although such remains could be explained by floating bottles, other small pieces of glass, etc. recovered by subsurface testing suggested the possibility of an occupation that predated the cistern. The location of this site is ideal it is likely that the early "conch" pioneers would have used the site.</p> <p>The prehistoric component is of an unknown size or extent, but a cursory surface inspection performed in 1982 by AHC located a scattering of broken Strombus shells along the shoreline between a mangrove tree fringe and upland hammock. This scatter is located about 50 meters south of the cistern. Subsurface testing performed in 1982 about 5 meters inland from the shore uncovered gray-black soil with a high quantity of Strombus shell fragments beginning at a depth of 10 cm. This midden zone continued to a depth of 20-25 cm. Bedrock was just below the cultural zone. The cistern was still intact in 2016 however a large ficus tree had grown over and enveloped its S.E. corner. No changes in 2019.</p>
<b>Historic Context:</b>	Homestead
<b>Chronology:</b>	Prehistoric: undetermined; historic: mid-19th through 20th centuries

<b>Collections:</b>	Shell refuse and historic glass were uncovered in the 1982 AHC survey. Eyster and Southard reported faunal bone on the site (1981:11).
<b>Previous Research:</b>	Eyster and Southard 1981:11; Carr 1982, Carr et al. 2016
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	In 2019 3- Cistern is well-preserved. Subsurface component of the midden shows good state of preservation. No char were observed.
<b>Ownership:</b>	Private
<b>Significance and Recommendation:</b>	This is a potentially significant site that needs further research and testing. The cistern should be preserved and additional testing to determine the site's full extent and nature of both historic and prehistoric remains. Site is worthy of local designation.

**Site Name:** Munson Island

**State Site Number:** 8MO1981

**Environmental Setting:** Beach Berm/ Rocky Flat

**Location:** Munson Island: Township 67S, Range 29E, Section 8

**Site Type:** Midden, shell scatter

**Site Function:** Habitation, resource procurement

**Description:** The site is located on the Atlantic shore of Munson Island. The site is located on a beach berm and was discovered in 1990 after the erosion of a dune exposing a black earth midden. After Hurricane Irma that dune had been destroyed and cultural material redeposited along the beach. The site extends along the entire island but is concentrated at the island's southern end. Shell refuse and artifacts occur sparsely across the full length of the berm and on the rocky flats behind the dune.

**Historic Context:** None known

**Chronology:** Prehistoric: Glades III

**Collections:** Prehistoric pottery: Busycon adz, Pleurolaca anchor sand tempered plain, non-local plain  
Historic: Olive jar sherd, bottle glass

**Previous Research:** Site was discovered in 1990 by Carr and Beriault. Report on file at AHC

**Preservation Quality:** 5- Much of the site has been eroded and redeposited by Hurricane Irma. Other parts of the site may be buried.

**Ownership:** Private

**Significance and Recommendation:** Site is of local significance.

**Site Name:** Harry Harris Site

**State Site Number:** 8MO2063

**Environmental Setting:** Maritime hammock

**Location:** Key Largo: Township 62S, Range 38E, Section 23

**Site Type:** Cistern. Homestead

**Site Function:** Habitation

**Description:** This single-cell concrete cistern is located in a hardwood hammock about 200 feet from the Atlantic Ocean. Historic refuse is scattered around the cistern. The cistern is constructed as a rectangle with well finished plaster walls on top of concrete. Several linear alignments of coral rock representing fallen rock walls are located north of the cistern. No changes were observed in 2019.

**Historic Context:** Unknown

**Chronology:** Historic: circa 1880-1930s

**Collections:** None

**Previous Research:** Carr et al. 1988, Carr et al. 2016

**Preservation Quality:** 1- Cistern is in fair condition with weathering and deterioration of surface finish, exposing admixture. Several cracks exist along interior walls resulting from bio-turbation.

**Ownership:** Public: Monroe County

**Significance and Recommendation:** Site should be preserved. It is a well preserved example of a pioneer homestead. Site is worthy of local designation.

**Site Name:** Newport #2

**State Site Number:** 8MO2066

**Environmental Setting:** Maritime hammock, Rockland interface

**Location:** Key Largo: Township 61S, Range 39E, Section 28

**Site Type:** Prehistoric shell refuse, artifact scatter, historic homestead

**Site Function:** Habitation, resource procurement

**Description:** This dual component site is located along the Atlantic shoreline in the rocky interface that separates the mangroves from the upland hardwood hammock. The shell refuse is about 400 feet in length along the interface and continues inland into the hammock for about 15-20 feet. Historic refuse litters the ground surface and a pile of coral rocks suggests agricultural activities related to the historic occupation of the site. No changes were observed in 2019.

**Historic Context:** Unknown

**Chronology:** Prehistoric: period unknown; Historic: circa 1890-1920

**Collections:** Several sand tempered pottery sherds were collected by the 1988 AHC survey at the site.

**Previous Research:** Carr et al. 1988

**Preservation Quality:** 5- Site area has been subjected to collecting.

**Ownership:** Private

**Significance and Recommendation:** The site area should be monitored if cleared for development and during ground disturbing activities.

<b>Site Name:</b>	Swine Cistern
<b>State Site Number:</b>	8MO2067
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	Maritime hammock
<b>Location:</b>	Key Largo: Township 61S, Range 39E, Section 28
<b>Site Type:</b>	Historic homestead, cistern
<b>Site Function:</b>	Habitation
<b>Description:</b>	This cistern is located within a hardwood hammock approximately 100-120 feet west of the mangroves. The elevation of the ground around the cistern was approximately 1 to 2 feet above sea level. The site was not assessable during the 2016 assessment. No changes observed in 2019.
<b>Historic Context:</b>	Unknown
<b>Chronology:</b>	Historic: circa 1880-1920
<b>Collections:</b>	None
<b>Previous Research:</b>	Carr et al. 1988, Carr et al. 2016
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	Unknown
<b>Ownership:</b>	Private
<b>Significance and Recommendation:</b>	The cistern should be preserved. Area should be subjected to monitoring if clearing and development is planned. Site is worthy of local designation.

<b>Site Name:</b>	North Tavernier
<b>State Site Number:</b>	8MO2070
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	Maritime hammock
<b>Location:</b>	Key Largo: Township 62S, Range 38E, Section 34
<b>Site Type:</b>	Historic homestead, cistern,
<b>Site Function:</b>	Habitation, resource procurement
<b>Description:</b>	<p>This site complex is situated on an upland peninsula jutting seaward into the Atlantic Ocean. A mangrove swamp separates this upland peninsula from the central length of Key Largo. In 1988 the site contained two cisterns and concrete slabs representing the visible remnants of a homestead complex that once encompassed the full extent of the 2-3 acre peninsula. Extensive prehistoric refuse is visible throughout much of the site surface that includes broken glass, metal refuse, and Strombus shells. During a 2016 visit to the site AHC personnel observed that the northernmost cistern, along with the remnants of a cook site and a cement capped solution hole have been cleared for the construction of two houses on the property. No archaeological requirements were made by the County in the permits to develop this property. The southernmost cistern is preserved by the land owners. No changes since 2016.</p>
<b>Historic Context:</b>	Unknown
<b>Chronology:</b>	Historic: circa 1840-1940
<b>Collections:</b>	None
<b>Previous Research:</b>	Carr et al. 1988, Carr et al. 2016
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	6 - Only the southernmost cistern, a concrete pad and adjacent well still remain. Other components have been destroyed since 1988.
<b>Ownership:</b>	Private

**Significance and  
Recommendation:**

Site may be worthy of local designation This site should be subject to further research to determine its significance.. Any ground disturbance or development should be subject to additional archaeological documentation and monitoring.

<b>Site Name:</b>	Crawl Key # 1
<b>State Site Number:</b>	8MO2091
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	Rocky Flats, Mangroves
<b>Location:</b>	Crawl Key: Township 65S, Range 33E, Section 35,
<b>Site Type:</b>	Black earth midden
<b>Site Function:</b>	Habitation, resource extraction
<b>Description:</b>	The site is located south of U.S. 1 and west of Banana Blvd on Crawl Key. Most of the site appears redeposited as a berm along the western and southern shoreline of Crawl Key, just inside the mangrove transition. A diffuse shell scatter predominates the open rocky buttonwood flat to the north. A shovel test pit was excavated on the western portion of the berm yielding Strombus and Busycon shell artifacts were recovered in addition to Key Largo Incised pottery sherds. No changes since 2016.
<b>Historic Context:</b>	N/A
<b>Chronology:</b>	Prehistoric: Glades II, III
<b>Collections:</b>	Strombus and Busycon shell tool, Glades Plain, Key Largo Incised, Surfside Incised rim lug
<b>Previous Research:</b>	Carr et al. 1988, Carr et al. 2016
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	5 - Most of the site has been redeposited; however, cultural material occurs in around the site edges, particularly to the south and east.
<b>Ownership:</b>	Unknown
<b>Significance and Recommendation:</b>	Any development on this site should be subjected to monitoring. The site may be eligible for local designation.

**Site Name:** Ballast Trail Cemetery

**State Site Number:** 8MO2332

**Environmental Setting:** Maritime hammock

**Location:** Tavernier: Township 62S, Range 38E, Section 34,

**Site Type:** Cemetery

**Site Function:** Mortuary

**Description:** The site is located along the northern edge of a private road in Tavernier, just north of 8MO3391. The site consists of two weathered graves sectioned off by low concrete bollards supporting a metal pipe that is now only visible on the northern portion of the site. The parcel to the south of the cemetery was under construction and includes a 1935 Red Cross house adjacent to the construction.

**Historic Context:** Pioneer cemetery

**Chronology:** Historic: early 20th century

**Collections:** None

**Previous Research:** None

**Preservation Quality:** 3 - The grave stones are badly weathered. The site could not be accessed in 2019.

**Ownership:** Private

**Significance and Recommendation:** The graves should be preserved and not relocated if possible. Any further development in the area should be subjected to archaeological monitoring.

**Site Name:** Ballast Trail Cistern

**State Site Number:** 8MO3391

**Environmental Setting:** Maritime hammock

**Location:** Tavernier: Township 62S, Range 32E, Section 34

**Site Type:** Cistern, historic homestead

**Site Function:** Habitation

**Description:** This cistern is located in the Tavernier Oceanside Historic District 50 meters west of the Red Cross House (const. century 1935) in proximity to the Ballast Trail Cemetery (8MO2332) which is 15 meters SE. The cistern is poured concrete with wooden slat impressions on the interior and exterior and has a concrete top with a square access opening on the southern portion. Cistern is in excellent condition. No artifacts were observed in the immediate area of the cistern, but a nearby construction spoil pile contained historic red house brick and broken glass. Site could not be assessed in 2019 because of locked gate.

**Historic Context:** Pioneer

**Chronology:** Historic: ca.1935

**Collections:** House brick observed and the top of a historic glass bottle recovered.

**Previous Research:** None

**Preservation Quality:** 1- In 2016 the cistern was in excellent condition.

**Ownership:** Private

**Significance and Recommendation:** The cistern should be preserved. Area should be subjected to monitoring if clearing and development occurs. Site is worthy of local designation.

**Site Name:** North Carolina Fishing Club Cistern

**State Site Number:** 8MO3392

**Environmental Setting:** Maritime hammock, mangrove shoreline

**Location:** Key Largo: Township 61S, Range 39E, Section 28

**Site Type:** Historic homestead, boatyard wharves, cistern

**Site Function:** Habitation, fishing

**Description:** This cistern is located on what local informants call the Old Newport Boat Yard. The cistern is located about 20 meters NE of the central access into the property in a hardwood hammock. The cistern belonged to the “North Carolina Fishing Club”, which was the first subdivision platted in Key Largo in the 1920s. It is in good condition with enough integrity to hold water, however Mosquito Control has punched a hole in the southern wall to allow water to drain from the cistern.

**Historic Context:** Fishing

**Chronology:** Historic: circa 1920s

**Collections:** The 2016 survey recovered shell refuse, house brick, and glass from a scatter that showed signs of prior bottle collecting.

