



MONROE COUNTY CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT UPDATE CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT #F1503 MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONSERVANCY, INC.



AHC TECHNICAL REPORT NO. 1114
JULY 2016

**MONROE COUNTY CULTURAL RESOURCE
ASSESSMENT UPDATE
CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT
GRANT #F1503
MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

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For:

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|---|-----|
| LIST OF FIGURES | ii |
| ACKNOWLEDGMENTS | iii |
| CONSULTANT SUMMARY | 1 |
| PROJECT SETTING | 3 |
| CULTURAL SUMMARY | 7 |
| PREVIOUS RESEARCH | 13 |
| METHODOLOGY | 16 |
| SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES | 18 |
| ARCHITECTURE IN THE FLORIDA KEYS | 98 |
| SYNOPSIS OF HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL SITES | 101 |
| RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS | 124 |
| REFERENCES CITED | 130 |
| APPENDIX I: LIST OF DESTROYED SITES | 139 |
| APPENDIX II: DESKTOP LIST OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES | 142 |

LIST OF FIGURES

- | | |
|---|-----|
| Figure 1. Map of the project area depicting exclusions (municipalities) | 2 |
| Figure 2. Tabulation of archaeological and historical architectural sites by Key | 125 |

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CONSULTANT SUMMARY

From January through June, 2016, the Archaeological & Historical Conservancy, Inc. (AHC) conducted a cultural resource survey and update of all previously recorded terrestrial archaeological sites and historic structures located in the Florida Keys within unincorporated Monroe County, including a survey of previously undocumented archeological and historical resources of potentially significant structures that had turned 50 or more years old since that last assessment. 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 2). Also excluded from the assessment were State and Federal properties. The assessment was conducted for Monroe County under a grant from the Florida Division of Historical Resources.

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 C.F.R., 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 for sites within the Florida Keys project area. A total of 406 sites were assessed. Forty-nine previously recorded archaeological sites and 225 previously recorded historic structures were field-assessed. Two archaeological sites and 30 historic structures were determined to have been destroyed (Appendix I). Seven archaeological sites were not visited because access was not possible and no site forms were completed for these sites (Appendix II.) Additionally, 22 archaeological sites and 80 historic structures were newly documented. Sixty-four archaeological site forms and 335 historic structure forms were completed for this report. FMSF forms were updated or newly created, and the FMSF is by this report notified of sites that had been destroyed (Appendix I).

Recommendations are provided in this report regarding the protection of significant cultural resources including potential revisions to the Tavernier Historic District and the effective protection of archaeological sites. Also recommended is a streamlined review process for permit applications that affect designated sites, structures, or districts.

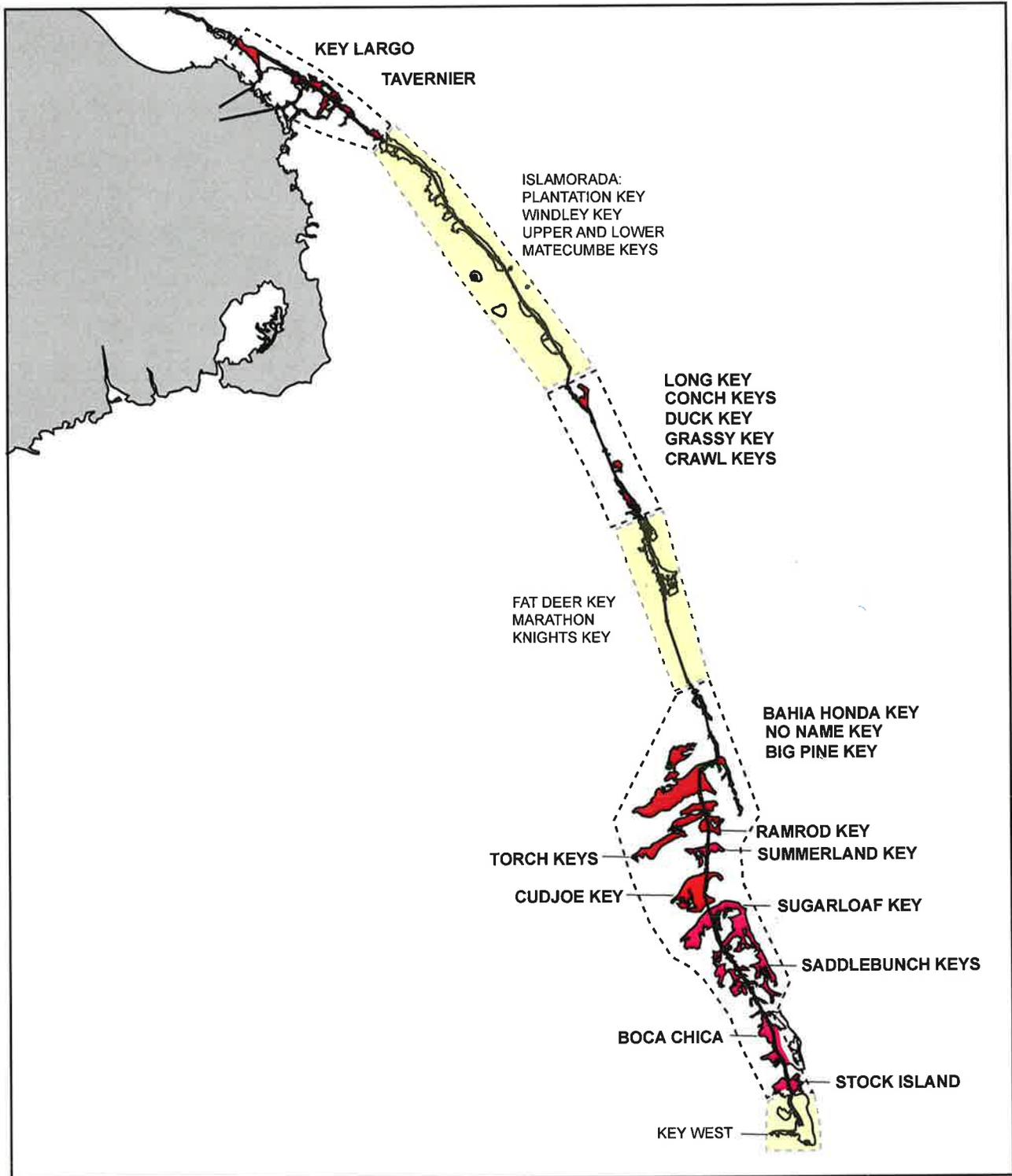
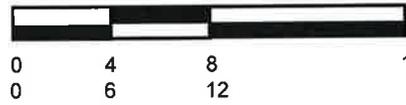


Figure 1. The Florida Keys showing location of project area divisions.

-  = 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 Marquesa 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 the north and west. 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 are the result of a formerly submerged oolite bank (the Miami oolite formation) dated to 110,1000 ±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 is the geologic formation extending into the recent period. The Older Key Largo limestone is linked to no recent geologic formation (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. Other deep sediment deposits contain the black earth middens 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 usually 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 are surrounded by and contain extensive offshore reefs, patch reefs, seagrass flats, tidal zones, and mangrove swamp areas that are extremely important to area fish and wildlife. The prehistoric Indians and early white and black 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 century. However, many areas of vigorous secondary hardwood hammock communities have regenerated. A comprehensive survey of the remaining Keys hardwood hammocks was done by Art Wiener in 1980 (Wiener n.d.).

Recent botanical work, 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 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)

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, etc.), 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.). Preceramic 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, etc.). 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 to 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

Archaeological investigations in the Florida Keys have not been extensive during the last century. 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. 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. He later directed an excavation there with the Archaeological Society of Southern Florida from 1975 to 1980. Due to vandalism, only two pits were completed (Fonte, Luer and Allerton 1982). Eyster conducted excavations at 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 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 the growth 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 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, and these are of variable quality depending on the rigor exercised. A limiting factor in much of the archaeological work attempted in the Florida Keys is due to 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 careful documentation. Other reports such as the 2009 archaeological and architectural survey for the Villages of Islamorada depth of research and collaboration with local staff (Miller 2009).

Many recent CRAS surveys deal with 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 Division of Historic Resources in Tallahassee.

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 all previously recorded archaeological sites and historic structures in the project area, defined as 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 the Upper, Middle, and Lower Keys to reassess previously recorded sites and document potentially significant structures that had been overlooked or that have turned 50 years old since the most recent survey in 2003, with an intensive focus on reassessing and updating the Tavernier Historic District which was last documented in 2008. 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 conducted in the field and by phone. 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. Those sites that could not be visited were provided a “desktop” assessment and no site forms were completed (Appendix II).

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 several residents of the Tavernier Historic District is also greatly appreciated.

SUMMARY OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Site Name: | Sugarloaf Key |
| State Site Number: | 8MO4 |
| Environmental Setting: | Maritime hammock |
| Location: | Township 66S, Range 27E, Section 25, East Sugarloaf Key |
| Site Type: | Prehistoric midden |
| Site Function: | Habitation, subsistence |
| Description: | <p>Goggin described the site in 1947 as being 100 yards long, 50 to 75 feet wide and 3-4 feet deep and that it was partially used for cultivating fruit trees with sherds “freely plentiful” on the surface (Goggin 1949:n.p.). Bill Fournier stated that the mound was 400 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 5 feet high. At present, the midden occurs across several lots in a residential neighborhood. Structures have been built on the eastern and western portions of the site. The central third of the midden is on a vacant lot but shows signs of having been cleared. A stand of young gumbo limbos, a guava tree, and a grass lawn are the vegetative cover of this vacant section were seen in 1988 and was present in 2016. A paved road bisects the western half of the midden. Fill abuts the northern edge of the site nearest the ocean. Despite the considerable development on the site, the midden can be defined clearly and is about 2.5 to 3 feet high. The main axis runs northeast/southwest and is about 300 feet long.</p> |
| Historic Context: | Fruit grove c. 1940s |
| Chronology: | Prehistoric: Glades IIIa, b, c; Historic: 19th-20th Century |
| Collections: | <p>Goggin collected Glades plain, Glades Tooled, unclassified incised and punctated gritty ware, St. Johns Plain, St. Johns Check Stamp, Spanish Olive Jar, Busycon pick; Strombus celt hammer: shell pendant of a single groove columella form. These artifacts are housed at the Peabody Museum (142, 647), the National Museum (373, 838), and at the Florida Park Service. Fournier made an extensive collection from this site, but the whereabouts of this collection is</p> |

unknown (Loman 69, Parks 65, Labon 1962). AHC collections in 2016 include faunal bone, shell bead and ceramics from a single unit.

Previous Research: Goggin 1949, Miller 1935, Felton and Tesar 1968, Parks 1965, Carr et al 1988.

Preservation Quality: 3 - Good. Site has been moderately impacted but some areas are intact.

Ownership: Private; multiple owners

Significance and Recommendation: Eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D. Site is recommended for preservation. Any further development of the site should be subject to archaeological documentation. Neighbors report that no archaeological requirements were made by the County or State during the recent sewage line excavations that destroyed a major area of intact cultural deposits.

Site Name: Ramrod Key

State Site Number: 8MO6

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock/shoreline

Location: Township 66S, Range 29E, Section 31, Ramrod Key

Site Type: Prehistoric shell scatter

Site Function: Habitation, subsistence

Description: On the western shore of Ramrod Key just south of the boat basin, a large prehistoric shell scatter was noted. The scatter consists predominately of whole and fragmentary conch shells (*Strombus gigas*) 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.).

Historic Context: None noted

Chronology: Prehistoric: Indeterminate

Collections: 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.

Previous Research: Goggin 1949: n.p.; Carr et al 1988

Preservation Quality: 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 scraped in the past.

Ownership: Private

Significance and

Recommendation:

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

Site Name: Big Pine #2

State Site Number: 8MO8

Environmental Setting: Unknown

Location: Township 66S, Range 29E, Section 5, Big Pine Key

Site Type: Midden

Site Function: Habitation, subsistence

Description: Goggin documents that Karl Squire reported a midden near the northeast end of the island. The 1988 and 2016 AHC surveys could not locate the midden. It should be noted that Section 5 is on the northwest portion of Big Pine Key and Section 33 of T. 66S falls on the northeast side of the island. Prehistoric artifacts were noted on Section 33 in 1988 (see MO2105 Big Pine Key #7).

Historic Context: None noted

Chronology: Prehistoric: Indeterminate

Collections: None in 1988 nor 2016

Previous Research: Goggin 1949; Carr et al 1988

Preservation Quality: 6 – Fair to good (?): the 1988 AHC survey did not locate the site.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: Unknown eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D. Site is recommended for additional subsurface testing. Any further development of the site should be subject to archaeological documentation.

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Site Name: | Key Largo #2. Key Largo Rock Mound Midden |
| State Site Number: | 8MO26 (also listed in FDHR under resource group MO1258) |
| Environmental Setting: | Maritime hammock |
| Location: | Township 61S, Range 39E, Section 28, Key Largo |
| 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 an adjacent mangrove swamp. Originally the site supported a lush hardwood hammock, but the development of this site as 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 site. 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 site still exist. 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 level surface. |
| Historic Context: | None noted |
| Chronology: | Prehistoric: Glades IIb |
| Collections: | No collections were made during the 1988 or 2016 surveys. Goggin reported that collections he made repose at the Yale Peabody Museum and the Florida State Museum in Gainesville. |
| Previous Research: | No scientific excavations have ever 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.) |
| 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 trailers in the northern part of the site. |

Ownership:

Private

Significance

Recommendation:

Listed on National Register of Historic Places
Any further ground disturbances at this site should be conditional on prior archaeological documentation and monitoring during construction as 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: | Township 61S, Range 39E, Section 28, Key Largo |
| Site Type: | Constructed rock mound |
| Site Function: | Ceremonial? Mortuary? |
| Description: | <p>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.</p> |
| 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. |
| Previous Research: | Goggin 1944:31, 1949:36; Carr, et al 1988. |
| Preservation Quality: | 5– Site vandalism and bulldozing have affected 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.

Site Name: Knights Key

State Site Number: 8MO77

Environmental Setting: Filled uplands/ bay bottom

Location: Township 66S, Range 32E, Section 17, Knights Key

Site Type: Prehistoric shell and artifact scatter; historic refuse

Site Function: Resource procurement

Description:

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.

The key is the site of one of the earliest pioneer settlements on Key Vaca (ca. 1823).

The key was used by Flagler's railroad in the early 20th century as one of the major points for rail line transfers.

At present most of the key is a popular campground and has been altered by fill. The 1988 and 2016 AHC survey noted conch shell fragments, whole conches and glass bottle fragments could be seen at the surface near a manmade boat basin.

Historic Context: 1823 settlement; Flagler railway transfer point

Chronology: Prehistoric: Glades III

Collections: A collection made at this site is housed at the University of Florida Anthropology Laboratory and 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 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.

| | |
|---|---|
| Previous Research: | Goggin documented the site in unpublished work (1949; n.p.), Carr et al 1988 |
| Preservation Quality: | The site's preservation integrity has not been determined because the site is mantled by fill and extends into the bay bottom. |
| Ownership: | Private, Public |
| Significance and Recommendation: | 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: Little Fat Deer Key

State Site Number: 8MO117

Environmental Setting: Island shoreline

Location: Township 65S, Range 32E, Section 36, Little Fat Deer Key

Site Type: Shell refuse, black dirt midden; Historic refuse

Site Function: Resource procurement

Description: Carl Clausen reported an area of historic refuse near the shore of Little Fat Key in 1966. A 1988 visit to the site by AHC confirms earlier reports of historic refuse as well as extensive marine shell and faunal bone, suggesting a prehistoric component. Site could not be relocated in 2016.

Historic Context: 17th and 18th centuries

Chronology: Prehistoric: undetermined; Historic: undetermined

Collections: Unknown

Previous Research: Clausen, Florida State Site form, 1966; Carr et al, 1988.

Preservation Quality: Unknown

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: Site should be preserved and further archaeological documentation. Site worthy of local designation.

Site Name: West Summerland Key # 1

State Site Number: 8MO124

Environmental Setting: Estuarine tidal swamp

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

Site Type: Midden

Site Function: Habitation, extractive site

Description: Located on the westend 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, Wesuneeke Site Excavation (8MO88); Dugger, Charles 1972, A Tequesta Site at West Summerland Key, Monroe County, Florida; Eyster, Irving, 1980, Florida State Archaeological Site Form; Carr, Robert, 1988, unpublished field notes on record at AHC.

Preservation Quality: 7- Previous excavations and avocational pot-hunters have affected 20% of the site.

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: RR Section Camp 1

State Site Number: 8MO1254

Environmental Setting: Maritime Hammock, Estuarine tidal swamp

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

Site Type: Railroad workers camp

Site Function: Camp, temporary habitation

Description: Located on the eastern edge of Sugarloaf Key where U.S. 1 connects with the island. The site area consists of a historic refuse scatter mixed with modern debris. Artifacts observed include whiteware ceramic “Greenwood China” c. 1880’s, aqua glass bottle “Fellows Syrup of Hypophosphites” c. late 19th- early 20th century, amethyst bottle “Armour’s Top Notch Brand Chicago” ca. late 19th-early 20th century. The area appears to have been subjected to clearing in the past, possibly for construction of extant overseas highway.

Historic Context: Flagler Railroad

Chronology: Historic: 1906-1935

Collections: None during 2016 survey

Previous Research: Carr et al. 1988

Preservation Quality: 7- Area disturbed by nearby development activities and some avocational collecting.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: Site area should be preserved, eligible for local designation. Should be subjected to monitoring and archaeological documentation during any future construction .

Site Name: Big Pine Key # 10

State Site Number: 8MO1263

Environmental Setting: Estuarine tidal marsh

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

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 either their cultural context or age. The site could not be located in 2016.

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.

Ownership: Unknown

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

Site Name: Big Pine Key # 11

State Site Number: 8MO1264

Environmental Setting: Rockland hammock

Location: Township 66S, Range 29E, Section 22, Big Pine Key

Site Type: Well

Site Function: Historic homestead

Description: The site is located at the SE corner of the intersection of Watson Blvd and Buttonwood Dr. and has been recently cleared due to widening of the road. Part of the well has been filled in as a result of the clearing. No artifacts were observed during a pedestrian walkover of the site area.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: Historic: ca. 1906-1935

Collections: None during 2016 survey

Previous research: Carr et al 1988

Preservation Quality: The site has been cleared.

Ownership: State

Significance and Recommendation: Any further roadwork or development in the site area should be subjected to monitoring and additional archaeological documentation.

Site Name: Middle Torch Key # 1

State Site Number: 8MO1277

Environmental Setting: Rockland Hammock

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

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 2016 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 that area should be subject to conditions of archaeological documentation.

Site Name: No Name Key # 1

State Site Number: 8MO1278

Environmental Setting: Marine hammock

Location: Township 66S, Range 30E, Section 19, No Name Key

Site Type: Surface artifact scatter

Site Function: Extractive site, camp?, homestead?

Description: Located in southeast No Name Key in an open buttonwood transition, the site area consists of a diffuse Strombus scatter <100, and historic glass bottle fragments including aqua and amethyst glass and various whiteware and stoneware sherds. The area appears to have been bulldozed.

Historic context: Early 20th century

Chronology: Historic: Early 20th century

Collections: None during 2016 survey

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 5- Site was affected by bulldozing and some collecting due to its proximity to traveled footpath.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: Site area should be preserved and subjected to monitoring if future development is planned.

Site Name: No Name Key # 3

State Site Number: 8MO1280

Environmental Setting: Marine hammock

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

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

Site Function: Habitation

Description: The site area consists of two cisterns, metal and concrete, a square cut well, 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 running 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, dominated by red mangroves. Also observed there was a concentrated scatter of historic bottle fragments.

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 avocational collecting has occurred.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: Site area or significant features should be preserved, eligible for local designation. Site area should be subjected to monitoring if future development is to take place.

Site Name: No Name Key # 4

State Site Number: 8MO1281

Environmental Setting: Rockland Hammock

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

Site Type: Well

Site Function: Historic homestead

Description: Located approximately 20 meters south of 8MO1280, the site area consists of three modified solution holes. An east-west pathway bisects the site area and two of the solution holes are located to the north of this path. The area south of the path has a diffuse mixed modern/historic surface scatter and there is some evidence of later use of the site, possibly by itinerants.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: Historic: 20th century

Collections: None during 2016 survey

Previous Research: Carr et al. 1988

Preservation Quality: 6- Area shows signs of having been bulldozed and collected.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: Site area should be preserved and further testing recommended in order to determine full extent and nature of site. Area should be subjected to monitoring if development is proposed.

Site Name: No Name Key # 5

State Site Number: 8MO1282

Environmental Setting: Rockland hammock, Marine hammock

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

Site Type: Historic homestead: Building remains, surface scatter

Site Function: Habitation

Description: The site is located close to the southwestern tip of No Name Key, just inside the rockland hammock where it transitions into the open buttonwood flat. A large solution hole pond is located approximately 130 meters to the north. The predominant feature of the site is a large concrete foundation with a surrounding historic surface scatter covering approximately 800 square meters and consisting of household debris, whiteware, green “Fire King” ovenware and glass bottle fragments. To the south of the concrete foundation, in the open buttonwood flat is a large concentration of historic bottle shards.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: Historic: 20th century

Collections: None during 2016 survey

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 2- Site is intact with some evidence of collecting.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: Site area should be preserved, eligible for local designation, and potentially contributing to a No Name Key Historic District. Monitoring needed if area is to be developed.

Site Name: No Name Key # 6 Matkovich House

State Site Number: 8MO1284

Environmental Setting: Marine hammock

Location: Township 66S, Range 30E, Section 18, No Name Key

Site Type: Historic Homestead: building remains, surface scatter

Site Function: Habitation

Description: The site is located along the open buttonwood transition on the northeast quadrant of No Name Key and consists of four wooden pilings believed to be foundation of Matkovich house. The rectangle measures 3.4 meters x 6 meters. A surface scatter of historic bottle glass, whiteware ceramics and historically harvested Strombus shells occurs adjacent to the pilings.

Historic Context: Matkovich homestead

Chronology: Historic: late 19th - early 20th century

Collections: None during 2016 survey, but observed were ironstone sherds with manufacturers marks indicated a date range of 1887-1897 for their manufacture.

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 3- Site is largely intact but has experienced some collecting. Wooden pilings are weathered.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: The site is representative of early pioneer life in the lower keys and should be preserved. Site is eligible for local designation and contributes to a potential No Name historic archaeological district. Eligible for local designation. Any development should be subjected to archaeological monitoring.

Site Name: No Name Key # 7, Dominguez Well

State Site Number: 8MO1285

Environmental Setting: Rockland hammock

Location: Township 66S, Range 30E, Section 18, No Name Key

Site Type: Building remains, surface scatter, well

Site Function: Historic farmstead

Description: The site is located just south of Old State Road 4A on No Name Key and includes the foundational remains of a historic farmstead including three wells and coral rock formations. There is also a large solution hole with stacked coral rock abutting the sides to the south of the foundation remains. Very few artifacts were observed on the surface suggesting this area has been heavily collected. To the west of the foundation is a large circular well capped with cement, with evidence of prior excavation by collectors. All of the wells have been previously dig with spoil piles placed by each well.

Historic context: Dominguez homestead?

Chronology: Historic: late 19th-early 20th century

Collections: None during 2016 survey

Previous research: None

Preservation Quality: 6- Site has been heavily collected and disturbed, but many of the features still remain.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: This site should be preserved and is eligible for local designation individually and as part of No Name Key Historic archaeological district. Any future development in the area should be subjected to archaeological monitoring

Site Name: Sugarloaf Key # 4, Lupo Site

State Site Number: 8MO1292

Environmental Setting: Rockland Hammock

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

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" c. 1896, fragmented aqua, milk and cobalt glass and <15 Strombus shells. A large above ground cistern reported to be on site was not located.

Historic Context: N/A

Chronology: Historic: ca. 1900 to 1930

Collections: None during 2016 survey

Previous Research: None

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

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: Site is eligible for local designation. Site area is an example of a pioneer settlement and valuable data on early settler daily life can be gleaned from further investigation. Site should be subjected to archaeological documentation if future development is to occur with preservation of structural features.

Site Name: West Summerland # 2

State Site Number: 8MO1294

Environmental Setting: Marine hammock, estuarine tidal swamp

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

Site Type: Mound

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 a previous shoreline, since altered by the construction of the extant Overseas Highway and enclosed by a Red Mangrove strand. A light scatter of Strombus shell exists along the berm.

Historic Context: N/A

Chronology: Prehistoric: unknown

Collections: None during 2016 survey

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 1- Site is undisturbed.

Ownership: Girl Scouts of America

Significance and Recommendation: Further testing is required to determine extent and nature of site.

Site Name: Grassy Key Rock Pit

State Site Number: 8MO1297

Environmental Setting: Rocky tidal flat

Location: Township 65S, Range 33E, Section 25, Grassy Key MM 58, North of U.S. 1 on Peachtree Avenue

Site Type: Human remains

Site Function: Cemetery

Description: The site is located at a rock pit. The pit is about six to eight feet deep. A search of the quarry in 2016 revealed no cultural remains.

Historic Context: N/A

Chronology: Prehistoric: PaleoIndian?, Early Archaic?

Collections: None during 2016 survey

Previous Research: Carr et al 1988

Preservation Quality: Unknown

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: Insufficient information. Any further ground alterations or quarry work or development of the site area should be subjected to archaeological documentation including monitoring.

Site Name: Long Key Dock Piers

State Site Number: 8MO1472

Environmental Setting: Bay bottom

Location: Township 65S, Range 35E, Section 7, Long Key

Site Type: Concrete dock foundations

Site Function: Fishing camp

Description: Located on the southwestern tip of Long Key, north of U.S. 1 in the water on the Gulf side. The site consists of a series of concrete bollards that supported the dock for the Long Key Fishing Camp. The site is accessible by boat and the nearest land is privately owned. AHC personnel dove the area and observed whiteware sherds amongst the pilings. The dock pier formations are visible through aerial imagery. The piers extend a distance of at least 100 meters.

Historic Context: Flagler's Fishing Lodge

Chronology: Historic: ca 1910-1930's

Collections: None

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 1- The site features are intact

Ownership: State of Florida

Significance and Recommendation: Site area should be preserved. Eligible for local designation. Area should be monitored if dredging is proposed.

Site Name: Crane Road Cisterns

State Site Number: 8MO1480

Environmental Setting: Rockland Hammock, cleared land

Location: Township 66S, Range 27E, Section 36, Sugarloaf Key

Site Type: Cisterns

Site Function: Historic homestead

Description: During the 2016 survey, the site was found to have been completely destroyed and leveled for the expansion of an athletic field for Sugarloaf Elementary School. The demolition of the cisterns was monitored by Janus Research.

Historic Context: N/A

Chronology: N/A

Collections: None during 2016 survey

Previous Research: Janus 1996

Preservation Quality: 10- Site destroyed.

Ownership: Sugarloaf Elementary School, Monroe County School District

Significance and Recommendation: Construction activity and any further additions to the school should continue to be subjected to archaeological monitoring.

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Site Name: | Garden Cove |
| State Site Number: | 8MO1970 |
| Environmental Setting: | Beach berm, maritime hammock |
| Location: | Township 60S, Range 40E, Section 31, Key Largo |
| Site Type: | Black dirt/shell midden; historic house site, cistern |
| Site Function: | Habitation, resource procurement |
| Description: | <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 so 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.</p> |
| Historic Context: | Homestead; mid 19th through 20th centuries |
| Chronology: | Prehistoric: undetermined; historic: mid-19th through 20th centuries |

Collections: Shell refuse and historic period glass were uncovered in the 1982 AHC survey. Eyster and Southard reported faunal bone on the site (1981:11).

Previous Research: Eyster and Southard 1981:11; Carr 1982

Preservation Quality: 3- Cistern is well-preserved. Subsurface component of the midden shows good state of preservation.

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: This is a potentially significant site that needs further research and testing. The cistern should be preserved and attempts should be made to adequately test the site to determine the full extent and nature of both historic and prehistoric remains. Site is worthy of local designation.