**Previous Research:** None

**Preservation Quality:** 2- Some damage to cistern and signs of bottle collecting. No changes since 2016.

**Ownership:** Private

**Significance and Recommendation:** The cistern should be preserved. Area should be subjected to monitoring if clearing and development will happen. Site is worthy of local designation.

<b>Site Name:</b>	Caribbean Club Chimney
<b>State Site Number:</b>	8MO3393
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	Maritime hammock, mangrove shoreline
<b>Location:</b>	Key Largo: Township 60S, Range 38E, Section 12
<b>Site Type:</b>	Historic homestead, chimney(s)
<b>Site Function:</b>	Habitation, resource procurement
<b>Description:</b>	<p>This site is located north to the Caribbean Club at Mile Marker 109. At the approximate center of the parcel is a stacked coral rock chimney adjacent to remains of a newer concrete/stucco chimney. The coral rock chimney likely dates to the mid 20th century, with the stucco chimney likely mid 20th century.</p> <p>The stacked rock chimney is 2 meters tall mortared with hand-laid cement. The mouth of the chimney faces north. The observed artifacts around this feature were low to none.</p> <p>The more modern chimney lies 20 meters SE and is concrete/stucco with a faux brick exterior finish. The parcel was not assessed in 2019.</p>
<b>Historic Context:</b>	Unknown
<b>Chronology:</b>	20th century, circa-1950s
<b>Collections:</b>	The 2016 survey recovered glass and historic ceramics from a nearby construction spoil pile.
<b>Previous Research:</b>	None
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	2 - Some damage from construction may have occurred as development has occurred on parcel after 2016.
<b>Ownership:</b>	Private
<b>Significance and Recommendation:</b>	The coral rock chimney should be preserved. Area should be subjected to monitoring if clearing and development occurs.

**Site Name:** Old Settlers Park

**State Site Number:** 8MO3403

**Environmental Setting:** Maritime hammock

**Location:** Tavernier: Township 62S Range 38E, Section 34

**Site Type:** Historic homestead

**Site Function:** Homestead/farmstead

**Description:** The site is a county park incorporating the foundations of a prominent keys settler family, the Alburys, who occupied the property ca. 1911-1960. All that remains of the house are poured concrete steps.

An inspection of the parcel in 2019 did not indicate any damage to the site since 2016.

**Historic Context:** Albury residence 1911-1960

**Chronology:** Historic: 20th Century

**Collections:** None

**Previous Research:** None

**Preservation Quality:** 5 - Disturbed

**Ownership:** Monroe County

**Significance and Recommendation:** Potentially undisturbed archaeological deposits; site should be preserved and future ground-disturbing activities in the park monitored.

**Site Name:** Coupon Bight

**State Site Number:** 8MO3407

**Environmental Setting:** Beach berm/tidal flat

**Location:** Big Pine Key: Township 66S Range 29E, Section 26

**Site Type:** Shell scatter

**Site Function:** Habitation, resource procurement

**Description:** The site is a diffuse scatter of queen conch and lightning whelk shell refuse along a beach berm in a remote area. It is likely a prehistoric deposit, but Phase I testing is needed to determine its extent and significance.

**Historic Context:** Unknown

**Chronology:** Prehistoric: period unknown

**Collections:** None

**Previous Research:** None

**Preservation Quality:** 2- Subject to tidal erosion and storm surge events may have affected the site.

**Ownership:** Unknown

**Significance and Recommendation:** Unknown, further assessment recommended.

<b>Site Name:</b>	Garden Cove Tracks
<b>State Site Number:</b>	MO3411
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	Estuarine tidal marsh
<b>Location:</b>	Key Largo: Township 60S, Range 40E, Section 31
<b>Site Type:</b>	Boat yard
<b>Site Function:</b>	Boat building
<b>Description:</b>	The site consists of several sections of rail tracks along the shoreline southeast of Atlantic Blvd in Key Largo. One section is almost completely inundated at high tide. The other sections are out in the water approximately one meter and appear to be in situ. A historic surface scatter can be observed at low tide in the surrounding red mangroves that predominate on the shoreline and includes railroad spikes, historic bottle fragments, and whiteware sherds.
<b>Historic Context:</b>	Boat building
<b>Chronology:</b>	Historic: early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
<b>Collections:</b>	None
<b>Previous Research:</b>	None
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	2 - Overall, fair to good; one section of track is out of situ and some evidence of collecting exists. No changes since 2016.
<b>Ownership:</b>	Unknown
<b>Significance and Recommendation:</b>	The site area should be preserved; further testing is recommended to determine full extent and nature of the site.

<b>Site Name:</b>	No Name Ferry Landing
<b>State Site Number:</b>	MO3413
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	Marine hammock, estuarine tidal swamp
<b>Location:</b>	No Name Key: Township 66S, Range 30E, Section 18
<b>Site Type:</b>	Building remains, cisterns
<b>Site Function:</b>	Passenger ferry landing
<b>Description:</b>	The site is located at the far eastern end of Old State Road 4A on No Name Key and consists of a diffuse historic debris scatter, three cisterns and the remains of an office and large ferry landing used to transport passengers prior to the construction of the extant Overseas Highway.
<b>Historic Context:</b>	Flagler railroad
<b>Chronology:</b>	Historic: ca 1910-1940
<b>Collections:</b>	None
<b>Previous Research:</b>	None
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	2 - The cisterns are largely intact. Most of the associated structures have been destroyed by storms. The area appears to have been heavily collected.
<b>Ownership:</b>	Unknown
<b>Significance and Recommendation:</b>	The site area should be preserved and is eligible for local designation. The area should be subjected to archaeological documentation and monitoring if any development or clearing is to take place.

**Site Name:** REEF Environmental

**State Site Number:** MO3415

**Environmental Setting:** Rockland hammock

**Location:** Key Largo: Township 62S, Range 39E, Section 5

**Site Type:** Building remains, cistern

**Site Function:** Historic homestead

**Description:** The site is located on an vacant parcel overgrown with Brazilian pepper, adjacent to REEF Environmental and consists of foundational remains and an above ground concrete cistern. The cistern appears to have been later modified from its original use of storing water. There is a sparse artifact scatter around the site suggesting the area has been heavily collected. No changes since 2016.

**Historic Context:** Pioneer homestead

**Chronology:** Historic: early to mid 20th century

**Collections:** None

**Previous Research:** None

**Preservation Quality:** 3 - Large portion of the site including the cistern threatened by Brazilian pepper overgrowth. The site has been heavily collected. No change since 2016.

**Ownership:** Unknown

**Significance and Recommendation:** The site area should be preserved and is eligible for local designation. The foundation and cistern are likely contemporary with the REEF Environmental non-profit housed in the oldest standing house in the upper keys built in 1913 out of Dade County Pine. Archaeological monitoring should be required if any alterations to the site are to be made.

<b>Site Name:</b>	Key Largo Rock Mound Pond 1
<b>State Site Number:</b>	MO3416
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	Rockland hammock
<b>Location:</b>	Key Largo: Township 61S, Range 39E, Section 28
<b>Site Type:</b>	Solution hole pond
<b>Site Function:</b>	Mortuary ?
<b>Description:</b>	The site is a large solution hole feature located on the southeastern corner of the Calusa Campground Trailer Park in Key Largo. The solution hole is likely associated with 8MO26 and 8MO27. The solution hole measures about 10 meters in diameter. A shovel test uncovered Glades Plain ceramic sherds directly on top the bedrock under approximately 1.5 meters of accumulated organic muck. A single shovel test was dug in both 2016 and 2019.
<b>Historic Context:</b>	None known
<b>Chronology:</b>	Prehistoric: period unknown
<b>Collections:</b>	2016: 1 Glades Plain ceramic sherd, 1 wooden fragment, liguus snail, marine shell 2019: Apple snail
<b>Previous Research:</b>	Carr et al. 2016
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	1 or 2 - Area around the surface of the solution hole has been graded and disturbed, however, sediments beneath the surface are undisturbed.
<b>Ownership:</b>	Private: Calusa Campground Trailer Park
<b>Significance and Recommendation:</b>	This solution hole feature is likely associated with 8MO26 and 8MO27, and could have been a source of fresh water for Keys Indians. This site may offer a rare opportunity afforded by the pond's anaerobic environment that could yield organic artifacts that would have otherwise degraded over time.

**Site Name:** Key Largo Rock Mound Pond 2

**State Site Number:** MO3417

**Environmental Setting:** Rockland hammock

**Location:** Key Largo: Section 61S, Range 39E, Section 28

**Site Type:** Solution hole pond

**Site Function:** Mortuary?

**Description:** The site consists of a large, natural solution hole pond located on an undeveloped wooded parcel east of the Calusa Campground Trailer park. Five shovel tests were dug in 2019, but further investigation is needed to determine its full extent and significance. Pond is about 20 meters in diameter.

**Historic Context:** None known

**Chronology:** Prehistoric: Period unknown

**Collections:** 2018; Busycon shell tool observed – not collected.  
2019: Faunal bone, shell refuse

**Previous Research:** None

**Preservation Quality:** 1 - Site is undisturbed.

**Ownership:** Private

**Significance and Recommendation:** Site significance is unknown, but given its proximity to 8MO26 and 8MO27 it is likely that it was a freshwater source for Keys Indians. Considering the anaerobic environment within solution holes it is possible that organic artifacts such as wood could be recovered.

<b>Site Name:</b>	Chase
<b>State Site Number:</b>	MO3472
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	Buttonwood rocky flats
<b>Location:</b>	Sugarloaf Key: Township 65S, Range 35E, Section 25
<b>Site type:</b>	Building remains
<b>Site Function:</b>	Habitation
<b>Description:</b>	This site is characterized by a scatter of historic refuse and concrete foundations. One preserved rectangular concrete foundation ca. 1920s-40s, occurs north of County Road 4A near the Chase House. No changes were observed to the site since 2016.
<b>Historic Context:</b>	Town of Chase, subsequently renamed Perky
<b>Chronology:</b>	Historic: ca. 1890s to 1930
<b>Collections:</b>	Bottle glass, whiteware ceramics
<b>Previous Research:</b>	None
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	5- Site is subject to tidal erosion and storm surges.
<b>Ownership:</b>	Private
<b>Significance and Recommendation:</b>	Site is of local significance and worthy of local designation. No permits for ground-disturbing activities should be issued without conditions for archaeological documentation and subsequent monitoring.

<b>Site Name:</b>	Big Pine Fishing Lodge
<b>State Site Number:</b>	MO6618
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	Coastal Berm
<b>Location:</b>	Big Pine Key: Township 67S, Range 30E, Section 6
<b>Site type:</b>	Shell scatter, historic refuse
<b>Site Function:</b>	Habitation, subsistence
<b>Description:</b>	This multicomponent site is located on a shell and coral beach berm over one meter high that measures 1000 meters by 35 meters. This high berm is located near the Atlantic and a deep channel, ideal for receiving prevailing breezes. Vegetation includes gumbo limbo, Jamaican dogwood, sea grape, poisonwood, Keys blue porterweed, and Bahamian nightshade. Behind the berm are buttonwoods and mangroves. Conch fragments were found along entire berm, diminishing toward the southwestern end of the berm. Several whole conchs with prehistoric kill holes were found along the berm and near the shore at the Big Pine Fishing Lodge campground. Fishing Lodge staff reported that hundreds of whole conchs washed up on the berm after hurricane Irma and most had been collected by visitors of the Fishing Lodge. A whelk shell with a cut hole and used as a ladle was found at the base of a tree near the shore at the campground. The site continues onto the adjacent state property, but no collections were made there.
<b>Historic Context:</b>	Overseas Railroad?
<b>Chronology:</b>	Historic: ca. 1890s to 1930. Prehistoric: period unknown
<b>Collections:</b>	Busycon shell tool observed, not collected, shell refuse; historic refuse: whiteware, drinking glass
<b>Previous Research:</b>	None
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	3- Site has been disturbed by clearing and collecting. The site has been greatly altered by the development of the Big Pine Fishing Lodge. The initial clearing and subsequent placement of fill has had an adverse impact on the site.

**Ownership:**

Private, public

**Significance and  
Recommendation:**

Site significance is unknown. Phase I testing is recommended as well as monitoring of ground-disturbing activities.