Site Name: Planter

State Site Number: 8MO1972

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock

Location: Township 62S, Range 38E, Section 33, Key Largo

Site Type: Historic homestead: cistern, well

Site Function: Habitation

Description: A single cistern and a cut well into the bedrock was all that remains of the once-thriving village of Planter in 1988. The site is reportedly destroyed. A large quantity of modern trash now occupies much of the site.

Historic Context: Town of Planter; 1880s-1910.

Chronology: Historic:1880s-1910

Collections: None known

Previous Research: Irving Eyster conducted a survey of this site in 1982. Based on his research, the State of Florida recorded this site on the Florida Master Site File, the first Key Largo historic pioneer site to be listed; Carr, et al 1988.

Preservation Quality: 10 - Cistern and well were in good condition in 1988 but apparently now destroyed.

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: Site reported destroyed by Jerry Wilkinson.

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| Site Name: | Pumpkin Key |
| State Site Number: | 8MO1978 |
| Environmental Setting: | Maritime hammock |
| Location: | Township 59S, Range 40E, Section 12 and Township 58S, Range 40E, Section 1, island west of Key Largo |
| Site Type: | Shallow black dirt/shell midden |
| Site Function: | Habitation, resource procurement |
| Description: | Pumpkin Key, with elevations up to 16 feet, represents one of the highest points in the Florida keys. A lush hardwood hammock covers much of the island. In January, 1983, T.C.R Florida, Inc. began construction of townhouses on the island. During construction, an archaeological survey by Carr located a shallow site containing prehistoric refuse uncovered by the construction work situated along the western shore of Card Sound. Material extended for about 100 feet about 20-40 feet east of the shoreline. The site could not be accessed in 2016, but a review of aerial photographs indicate that new development has occurred on the island. |
| Historic Context: | Unknown |
| Chronology: | Prehistoric: est. Glades II-III |
| Collections: | Several shell tools and shell refuse were observed during the 1983 survey. |
| Previous Research: | A survey was conducted here by Carr on February 10, 1983 |
| Preservation Quality: | Unknown |
| Ownership: | Private |
| Significance and Recommendation: | The dense underbrush prevented a comprehensive survey of the island in 1983. Further development of the island should be preceded by additional archaeological surveys and monitoring. The site is should be reviewed as an area of archaeological sensitivity. |

Site Name: Big Munson Key

State Site Number: 8MO1981

Environmental Setting: Beach Berm

Location: Township 67S, Range 29E, Section 8, Big Munson Key

Site Type: Midden

Site Function: Habitation, resource procurement

Description: The site is located on the Atlantic shore of Big Munson Key. The site is located on a sandy dune partially eroded in 1990 exposing black earth midden.

Historic Context: None known

Chronology: Prehistoric: Glades III

Collections: None during 2016 survey

Previous Research: Site was discovered in 1990 by Carr and Beriault

Preservation Quality: 5- The site has been eroded.

Ownership: Private?

Significance and Recommendation: Site is of local significance.

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| Site Name: | Litman Site |
| State Site Number: | 8MO2052 |
| Environmental Setting: | Maritime hammock |
| Location: | Township 59S, Range 41E, Section 5, Key Largo |
| Site Type: | Medium depth black dirt/shell midden |
| Site Function: | Habitation, resource procurement |
| Description: | This site was bulldozed in the 1980s by the Ocean Reef Resort. Originally the site was about 100 feet in length. Extensive shell refuse and pottery sherds are still located along the rocky interface between the upland hammock (now cleared and filled) and the mangroves, This area of cultural refuse represents an area of about 50 X 100 feet. Site not visited in 2016. |
| Historic Context: | N/A |
| Chronology: | Prehistoric: Glades II - IIIc |
| Collections: | A small surface collection of pottery sherds and shell tools was made at this site in 1988. |
| Previous Research: | Carr et al. 1988 |
| Preservation Quality: | Unknown; Site has been severely altered by bulldozing and fill activities. |
| Ownership: | Private |
| Significance and Recommendation: | Further field reconnaissance is warranted to determine if the fill covers intact site components. Site should be subjected to archaeological testing prior to development. Site is worthy of local designation. |

Site Name: Solution Hole Cistern

State Site Number: 8MO2057

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock

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

Site Type: Historic homestead: cistern, historic rockworks

Site Function: Habitation

Description: This site is an altered solution hole that measures 9 feet in diameter and 2.5 feet in depth. It has been capped with concrete to allow the hole to retain water. Approximately 110-120 feet southwest of the solution hole are several rock piles suggesting clearing for agricultural purposes. Thirty feet southwest of the solution hole is a rectangular rock pile of approximately 15 X 10 feet. Several un-mortared rock walls are located within 200 feet south of the solution hole. It is possible that the capped solution hole was intended as a water hole for penned animals.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: Historic: early 20th century

Collections: None made, but historic ceramics observed in 2016.

Previous Research: Carr et al. 1988

Preservation Quality: 2 - The cement cap shows signs of deterioration and crumbling, otherwise the feature is in fair condition.

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: Further historic research should be conducted on this site. It is probably part of the Newport settlement (8MO2060).

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| Site Name: | Gun Range Cistern |
| State Site Number: | 8MO2058 |
| Environmental Setting: | Maritime hammock, rockland interface |
| Location: | Township 61S, Range 39E, Section 27, Key Largo |
| Site Type: | Cistern, historic refuse |
| Site Function: | Historic homestead |
| Description: | This isolated rectangular cistern is located on the rocky interface separating the hardwood hammock from the nearby mangrove swamp. A large quantity of historic refuse could be seen around the cistern on the ground surface during the 1988 AHC survey. |
| Historic Context: | Unknown |
| Chronology: | Historic: ca. 1890-1920 |
| Collections: | Some historic artifacts such as bottle fragments, ceramic sherds, and a metal stencil with the name "Darling" were surface collected by informants in 1988. The stencil was the type for marking fruit crates. |
| Previous Research: | Carr et al. 1988 |
| Preservation Quality: | 1 Cistern is in good condition and shows minor signs of deterioration. Site has been heavily collected though subsurface artifacts may still remain. |
| Ownership: | Private |
| Significance and Recommendation: | The cistern should be preserved, and any clearing in this area should be closely monitored. The site is worthy of local designation particularly as part of the Newport settlement (8MO2060). |

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| Site Name: | Newport Village aka Rock Quarry Cistern |
| State Site Number: | 8MO2060 |
| Environmental Setting: | Maritime hammock, rockland interface |
| Location: | Township 61S, Range 39E, Section 27, Key Largo |
| Site Type: | Cisterns, historic rock wall, historic refuse, brick baking oven, house site |
| Site Function: | Historic village |
| Description: | <p>This site is within a secondary growth of hardwood hammock and encompasses a number of distinctive features that includes cisterns, a rock wall enclosure, and a well-preserved brick oven. These features and those of 8MO2057 and 8MO2058 represent what is left of the settlement of Newport. An un-mortared rock boulder wall enclosure in the form of a trapezoid surrounds a large swallow solution hole that presumably retained fresh water. The format of the wall and solution hole suggests a pen for animals such as pigs, cows or oxen. The wall is 80 feet long on three sides and 150 feet long on the fourth side. The walls vary from 2.5 to 3 feet thickness and average 3 feet 6 inches high.</p> <p>Approximately 80 feet southeast from the enclosure was a well-preserved circular brick oven. The oven was 5' 7" high, forming a beehive-like appearance. The oven's bottom circumference was 18' 6". The oven had a door opening to the east. The feature was bulldozed in the 1980's.</p> <p>Directly east of the oven is a double-celled, rectangular cistern still containing water in 1988. The poured concrete cistern is in good condition, and in total, has dimensions of 20' 10" X 14' 6". In 2016 this was determined to be destroyed by expanding quarry operations.</p> <p>A second cistern is situated approximately 250 feet north of the rock enclosure. This cistern was on the edge of an expanding rock quarry and was destroyed during the course of the quarry operation in August, 1985.</p> |
| Historic Context: | Newport Settlement |

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| Chronology: | Historic: 1890-1920 |
| Collections: | Numerous surface collections are known to have been made at the site during the last several years by various avocational archaeologists. Bill Lyons made a collection there in May, 1981 and allowed the 1988 AHC survey team to inventory it. It included the following items: a kaolin pipe bowl, oval tinted spectacle lens, miscellaneous bottle glass, an oil lamp base, stoneware sherds, iron nails, and a metal reed from a harmonica. |
| Previous Research: | Carr et al. 1988 |
| Preservation Quality: | 9 – Largely destroyed; Rock wall enclosure (1), double-celled cistern (10), brick oven (10), single cell cistern (10). |
| Ownership: | Private |
| Significance and Recommendation: | Site features should have been preserved. The brick oven was bulldozed in the early 1980s. It was one of the best examples of a pioneer historic sites assessed during the 1988 survey. Much of the site has been destroyed. All future permitting should include additional archaeological documentation. |

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| Site Name: | Thorn Site |
| State Site Number: | 8MO2061 |
| Environmental Setting: | Beach berm, maritime hammock |
| Location: | Township 61S, Range 39E, Section 27, Key Largo |
| Site Type: | Black dirt/shell midden |
| Site Function: | Habitation, resource procurement |
| Description: | This midden is located along the shore opposite a mangrove swamp. The site extends inland about 20-30 meters and follows the rocky shore for about 70 meters. The midden is at least 50-75 cm. deep at its deepest point. Shell refuse extends beyond the midden at least 20-30 meters to the north and south. Large quantities of shell, faunal bone and pottery sherds are visible throughout the site. |
| Historic Context: | Unknown |
| Chronology: | Prehistoric: Glades II-III |
| Collections: | A surface collection made during the 1988 AHC survey included a perforated Busycon adze, Strombus celts, sand tempered plain pottery sherds, as well as Key Largo Incised, St. Johns Check Stamped, and Glades Tooled rim. A 50 cm. test square excavated there was dug to bedrock in four 10 cm. arbitrary levels. Material recovered from the pit included large quantities of shell refuse, faunal bone, and charred seeds. |
| Previous Research: | Carr et al. 1988 |
| Preservation Quality: | 8 – Site has been largely destroyed since 1988 by clearing for the adjacent quarry and from previous storm surge events as reported by local informants. |
| Ownership: | Private |
| Significance and Recommendation: | What is left of the site should be preserved and subjected to additional testing. Site is worthy of local designation. |

Site Name: Harry Harris Site

State Site Number: 8MO2063

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock

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

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.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: Historic: circa 1880-1930s

Collections: None

Previous Research: Carr, et al. 1988

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

Ownership: 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: Ocean Side

State Site Number: 8MO2065

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock, rockland interface

Location: Township 62S, Range 39E, Section 7, Key Largo

Site Type: Black dirt/shell midden, historic homestead

Site Function: Habitation, resource procurement

Description: This site has two separate components; one being the remnants of a shallow prehistoric midden, and the other a historic house site as indicated by extensive historic refuse. The midden had been previously cleared, leaving pedestals of midden around tree bases that had not been affected by the bulldozing. These areas of midden soil contained shell refuse, faunal bones, and pottery sherds. What remains of the midden is within an area of approximately 120 feet by about 20 feet. Located about 75 feet west of the Atlantic Ocean, the midden was situated adjacent to the rocky interface next to a hardwood hammock.

The historic component is located 100-200 feet directly north of the midden. The historic house site has no cistern, remaining planted vegetation are tamarind and coconut palm trees. Artifactual materials are easily seen on the rocky shore opposite the site.

Historic Context: Historic: circa 1860-1900

Chronology: Prehistoric: Glades II-III, Historic: 1860-1900

Collections: Some well made sand-tempered sherds were collected at the midden by the 1988 AHC survey. Historic refuse observed at the house site included bottle glass fragments, stoneware and ironware sherds. No collections made in 2016.

Previous Research: Carr et al. 1988

Preservation Quality: Midden: unknown; historic house site : unknown.

Ownership: Private

**Significance and
Recommendation:**

Site should be further documented during future clearing and development. Historic research on this house site might identify the associated family.

Site Name: Newport #2

State Site Number: 8MO2066

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock, Rockland interface

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

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.

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 in case of clearing or development.

Site Name: Swine Cistern

State Site Number: 8MO2067

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock

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

Site Type: Historic homestead, cistern

Site Function: Habitation

Description: 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 assessible during the 2016 assessment.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: Historic: circa 1880-1920

Collections: None

Previous Research: Carr et al. 1988

Preservation Quality: Unknown

Ownership: Private

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

Site Name: North Tavernier

State Site Number: 8MO2070

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock

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

Site Type: Historic homestead, cistern,

Site Function: Habitation, resource procurement

Description: 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.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: Historic: circa 1840-1940

Collections: None

Previous Research: Carr et al. 1988

Preservation Quality: 6 - Only the southernmost cistern, a concrete pad and adjacent well still remain. Other components have been destroyed since 1988.

Ownership: Private

**Significance and
Recommendation:**

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

Site Name: Lake Surprise

State Site Number: 8MO2075

Environmental Setting: Hardwood Hammock

Location: Township 60S, Range 40E, Section 31, Key Largo

Site Type: Black earth midden

Site Function: Habitation, resource extraction

Description: The site is located north of U.S. 1 along the ROW, about 25 to 100 meters from Lake Surprise. The site has been bulldozed and is under fill. No trace of the site is left.

Historic Context: N/A

Chronology: Prehistoric: Glades, period unknown

Collections: None

Previous Research: Carr et al. 1988

Preservation Quality: 10 - The site has been bulldozed; however, it is possible that part of the site may still exist under fill.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: Any development or ground disturbances in the site area should be subjected to monitoring. The site may be eligible for local designation.

Site Name: Crawl Key # 1

State Site Number: 8MO2091

Environmental Setting: Rocky Flats, Mangroves

Location: Township 65S, Range 33E, Section 35, Crawl Key

Site Type: Black earth midden

Site Function: Habitation, resource extraction

Description: The site is located south of U.S. 1 and west of Banana Blvd on Crawl Key. The entirety of the site has been bulldozed and pushed up into a berm along the western and southern shoreline of Crawl Key, just inside the mangrove transition. Though the area east of the spoil berm has been cleared to bedrock, a diffuse shell scatter predominates the open rocky buttonwood flat. A shovel test pit was excavated on the western portion of the spoil berm and worked Strombus and Busycon shell were recovered in addition to Key Largo Incised pottery sherds.

Historic Context: N/A

Chronology: Prehistoric: Glades II, III

Collections: Worked Strombus and Busycon shell, Glades Plain, Key Largo Incised, Surfside Incised rim lug

Previous Research: Carr et al. 1988

Preservation Quality: 5 - Most of the site has been bulldozed; however, a significant number of artifacts still remain in the spoil berm around the site edges, particularly to the south and east.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: Any development on this site should be subjected to monitoring. The site may be eligible for local designation.

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| Site Name: | Singleton Homestead |
| State Site Number: | 8MO2100 |
| Environmental Setting: | Rockland hammock |
| Location: | Township 66S, Range 29E, Section 30, Ramrod Key |
| Site Type: | Surface scatter, well |
| Site Function: | Historic homestead |
| Description: | The site area is located in a thick, scrubby hammock and consists of a diffuse historic surface scatter and two modified solution hole wells along with a large, unmodified solution hole with historic artifacts along it's periphery. Household foundations noted in previous FMSF form were not located during the 2016 survey. Among the historic surface scatter was a sherd of ironstone whiteware bearing the manufacture's mark "Alfred Meakin, Royal Ironstone China" c. 1880-1890's. |
| Historic Context: | Unknown |
| Chronology: | Historic: late 19th – early 20th century |
| Collections: | None during 2016 survey |
| Previous Research: | None |
| Preservation Quality: | 1- Site is undisturbed |
| Ownership: | Unknown |
| Significance and Recommendation: | Site is representative of early pioneer life in the lower Keys and should be preserved. Further testing is recommended to gather full extent and nature of the site and archaeological documentation should be conducted if future development is to occur. |

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|---|---|
| Site Name: | Big Pine Key #3 |
| State Site Number: | 8MO2101 |
| Environmental Setting: | Interior pineland |
| Location: | Township 66S, Range 29E, Section 26, Big Pine Key |
| Site Type: | Single artifact |
| Site Function: | Historic railway mile marker |
| Description: | A concrete triangular slab with a rounded back used as a railway marker by the Florida East Coast Railway. It is located between mile marker 30 and 31 on Big Pine Key. The two faces of the slab that can be seen from the highway have the inscription "K. W. 30" and "JAX 492" in six inch characters. This may be the only marker of this type still in situ (Simpson 1983:190). Not located in 2016. |
| Historic Context: | Flagler Railroad |
| Chronology: | Historic: ca. 1920-1940s |
| Collections: | None |
| Previous Research: | Simpson 1983; Carr, et al 1988 |
| Preservation Quality: | 3. Exterior paint shows signs of weathering and flaking, also large cracks are visible nearly running the length of the marker. The exterior paint on the marker suggests it has been restored in the past. |
| Ownership: | State (?), Private (?) |
| Significance and Recommendation: | The marker should be preserved in situ, if this is indeed the original location. If the marker is threatened with destruction or vandalism consideration should be given to moving it to a protected location. The marker is worthy of local designation. |

Site Name: Little Torch Key #1, Gato Site

State Site Number: 8MO2109

Environmental Setting: Open rocky buttonwood flat

Location: Township 66S, Range 29E, Section 21, Little Torch Key

Site Type: House site, bake oven, historic refuse

Site Function: Historic homestead

Description: The site consists of an above ground concrete cistern, two concrete pads, one underlying two motors, a well with a collapsed wooden pump house and a concrete oven. The oven, in a black mangrove dominated transition zone, is flanked by red mangroves on the west side, an open rocky buttonwood flat together with exotics and planted coconut palm and brazilian peppers extend to the east and south. The oven, including the rock base, is about 4 feet high and is constructed of poured concrete which has been smoothed on the exterior surface. The scattered remains of a burnt dwelling can be found about 15-20 feet to the east of the oven. Approximately 40 feet west of the oven are the remains of a well and overlying wooden structure housing a pump. The area is predominated by a diffuse scatter of household debris.

Historic Context: Gato Homestead

Chronology: Historic: 1910-1940

Collections: None made

Previous Research: Carr et al. 1988

Preservation Quality: 3 - The oven is virtually intact, the wooden structure overlying the well has collapsed and the structures reported in 1988 have been cleared away.

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: Preservation is recommended. Additional historic research on the house site should be done.

Site Name: Little Torch Key #2

State Site Number: 8MO2110

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock

Location: Township 66S, Range 29E, Section 21, Little Torch Key

Site Type: House site

Site Function: Historic homestead

Description: The remains of a limerock structure were noted on north Little Torch Key just off the north side of State Road 4. The site area, located in the upland hammock, includes such introduced exotics as coconut and date palms. The site is characterized by several congruent wall sections with a concrete window and doorway. Only the lower walls remain. One section is as high as 6 feet. The walls are composed of limestone boulders that are typical of the loose rock that occurs on the hammock surface of Torch Key. The rocks are mortared in place with concrete. The longest wall section is 17feet 10 inches. Walls are about 1.5 feet thick. Local lore suggests that this site may be the remains of a tavern that was located off State Road 4 on Little Torch (Taylor 1987: pers. com.). A cursory survey by AHC in 1988 did not reveal any associated artifacts.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: Historic: twentieth century

Collections: None made

Previous Research: Carr et al. 1988

Preservation Quality: 6- Only part of the structure remains and the area has been heavily collected.

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: Site is potentially significant for local designation and needs further historic research. Development of the area threatens the site, and it is recommended that the ruins be considered for preservation.

Site Name: Ramrod Key #1

State Site Number: 8MO2111

Environmental Setting: Open rocky transitional zone, scattered buttonwood, upland hammock

Location: Township 66S, Range 29E, Section 30, Ramrod Key

Site Type: Historic refuse

Site Function: Possible historic homestead

Description: On an open rocky transitional zone with scattered buttonwood, a site was located near an abandoned 1950s car on north Ramrod Key. The site consists of two clusters of historic refuse consisting of whiteware ceramic sherds, cobalt and aqua glass fragments. The first cluster contains 35 mature queen conch together with 4 juveniles, ceramic sherds, and glass bottle fragments scattered in a 50-foot area among the rocks. Fifty feet to the northeast the second cluster consists of 30 mature conch in a thirty foot opening in the hammock. Further to the southeast from the latter cluster, several natural depressions with saw grass, including a large freshwater pond were noted in the first growth coastal hammock.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: Historic: ca. 1850-1900

Collections: Artifacts collected during the 1988 AHC survey include glass and stoneware fragments.

Previous Research: Carr et al. 1988

Preservation Quality: 1 - The area is undisturbed.

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: Site is highly recommended for preservation. If threatened with any alteration or destruction, additional historic and scientific investigation and collections should be conducted. Site is worthy of local designation.

Site Name: Ramrod Key #2

State Site Number: 8MO2112

Environmental Setting: Buttonwood transitional zone

Location: Township 66S, Range 29E, Section 30, Ramrod Key

Site Type: Shell scatter, historic refuse

Site Function: Resource procurement, possible historic homestead

Description: A site is located along the buttonwood transitional zone of northwestern Ramrod Key. When previously recorded in 1988, the site consisted of an extensive scatter of prehistoric and historic conch shells along the shoreline. In addition, several glass bottle fragments were noted. The upland hammock contains many freshwater ponds, several with saw grass marshes. In 2016, AHC personnel reassessed the site and found that it is actively being cleared and leveled, severely affecting the shoreline artifact surface scatter.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: Prehistoric: indeterminate; Historic: indeterminate

Collections: None made

Previous Research: Carr et al. 1988

Preservation Quality: 9 – The site area is actively being bulldozed and redeposited.

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: Archaeological monitoring of construction should have been conducted.

Site Name: Ramrod Key #3

State Site Number: 8MO2113

Environmental Setting: Buttonwood transitional zone, red mangrove shoreline

Location: Township 66S, Range 29E, Section 31, Ramrod Key

Site Type: Artifact scatter

Site Function: Resource procurement, possible historic homestead

Description: About 2000 feet south of Ramrod #2 in an area bounded by an unimproved road and two parallel mosquito ditches about 100 yards apart, a large historic refuse scatter was noted. The site consisted of a scatter of about 70 mature conch shells with several juvenile conch shells. Interspersed with the conch shells were several hundred historic ceramic and glass bottle fragments. The artifacts were scattered for about 150 feet on the rocky surface of the buttonwood transitional zone and the nearby red mangrove shoreline. The refuse probably represents a house site.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: Historic: ca. 1860-1920

Collections: An extensive collection was made during the 1988 AHC survey. Site not accessible during 2016 survey.

Previous Research: Carr et al. 1988

Preservation Quality: 2 - The site area is generally intact and undisturbed.

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: This is a potentially significant site and should be preserved. Any further development of the site area should be subject to archaeological testing and monitoring. Additional research is recommended to determine the family(s) associated with occupation of the site. Site is worthy of local designation.

Site Name: Cudjoe Key #2

State Site Number: 8MO2114

Environmental Setting: Rocky flats, shoreline

Location: Township 66S, Range 28E, Section 30, Cudjoe Key

Site Type: Artifact scatter, historic

Site Function: Dump, refuse

Description: Historic glass and conch shell fragments were reported in the rocky flats just north of U.S. 1 on the western shore of Cudjoe Key. In addition to the extensive glass scatter, several whole conch shells were noted. The refuse extends for about 1500 feet along the rocky transition zone and about 100 feet east/west.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: Historic: ca. 1890-1920

Collections: Material collected during the 1988 AHC survey includes: 1 light aqua beer bottle fragment embossed "J & A...Belleville, Illinois," 1 ironstone "warranted", 1 aqua beer bottle base with "AB" embossed, 1 brown glass spirit bottle with "Red Raven Splits" on base and "EHE Company" on side, 1 demijohn base, 1 whisky bottle, a clear/purple whisky bottle base, and 1 clear/purple soda bottle fragment.

Previous Research: Carr et al. 1988

Preservation Quality: 2 - Although the site appears in good condition, extensive bottle collecting has occurred on this key. It is very probable, due to the area's ease of accessibility that this site has been picked over by bottle collectors.

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: Extensive testing if site destruction is imminent. Site is worthy of local designation.

Site Name: Ballast Trail Cemetery

State Site Number: 8MO2332

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock

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

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 is currently 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.

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

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. c. 1935) in proximity to the Ballast Trail Cemetery (8MO23329 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.

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- cistern is in excellent condition.

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.

Site Name: North Carolina Fishing Club Cistern

State Site Number: 8MO3392

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock, mangrove shoreline

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

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 to a certain level.

Historic Context: Fishing

Chronology: Historic: circa 1920s

Collections: The 2016 survey recovered un-worked shell, house brick, and glass from a scatter that showed signs of prior avocational bottle collecting.

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 2- Some damage to cistern and signs of bottle collecting.

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.

Site Name: Caribbean Club Chimney

State Site Number: 8MO3393

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock, mangrove shoreline

Location: Township 60S, Range 38E, Section 12, Key Largo

Site Type: Historic homestead, chimney(s)

Site Function: Habitation, resource procurement

Description: 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.

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.

The more modern chimney lies 20 meters SE and is concrete/stucco with a faux brick exterior finish.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: 20th century, circa-1950s

Collections: The 2016 survey recovered glass and historic ceramics from a nearby construction spoil pile.

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 2 - Some damage from construction on the parcel is imminent.

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: The coral rock chimney should be preserved. Area should be subjected to monitoring if clearing and development occurs.

Site Name: Rock Quarry Homestead #1

State Site Number: 8MO3394

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock, mangrove shoreline

Location: Township 61S, Range 39E, Section 27, Key Largo

Site Type: Historic homestead, building remains

Site Function: Habitation, resource procurement

Description: This site is located in the NW portion of the Key Largo Rock Quarry in a pile of recently scraped spoil. The remains of a demolished wooden structure together with refuse was observed. The house likely dated from the 1940s and its original position or footprint is unknown. A low-lying coral rock wall approximately 20 meters in length and oriented NE/SW was in close proximity to the spoil pile.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: 20th century, circa 1940s

Collections: Building remains, brick, historic glass were observed in the spoil heap together with a jalousie window.

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 9 - Structure is demolished, site is bulldozed and redeposited.

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: Significance unknown. The rock wall should be preserved if possible, and further testing is recommended should the area be affected by ground-disturbing activities.

Site Name: Coral Rock Wall Enclosure

State Site Number: 8MO3395

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock, mangrove shoreline

Location: Township 61S, Range 39E, Section 27, Key Largo

Site Type: Rock wall, enclosure

Site Function: Livestock enclosure

Description: This site is located in the SW portion of the rock quarry 1 meter from the perimeter road surrounding the quarry. Wall height is 4 feet; northern wall is 89 feet long; southern wall is 100 feet long; eastern and western walls are 85 feet. Historic artifact scatter around the enclosure was light and mixed with modern refuse. A large pile of queen and horse conch were observed 150 meters NW of the enclosure. These shells have slit holes in the crowns/spires likely created by opening them with metal tools, indicating that they are historic.

The rock wall/enclosure may have been associated with the Rock Quarry Cistern (8MO2060), but that feature and a beehive oven were destroyed by previous clearing activities.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: Historic: circa 1910-1940

Collections: Shell refuse observed.

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 1 - Enclosure is intact and the site area is closed off by a chain-link fence commissioned by the Upper Keys Historical Society.

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: The enclosure should be preserved and further documentation undertaken. Site is worthy of local designation.

Site Name: West Cudjoe Rock Wall

State Site Number: 8MO3399

Environmental Setting: Beach berm/Maritime hammock

Location: Township 66S, Range 28E, Section 30, Cudjoe Key

Site Type: Mortared rock work, bulkhead

Site Function: Unknown

Description: The site is a coral rock wall approximately 75 meters in length averaging 50 cm high following the western edge of Cudjoe Key along the northern ROW of US1 (southbound lane). This site/feature may be a portion of a historic roadway.

Historic Context: Overseas highway?

Chronology: Historic: 20th century

Collections: None

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 2 – Generally well preserved.