**Site Name:** Hover Bight

**Site Number:** 8MO6620

**Location:** Key Largo: Township 61S Range 39E Section 14

**Environmental Setting:** Maritime Hammock

**Site Type:** Building remains

**Site Functions:** Homestead/Fishing camp

**Description:** This site consists of the remains of a structure and cement seawall along a dredged boat basin and a nearby cement slab, likely foundational remains of another structure. The site was located through a local informant who reputed that the site has been in similar condition since the early 1970's and suggested that it was a defunct fishing camp. The standing structure may never have been completed and shows signs of intentional demolition in some areas. The structure is adjacent to a cement capped coral-rock seawall that partially encircles the boat basin and runs for approximately 18 meters. There is a metal washtub cemented into the seawall, possibly serving as a fish cleaning station that partially obscures an inscription in the cement reading, "CAM-LOW" which the informant believes is "Camp Lowe", referencing the prominent Lowe family whom were early settlers in the upper Keys.

The canal leading into the boat basin is almost completely grown in by red mangroves and is approximately 80m in length, running roughly W-E. The corresponding dredge makes up a spit of high ground to the south, abutting Largo Sound. There are several road segments just visible through the overly detritus and evident within the surrounding hammock vegetation. One leads from the boat basin due north to Transylvania Ave.

The surrounding area did not produce any significant surface scatter of artifacts and no material could be directly tied to the structure. Since this area is a well known local "hang out" spot it is likely that the site has been subject to heavy collecting.

**Chronology:** Historic: 20<sup>th</sup> century

<b>Collections:</b>	No collections were made
<b>Ownership:</b>	Unknown
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	Good
<b>Significance:</b>	This site has local significance and may be an example of development similar to nearby Port Bougainville.
<b>Recommendation:</b>	Additional assessment is needed in order to determine a more precise chronology and its significance. Any activity in this area should be subject to archaeological monitoring.

<b>Site Name:</b>	Point Lowe
<b>Site Number:</b>	8MO6621
<b>Location:</b>	Key Largo: Township 63S Range 38E Section 3
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	Key Largo Maritime Hammock
<b>Site Type:</b>	Historic Refuse Scatter
<b>Site Functions:</b>	Homestead
<b>Description:</b>	This site consists of a surface scatter of historic refuse east of the intersection of Coconut Row and Ocean Ave within the hammock just inland of open buttonwood transition,. Observed were stoneware sherds, amethyst and aqua glass fragments as well as whiteware ceramic sherds. The scatter likely continues north into private property.
<b>Chronology:</b>	Historic: late 19 <sup>th</sup> , early 20 <sup>th</sup> century
<b>Collections:</b>	No collections were made
<b>Ownership:</b>	Unknown
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	Good
<b>Significance:</b>	The site lies 50-100m south of the location of the historic Lowe family homestead settled in 1880 and was one of the prominent upper keys families. The site can provide valuable insight into early keys pioneer life and is of local significance. The site is potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
<b>Recommendation:</b>	This area needs to be subject to archaeological testing prior to any ground disturbing activities.

**Site Name:** Refugee Key

**Site Number:** 8MO6622

**Location:** Big Pine Key: Township 67S, Range 29E, Section 11.

**Environmental Setting:** This site is on a high beach berm on the southern point of a mangrove key, west of and separated from Big Pine Key by a narrow channel, west of the end of Long Beach Road.

**Site Type:** Shell refuse

**Site Function:** Habitation, subsistence

**Description:** This prehistoric site is undisturbed by development or modern human activity. The site is on a relatively isolated beach berm and is part of a network of Atlantic facing beach berm prehistoric sites found along the Newfound Harbor Keys, including the previously recorded site of Big Munson Island, as well as sites to the east on Big Pine Key and West Summerland Key.

This site is located on a high shell and coral beach berm that measures 80 meters by 35 meters and rises over one meter above high tide level. A rocky point extends offshore with patches of mangroves and the remainder of the key's shoreline is mangroves. The center of the key has a small open buttonwood area. Vegetation on the berm includes sea grape and Australian pine. This high berm, located near the abundant resources of the nearshore patch reefs of the Atlantic waters, and receiving prevailing breezes to abate the insects and heat, was a prime location for prehistoric habitation. Several whole conchs with round shaped kill holes and numerous conch fragments were found on the beach berm surface identifying this site as having prehistoric occupation. This site has been subject to disturbance from storm events.

**Chronology:** Prehistoric: Period unknown

**Collections:** None

**Ownership:** Private

**Preservation Quality:** Good other than natural disturbance from hurricanes.

**Significance:**

Based on available data, this site is not eligible for listing on the National Registry of Historic Places.

**Recommendation:**

Due to private ownership this site could be under threat from development and any proposed development should be monitored and subject to additional testing.

<b>Site Name:</b>	Sugarloaf East
<b>Site Number:</b>	8MO6623
<b>Location:</b>	Sugarloaf Key: Township 67S Range 27E Section 14
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	Coastal Berm/Maritime Hammock
<b>Site Type:</b>	Shell Scatter
<b>Site Functions:</b>	Campsite/Homestead
<b>Description:</b>	<p>The site is located at the easternmost end of a natural coral-hash berm that runs roughly parallel with Old State Rd 4a. The site consists of a mixed marine shell and historic glass scatter interspersed throughout the shoreline and within the berm. There is significant evidence of storm surge activity and portions of the berm have redeposited further inland. A roughly 700m<sup>2</sup> square area of graded fill lies just inland of the berm and connects to the neighboring house via a gravel rd. Artifacts observed include early-mid 20<sup>th</sup> century bottle fragments and <i>Strombus</i> and <i>Busycon</i> shell refuse. This site could be likely associated with an early keys homestead and is located approximately 350m east of another known historic scatter/ homestead site.</p>
<b>Chronology:</b>	<p>Prehistoric: period unknown  Historic: early to mid-20th century</p>
<b>Collections:</b>	Glass bottle stopper
<b>Ownership:</b>	Private
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	Fair
<b>Significance:</b>	Based on available data there is insufficient data to determine the site's National Registry eligibility.
<b>Recommendation:</b>	This site is under threat of development and any future ground disturbing activities should be subject to archaeological monitoring. Further testing is required to determine extent and nature of the site.

<b>Site Name:</b>	West Summerland Key Southeast Berm
<b>Site Number:</b>	8MO6624
<b>Location:</b>	West Summerland Key: Township 67S, Range 28E, Section 7
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	This site is on a beach berm facing south towards the Atlantic
<b>Site Type:</b>	Shell scatter
<b>Site Function:</b>	Habitation, subsistence
<b>Description:</b>	This site is on the eastern part of the West Summerland Keys, also referred to as the Spanish Harbor Keys, Horseshoe Beach Park is on the other side of US 1. The site is on a high broad beach berm, on the south side of the key, facing the Atlantic. The site measures 400 meters long by 120 meters at the widest section of berm. The interior of the berm has a mature gumbo limbo hammock and a small pond. The shoreline beyond the berm on the Atlantic side is rocky and parts remain above water at high tide. Two whole conch ( <i>Strombus gigas</i> ) with prehistoric kill holes were found near the high tide line. Other conch fragments were found on the berm surface. A fragment of ballast stone was found on the surface of the interior berm. The ocean side of this site may have been eroded from the rocky shoreline beyond the present berm.
<b>Chronology:</b>	Prehistoric: Period unknown Historic: 16 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> Century
<b>Collections:</b>	Ballast stone fragment
<b>Ownership:</b>	Public: Monroe County
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	Good: Site is within a Monroe County park and is secure from development but at risk from collectors.
<b>Significance:</b>	There is insufficient data to determine whether this site is potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP.
<b>Recommendation:</b>	Phase I testing to document the site extent.

**Site Name:** Pelican Key

**Site Number:** 8MO6626

**Location:** Saddle Bunch Keys: Township 67S Range 26E Section 25

**Environmental Setting:** Coastal Berm

**Site Type:** Shell Scatter

**Site Functions:** Habitation, subsistence

**Description:** Pelican Key is located east of Saddlehill Key, south southeast of Bird Key and makes up the southern portion of Saddlebunch Harbor. The site consists of a surface scatter of marine shell (*Strombus*, *Busycon*, *Lucinidae* etc.) within a coral-hash berm that follows the southern contour of the key, 20-40m inland from the mangroves. The shell scatter (n=50) is diffuse although concentrates in the western portion of the berm. The berm is surrounded by mangroves but is accessible from the south.

**Chronology:** Prehistoric: period unknown

**Collections:** Worked palm-sized pumice (abrader?)

**Ownership:** Private

**Preservation Quality:** Good

**Significance:** The site significance is unknown based on available data.

**Recommendation:** The key should be subject to archaeological monitoring and testing.

<b>Site Name:</b>	Tom's Harbor Key
<b>Site Number:</b>	8MO6627
<b>Location:</b>	Tom's Harbor Key: Township 65S Range 34E Section 20
<b>Environmental Setting:</b>	Mangrove
<b>Site Type:</b>	Habitation, subsistence
<b>Site Functions:</b>	Campsite
<b>Description:</b>	The site is located within the open buttonwood flat on the northern of the two keys known as Tom's Harbor Keys, west of Duck Key. It consists of a relatively concentrated surface scatter of <i>Strombus</i> and <i>Busycon</i> shell (n=>25) embedded in the silt just inland from the mangrove transition of the western side, roughly south of center. The overall spread is approximately 350m <sup>2</sup> . The open area in the center of the key is very low and tidal with slight occasional rises in elevation dominated by sea purslane and a low density of buttonwood.
<b>Chronology:</b>	Prehistoric: period unknown Historic: mid-20 <sup>th</sup> century
<b>Collections:</b>	Demijohn
<b>Ownership:</b>	Private
<b>Preservation Quality:</b>	Good
<b>Significance:</b>	The site significance is unknown based on available data.
<b>Recommendation:</b>	Eastern Tom's Harbor is currently being developed into a private residence. This site area needs to be subject archaeological testing and monitoring in the event of any future ground disturbing activities.

# ARCHITECTURE IN THE FLORIDA KEYS

The “Monroe County Cultural Resource Assessment Update” provides examples of architectural styles, most of which are typical of structures built in south Florida between the 1920s and 1960s. These include Frame Vernacular, Masonry Vernacular, Mission, Minimal Traditional, Ranch, Mid-Century Modern and British Colonial styles. In the unincorporated portion of Monroe County little is left from the Late Pioneer Period (1865-1920). Many of the buildings that do remain are later in date and were developer driven, arranged in platted subdivisions and connected to the rise of tourism and increase in Keys population after the construction of the Overseas Highway and after World War II. The majority of the structures that were reviewed represent domestic architecture. Commercial buildings cluster along the Overseas Highway (US1) and will be discussed on an island by island basis.

## ARCHITECTURAL STYLES

### FRAME VERNACULAR

Wood Frame Vernacular buildings represent the typical method of construction used by pioneers in South Florida. Vernacular architecture is ordinary architecture. It does not adhere to a particular school of design and is not architect driven. The builder’s experience coupled with local material creates a useful and practical building. In Monroe County, these frame vernacular structures are usually rectilinear in form and noted for their simplicity. Built on foundations of masonry or stone piers they can be one, one and a half, or two stories in height, and often have a raised front porch. Exterior walls are faced with vertical board and batten, horizontal clapboard, weatherboard or shingles. Early examples of this style have high gabled or hipped roofs. A lower pitched gable roof usually indicates construction after 1920. Although many of the original roof coverings were wood shingles, now most roof coverings have been changed to composition shingles or metal roofs. Windows are typically double hung sash and doors are simple, sometimes with a glazed panel. Oolitic limestone details, chimneys and sometimes roof brackets are the only common decoration in this style. Attic louvers are also visible, but their addition is a practical application for ventilation rather than strictly for decoration.

### MASONRY VERNACULAR

Masonry Vernacular was also a common form of construction in South Florida and the Florida Keys. Nationally brick was used in this style of construction, but the scarcity of brick in Florida precluded its use in this area. Hollow clay tile, oolitic limestone, and concrete block were the most common types of material used locally. Structures are both symmetrical and asymmetrical with some variation due to the arrangement of interior spaces. Roofs are predominately gabled or hipped with composition shingles or wood shingle coverings. In Monroe County many of these roofs have been re-roofed with standing seam 3 or 5v crimp metal coverings. There are some masonry vernacular buildings with flat roofs in Monroe County but most of these are commercial rather than

residential. Windows traditionally were double hung sash or casement, but later in the 1940s and 1950s, aluminum awning and jalousie windows were used.