Ownership: Unknown; on edge of U.S. 1 ROW

Significance and Recommendation: Site area and rock wall should be preserved.

Site Name: West Summerland Coral Rock Structures

State Site Number: 8MO3401

Environmental Setting: Buttonwood transition/maritime hammock

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

Site Type: Coral rock structure, artifact scatter

Site Function: Transportation?

Description: The site is a grouping of two ruined coral rock structures, a wood structure ruins, and an approximately 1000 meter square artifact scatter located on West Summerland Key north of U.S. 1. These are small auxiliary buildings likely sheds that were part of a homestead as one of sheds is attached to the collapsed ruin of a wooden house. The rock structures are built with Key Largo limestone. Locals report that the structure was used for storing dynamite, possibly during construction of the Overseas Highway. The site is currently within a Girl Scout Camp.

Historic Context: Possibly Overseas Highway

Chronology: Historic: 20th century

Collections: None; historic glass was observed but not collected.

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 5 - Moderately disturbed.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: Significance is unknown. Site should be preserved.

Site Name: Old Settlers Park

State Site Number: 8MO3403

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock

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

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.

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 cultural deposits; site should be preserved and future ground-disturbing activities in the park monitored.

Site Name: Camp 3

State Site Number: 8MO3404

Environmental Setting: Historic maritime hammock

Location: Township 64S Range 36E, Section 20, Lower Matecumbe Key

Site Type: Housing for workers

Site Function: Highway/transportation

Description: The site is within an open-space landscaped county park. It is the location of a work camp housing 250 Bonus Army WW I veterans hired to construct the Overseas Highway and consisted of tents and wooden bunkhouses, all largely destroyed by the 1935 Labor Day hurricane.

Historic Context: Overseas Highway; Labor Day hurricane of 1935

Chronology: Historic: 20th Century

Collections: None

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 5 - Disturbed, redeposited.

Ownership: Monroe County

Significance and Recommendation: Site should be preserved and any future alterations to the park monitored. Local designation should be considered.

Site Name: Veterans Key

State Site Number: 8MO3405

Environmental Setting: Artificially dredged key

Location: Township 64S Range 36E, Section 29, Lower Matecumbe Key

Site Type: Historic highway construction staging area

Site Function: Highway/transportation

Description: The site is the location of an equipment storage area used during the construction of the Overseas Highway. The site is now an ovoid artificially dredged vacant area used for storage of crab traps. West of the site, are a series of unfinished poured concrete coffer that had been intended for use as foundations for the highway bridge paralleling Flagler's Railway. These were never finished.

Historic Context: Overseas Highway

Chronology: Historic: 20th Century

Collections: None

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 5 - Greatly disturbed

Ownership: Monroe County

Significance and Recommendation: Site should be further documented and preserved; it should be considered for local designation.

Site Name: Little Torch Well

State Site Number: 8MO3406

Environmental Setting: Maritime hammock

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

Site Type: Historic homestead, well

Site Function: Habitation, water

Description: The site is a square-cut feature excavated into the bedrock and surrounded on three sides by stacked coral rocks. Local informants reported two nearby cisterns which were not located during this assessment. It is possible this feature could be a latrine and may be associated with site 8MO2110 since the two areas are in close proximity.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: Historic: 20th Century

Collections: None

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 1- Undisturbed.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: Site area should be preserved. Site is eligible for local designation.

Site Name: Coupon Bight

State Site Number: 8MO3407

Environmental Setting: Beach berm/tidal flat

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

Site Type: Diffuse 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 further investigation is needed to determine its extent and significance.

Historic Context: Unknown

Chronology: Prehistoric: period unknown

Collections: None

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 2- Undisturbed, periphery subject to tidal erosion and storm surge events.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: Unknown, further assessment recommended.

Site Name: Diver's Cove Cistern

State Site Number: MO3410

Environmental Setting: Rockland hammock

Location: Township 62S, Range 38E, Section 13, Key Largo

Site Type: Building debris, cistern

Site Function: Historic farmstead

Description: The cistern is one of the largest observed during the 2016 survey and local informants report that this area was a pineapple plantation. The cistern is largely intact except for a few sections that are crumbling due to weathering and root intrusion. A large schefflera tree is growing inside the cistern and the cistern has been used to store plywood and household debris. An informant reports that the cistern was associated with a pineapple farm. Foundational debris from a previous structure is piled up on the northeastern side of the cistern.

Historic Context: Pineapple industry?

Chronology: Historic: early 20th century

Collections: None

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 2- The cistern is largely intact despite exterior finish crumbling and overgrowth of adjacent flora.

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: The site should be preserved as an example of early farmsteading in the upper keys. Any future development of the site should be subjected to archaeological monitoring and further documentation.

Site Name: Garden Cove Tracks

State Site Number: MO3411

Environmental Setting: Estuarine tidal marsh

Location: Township 60S, Range 40E, Section 31, Key Largo

Site Type: Boat yard

Site Function: Boat building

Description: 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 1 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.

Historic Context: Boat building

Chronology: Historic: early 20th century

Collections: None

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 2 - Overall, fair to good; one section of track is out of situ and some evidence of collecting exists.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: The site area should be preserved; further testing is recommended to determine full extent and nature of the site.

Site Name: Little Blackwater

State Site Number: MO3412

Environmental Setting: Marine algal bed, estuarine tidal swamp, marine hammock

Location: Township 60S, Range 39E, Section 22, Blackwater Sound

Site Type: Railroad segment

Site Function: Railroad transportation

Description: The site consists of a large excavated linear area cut into the mangroves separating Blackwater Sound from Little Blackwater Sound, southwest of U.S. 1 and is clearly visible through aerial imagery. The predominant features of the site are long rows of wooden pilings running parallel to U.S. 1 and are only slightly visible at low tide. Most of the site is only accessible by boat. The pilings connect with artificial fill on the southeast quadrant and the pilings continue on land where a artifact scatter consisting largely of railroad debris is located.

Historic Context: Flagler railroad

Chronology: Historic: early 1900s-1935

Collections: None

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 1 - Site is undisturbed but affected by tidal erosion.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: This is a potentially significant railroad era site and should be preserved. Site is potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Any construction near U.S. 1 in this area should be subject to review.

Site Name: No Name Ferry Landing

State Site Number: MO3413

Environmental Setting: Marine hammock, estuarine tidal swamp

Location: Township 66S, Range 30E, Section 18, No Name Key

Site Type: Building remains, cisterns

Site Function: Passenger ferry landing

Description: 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.

Historic Context: Flagler railroad

Chronology: Historic: ca 1910-1940

Collections: None

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 2 - The cisterns are largely intact. Most of the associated structures have been destroyed by storms. The area appears to have been heavily collected.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: 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: Old Tavernier Dump

State Site Number: MO3414

Environmental Setting: Rockland hammock

Location: Township 62S, Range 38E, Section 23, Tavernier

Site Type: Building remains, surface scatter

Site Function: Dumpsite

Description: The site area consists of a diffuse artifact scatter dominated by the foundational remains of two structures along an old roadway in Tavernier.

Historic Context: Tavernier settlement

Chronology: Historic: 20th century

Collections: None

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 2 - The site is largely undisturbed though there is some evidence of collecting.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: The site area should be preserved and further investigation is required to better determine extent chronology of site. Archaeological documentation and monitoring is strongly recommended should any future development or clearing take place.

| | |
|---|--|
| Site Name: | REEF Environmental |
| State Site Number: | MO3415 |
| Environmental Setting: | Rockland hammock |
| Location: | Township 62S, Range 39E, Section 5, Key Largo |
| 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 it's original use of storing water. There is a sparse artifact scatter around the site suggesting the area has been heavily collected. |
| 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. |
| 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. |

Site Name: Key Largo Rock Mound Pond 1

State Site Number: MO3416

Environmental Setting: Rockland hammock

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

Site Type: Solution hole pond

Site Function: Mortuary ?

Description: 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. Subsurface testing uncovered Glades Plain ceramic sherds directly overlying the bedrock under approximately 1.5 meters of accumulated organic muck.

Historic Context: None known

Chronology: Prehistoric: period unknown

Collections: 1 Glades Plain ceramic sherd, 1 wood ecofact, liguus snail, marine shell

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 1 or 2 - Area around the surface of the solution hole is graded and disturbed however beneath the surface it is undisturbed.

Ownership: Calusa Campground Trailer Park

Significance and Recommendation: Given its proximity to 8MO26 and 8MO27, this solution hole feature is likely associated with these sites and could have been a source of fresh water for early Keys natives. Also the unique preservation opportunities afforded by the anaerobic environment at the bottom of the solution hole may 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: Section 61S, Range 39E, Section 28, Key Largo

Site Type: Solution hole pond

Site Function: Mortuary ?

Description: The site consists of a large, natural solution hole located on an undeveloped wooded parcel east of the Calusa Campground Trailer park. No subsurface testing was conducted on site and 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: None; Busycon shell tool observed

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 1 - Site is undisturbed.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: Given this solution hole's proximity to 8MO26 and 8Mo27 it is likely that this was exploited as a freshwater source for early Keys inhabitants contemporary to these sites. Given the level of organic preservation afforded in anaerobic environments such as at the bottom of solution holes it is likely that organic artifacts such as wood could be recovered.

Site Name: Big Pine Key Buttonwood Charcoal site

State Site Number: MO3418

Environmental Setting: Marine tidal marsh; rocky interface

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

Site type: Charcoal preparation area

Site Function: Manufacturing

Description: The site consists of at least two large circular burn features on top the coral rock. These features average 2 meters in diameter. These features are loosely surrounded by coral rock and limerock in a circular formation. Associated artifacts include 19th and 20th century glass and a scatter of oxidized iron artifacts.

Historic Context: Buttonwood charcoal manufacturing

Chronology: Historic: late 19th to early 20th centuries

Collections: Copper ship spike, copper belt buckle, stoneware sherds, bottle glass fragments, shell buttons

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 3 - Site area appears to have been subjected to collecting.

Ownership: Unknown

Significance and Recommendation: Site area should be preserved. Further archaeological and historical documentation is required to determine the full extent and significance of the site.

Site Name: Chase

State Site Number: MO3472

Environmental Setting: Buttonwood rocky flats

Location: Township 65S, Range 35E, Section 25, Sugarloaf Key

Site type: Building remains

Site Function: Habitation

Description: 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.

Historic Context: Town of Chase, subsequently renamed Perky

Chronology: Historic: ca. 1890s to 1930

Collections: Bottle glass, whiteware ceramics

Previous Research: None

Preservation Quality: 5- Site is subject to tidal erosion and storm surges.

Ownership: Private

Significance and Recommendation: Site is of local significance and worthy of local designation. No permits for ground-disturbing activities should be issued without conditions for prior archaeological documentation and subsequent monitoring.

Site Name: Long Key Railway Camp

State Site Number: 8MO3615

Environmental Setting: Florida Key tropical hardwood hammock

Location: Township 65S, Range 35E, Section 4, Long Key

Site type: Railway camp

Site Function: Workers camp

Description: This site is characterized by three concentrations of historic material. The presence of iron stakes driven at an angle into the limestone bedrock and numerous grommets indicate that tents or tarps were used. Fragments of an F.E.C. lantern demonstrates the site's association with the railroad. Historic bottles were recovered, most of which were beer and whiskey. The area is within the precinct described by a 1916 Florida East Coast Railway Map as "Crescent, Fla."

Historic Context: Flagler Overseas Railroad

Chronology: Historic: ca. 1906-1915

Collections: Copper ship's spike, metal belt buckle

Previous Research: Carr et al. 2002

Preservation Quality: 8 - Good

Ownership: Monroe County

Significance and Recommendation: Site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places based on criteria A. Continued preservation. Site should be locally designated and considered for public interpretation.

ARCHITECTURE IN THE FLORIDA KEYS

A review of the architecture listed in the “Monroe County Cultural Resource Assessment Update” reveals examples of a number of architectural styles, most of which are typical of structures built all over 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 in reality 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.

SYNOPSIS OF HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL SITES

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 Forms (FMSF). Others that were obviously fifty years or older from a strictly visual evaluation were added to the FMSF. All these newly recorded buildings, for the most part, retain their architectural integrity and can be dated from the Late Pioneer Period up to the 1960s and 1970s.

Most of this 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 (US1), 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. Because each island in this report has a unique character and development patterns differ, they are individually evaluated below.

UPPER KEYS

KEY LARGO

For the purposes of this assessment Key Largo includes the all of the island from the Monroe County line north of Card Sound Road and south along highway 905 to U.S. 1 (Overseas Highway), south to Tavernier Creek. Key Largo is the longest of the Keys, its name derived from *Cayo Largo*, which appeared as early as 1733 on a Spanish chart. It is about 27 miles long, covers about 20,000 acres (Wilkinson N.D.).

North Key Largo

The first known settlement of north Key Largo – that part of the island reached by Card Sound Road – was a garden and small building near Turtle Harbor used by Key West-based Captain John Whalton on breaks from helming lightships around 1826-37, prior to construction of Carysfort Lighthouse in 1852. The earliest recorded land owners in north Key Largo were Samuel S. Lowe, who farmed pineapple in the 1880s, and Thomas Lowe Sr. of the Bahamas who fished, caught turtles, gathered sponges, and raised melons and pumpkins in the 1910s probably near Pumpkin Key. For supplies, early settlers sailed to

Cutler Bay or sent a homemade “dispatch boat” to meet passing sailboats. Water was collected in rain barrels.

In 1912, fishing enthusiast W.A. Scott, of South Dakota, bought a lot on the bay side of north Key Largo and built a two story coral rock house there. Scott’s fish camp was the beginning of an exclusive resort, the Key Largo Angler’s Club, which flourished from the 1920s – hosting the likes of President Hoover – to the 1980s, when it became member-owned. The clubhouse, which incorporates part of the original stone house, is recorded as 8MO2682.

Access improved when Card Sound Road and its wooden swing bridge were built in 1927. Highway construction along the rocky Keys required blasting, and to keep explosives-laden ships from endangering the port of Miami, they were offloaded at a pier built on north Key Largo called Dynamite Dock. By 1942, Flo and Seymour Robinson were running the Despatch Creek Fishing Camp north of the pier (four cabins and some docks), all traces of which were erased as it evolved into the gated Ocean Reef Club.

From 1962 to 1979, a Nike Hercules missile base occupied an area just west of Dynamite Dock. The dock has been demolished and the abandoned base is now part of a State conservation area. Runaway development across the Keys, including schemes affecting north Key Largo such as “Islandia” (1951-1980, when it was blocked by the creation of Biscayne National Park), “Solarelle” (1974-1984, when it defaulted on a construction loan), and the City of North Key Largo Beach (1955-2003, when it was officially abolished), prompted the State in 1975 to designate the Florida Keys an Area of Critical State Concern (ACSC). Following a decade of legal wrangling, Federal and State agencies gradually acquired most of north Key Largo as conservation areas (Wilkinson, N.D.) These areas, which encompass sites such as the missile base (8MO3343) were not included in this assessment.

Key Largo

Commodore Kirk Munroe mentioned stopping at Newport on Key Largo in 1866. Newport now solely exists as an archaeological site characterized by the remains of a water cistern and stone animal pen. The first post office attributed to Key Largo was Cayo Largo, established in 1870 when the census registered 60 inhabitants. Post office names and locations shifted four times before Planter was established in 1891 to serve a population of 150. In 1908 the FEC Railroad was completed through Marathon with four stations on Key Largo: Jewfish Creek, Key Largo, Rock Harbor, and Tavernier; and in 1912 the post office was established at Jewfish until 1921 when it was renamed Key Largo.

The North Carolina Fishing Village, now surviving as an archaeological site, was the first subdivision in Key Largo, platted in 1923. Twenty five more subdivisions were platted by 1930 but few houses were actually built during that period. Built as a home in 1920 for New Jersey dentist George Engel, the whimsical Key Largo Lodge, 8MO3692, is one

of oldest Keys structures still standing in its original location (Wilkinson N.D.). The stone castle, pictured below, is at ocean end of Oceana Drive near MM 103.



At the end of the land boom of the 1920s Key Largo's economy fell back on agriculture, primarily key lime and grapefruit. Incipient growth slowed; after the Labor Day hurricane of 1935, the railroad was not rebuilt; construction moved south to Rock Harbor (MM 100 to 96). Rock Harbor became the post office address for all the island north of Tavernier until 1952, when the name was changed to Key Largo thanks to its recognition after the success of the 1948 movie. The true association of the Caribbean Club (8MO3691) near MM 104 with *Key Largo* the movie – set on the island but filmed in California – was that John Huston and Richard Brooks leased the club to write the screenplay. The Caribbean Club was built by Carl Fisher in 1939 (Wilkinson N.D.).

Houses were constantly being moved within the Keys, but houses were also moved to the Keys, examples being three Kester Cottages barged to Key Largo from Pompano Beach, now standing at 16 Bonita Avenue (8MO4113) and at 46 and 52 Jewfish Avenue (8MO4112, 8MO4111 – see photos below). Scores of these built in the 1930s along the beach in Pompano as rental cottages for tourists by William Kester, who called them “pepper crates”, later became affordable homes for locals (Gibbs 2011).



Growth did not pick up in Key Largo until the late 1940s-50s. By 1970, 123 subdivisions had been platted and concern for the environment was awakening. In 1960 Governor Leroy Collins, in a ceremony at Harry Harris Park in Tavernier, christened John Pennecamp Coral Reef State Park (8MO00208), at the time entirely under water with no land access. In 1963 the “Cut” (Marvin D. Adams Waterway), the biggest private construction project in the Keys since the railroad, was completed near MM 103, technically dividing Key Largo into two islands. The Cut marked the site of the Mayo Fish Camp, later Tahiti Village, which like many Keys landmarks did not survive. A number of interesting roadside attractions built in the 1940s-50s have survived, however, such as Grainger’s Gulf Side Inn, 8MO03409, (now Mrs. Mac’s Kitchen) pictured below (Wilkinson N.D.).



Rock Harbor

Cayo Largo, Key Largo’s first known post office, was established by Captain Ben Baker, who also applied for a homestead near MM 97, suggesting that the post office was also in Rock Harbor (MM 100-96). Baker was likely the same “King of the Wreckers” Ben Baker of Key West who was known to grow pineapples on Key Largo and Plantation as a second occupation. The name Rock Harbor appears as an FEC railroad stop in 1909, and it may refer to its surrounding rocky-shored shallow harbor used by barges to offload construction materials. Most of the early residents of the Upper Keys grew pineapples until the market was swamped with Cuban pineapples, then key limes until the market

swung to Persian limes from the mainland. After that most families took to fishing, as did the Alburys from Key West. William Beauregard Albury's house built in 1926 (8MO2083) still remains, along with its wooden cistern, in the median of Overseas Highway near MM 98 (Wilkinson N.D.). The house is pictured below.



The Edmund and Elizabeth Alburys moved to Key Largo from the Bahamas in the 1920s, and their sons built many local houses including one for William Johnson in 1940, which, moved and somewhat altered, is now the Everglades Park Ranger's Station, 8MO3661, near MM 98 (Wilkinson N.D.).

Tavernier

The name Tavernier, French for tavern keeper, dates at least to 1775 when a note to a British Admiralty map mentions the place as being called *Cayo Tabano* by the Spanish. It extends from roughly MM 96 south to Tavernier Creek, which divides the island of Key Largo from Plantation Key. The harbor between Tavernier and Key Largo was said to have been a rendezvous for Bahamian wreckers and in the 1820s was the site from which a number of escaped slaves embarked for the Bahamas.

From 1865 through the 1880s three Bahamian families settled the southern end of Key Largo: the Alburys, the Lowes, and the Johnsons. John Wesley Johnson established a post office called Planter in 1891. Johnson was a pineapple farmer. The area was known as Planter until the railroad came through, allowing Cuban pineapples to supplant the local crop. Planter pier was dismantled and a Tavernier post office opened in 1911. Tavernier's second post office (8MO1998, built in 1926) has survived at 91951 Overseas Highway with its historic integrity fairly intact. Another survivor from 1919 is the Geiger Packing House at 105 Coconut Row, MO01986, which represents the tail end of

agriculture in Key Largo when truck farming, tomatoes notably, replaced pineapple and key lime (Wilkinson N.D.). The former packing house is an example of a “restoration”/renovation that leaves the original behind. See the photos below.



Homes of some of these pioneer families that remain in Tavernier include the 1923 Joseph V. Albury House, 8MO2000, still displaying the frame vernacular architecture of the period and the 1923 Merlin Albury House, 8MO1997, which was relocated and restored. The two homes, both on Overseas Highway, are pictured below.



Families moving to Tavernier in the 1920s included O.M. Woods, H.S. McKenzie, Cliff Carpenter, and Harry Harris; in the 1930s, the Wilkinsons and the Allens arrived; in the 1940s the Killingsworths. McKenzie and Woods partnered in the oil business. McKenzie built most of the commercial buildings around the depot in downtown Tavernier as well as many of the surrounding homes. Prominent among his buildings is the Tavernier Hotel, 8MO1996, begun as a theater in 1934. He built many houses in company with Cliff Carpenter who also farmed and charter captained (Otten and Hyland 2008). The hotel and Carpenter’s house at 114 Sunrise Drive, 8MO02004, are pictured below.



Built after the 1935 Labor Day hurricane to replace a frame cottage washed to sea is the oceanfront Alice Lowe House (8MO1993) at 1 Ballast Trail. The house is constructed entirely of poured concrete with the first floor raised above an 18,000 gallon cistern. Built under the auspices of a Federal relief program, it is also known as the Red Cross House, one of only a few surviving examples, below (Otten and Highland 2008).



Tavernier contains the highest concentration of significant historic properties in the unincorporated Keys. In 1983 the Old Tavernier Town Association initiated an interest in historic preservation in Tavernier resulting in two historical architectural surveys in 1984 and 2003 commissioned by the Historic Florida Keys Preservation Board, the Historic Florida Keys Foundation, and Monroe County. These surveys became the basis of the Tavernier Historic District as an overlay authorized under the Monroe County Comprehensive Plan and outlined in the *Liveable CommuniKeys Plan (LCP), Tavernier Creek to Mile Marker 97* and the *Tavernier Historic District Preservation Guidelines* in 2005. The district was further studied in 2008 for the Historic Keys Foundation and reported in *Historic Tavernier* (Otten and Highland 2008). This assessment updates that study and documents additional structures, many dating from the 1940s-50s, that could augment Tavernier's inventory of significant historic properties. Examples of these are 180 Harborview Drive, 8MO2309, and 162 Jo-Jean Way, 8MO3649, both on the bay side of Tavernier, pictured below.



In Key Largo a total of 45 FMSF forms were updated and six historic structures were newly documented. Six previously recorded historic structures that were assessed were determined to have been destroyed. The majority of these, including the six newly documented, were evaluated as potentially locally significant. One structure is listed in the NHRP (the African Queen, 8MO1302) and three structures were evaluated as potentially eligible for individual listing. One of those three, the Key Largo Lodge, 8MO3692, anchors Oceana Avenue which has at least five locally significant homes along it, suggesting the potential for a small historic district there.

One potential linear resource group was identified that consists of historical restaurants or other roadside attractions along or near the Overseas Highway across the project area. Three structures were identified in Key Largo and one in Tavernier that may contribute to such a resource group. See Recommendations.

Tavernier Historic District

Within the existing Tavernier Historic District seven newly documented structures and three archaeological sites (one of which is Old Settler's Park, 8MO3403)) were assessed as potentially contributing to the existing Tavernier Historic District. One currently contributing structure (8MO3645) was assessed as having been altered to the point that it is recommended it be reclassified as non-contributing. Four currently contributing structures were assessed as requiring additional research and evaluation in order either to confirm their status or to reclassify them as non-contributing. Four structures are regarded as potentially eligible for listing in the NHRP. Several newly constructed structures were found in the district that did not appear to conform to district guidelines. See the Recommendations section for further discussion.

Outside the existing Tavernier Historic District on the ocean side of Overseas Highway one previously recorded and one newly documented historic structure were assessed. See Recommendations.

Bay Side Tavernier

Outside the historic district within the median or on the bay side of Overseas Highway more than 40 historic structures of potential significance were assessed. Of these, nearly half are concentrated in a coherent neighborhood that maintains its historical character and has the potential to be designated a historic district. See Recommendations.

MIDDLE KEYS

CONCH KEYS

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, bay side, was a 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 Conch Key gradually became a more populated fishing and retirement community. Retaining its quiet and unpretentious character, the island has at least 14 homes built in the 1930s-40s, that have not lost their historical integrity, including one Monroe County Historic Landmark, the coral rock Hodgman house, now the Conch Key Chalet.

DUCK KEY

Situated geographically on the ocean side of the Overseas Highway between Long Key and Marathon, Duck Key is an anomaly. 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. 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" (duckkeyonline.com 2016). He succeeded and called the resort Indies House.

No previous sites files were recorded on Duck Key during the 2003 survey, but the present survey identified three structures that clearly warrant further research and evaluation. More sites, which were beyond the scope of this project, occur as well and it is recommended that the Preservation Commission work with the Duck Key Property Association to conduct an intensive historic sites survey on Duck Key and make recommendations for preserving the 1950s and 1960s character of the resort island. The

place 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 buildings that were chosen to exemplify the history and architecture on Duck Key, and begin a discussion on preservation of the island, are the Indies House Hotel/Hawk Cay Resort (8MO3987), “Jamaica House” (8MO3988), and The Hawk’s Cay Administration Building (8MO3989) all newly recorded sites.

The Indies House Hotel was designed by well known architect Morris Lapidus who designed both the Eden Roc and Fontainebleau Hotels in Miami Beach. The grand opening was in January 1960. Although it has been altered, the Mid-Century Modern design can still be seen with the stucco relief of compressed arches that surrounds both the front and back facades of the building at the junction of the first and second floors. A detailed comparison should be made with vintage photographs and Lapidus’ drawings, if they can be found (Nash and Robinson 2004).



While the hotel was the center piece of the development, it is not the oldest structure on the island. The Administration Building was completed in 1954 and exemplifies Newkirk’s idea that the resort would reflect the architecture of the Caribbean. Designed in the British Colonial Revival style, the Administration Building is still being used as Hawk’s Cay Administration Building and sixty-two years after its construction maintains its architectural integrity. The observation deck on the roof, designed like a widow’s walk, is an important feature. It was built to be used as to show potential buyers the lots that were available. Below is a comparison of a 1960 postcard by John Stark and a photograph from 2016.



The third building recently listed in the FMSF was called “Jamaica House.” Still standing at the foot of the Truman Memorial Bridge the house was built in 1956 in the British Colonial Revival style for Admiral Telfair Knight, another associate of Newkirk and George Merrick. It originally had a clay tile roof but other than that maintains its integrity.



LOWER KEYS

LITTLE DUCK KEY

Just south of the Seven Mile Bridge on the Ocean side of the Overseas Highway is Little Duck Key. The only structures on this small island are cabanas and rest room facilities in a public park. The parcel is owned by Monroe County and named Veteran’s Memorial Park. Built in 1950, the park was previously listed in the FMSF (8MO2798) and site form has been updated as part of this assessment. Because all of the facilities have been greatly altered, it is not eligible for listing either locally or nationally.

BIG PINE KEY

Big Pine Key is the largest island in the lower Florida Keys and in the entire chain is second in size only to Key Largo. Despite its large size Big Pine was slow to develop. In the 1870 census only one individual was listed as living on the island, a George Wilson

who reported his occupation as “Charcoal Burner”. By contrast, nearby No Name Key had 44 inhabitants (Wilkinson N.D.) With the building of the East Coast Railroad workers arrived and the Big Pine Inn was built but little remains from this early twentieth century time period. Housing was crude and did not last, as indicated by the loss of the most important building, the Big Pine Inn, which burned in 1978.