## MISSION REVIVAL

The Mission Revival style is a subtype of the Spanish Colonial Revival style, inspired by eighteenth century Spanish Mission style churches in California. The style became popular throughout the United States when it was used as the “California Building” at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893, and its use was widespread by 1915. In Florida, the style reached its peak in popularity during the 1920s. The Mission style is noted for simplicity. The roofs are traditionally flat, with interest given to an occasional secondary roof feature such as a dormer or a looping porch. Sometimes there is a bell tower. Exterior walls are generally hollow clay tile or wood frame which is covered with smooth or rough cast stucco. Arched openings are common. Porches are prominent feature. Scuppers are also frequently found below the roof line.

## BRITISH COLONIAL REVIVAL

British Colonial Revival architecture, also sometimes called the Bermuda style, was inspired by the traditions of the English colonists’ architectural heritage. It was adjusted to the character of local building materials and climate. Ornamental details were kept to a minimum and in South Florida and the Florida Keys, West Indian influences were prevalent. These included long cool verandas and small porches with upper balconies. Decorative quoins at the corners of exterior walls are also found. Windows in this style have traditionally been casement or double hung sash, but many in the Florida Keys were changed to aluminum awning and jalousies. Roofs in the British Colonial Revival style also usually covered with cement tile.

## MINIMAL TRADITIONAL

During World War II most of the construction of domestic architecture in the United States came to a halt because of the lack of building supplies. When the war ended and building resumed, many of the historical precedents of earlier styles were largely abandoned. Instead, builders simplified forms building small practical houses for returning service men who bought housing under the GI Bill. Many of these houses have a front facing gable roof and few decorative ornaments. Roof pitches are low and eaves are close. These houses are built of a variety of materials and were popular as tract housing throughout the late 1940s and early 1950s.

## RANCH

A uniquely American domestic architectural style, the Ranch home gained popularity in the 1940s to become the dominant style of architecture throughout the country during the 1950s and 1960s. Its popularity was undoubtedly related to a move away from the box-like houses of the Minimal Traditions style to a house with a more flexible plan. Ranch

style houses are generally long, one story houses with low gable or hip roofs and deep eaves. A rectangular, L, U, or splayed plan is common. These houses often have shallow front porches, sometimes running the length of the house. A garage or carport at one end is a common feature reflecting the importance of the automobile in the mid twentieth century. Decoration on these houses is sparse, rarely consisting of more than shutters and porch enhancements. The most common exterior wall material is stucco.

## MID-CENTURY MODERN

Mid-Century Modern is an architectural style that generally reflects modern development in the middle years of the twentieth century. Although the term first appears in the 1950s, a further investigation shows that the period of importance for these designs is from 1933 to 1965. The style is the American interpretation of the International and Bauhaus movements. It is generally simple in form and related to nature, having ample windows and open floor plans. Sometimes there are outlandish porte-cocheres, built in planters, abstract stucco relief patterns and parabolic arches. In South Florida and the Florida Keys, concrete brise-soleils and intricate metal sun grilles protect interior spaces from the tropical sun while letting in the light.

## OTHER

Various “Other” architectural styles also punctuate Monroe County. Although they are not found in great numbers, they add interest and variety to the streetscape. They will be discussed individually on an island by island basis.

## **SURVEY OF POTENTIAL HISTORIC DISTRICTS**

Unincorporated Monroe County represents a diverse mixture of histories and architectural styles. While Key West, the Key's largest city, was built around the square grid pattern of the William A. Whitehead survey of 1829, most other islands and communities in the "Monroe County Cultural Resource Assessment Update" were built later with more informal settlement patterns. (Day et al. 1998). Most of the structures that are included in this report are updates of previous Florida Master Site File (FMSF) forms. Others that were fifty years or older from a strictly visual evaluation were added. These newly recorded buildings can be dated from the Late Pioneer Period through the 1960s, and for the most part, retain their architectural integrity.

Construction in unincorporated Monroe County was stimulated by the building, first, of the Florida Overseas Railroad and later by the Overseas Highway. After the completion of the second Overseas Highway in 1938, that road (US 1), connected by forty-two bridges, became the "Main Street" of the Florida Keys, offering a direct connection between islands and communities as far away from each other as Key Largo and Key West. An increase in tourism followed the building of the new road. Motels, camp grounds, and fishing camps sprang up along the islands. Some winter visitors stayed and settled in Monroe County. Others bought property for vacation homes and became seasonal residents. Each island—its unique character, development pattern, and architectural milieu—was individually evaluated in the Monroe County Cultural Resource Assessment Update (Carr et al. 2016).

Unincorporated Monroe County's single historic district is the Tavernier Historic District, designated in 2005. In the 2016 cultural resource update the district was reassessed and nine historical structures were added to the inventory of resources potentially contributing to the district (along with three archaeological sites, including Old Settler's Park).

This historical architectural section of Monroe County Cultural Resource Assessment II addresses recommendations from the 2016 assessment update to study the feasibility of establishing historic districts on Conch Key and Duck Key in the Middle Keys, and in the Indian Mounds Estates subdivision on Sugarloaf Key in the Lower Keys. These studies were conducted from April to May, 2019, and are summarized below.

### **CONCH KEY**

The Conch Keys are two small islands situated on either side of the Overseas Highway at the western foot of Long Key Bridge. Both islands are entirely occupied by residential development. The smaller island on the Atlantic side is artificial, having been dredged and filled after 1947, and has fewer homes, with a preponderance of modern construction.

The Conch Keys referred to in 1849 in *Reconnaissance of the Florida Reefs and All the Keys* by F.W. Gerdes are the larger bay side island and a much smaller island entirely in the Ocean known as Little Conch Key or Walker Key (Wilkinson N.D.).

Conch Key, aka Big Conch Key, on the bay side, was first occupied by a construction camp for the Florida East Coast Railway, and had a log cabin built of railroad ties, which burned down in 1942. Two cottages and a pump house were there when Frank M. Coward bought the island in 1944 from the State of Florida. Coward, who built a house and kept his 44-foot ketch there, died in 1966. There was little growth until the 1950s when the island gradually became a more populated fishing and retirement community Figures 1-4. Retaining its quiet and unpretentious character, Conch Key has several homes built in the 1930s-50s that have not lost their historical integrity, including one Monroe County Historic Landmark, the coral rock Hodgman House, now the Conch Key Chalet.



Figure 2. Conch Key in 1954 from a picture postcard, collection of the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy. The photo shows that Little Conch Key/Walker Island has not yet been created, and that Conch Key itself is in an intermediate stage of development. Seaway Avenue on the north is not much more than a slightly elevated path. Several of the structures built on stilts over water in this photo are today standing on dry land (fill).



Figure 3. Conch Key, August 6, 1956, by Edwin O. Swift, Jr., courtesy of Edwin O. Swift III and the Florida Keys Library.



Figure 4. Small business area at Conch Key, 1957. State Archives of Florida/Johnson.



Figure 5. The Conch Keys 1969, aerial photo courtesy of the Monroe County Property Appraiser. Little Conch Key was vacant fill in 1959. Since 1969 it has been redeveloped more than once.

Of the three areas assessed for the feasibility of establishing historic districts, Conch Key has the most potential. The island has 14 structures that were previously recorded with FMSF, the site forms for which were updated in this assessment. In addition, 26 structures 50 years old or older were newly documented with site forms. Of these 26 only three are considered non-contributing to a potential historic district. Nine structures are modern. Five are mobile homes. One property is an open dock/storage area stacked with lobster traps, one is a trailer park. There are six vacant lots, four of which are used to store lobster traps or fishery equipment.

In this analysis, there are 29 structures contributing to a potential historic district and 19 non-contributing structures (Table 1). Contributing structures range from 1930s-40s wood frame vernacular houses to 1950s-60s masonry vernacular apartments/hotels. The relatively even distribution of contributing structures across the island argues for a potential historic district that circumscribes the entire island and abuts the US 1 right-of-way (Figure 6). A more limited boundary would leave the district vulnerable to runaway or incompatible development.

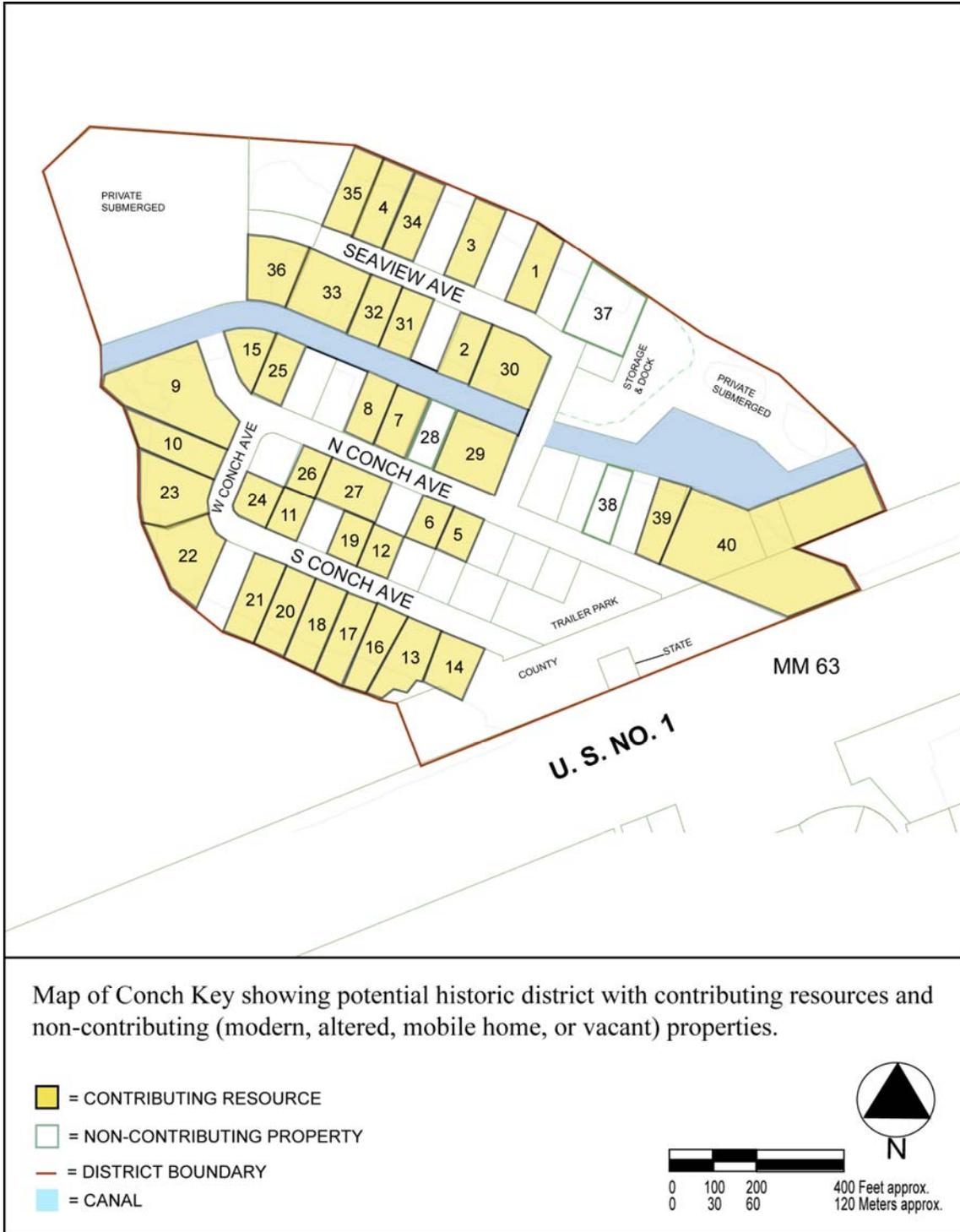


Figure 6. Map of potential Conch Key historic district. See table.

**Table 1. Potential Conch Key historic district resources (buildings).**

<b>KEY</b>	<b>SITE #</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>CONTRIBUTING/NON-CONTRIBUTING</b>
1	MO3701	35 Seaview Ave	Contributing
2	MO3702	44 Seaview Ave	Contributing
3	MO3703	55 Seaview Ave	Contributing
4	MO3704	85 Seaview Ave	Contributing
5	MO3705	42 N Conch Ave	Contributing
6	MO3706	52 N Conch Ave	Contributing
7	MO3707	63 N Conch Ave	Contributing
8	MO3708	73 N Conch Ave	Contributing
9	MO3709	130 W Conch Ave	Contributing
10	MO3710	120 W Conch Ave	Contributing
11	MO3711	81 S Conch Ave	Contributing
12	MO3712	61 S Conch Ave	Contributing
13	MO3713	30 S Conch Ave	Contributing
14	MO3714	20 S Conch Ave	Contributing
15	MO6558	97 N Conch Ave	Contributing
16	MO6559	40 S Conch Ave	Contributing
17	MO6560	50 S Conch Ave	Contributing
18	MO6561	60 S Conch Ave	Contributing
19	MO6562	71 S Conch Ave	Contributing
20	MO6563	70 S Conch Ave	Contributing
21	MO6564	80 S Conch Ave	Contributing
22	MO6565	100 W Conch Ave	Contributing
23	MO6566	110 W Conch Ave	Contributing
24	MO6567	111 W Conch Ave	Contributing
25	MO6568	95 N Conch Ave	Contributing
26	MO6569	82 N Conch Ave	Contributing
27	MO6570	72 N Conch Ave	Contributing
28	MO6571	53 N Conch Ave	Non-contributing
29	MO6572	43 N Conch Ave	Contributing
30	MO6573	34 Seaview Ave	Contributing
31	MO6574	64 Seaview Ave	Contributing
32	MO6575	74 Seaview Ave	Contributing
33	MO6576	84 Seaview Ave	Contributing
34	MO6577	75 Seaview Ave	Contributing
35	MO6778	95 Seaview Ave	Contributing
36	MO6779	96 Seaview Ave	Contributing
37	MO6780	15 Seaview Ave	Non-contributing
38	MO6781	15 N Conch Ave	Non-contributing
39	MO6782	7 N Conch Ave	Contributing
40	MO6783	3 N Conch Ave	Contributing

Conch Key residents, probably with little or no training in historic preservation, have adapted their homes somewhat willy-nilly to circumstances, yet somehow without diminishing their historical integrity to the extent of altering the character of the island. In response to Hurricane Irma only one home went out on a stylistic limb where it teeters in value as a contributing resource (Figure 8). In their inherent unpretentiousness, most of the island’s historic structures do not appear to be eligible for individual listing in the NRHP. But, in the sense that they adhere to the type, period, scale, setting, and feeling of historic Conch Key, they contribute to a potential Conch Key historic district. In fact, they do collectively maintain the historic character of the island—even the newer stilt homes are mostly one-story and do not appreciably stick out as incompatible—a place that has often been compared to Key West in its charm.

Below are some examples conveying the diversity of resources that make up the fabric of the island and contribute, or not, to a potential Conch Key historic district.

Figure 7. MO3703 at 55 Seaview Ave exemplifies the simpler dwellings built on the island in the 1940s. It also shows the type of renovations done, usually in response to weather damage, that are out of keeping with the historical character of the house, while not entirely detracting from it.



Figure 8. MO6571 at 53 North Conch Ave is an example of a house that loses all of its historical character in a post-Irma renovation. The original house was much like the one above, an elongated box, almost a shotgun house. Alterations to the above are superficial and could be reversed, as opposed to the below.

Figure 9. MO3708 at 73 North Conch Ave looking east along the canal. Conch Keyers regard this as one of their landmarks. It has a plaque naming it the Preacher's House. It is said to have been built in 1933, although that may be too early. It is an example of a more formal vernacular type found on the island.



Figure 10. MO6566 at 110 West Conch Ave is a typical Keys 1950s-60s masonry vernacular hotel with exposed pre-cast concrete beams, limited to two stories high, with lots of docks. Like many vacation rentals on the island Conch Key Villas thrive by word of mouth.

Figure 11. MO6573 at 34 Seaview Ave is an example of a structure that is a home atop its stilts and a fishery in between stilts below. Many residents of the island live and work out of their homes as commercial fishermen with their boats along side, yards piled high with lobster traps.



## DUCK KEY

Duck Key is located 1.8 miles south of Conch Key on the ocean side of the Overseas Highway. Most casual observers perceive the island only as the site of the modern Hawk's Cay Resort. But there is more to Duck Key than new development. Historically the island was included as part of the *Key Vaccas* in Spanish charts, and was noted as Duck Key by George Gauld on his 1775 map. Although research into the history of the island shows that it had a small settlement and saltworks during the nineteenth century, the place was largely abandoned when the original owner, Charles Howe, died in 1837. Because the railroad did not connect to Duck Key, it stayed abandoned until 1951 when Bryan Newkirk bought the property and built a wooden bridge. It was officially connected to the Overseas Highway in 1953 (Figure 12). Newkirk was an associate of George Merrick, the developer of Coral Gables and his aim was to build a “residential, motel, apartment, and business center” He succeeded and called the resort Indies House (duckkeyonline.com).



Figure 12. Duck Key in 1954, the year after the island was connected by a wooden bridge to the Overseas Highway. Key, June 24, 1954, by Edwin O. Swift, Jr., courtesy of Edwin O. Swift III and the Florida Keys Library.



Figure 13. Duck Key in 1969. Aerial photo courtesy of the Monroe County Property Appraiser.

The Monroe County Cultural Resource Assessment Update in 2016 identified and recorded three historic structures, recommended a more comprehensive historic sites survey on the island to assess the feasibility of preserving the 1950s and 1960s character of the resort island in the form of a Duck Key historic district.

Duck Key is unique not only for its architecture, but also for the engineering and design of the canals that separated the resort into four island sections with decorative bridges, allowing the water to flush with tidal change and the marina breakwater that was built to protect the housing. The four bridges that cross these canals were recorded in the Historic Highway Bridges of Florida 2010 update and evaluated as individually eligible for listing in the NRHP (Lund 2012). They are recorded with FMSF as MO02135-38. The causeway from US 1 to Duck Key Drive over Tom's Harbor Channel was built as a wooden bridge in 1953, later replaced by a concrete structure; in its existing form (FDOT Bridge #904600) it dates to 1967. Although completing site forms for bridges was not

within the scope of this assessment, the Duck Key bridges are tabulated along with other contributing resources (Figure 14, Table 2).

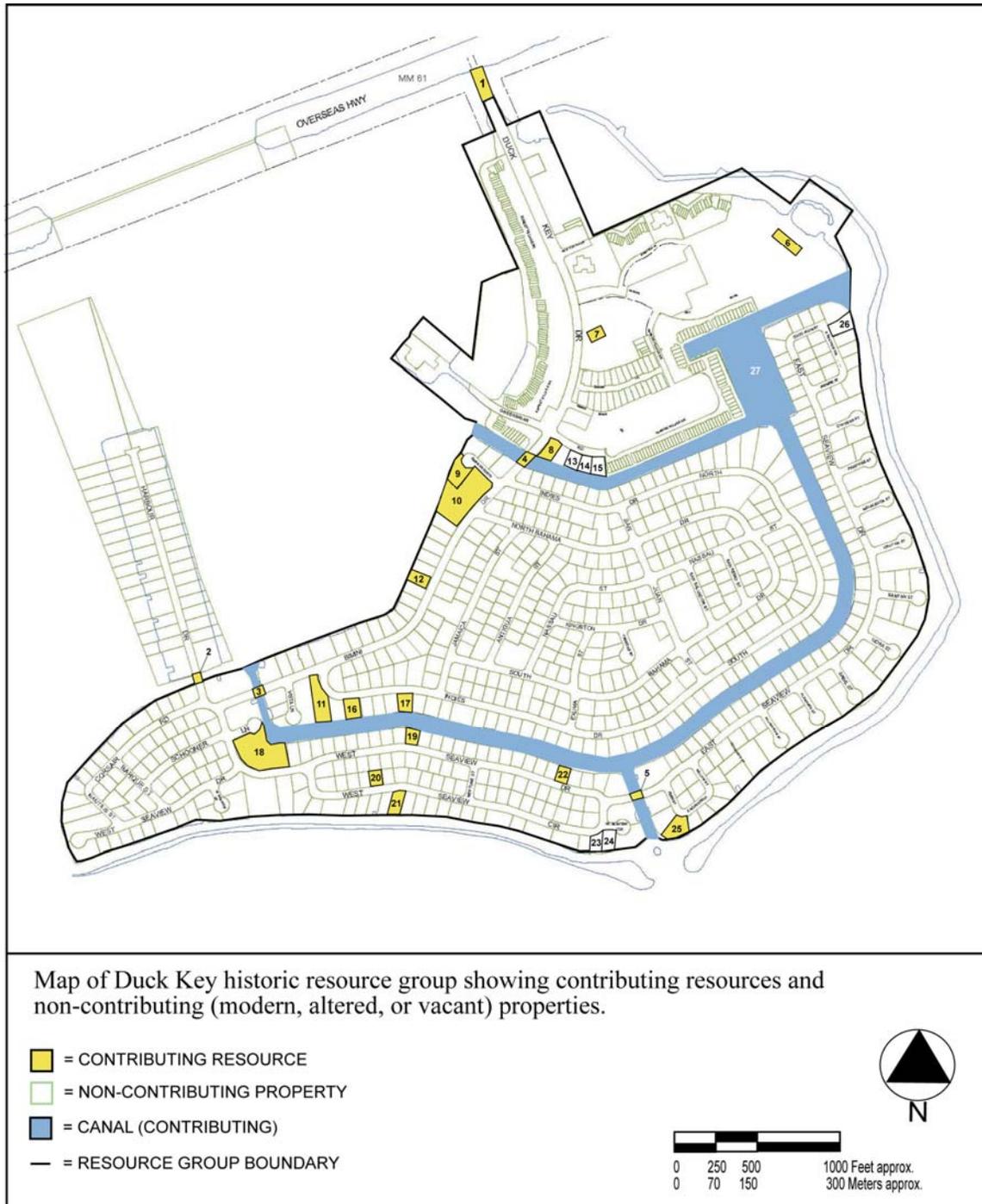


Figure 14. Map of Duck Key historic resource group. See table.

**Table 2. Duck Key historic resource group (buildings, bridges, canals).**

KEY	SITE #	ADDRESS	TYPE	CONTRIBUTING/NON-CONTRIBUTING
1	None	US 1	BR	Non-contributing
2	MO2135	Harbor Dr	BR	Contributing
3	MO2136	Bimini Dr	BR	Contributing
4	MO2137	Duck Key Dr	BR	Contributing
5	MO2138	Seaview Dr	BR	Contributing
6	MO3987	61 Hawks Cay Blvd	SS	Contributing
7	MO3988	1128 Greenbriar Rd	SS	Contributing
8	MO3989	61 Hawks Cay Blvd	SS	Contributing
9	MO6584	102 N Indies Dr	SS	Contributing
10	MO6585	146 Bimini Dr	SS	Contributing
11	MO6586	1104 S Indies Dr	SS	Contributing
12	MO6587	132 Bimini Dr	SS	Contributing
13	MO6588	1124 Greenbriar Rd	SS	Non-contributing
14	MO6589	1126 Greenbriar Rd	SS	Non-contributing
15	MO6590	1143 Greenbriar Rd	SS	Non-contributing
16	MO6591	1100 S Indies Dr	SS	Contributing
17	MO6592	192 S Indies Dr	SS	Contributing
18	MO6593	226 W Seaview Dr	SS	Contributing
19	MO6594	248 W Seaview Dr	SS	Contributing
20	MO6595	249 W Seaview Cir	SS	Contributing
21	MO6596	244 W Seaview Cir	SS	Contributing
22	MO6597	274 W Seaview Dr	SS	Contributing
23	MO6598	212 W Seaview Cir	SS	Non-contributing
24	MO6599	210 W Seaview Cir	SS	Non-contributing
25	MO6600	314 E Seaview Ln	SS	Contributing
26	MO6601	312 E Seaview Cir	SS	Non-contributing
27	None	None	Canal	Contributing

The buildings that were recorded in 2016 as exemplifying the island’s history and architecture are the Indies House Hotel/Hawk Cay Resort (8MO3987), “Jamaica House” (8MO3988), and The Hawk’s Cay Administration Building (8MO3989) all newly recorded sites. All three buildings are within the area between the causeway and Truman Bridge (MO02137) built in 1955.