Some development arrived in 1917 when the county approved a bond issue to build a single lane dirt road through the island. Between 1914 and 1925 as part of the Florida Land Boom, ten subdivisions were plated but few people built or moved in (Wilkinson N.D.). A ferry service started from No Name Key to Big Pine Key in 1922 before the completion of the Overseas Highway, and a small community headed by Grace and Carlton Craig grew up around the ferry dock. A shark processing facility was opened in 1923 by Hydenoil Products but it only lasted until 1931 (Viele 1996). When the second Overseas Highway opened in 1938, however, and by passed No Name Key, traffic moved to the present day US1. Today there are no listings of structures in the FMSF for No Name Key. All the former buildings from the nineteenth and twentieth century have deteriorated into ruin and all sites there are archaeological.

Two FMSF forms from Big Pine, however, that were updated in this survey record buildings that represent the connection between Big Pine Key and No Name Key. The No Name Pub (8MO03623) on Watson Boulevard is out of the way today, but in 1930 was situated so that drivers from the ferry went right past their door. The building is Frame Vernacular in style and has been altered over time but deserves further study and protection on a local level. This is one of only a few establishments left that gives a feel for the last century on Big Pine Key. The buildings should also be considered as part of the Linear Designation outlined under Recommendations. Pictured below are the No Name Pub and the Old Wooden Bridge Fishing Camp.





The Old Wooden Bridge Fishing Camp was established by Ed Barry in 1951. Situated on the water at the foot of the bridge to No Name Key, the buildings still stand. Pictured above is the store and office complex (8MO3735). Although this building and the cottages across the street have been altered somewhat over the years, they should be closely evaluated and considered for local protection. They represent low scale tourist and recreational development that is compatible with the natural environment and reflective of the 1950s in the Florida Keys.

When writing about Big Pine Key, the National Key Deer Refuge should also be mentioned because in many ways the deer help define the character of the place. Big Pine Key supports about 75% of the Key Deer population. The Key Deer, an endangered species, inhabit 20-25 islands in the lower Florida Keys and are the smallest sub-species of white-tailed deer in North America. With the establishment of the Refuge on Big Pine Key in 1957, the deer population has gone from a low of less than fifty deer in the 1940s to between six and eight hundred in 2000 (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2016).

As far as historic structures are concerned, ten sites listed on the FMSF in Big Pine Key were updated. One previously identified site has been demolished since 2003 and five new sites were added to the inventory. Mae's Cottage (8MO2341) could not be evaluated because access was denied.

LITTLE TORCH KEY

The Torch Keys (Torch Key, Middle Torch and Little Torch) are named for the Torchwood tree. This small tree has light green leaflets that cluster in threes, like the islands. The importance of the Torchwood is that it burns when green and was used in the past as kindling (Stevenson 1970).

The built environment on the Torch Keys is sparse. Most of it is clustered on Little Torch Key. This was because settlement in the 1920s followed the Old Overseas Highway that crossed a bridge over Pine Channel connecting Big Pine Key to Little Torch. When the New Overseas Highway opened in 1938, the old bridge was destroyed and traffic was

routed to the south to the present US1. Although parts of Old State Road 4A still exist on Little Torch, most of the structures surrounding the road are gone.

Little Torch is the only one of the three islands in the group that had any previous FMSF listings. Four old listings from 2003 still exist, two have been demolished. Two new sites were added. Three houses on Little Torch Key are unique in the survey area. They do not conform to any academic architectural style and are listed as “Other” in the categories above. Basically they are quonset huts raised on stilts. More research is needed to determine if these quonset huts were reused and moved from another area.



RAMROD KEY

Situated between the Torch Keys and Summerland Key, Ramrod Key is said to have been named for a nineteenth century shipwreck that went down on the nearby reefs (Stevenson 1970). The history of the small island is vague. One source says that they had a post office during the railroad days but that the train never stopped; only slowed to drop off and pick up mail (Williams 2003). The current draw to the area is the Looe Key reef, seven miles offshore making Ramrod Key an embarkation point for divers and fishermen. Only one historic site was previously listed in the FMSF and it has been altered. 8MO3747 was built in 1938 and it is not eligible for listing either locally or nationally. It is unremarkable.

SUMMERLAND KEY

Summerland Key is reported to have been named for the prevailing weather in the Florida Keys. It is always warm and sunny. The island has a post office, shops, and an airstrip (Stevenson 22). Fifteen previous FMSF forms were updated. Most of these are located along the Overseas Highway and contain primarily vernacular commercial architecture including two contemporary gas stations. The old survey forms were completed in 2013 and were part of a survey to examine properties from Caribbean Drive to West Shore

Drive. A small residential section north of the Overseas Highway called Snug Harbor was also examined. Besides the fifteen forms that were updated it should be noted that one structure was demolished and one new structure was listed. Nothing in the survey warrants further study at this time.

CUDJOE KEY

The biggest mystery about Cudjoe Key concerns its name. Was it named for the shrub known as the joewood plant or is the name a reference to an anonymous Key Wester's Cousin Joe who moved up the Keys? (Stevenson, 21)

The population of the island was small in the beginning. In 1904, Lily Lawrence Bow moved to the island with her husband Richard and two boys. When Richard abandoned her, she stayed on and later befriended William Krome the chief engineer for the Florida East Coast Railroad. The only neighbors at the time were a black family, the Bullards. Lily eventually moved to Homestead but the waterway to the west of Cudjoe Key still bears her name, Bow Channel (Viele 1996). No structures remain from this period and there is little other documented history of the island. No FMSF forms were found for this location. This may be the result of confusion on past surveys. Because Cudjoe has no post office it shares a zip code with Summerland Key. In the future as the housing stock ages, an independent survey could be conducted of the developments on Cudjoe Key. After an extended drive through these neighborhoods for a visual survey, however, it was determined that this is a lower priority than the projects listed under recommendations.

SUGARLOAF KEY

Sugarloaf Key is supposed to have gotten its name from an archaeological site. Folklore suggests that an old Indian midden, north of the present Overseas Highway, was very well known to the early pioneers and resembled an "old fashion loaf of sugar" (Stevenson, 20). During the early years, this local point of reference in the landscape is supposed to have translated into the name of the island.

Sugarloaf itself is just over the Bow Channel Bridge heading to Key West. It is divided into two parts, Upper and Lower Sugarloaf, separated by Upper Sugarloaf Sound. These two areas like the rest of the Florida Keys are connected by the Overseas Highway (US1) but on the Ocean side south of US1, Old State Road 4A (the first Overseas Highway) still exists.

Sugarloaf has a rich and well documented early history. During the 1890s, Dr. J. Vining Harris, a Confederate War veteran who built the Southernmost House in Key West farmed property in the area and started an early sponge cultivation venture. Like all of the Florida Keys, the land and the built environment of the area were impacted with the building of the Florida East Coast Railroad. When the railroad worked its way southwestward through Sugarloaf, Dr. Harris' Sugarloaf property was leased to the FEC. In 1909, Harris sold a portion of the land to Englishmen Charles and George Chase. The

Chase brothers established the Florida Keys Sponge and Fruit Company and brought in an estimated sixty workers. This was the start of the first community in the Lower Keys outside of Key West. Although initially the sponging experiment was a success, by 1914 the brothers needed more cash to invest. The start of World War I, however, froze all their assets and credit. Eventually in 1925 they sold out to real estate investor Richter Cylde Perky of Denver and Miami (Wilkinson N.D., Viele 1996). The FMSF form (8MO3774) documents a small frame vernacular building called “The Chase House” (shown below.) The last survey in 2003 dated this building to 1930 but, given the history related to the Chase community and the location, the house certainly could be older. The condition of the house today is dire, but if it is a last remnant of the early twentieth century community of Chase, an archaeological excavation at the site and documentation of construction methods would be a valuable study.



When Mr. Perky bought the community of Chase he became the largest land owner in the Florida Keys after the Florida East Coast Railroad. In 1929 he changed the name of the settlement to honor himself, he called it “Perky” and a post office under that name was established. Despite local poachers he continued to grow sponges in Sugarloaf Sound and when the first Overseas Highway opened, he subsidized the building of a road that today is Sugarloaf Boulevard to connect his property to the new highway three miles to the south. Mr. Perky also had plans to develop a tourist resort to be called the Perky Lodge. There was one big obstacle: mosquitos.

Besides all the land in the Keys, Richter Perky also had oil interest in Texas. There he learned about an idea promoted by Dr. Charles Campbell of San Antonio, Texas that bats would eat the mosquitos. Campbell already had seven Bat Towers in Texas and Perky decided to build one in Sugarloaf. Fred Johnson who worked for Perky on the property built the fifty foot tower in 1929. Unfortunately, although it was reported that one thousand bats were imported, they all flew away. The mosquito problem persisted. (Viele 1996).

The Bat Tower (8MO228) is a national treasure. It is the only structure of its kind in the Florida Keys and attests to the optimism and ingenuity of the pioneer settlers (even though the concept failed). It has been the subject of a Historic American Building Survey and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Today it sits unprotected and in need of some repair. There is no signage to explain its significance. An effort should be made to protect this important structure and interpret it for the public.



Mangrove Mama's (8MO3759) is a popular local restaurant just over the Bow Channel bridge at Mile Marker 20 on the Gulf side of US1. Although previous information dated these building to the 1930s the present ownership team says that the two main buildings in the complex were built in 1909 and 1924. They are frame vernacular in style and were originally a train stop and station agent's house for the railroad. When the devastating hurricane of 1935 hit the Florida Keys and demolished railroad tracks and buildings alike, these structures survived. Their use was also adapted to changing times. With the railroad gone and the opening of the Overseas Highway the place was changed into a gas station. Gas pumps were added in the 1930s and the main room of the structure became a general store. The use changed again in the 1940s and the buildings became a restaurant. "Mangrove Mama's" came into existence in 1979 when Gary and Nancy Bell took over. The new name, still in use today, was the name of the Bell's boat, frequently parked by the front door (MM 20, fact sheet from the owner). Despite all of the alteration in the past, Mangrove Mama's is one of the buildings that should be considered in a linear designation as outlined under Recommendations. The restaurant is pictured below.



The Indian Mound Estates subdivision on the Gulf side of Upper Sugarloaf has the greatest cohesive concentration of frame vernacular houses in the area. They date from the 1930s, 1940s and 1950s. During the 2003 survey, it was recommended that an historic district be created in this neighborhood but to date no action has been taken. In order to accomplish this goal, Monroe County, working with the local neighborhood association, should conduct an intensive survey of all the structures in the neighborhood. Incentives should be discussed with proper owners and a plan enacted to review changes and regulate non-historic infill.



The houses shown above are all examples from Indian Mound Estates. In total eleven FMSF forms were updated in this neighborhood as part of the present survey. These examples are 19572 Aztec Drive (8MO03768), 1949; 19583 Seminole Street (8MO03769), 1953; and 19616 Aztec Drive (8MO03766), 1953. Because there is also an archeological site in the neighborhood, it should also be investigated further and protected as part of the Indian Mound Estates Historic District.

Besides Indian Mound Estates and its collection of frame vernacular buildings, another grouping of structures, the Sugarloaf Key Lodge, should be studied and further evaluated for possible protection. Built in the 1960s by the Rimersburg Coal Company, a strip mining company from Pennsylvania, the buildings are a good representation of the Mid-Century Modern style built at the location where the old Perky Lodge once stood.

The main office building of the complex represents a subset of the Mid-Century Modern style sometimes called the “Chalet Style.” A low pitched front facing gable roof and wide overhangs combined with a porte-cochere welcomes visitors, all of whom have arrived by automobile. In Sugarloaf Lodge almost every structure but the Tiki Bar has a mansard tower on the roof all faced with a distinctive red colored concrete tile. Even the main sign for the resort conforms to Mid-Century Modern principles. The typeface of the sign slants upward to the right suggesting carefree and casual living (Nash and Robinson 2004). In



total, sixteen FMSF forms were updated on Sugarloaf Key. Three more structures have been demolished and one new site file was added.

SADDLEBUNCH KEYS

The Saddlebunch Keys are a large group of islands whose primary vegetation is the red mangrove. Low to the water, many of these keys are unnamed. Two small communities have developed on the Saddlebunch Keys, Bay Point and the Saddlebunch RV Park. There are few historic resources. Four previously identified sites were updated and three new sites were listed. Two of the new sites are residential but a small vernacular commercial building, doing business as the Baypoint Market at 3124 Overseas Highway (8MO3999), pictured below, appears to be the oldest structure on the island. It was built in 1938.



BIG COPPIT KEY (includes ROCKLAND and GEIGER KEY)

Big Coppitt and East Rockland Key were once separate islands but are now joined by the roadbed. The name Coppitt comes from the old English word meaning thicket (usually spelled coppice) and was thought to describe the early landscape of the island. Geiger Key to the south of the Overseas Highway was named for John Geiger, a Key West sea captain from the 1830s (Stevenson 1970).

Because of its proximity to Key West and The Boca Chica Naval Air Station, Big Coppitt Key has become a suburban bedroom community. The island has a number of churches and is the site of the Southern Keys Cemetery. Both of the larger churches are listed in the FMSF. The New Tabernacle Life Church (8MO3794) was built in 1955 and is in the Mid-Century Modern style (below, top.) The First Baptist Church (8MO3810) is also Mid-Century Modern in style but was not until 1970 (below, bottom.)



Most of the residential architecture on Big Coppitt is vernacular and utilitarian. It does not warrant local listing. There is, however, one commercial building at 301 Overseas Highway called Bobalou's Southern Cafe (8MO3820) that could be included in the linear resource that is proposed under Recommendations. It was built in 1957.



In total on Big Coppitt Key and Rockland Key and 32 FMSF forms were updated. Eight structures were found to have been demolished. Eleven new sites were documented on Big Coppitt and two new sites were documented on Geiger Key.

STOCK ISLAND

Situated between Boca Chica Key, home of the US Naval Air Station, and Key West, Stock Island is divided in two. The northern half of the Island is part of Key West. The southern part is in unincorporated Monroe County and part of this survey. This southern section of Stock Island is a mix of residential, industrial and commercial architecture, boatyards and trailer parks. There is no continuity or obvious center of activity.