In this assessment all buildings 50 years old or older as ascertainable on the property appraiser’s website were documented on FMSF forms. Twenty historic properties were recorded. The distribution of these structures across Duck Key is scattered and not conducive to the formation of a cohesive historic district (Figures 13, 14). However, the sites are also recorded as a resource group which, if protected and updated, could eventually form the basis of a district.

The following are some examples of historic structures that contribute to a Duck Key resource group (apart from the 1954 Administration Building, the 1956 Jamaica House, and the 1960 Indies House Hotel, which were discussed in the 2016 assessment.)

Figure 15. MO6593 at 226 West Seaview Drive, the pool and boat house looking from the canal. This building and its main residence were the first to be built on Duck Key on the other side of Truman Bridge. It alone among later homes comes close to the style of architecture envisioned by Newkirk.



Figure 16. MO6585 at 146 Bimini Drive, one of the first homes built post-1959, a decade after MO6593, one of a few of grander homes built with attempts at classical proportions and styling. Only four homes appear on this side of Truman Bridge in the 1964 aerial photo.

Figure 17. MO6595 at 249 West Seaview Circle, is an example of a smaller home built in 1967. It is on the 1969 aerial photo among only twelve others. It shows a trend to gull wing roofs and porches.





Figure 18. MO6594 at 248 West Seaview Drive was built around 1968 and it appears on the 1969 aerial photo. It combines sweeping roofs with wide eaves, curvilinear shapes, and stilt construction, features that increasingly typify the Duck Key vernacular.



Figure 19. MO6592 at 192 South Indies Drive built in late 1969 just qualifies as historic. In the 1970s these houses proliferate. They deserve to be documented in a 2029 resurvey.

## INDIAN MOUND ESTATES

Two previous surveys (Henry et al. 2003, Carr et al. 2016) recommended that Indian Mound Estates subdivision on the Gulf side of Upper Sugarloaf Key be assessed as a potential historic district, due to a concentration of historic frame vernacular houses. The earliest aerial photograph available of the area was taken in 1959 and shows the development of canals and land clearing along Canal Drive (Perez subdivision) and Date Palm Drive (Gulf Shores subdivision), with more than twice as many homes built there as in Indian Mound Estates subdivision to the north (Figure 20).



Figure 20. The study area in 1959: Date Palm Drive and Canal Drive running east/west. The origin of Indian Mound Drive as a road that snakes across the entire area can be seen. Broken by the canals, it runs south until it meets US 1 at the junction of Old State Road 4a. Only a quarter of its original mile remains; the rest visible on modern aerials as a trail.



Figure 21. The Indian Mound Estates study area including Canal and Date Palm drives in 1969. The northern area has been developed on a par with the southern. It shows that the historic fabric of the area is 50-60 years old and, to continue the metaphor, is rather loosely woven.

In 2016, nine FMSF forms were updated (nine in Indian Mound Estates and two reported destroyed on Date Palm Drive, of 11 previously reported). One historic property was newly recorded on Date Palm Drive in the Gulf Shores subdivision to the south (MO04003). In this assessment, all structures 50 years old or older were documented in the Indian Mound Estates study area (including Perez, and Gulf Shores subdivisions) in order to evaluate the potential for creating a historic district. In addition to the nine site forms updated in 2016, 13 historic structures were newly recorded in Indian Mound Estates, with one previously recorded resource found to have been destroyed (MO03762 at 19556 Navaho Street). On Canal and Date Palm drives 16 historic structures were newly recorded (not including MO04003, recorded in 2016). In total, for the greater area, 29 historic structures were newly recorded. As in the case of Duck Key, historic

properties in greater Indian Mound Estates are rather scattered, making the case for establishing a historic district a difficult one (Figure 22, Table 3).

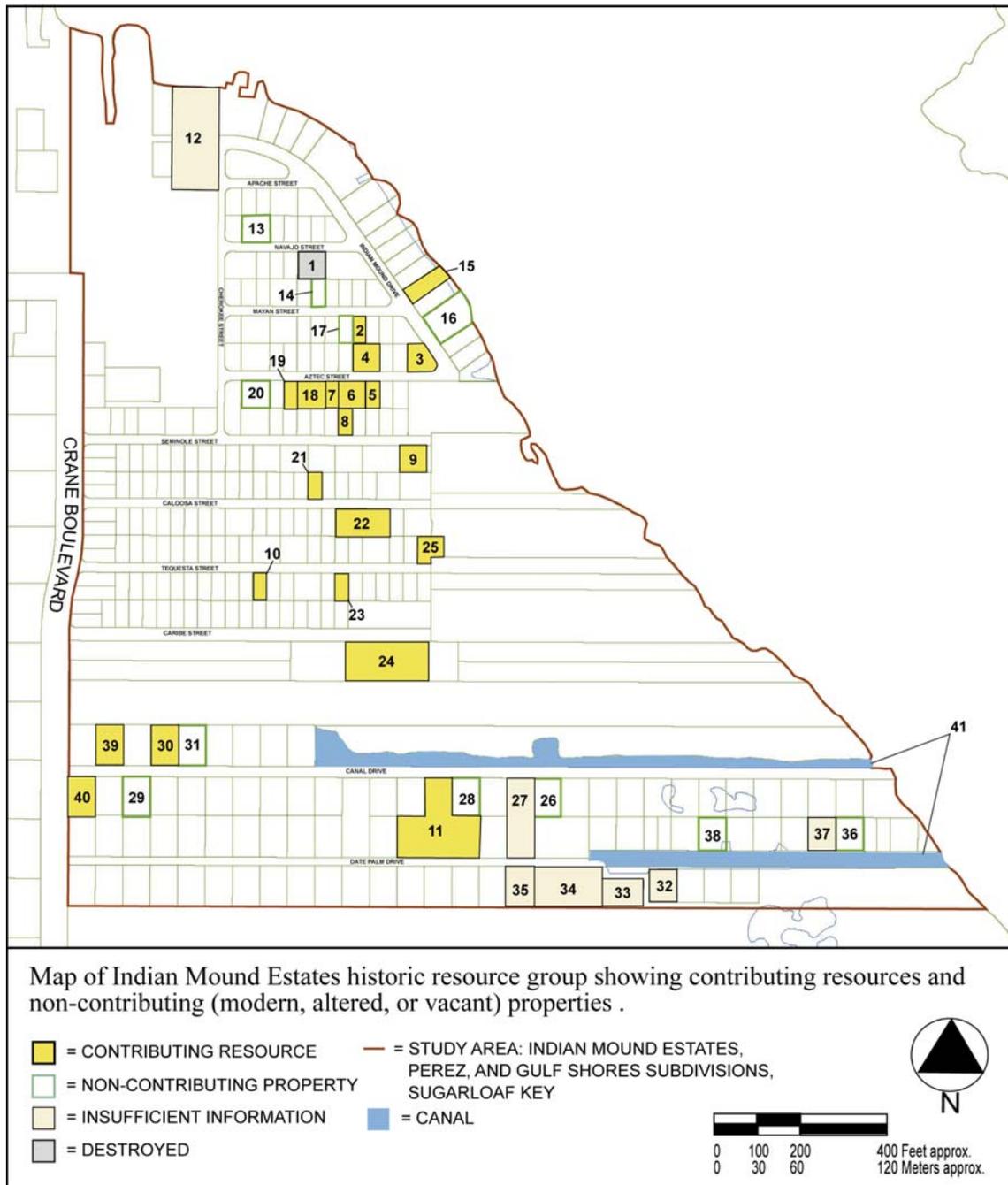


Figure 22. Map of Indian Mound Estates historic resource group. See table.

**Table 3. Indian Mound Estates historic resource group (buildings and canals).**

KEY	SITE #	ADDRESS	TYPE	CONTRIBUTING/NON-CONTRIBUTING
1	MO3762	19556 Navajo St	SS	Destroyed
2	MO3763	19580 Mayan St	SS	Contributing
3	MO3764	19672 Indian Mound Dr	SS	Contributing
4	MO3765	19591 Aztec St	SS	Contributing
5	MO3766	19616 Aztec St	SS	Contributing
6	MO3767	19582 Aztec St	SS	Contributing
7	MO3768	19572 Aztec St	SS	Contributing
8	MO3769	19583 Seminole St	SS	Contributing
9	MO3770	19658 Seminole St	SS	Contributing
10	MO3771	19520 Tequesta St	SS	Contributing
11	MO4003	19657 Date Palm Dr	SS	Contributing
12	MO6602	880 Cherokee St	SS	Insufficient Information
13	MO6603	19519 Navajo St	SS	Contributing
14	MO6604	19557 Mayan St	SS	Non-contributing
15	MO6605	19629 Indian Mound Dr	SS	Contributing
16	MO6606	19653 Indian Mound Dr	SS	Non-contributing
17	MO6607	19570 Mayan St	SS	Non-contributing
18	MO6631	19552 Aztec St	SS	Contributing
19	MO6632	19542 Aztec St	SS	Contributing
20	MO6633	19512 Aztec St	SS	Non-contributing
21	MO6634	19567 Caloosa St	SS	Contributing
22	MO6635	19594 Caloosa St	SS	Contributing
23	MO6636	19580 Tequesta St	SS	Contributing
24	MO6637	19648 Caribe St	SS	Contributing
25	MO6638	19681 Tequesta St	SS	Contributing
26	MO6640	19748 Canal Dr	SS	Non-contributing
27	MO6641	19728 Canal Dr	SS	Insufficient Information
28	MO6642	19686 Canal Dr	SS	Non-contributing
29	MO6643	19442 Canal Dr	SS	Non-contributing
30	MO6644	19641 Canal Dr	SS	Contributing
31	MO6645	19481 Canal Dr	SS	Non-contributing
32	MO6646	19812 Date Palm Dr	SS	Insufficient Information
33	MO6647	19780 Date Palm Dr	SS	Insufficient Information
34	MO6648	19720 Date Palm Dr	SS	Insufficient Information
35	MO6649	19760 Date Palm Dr	SS	Insufficient Information
36	MO6650	19943 Date Palm Dr	SS	Non-contributing
37	MO6651	19933 Date Palm Dr	SS	Insufficient Information

**Table 3 continued.**

KEY	SITE #	ADDRESS	TYPE	CONTRIBUTING/NON-CONTRIBUTING
38	MO6652	19861 Date Palm Dr	SS	Non-contributing
39	MO6653	19421 Date Palm Dr	SS	Contributing
40	MO6654	411 Crane Blvd	SS	Contributing
41	N/A	Crane/Date Palm Dr	CANAL	Insufficient Information

Development is happening apace in Indian Mound Estates as on Duck Key, but there is less a sense of compatibility, of neighbor copying or fitting in with neighbor, as on the island. Nevertheless these historic properties are also recorded here as a resource group. A resurvey in 10 years may present a different picture.

Below are some examples of contributing structures to an Indian Mound Estates historic resource group.

Figure 23. MO3767 at 19582 Aztec Drive, a 1950s frame vernacular home typical of the ten that were recorded in 2016, numbers 1-10 on the map. The aerial photography shows that home building in Indian Mound Estates did not really begin until the 1960s. Development was earlier around the canals in the Perez and Gulf Shores subdivisions.



Figure 24. MO6636 at 19580 Tequesta Street was also listed as built in the 1950s, but like the house above, does not appear on the 1959 aerial photo. Indian Mound Estates is a densely wooded area and many of homes are also screened from view by fences. Most of homes are modern and they primarily display individuality.

Figure 25. MO6635, 19594 Caloosa Street, listed as built in 1968. This house is one of several masonry vernacular structures that seem to typify their period and to feel in place in the study area. This house has tall windows that make the awning glass attractive and functional. Rafter tails are exposed under the eaves. No window trim adds a bit of pueblo look.



Figure 26. MO6637, 19648 Caribe Street, is a 1957 masonry vernacular house that fits the study area and its period. It is one of the very few houses in Indian Mound Estates on the 1959 aerial photo. Isolated and concealed, glimpses of it and a sketch of the plan reveal it has a clerestory over an enclosed porch wrapped on three sides by a flat roof.

Figure 27. MO6653, 19421 Canal Drive, listed as built in 1943, had, unless it was moved, to have been built between 1959 and 1969. Post-hurricane repairs give it a newness, but the house retains its basic character, and the alterations are reversible. It is regarded as a contributing resource.



# RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

## RESULTS

In January through June, 2019, the Archaeological & Historical Conservancy, Inc. (AHC) conducted a cultural resource survey and assessment of archaeological and architectural (historical) sites in the Florida Keys in Monroe County excluding the municipalities of Key West, Marathon, Layton, and Islamorada, and all State and Federal properties including the Overseas Highway and bridges.

This assessment included an archival review, pedestrian surveys, both architectural and archaeological, and completion of FMSF forms for sites along an approximate 80-mile stretch of the Florida Keys. Fourteen previously recorded historic structures not documented during the 2016 cultural resource assessment update were assessed and their site forms updated. Eight archaeological sites and 90 historic structures are newly documented, for a total of eight archaeological site forms and 104 historic structure forms updated or newly created in this assessment. Twenty nine archaeological sites documented during the 2016 cultural resource assessment update were visited, and as no changes had occurred their site forms were not updated. Thirteen historic structures documented during the 2016 assessment, three on Duck Key and ten on Sugarloaf Key, were visited, and as no changes were noted their site forms were not updated. Two of the thirteen structures and no archaeological sites were determined to have been destroyed since 2016.

This assessment of the Keys historic and prehistoric cultural resources resulted in determining that archaeological sites continue to degrade from a variety of forces including hurricanes, development, collecting, metal detecting, natural erosion, and bioturbation. Archaeological sites have degraded significantly since the comprehensive survey conducted in 1988. The most significant loss has been the continued destruction of the Key Largo Rock Mound, 8MO26 and associated prehistoric village site, 8MO27. Adverse impact on these sites by development has occurred despite their listing in the NRHP, apparently without any conditions for archaeological documentation by approved construction permits by Monroe County. The Recommendations section of this report details some of the strategies and actions believed necessary to protect the remaining Florida Keys archaeological sites.

This assessment of historical architectural resources resulted in determining that one of three areas studied for the feasibility of establishing historic districts there was potentially viable: Conch Key. Historic resources on Duck Key and in the greater Indian Mound Estates area were too dispersed for the formation of cohesive districts; however, the historic structures in each of these two places were recorded as resource groups as well as individually.

The number of site forms updated, sites newly recorded, and sites determined in the field to have been destroyed in the course of this assessment are tabulated by key below (Table 4). Sites are divided according to location into archaeological sites (AR) and historical architectural structures (STRUCTURE). Structures newly recorded in the 2016 survey were reviewed but not updated unless there were significant changes. Totals for archaeological sites include destroyed sites; a historic house that had been destroyed since 2016 was not included in the structures total. By the list in Appendix I, FMSF is notified of sites field assessed in this survey that were determined to have been destroyed.

**Table 4. Tabulation of Sites by Key for 2019 Assessment**

Location	Site Form Updated*		Newly Recorded Site		Destroyed Site		Total Assessed	
	AR SITE	STRUCTURE	AR SITE	STRUCTURE	AR SITE	STRUCTURE	AR SITE	STRUCTURE
Key Largo			2				2	
Conch Key		14		26				40
Duck Key		0		25				25
Big Pine Key			2				2	
Summerland Key			1				1	
Sugarloaf Key			1	39		2	1	39
Saddlebunch Key			1				1	
Tom's Harbor Key			1				1	
<b>Total</b>		14	8	90		2	8	104

## CONCLUSIONS: KEYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE MODEL

A review of the prehistoric archaeological sites of the Florida Keys as assessed in the 2016 and 2019 studies indicates that sites occur across three different geographic locales. They are summarized below.

### Atlantic Ocean Sites

These sites are located abutting the Atlantic Ocean: or what is generally the windward side of the island. Sites recorded to date on the Atlantic side include black earth and shell middens and shell scatters. Sites have been found on the beach berms and on the beach. The associated cultural materials often appear to be redeposited.

Some Atlantic sites occur within the upland hammock nearest the ocean, but are often bordered by mangrove forest that has expanded from the prehistoric period when these sites were likely in closer proximity to access to the ocean. These hammock sites are most apparent on north Key Largo where development has been minimal and where much of that land is under public ownership.

## **Gulf Side Sites**

Gulf side sites occur on the Gulf of Mexico side of the Key which is generally the leeward side of the island. There are at least three major black earth middens that occur on the gulf side including Key Largo and Plantation Key. Two sites, 8MO24 and 8MO26, are on Key Largo. The most northerly of the two, 8MO24, is on an upland hammock abutting the mangrove forest with no apparent access to the sea. The site is also among the earliest known sites of the Keys dating from the Glades I and terminating in Glades II. The other Key Largo site is 8MO26, a black earth/shell midden associated with the rock mound, 8MO25, representing a Glades II occupation. The third site, the Plantation Key Site, 8MO22, represents a Glades II and III occupation.

## **Channel Sites**

The channel site is an important geographic location because it provides expedient access to the sea, but most importantly is a strategic location that maximizes fishing opportunities because channels with their changing tides are favored by mullet and other fish that concentrate there allowing net fishing efficiently. An example is Munson Island, where an intact midden was discovered on the beach in 1988. The site at that time was largely eroded as a result of wave action. In 2019, the site was gone and only redeposited artifacts were found along the beach.

One of the more noteworthy channel sites is 8MO2, a small island close to Stock Island opposite Key West. Other important channel sites include Lignumvitae Key, Indian Key, Lower Maticumbe Key site,. Channel sites can occur on smaller discrete islands and on the channel shore of the larger islands, such as Watson's Hammock on Big Pine Key.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

This assessment identified not only the current conditions of previously recorded sites and newly recorded sites within the survey area, but also deficiencies in the Monroe County historic preservation programs as mandated in the County comprehensive plan and growth management act as well as implementation of historic preservation objectives. Recommendations are provided below to address these deficiencies and identifying additional cultural resources for protection and as potential tourist destinations.

It is important that the public funds spent on this assessment result in prioritizing preservation of surviving significant historic and archaeological sites in the Keys, and in expanding heritage tourism for visitors beyond Key West to all of the Florida Keys.

### **ARCHAEOLOGY**

The archaeological sites of the Keys have been greatly degraded by development in the last century.

It is recommended that the Keys archaeological sites of the Florida Keys be protected by creating archaeological conservation areas. This protection is similar to the protection currently in use by the municipalities of Miami, Fort Lauderdale, and Palm Beach where any proposed ground disturbing activities and permits for construction or tree removal are subject to review by historic staff. Based on those reviews a determination is made as to what any potential impacts may occur from the proposed ground disturbing activities. The determination would be made either a county archaeologist (one with a degree in archaeology) and /or a consultant archaeologist who will provide a written assessment of potential impacts based on archival review and a field assessment that could include shovel testing and/or pedestrian survey. The report would include conditions that would be attached to the permit approval that could include additional testing archaeological excavations and monitoring of ground disturbing activities.

Effective protection of recorded and potential archaeological sites should be implemented by a County review of all permits for ground disturbing activities including new construction, demolition, tree removal, clearing and grubbing, landscaping, utility excavations and requiring archaeological testing and or monitoring as a condition of permit approval. These reviews should be a standard check-off in the planning and zoning applications, as is already a procedure with other local governments. The Planning Department needs to create a GIS map overlay of known sites and areas of archaeological sensitivity, based on models provided by archaeologists within Monroe County. This map creation should be done with the aid of archaeologists familiar with the Keys. The FDHR database should be reviewed to identify all known archaeological sites.

Unanticipated discoveries should be reported to the Historic Keys Foundation and the Florida Division of Historical Resources, Archaeological Research Division. If human

remains are uncovered during any ground disturbing activities or erosion events, then the provisions of Section 872.05, Florida Statutes, will apply.

## **ARCHITECTURE**

Because unincorporated Monroe County is spread over a long distance, it is prudent to focus on areas where the preservation goals and principles will be accomplished for the best effect, highest public purpose, and visitor reward. These newly selected target areas for historic assessment are summarized below.

### **Conch Key**

An intensive cultural resource survey was conducted on Conch Key, bay side, where an enclave of 1930s-50s historic structures are anchored by a Monroe County landmark, the Hodgman House. Based on this assessment, a cohesive historic district is distinctly possible. Conch Key residents are commercial fisherman, people who came for sport fishing and decided to stay, long time residents who like fishing and love the place, vacationers who find lodging mainly by word of mouth, owners of hotels or vacation rentals most of whom live on the premises, and a few people who have second/vacation homes there. These people appreciate their history and have stories to tell. The best way to reach out to them in the beginning will be through an oral history project. Bringing them on board the ship of a historic district will be require clear explanation of guidelines, benefits and incentives such as the Historic Property Tax Exemption, and the grandfathering in of historic structures when building codes stiffen after natural disasters such as Hurricane Irma. A generous interpretation of guidelines and eligibility will be necessary if this unselfconscious gem of a mini Key West is to be preserved.

### **Duck Key**

A comprehensive cultural resource survey was conducted on Duck Key that provides an overview of all historic resources on the island. This mid-twentieth century resort development consists of residential architecture, commercial architecture, and a hotel originally designed by Morris Lapidus. A certain Caribbean flavor established by the hotel, the administration building, and the Jamaica House is somewhat diluted after crossing over Truman Bridge to the rest of the island, although the bridges themselves uphold the theme. Despite this dilution, Duck Key tends to maintain a certain style. There is no feasible district in a cohesive sense. However, a coherent type of 1970s masonry vernacular will add interest and texture to the Duck Key resource group, if a re-survey is done in 2029. At that point a district based on a 1950-70s time frame could be considered. And, as previously recommended, the venture should be coordinated with the Duck Key Property Association, guidelines should be clearly explained, and benefits and incentives such as the Historic Property Tax Exemption emphasized.

## **Indian Mound Estates, Sugarloaf Key**

Indian Mound Estates, including the Perez and Gulf Shores subdivisions, were thoroughly surveyed due to a concentration of historic frame vernacular residences. Although this building inventory is relatively intact, its resources are dispersed across the area. They are not as scattered as those on Duck Key; but, unlike Duck Key, they are interspersed and surround with new development that seems not necessarily to sympathize with its neighbors in type, scale, setting, or feeling. Therefore, a cohesive historic district in greater Indian Mound Estates does not appear to be feasible. Nevertheless, its historical resources are recorded here as a resource group. It is not as likely as on Duck Key that a resurvey in ten years will tip the scales. But coordination with neighborhood associations on the subject of an oral history of the area and of the guidelines, benefits, and incentives for historic preservation should be undertaken.

## **Overseas Highway Historic Roadside Attractions Trail - Reboot**

As an addendum to the previous assessment (Carr et al. 2016), an alternative means of preserving the Sugarloaf Lodge and other historic mid-century modern or masonry vernacular hotel/motels that AHC staff could not help notice having staying in them during these surveys, would be as contributing resources to an Overseas Highway Historic Roadside Attractions Trail, as proposed. For that reason, it is worth reiterating the concept, with the imaginary addition of a body of unrecorded hostelries that retain their integrity of type, scale, setting, and feeling, and retain a base of return visitors who get it.

Most visitors are unaware of the history of the Keys outside of Key West. Many historic resources are spread from Key Largo to Key West on the Overseas Highway; others are off the beaten track. Their historical or architectural importance varies, but they represent a history of commerce that catered to the automobile culture of the twentieth century, the quirkiness of the Florida Keys and are a link to all that the Keys has to offer - history, fun and a unique sense of place. It is imperative to protect and maintain these buildings and businesses encouraging their preservation with the monetary incentives offered by the Historic Property Tax Exemption and the Federal Income Tax credit. In this survey we identified the following buildings for inclusion in this linear designation:

Caribbean Club, Key Largo  
Mrs. Mac's Kitchen, Key Largo  
Harriette's Restaurant, Key Largo  
Copper Kettle (Cafe Moka), Tavernier  
No Name Pub, Big Pine Key  
Mangrove Mama's, Sugarloaf Key  
Babalou's Southern Cafe, Big Coppitt Key

Because this assessment identified resources in the unincorporated portion of Monroe County, it is important for this recommendation's success that the County reach out to the

incorporated cities and towns to include all of the historic roadside attractions in a designation, and to develop promotional materials, and phone and tablet applications.