Originally Stock Island was said to be the grazing ground for Key West's farm animals. It is separated from Key West by the shallow Cow Key Channel and photographs do exist that show cattle on the island. William Krome, the chief engineer for the Florida East Coast Railroad, described the island in 1905 and said that it had a stream which would have made it suitable for animals. In 1907, two portable buildings were brought to the island to serve as the commissary for the railroad workers' tented work camp. The railroad built the first footbridge to the island and in 1917 a bond issue was passed to build a permanent bridge from Stock Island to Key West. By 1928, the first Overseas Highway opened. (Wilkinson N.D.). In the mid twentieth century, more modern

developments were built. *The Key West Citizen* reported that when the drive-in movie theater was built it could hold six hundred cars and had the largest screen in Florida. It is now demolished. The Key West Kennel Club Race Track also opened in 1953 and attracted four thousand people to its opening day (Wilkinson, "History of Stock Island," 6). In the 2003 survey, the Key West Kennel Club Race Track (8MO3833) was recommended for local designation but this did not happen and it has been demolished.

Stock Island today has few historic resources. Small subdivisions from the 1960s and 1970s cluster in some sections of the island but these Minimal Traditional and Ranch style homes are not remarkable. Boyd's Camp Ground (8MO03783) is a local institution. It was built in 1963 but has been altered and updated and does not have the architectural integrity of the original. The entire area, because of its proximity to Key West is in under pressure for redevelopment.

There is one structure, however, that warrants investigation and possible local protection. Located at 5158 Overseas Highway (8MO3783), this frame vernacular residence is behind the We Cycle Bicycle Shop and is unique in a primarily commercial area. It was built in 1923 but little else is known about it or its place in Stock Island history. It is not oriented to the highway so it was impossible to fully evaluate from the front facade. The building is pictured below.



In total 34 FMSF forms updated on Stock Island, four sites had been demolished, and eight new sites were documented.

RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

RESULTS

In January through June, 2016, 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, completion of FMSF forms for sites along an approximate 80-mile stretch of the Florida Keys. A total of 406 sites were assessed. Forty-nine previously recorded archaeological sites and 225 previously recorded historic structures were assessed and the site forms updated. Additionally, 22 archaeological sites and 80 historic structures were newly documented. A total of 64 archaeological site forms and 335 historic structure forms were updated or newly created for the FMSF. Seven previously recorded archaeological sites could not be located or were not accessible, one of which was destroyed, and no site forms were updated (Appendix II); however, a desktop assessment was completed and the sites are summarized in this report (Summary of Sites). Thirty historic structures and two archaeological sites were determined to have been destroyed.

Within the Tavernier Historic District one previously recorded archaeological site was assessed and the site form updated. Two archaeological sites were newly documented; all three archaeological sites were evaluated as contributing to the district. Sixty two FMSF forms were updated and two historic structures that were field assessed were determined to have been destroyed. Seven historic structures were newly documented and evaluated as potentially contributing to the district.

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 development, looting, collecting, metal detecting, natural erosion, and bioturbation. Archaeological sites have degraded significantly since the last comprehensive survey performed 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. 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 although many of these resources have been altered to a point of no return, a significant inventory of Florida Keys character-defining architecture remains. Four locations with high concentrations of historic structures and one potential linear resource were identified that warrant further research with an eye to designation as historic districts. The

Recommendations section addresses modifications to existing and proposals for new historic districts as well as regulatory strategies for historic preservation.

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 (Figure 2). Sites are divided according to location into archaeological sites (AR) and historical architectural structures (STRUCTURE). Totals include destroyed sites. By the list in Appendix I, FMSF is notified of sites field assessed in this survey that were determined to have been destroyed.

Figure 2. Tabulation of Sites by Key

| 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 | 14 | 45 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 6 | 23 | 57 |
| Tavernier | 2 | 65 | 3 | 39 | | 4 | 5 | 108 |
| Long Key | 2 | | | | | | 2 | |
| Duck Key | | | | 3 | | | | 3 |
| Little Duck Key | | 1 | | | | | | 1 |
| Grassy Key | 1 | | | | | | 1 | |
| Crawl Key | 1 | | | | | | 1 | |
| No Name Key | 6 | | 1 | | | | 7 | |
| Big Pine Key | 4 | 10 | 2 | 5 | | 1 | 6 | 16 |
| Ramrod Key | 5 | 1 | | | | | 5 | 1 |
| Summerland Key | 2 | 15 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 3 | 17 |
| Little Torch Key | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2 | | 2 | 3 | 8 |
| Middle Torch Key | 1 | | | | | | 1 | |
| Cudjoe Key | 1 | | 1 | | | | 2 | |
| Sugarloaf Key | 4 | 16 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 20 |
| Saddlebunch Key | | 4 | | 3 | | | | 7 |
| Geiger Key | | | | 2 | | | | 2 |
| Rockland Key | | 2 | | | | 1 | | 3 |
| Big Coppit Key | | 28 | | 10 | | 8 | | 46 |
| Stock Island | | 34 | | 8 | | 4 | | 46 |
| Other | 4 | | 3 | | | | 7 | |
| Total | 49 | 225 | 22 | 80 | 2† | 30 | 71 | 335 |

*Includes sites not visited (Appendix II) †Counted in Updated Sites column

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

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.

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 target areas for preservation are summarized below.

Key Largo

Key Largo has a relatively small number of historically significant structures, in no particular pattern or concentration. An exception is Oceana Avenue which is recommended for further research as a possible historic district. In addition, at least three historic structures in Key Largo and one in Tavernier were identified that potentially contribute to a proposed linear resource along Overseas Highway. Of particular significance in this regard is the Caribbean Club.

Tavernier

As mentioned earlier, in addition to recommending that additional historic structures be added as contributing to the Tavernier Historic District, other structures currently identified as contributing were judged to have been excessively altered. One of these should be reclassified within the district as non-contributing and four others should be reassessed with further research.

In several locations newly constructed structures were identified that did not conform to district guidelines. Therefore, in order to maintain a coherent historic district, it is recommended that tighter boundaries be drawn to exclude areas where there is a pattern of new construction that violates the Tavernier Historic District Preservation Guidelines and conflicts with the intent of the LCP. Correspondingly, preservation guidelines should be closely and uniformly followed within the district.

North of the existing Tavernier Historic District, one previously recorded and one newly documented historic structure were assessed on the ocean side of Overseas Highway. Further research is recommended to evaluate these structures as contributing to a potential expansion of the district northeastward to encompass them.

On the bay side of Overseas Highway at least 18 historic structures are concentrated in a coherent neighborhood that maintains its 1940s-50s historical character and has the potential to be designated a historic district. The options are either expansion of the Tavernier Historic District to include this discrete area, or creation of a separate new district: a Bayside Historic District, for example.

The option of enlarging the existing district boundaries across the highway to envelope this new area, was considered, but is not recommended. Although a few historical commercial and industrial structures could be included along Overseas Highway and Tavernier Street (parallel, one block northwest), the difficulties in maintaining historic preservation standards while allowing for development are likely to be daunting. Instead, Tavernier's Overseas Highway corridor between the recommended historic districts should continue to be maintained as a conservation easement under appropriate guidelines per the LCP. The feasibility of this is shown by the fact that more than one historic structure along the highway has been renovated or remodeled in a manner compatible with historical forms and scale.

Conch Key

An intensive cultural resource survey should be conducted on Conch Key, bay side, where an enclave of 1930s-40s historic structures are anchored by a Monroe County landmark, the Hodgeman House. If the survey data warrants, a historic district should be considered.

Duck Key

A comprehensive cultural resource survey should be conducted on Duck Key that will provide 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 Master Architect, Morris Lapidus. Although there have been changes and new construction on Duck Key, protecting what is left of the original Caribbean flavor of the place will enhance and compliment the new. All of this work should be completed and coordinated with the Duck Key Property Association. Topics of special concern should be the Historic Property Tax Exemption, flood elevations, and the production of guidelines for new construction on the island to compliment the existing historic resources. If the survey data warrants, a historic district should be considered.

Indian Mound Estates, Sugarloaf Key

The subdivision of Indian Mound Estates has the highest concentration of frame vernacular residential architecture on the island of Sugarloaf Key from the 1930s to 1960s. It also contains a significant prehistoric archaeological site. This important neighborhood should have a comprehensive survey with the goal of establishing a historic district. Both the archaeology and the built environment should be explored further documented. All of this should be coordinated with an educational component and the cooperation of the residents. One house has already been raised and topics for discussion should be flood elevation guidelines and what they do to neighborhood scale, the Historic Property Tax Exemption, and the creation of guidelines for new construction in the neighborhood.

Sugarloaf Lodge, Sugarloaf Key

Sugarloaf Lodge is a classic example of Mid-Century Modern architecture in the Florida Keys. As a resort, the iconic Lobby Building, Bait and Tackle shop, hotel block, restaurant, shops, and even the Fire Station next door were all built with compatible designs that tie the different buildings into a unified whole. Working with the owners, a complete business and architectural history of the property should be developed to use for a promotional tool. The Historic Property Tax Exemption and Federal Business Income Tax Credits should be explored for any future improvements that meet the Secretary of the Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. The idea of listing the buildings in a small resource group or historic district should be explored.

Individual Listings

Many of the individual buildings discussed above in the island by island section, or as noted in the Master Site File forms, should be studied and locally listed so that any changes are reviewed by the Historic Preservation Commission. These buildings add character and a sense of place to the local history of the Florida Keys and it is essential

that they be maintained. Of particular importance is the Bat Tower on Sugarloaf Key. This structure has already been the subject of a Historic American Building Survey (HABS) report and is listed in the NRHP, but its condition is deteriorating. Wood is rotting, and graffiti appear on the interior. Clear ownership and stewardship roles should be established along with a preservation plan to ensure that this unique structure is not lost to neglect.

Overseas Highway Historic Roadside Attractions Trail - A Linear Resource

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.

Historic Preservation Strategies

It is recommended that standards be more strictly adhered to within historic districts with regard to alterations to historic structures and guidelines for new construction. Staff review should play a more important role in relevant permit reviews. Staff should make all routine/technical decisions and refer only applications for major alterations and new construction to the Historic Preservation Commission to allow it to focus on matters of significance requiring community involvement. This will speed up the review process for minor and routine applications by allowing staff to complete them in a timely manner; its lack is a current source of irritation for residents; and streamlining will reduce public notices and expenditures. The cooperation of property owners to maintain historic districts and properties must be backed by efficiency in the County decision-making process as well as by consistency in the application of regulations.

As the LCP recommends, environmental context should be factored into the evaluation of potential alterations to existing historic districts and the creation of new resource groups and historic districts. In the Tavernier Historic District, Old Settler's Park – recorded as an archaeological site – is an important cultural landscape that contributes to the district. A potential historic district of properties on the Tavernier bayside may be thought of a cultural landscape of which the historic viewscape would be an essential attribute. Consideration of environmental context also means that all permit approvals for ground disturbing activity in historic districts should include a condition for archaeological monitoring because of the extensive historic artifacts that occur throughout the district.

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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 Web: www.flarchaeology.com

**MONROE COUNTY CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT UPDATE CLG GRANT
#1503 – AHC TECHNICAL REPORT #1114**

APPENDIX I: LIST OF DESTROYED SITES

The following archaeological and structural sites were assessed in the field and determined to have been destroyed or demolished. The two destroyed archaeological sites were bulldozed as a result of development. Destroyed historical structures were demolished, sometimes replaced by new structures, or not found at their documented location. The status of missing structures was cross checked with Monroe County Property Appraiser records and archival aerial photos. In one case a historic home (MO1988) was entirely effaced and colonized by an adjoining commercial building.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

MO1480 Crane Road Cisterns, Sugarloaf Key
MO1972 Planter, Key Largo

HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL SITES

MO1485 Water Metering Station, Overseas Highway, Big Pine Key
MO1932 Reefcomber Motel, Key Largo
MO1987 129 Coconut Row, Tavernier
MO1988 110 Lowe Street, Tavernier
MO2078 3 Cottages at MM 97.6, Key Largo
MO2079 Cottage at MM97.6, Key Largo
MO2086 Cottage on Loquat Drive, Key Largo
MO2139 Sammy Creek WEA, 14710 Old State Road 4A, Sugarloaf Key
MO3654 149 Sterling Street, Tavernier
MO3659 House at MM 97.8, Key Largo
MO3664 80 E 2nd Street, Tavernier, not found
MO3681 88 Coconut Drive, Key Largo
MO3745 1269 Mills Road, Little Torch Key
MO3746 1263 Mills Road, Little Torch Key
MO3755 25044 45th Street, Summerland Key
MO3772 19525 Date Palm Drive, Sugarloaf Key
MO3773 19545 Date Palm Drive, Sugarloaf Key
MO3780 5570 Laurel Avenue, Stock Island

MONROE COUNTY CULTURAL RESOURCE ASSESSMENT UPDATE CLG GRANT
#1503 – AHC TECHNICAL REPORT #1114

APPENDIX I: LIST OF DESTROYED SITES *CONTINUED*

| | |
|--------|--|
| MO3781 | 5675 5th Avenue, Stock Island |
| MO3785 | 5635 MacDonald Avenue, Stock Island |
| MO3788 | 48 Palmetto Drive, Big Coppitt Key |
| MO3789 | 47 Palmetto Drive, Big Coppitt Key |
| MO3799 | 540 Avenue D, Big Coppitt Key |
| MO3806 | 45 1st Street, Big Coppitt Key |
| MO3812 | 20 4th Street, Big Coppitt Key |
| MO3813 | 217 Avenue G, Big Coppitt Key |
| MO3816 | 718 4th Avenue, Big Coppitt Key: wrong address on 2003 form; not found |
| MO3817 | 716 4th Avenue, Big Coppitt Key: wrong address on 2003 form; not found |
| MO3824 | 557 Park Drive, Rockland Key |
| MO3833 | Key West Kennel Club Race Track, 5th Avenue, Stock Island |

APPENDIX II: DESKTOP ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES



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APPENDIX II: DESKTOP LIST OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES.

No site form was updated since these sites could not be accessed in the field. These sites are described in the Summary of Sites section of the report.

- 8M0117 Fat Deer Key
- 8M01263 Big Pine Key #10
- 8M01972 Planter
- 8M01978 Pumpkin Key
- 8M02052 Litman Site
- 8M02113 Ramrod Key 3
- 8M03615 Long Key Railroad Camp