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## **APPENDIX I: LIST OF DESTROYED SITES**



**Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc.**

4800 S.W 64th Ave, Suite 107 Davie, FL 33314

Phone: 954-792-9776 Fax: 954-792-9954

Email: [archlgcl@bellsouth.net](mailto:archlgcl@bellsouth.net) Web: [www.flarchaeology.com](http://www.flarchaeology.com)

MONROE COUNTY CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT II  
CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT #19.H.SM.200-040

APPENDIX I: LIST OF DESTROYED SITES

Two historic structures updated in 2016 were found to have been demolished. No archaeological sites assessed in the field were determined to have been destroyed:

HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL SITES

8MO00228 Bat Tower, Bat Tower Road, Sugarloaf Key

8MO03762 19556 Navajo Street, Indian Mound Estates, Sugarloaf Key

## **APPENDIX II: FLORIDA SURVEY LOG**

Ent D (FMSF only) \_\_\_\_\_



# Survey Log Sheet

Florida Master Site File  
Version 4.1 1/07

Survey # (FMSF only) \_\_\_\_\_

Consult *Guide to the Survey Log Sheet* for detailed instructions.

## Identification and Bibliographic Information

Survey Project (name and project phase) \_\_\_\_\_

Report Title (exactly as on title page) \_\_\_\_\_

Report Authors (as on title page, last names first) 1. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_

Publication Date (year) \_\_\_\_\_ Total Number of Pages in Report (count text, figures, tables, not site forms) \_\_\_\_\_

Publication Information (Give series, number in series, publisher and city. For article or chapter, cite page numbers. Use the style of *American Antiquity*.)

Supervisors of Fieldwork (even if same as author) Names \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation of Fieldworkers: Organization \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Key Words/Phrases (Don't use county name, or common words like *archaeology, structure, survey, architecture, etc.*)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_

Survey Sponsors (corporation, government unit, organization or person directly funding fieldwork)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address/Phone/E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Recorder of Log Sheet \_\_\_\_\_ Date Log Sheet Completed \_\_\_\_\_

Is this survey or project a continuation of a previous project? No Yes: Previous survey #s (FMSF only) \_\_\_\_\_

## Mapping

Counties (List each one in which field survey was done; attach additional sheet if necessary)

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_

USGS 1:24,000 Map Names/Year of Latest Revision (attach additional sheet if necessary)

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_  
3. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

## Description of Survey Area

Dates for Fieldwork: Start \_\_\_\_\_ End \_\_\_\_\_ Total Area Surveyed (fill in one) \_\_\_\_\_ hectares \_\_\_\_\_ acres

Number of Distinct Tracts or Areas Surveyed \_\_\_\_\_

If Corridor (fill in one for each) Width: \_\_\_\_\_ meters \_\_\_\_\_ feet Length: \_\_\_\_\_ kilometers \_\_\_\_\_ miles

**Research and Field Methods**

**Types of Survey** (check all that apply):  
 archaeological      architectural      historical/archival      underwater  
 damage assessment      monitoring report      other(describe): \_\_\_\_\_

**Scope/Intensity/Procedures** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preliminary Methods** (check as many as apply to the project as a whole)

Florida Archives (Gray Building)	library research- <i>local public</i>	local property or tax records	other historic maps
Florida Photo Archives (Gray Building)	library-special collection - <i>nonlocal</i>	newspaper files	soils maps or data
Site File property search	Public Lands Survey (maps at DEP)	literature search	windshield survey
Site File survey search	local informant(s)	Sanborn Insurance maps	aerial photography

other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_

**Archaeological Methods** (check as many as apply to the project as a whole)

Check here if **NO** archaeological methods were used.

surface collection, controlled	shovel test-other screen size	block excavation (at least 2x2 m)
surface collection, <u>un</u> controlled	water screen	soil resistivity
shovel test-1/4" screen	posthole tests	magnetometer
shovel test-1/8" screen	auger tests	side scan sonar
shovel test 1/16" screen	coring	pedestrian survey
shovel test-unscreened	test excavation (at least 1x2 m)	unknown

other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_

**Historical/Architectural Methods** (check as many as apply to the project as a whole)

Check here if **NO** historical/architectural methods were used.

building permits	demolition permits	neighbor interview	subdivision maps
commercial permits	exposed ground inspected	occupant interview	tax records
interior documentation	local property records	occupation permits	unknown

other (describe): \_\_\_\_\_

**Survey Results (cultural resources recorded)**

**Site Significance Evaluated?**      Yes      No

**Count of Previously Recorded Sites** \_\_\_\_\_      **Count of Newly Recorded Sites** \_\_\_\_\_

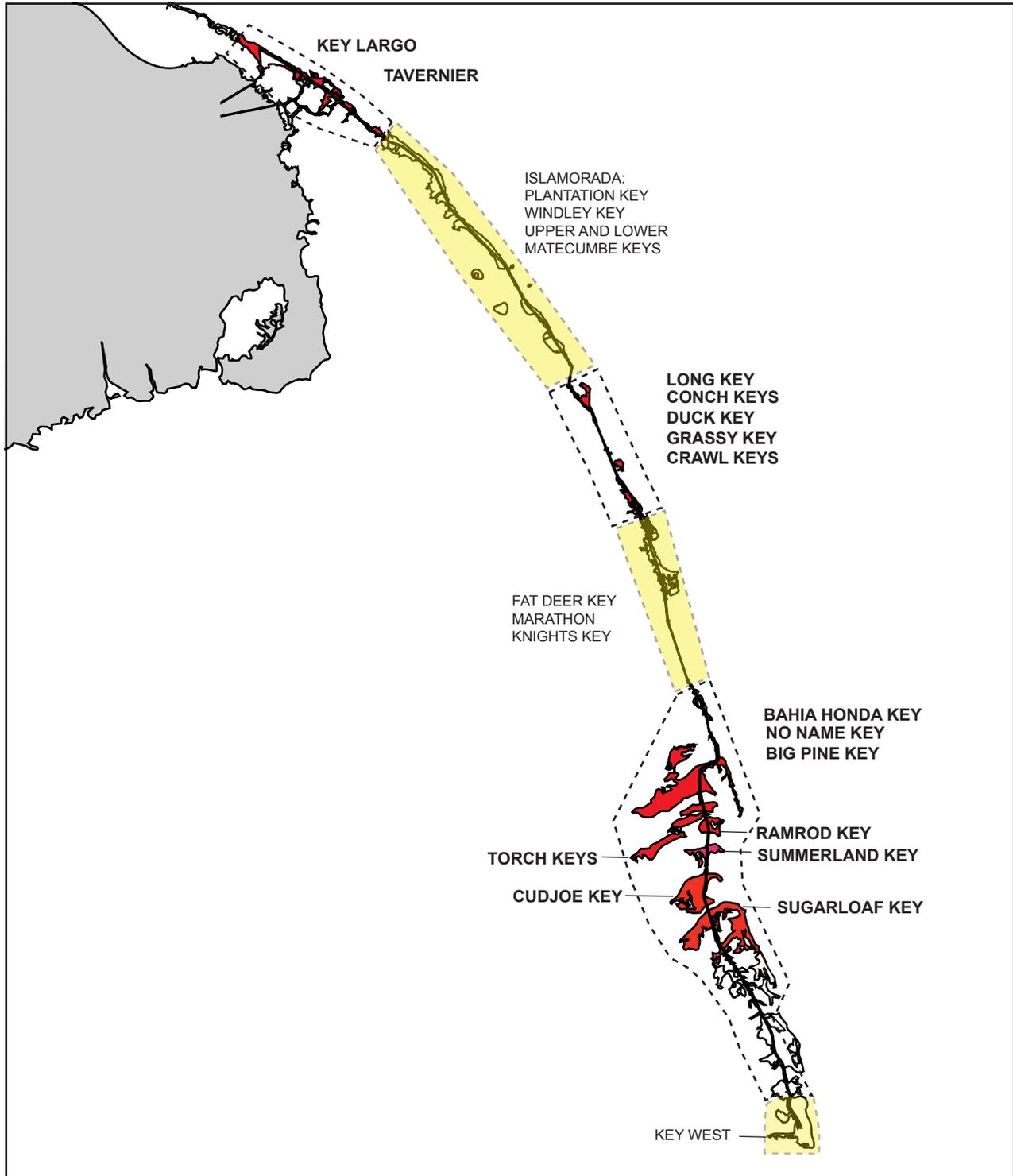
**Previously Recorded Site #'s with Site File Update Forms** (List site #'s without "8". Attach additional pages if necessary.) \_\_\_\_\_

**Newly Recorded Site #'s** (Are all originals and not updates? List site #'s without "8". Attach additional pages if necessary.) \_\_\_\_\_

**Site Forms Used:**      Site File Paper Form      Site File Electronic Recording Form

**\*\*\*REQUIRED: ATTACH PLOT OF SURVEY AREA ON PHOTOCOPY OF USGS 1:24,000 MAP(S)\*\*\***

SHPO USE ONLY	SHPO USE ONLY	SHPO USE ONLY
<b>Origin of Report:</b>	872    CARL    UW    1A32 # _____ Academic    Contract    Avocational	
	Grant Project # _____ Compliance Review: CRAT # _____	
<b>Type of Document:</b>	Archaeological Survey    Historical/Architectural Survey    Marine Survey    Cell Tower CRAS    Monitoring Report	
	Overview    Excavation Report    Multi-Site Excavation Report    Structure Detailed Report    Library, Hist. or Archival Doc	
	MPS    MRA    TG    Other: _____	
<b>Document Destination:</b> _____	<b>Plotability:</b> _____	

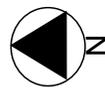


The Florida Keys showing location of project area divisions.

--- = PROJECT AREA

👉 = ASSESSED KEY OR PART OF KEY

🟡 = EXCLUDED (FEDERAL, STATE, MUNICIPAL) AREA



MONROE COUNTY CRA II  
List of USGS Maps

SURVEY LOG

Additional USGS Maps Consulted:

GRASSY KEY  
MARATHON  
SEVENMILE BRIDGE  
BIG PINE KEY  
SUMMERLAND KEY  
SADDLEBUNCH KEYS  
BOCA CHICA KEY  
KEY WEST

Previously Recorded Sites (Structures):	MO06568	MO06607
	MO06569	MO06631
	MO06570	MO06632
	MO06571	MO06633
MO03701	MO06572	MO06634
MO03702	MO06573	MO06635
MO03703	MO06574	MO06636
MO03704	MO06575	MO06637
MO03705	MO06576	MO06638
MO03706	MO06577	MO06639
MO03707	MO06578	MO06640
MO03708	MO06579	MO06641
MO03709	MO06580	MO06642
MO03710	MO06581	MO06643
MO03711	MO06582	MO06644
MO03712	MO06583	MO06645
MO03713		MO06646
MO03714	<u>Duck Key</u>	MO06647
		MO06648
Newly Recorded Archaeological Sites:	MO06584	MO06649
	MO06584	MO06650
	MO06585	MO06651
	MO06586	MO06652
MO06618	MO06587	MO06653
MO06620	MO06588	MO06654
MO06621	MO06589	
MO06622	MO06590	
MO06623	MO06591	
MO06624	MO06592	
MO06626	MO06593	
MO06627	MO06594	
	MO06595	
Newly Recorded Structures:	MO06596	
	MO06597	
	MO06598	
<u>Conch Key</u>	MO06599	
	MO06600	
MO06558	MO06601	
MO06559		
MO06560	<u>Indian Mound</u>	
MO06561	<u>Estates</u>	
MO06562		
MO06563	MO06602	
MO06564	MO06603	
MO06565	MO06604	
MO06566	MO06605	
MO06567	MO06606	