



**LITTLE  
HOLLYWOOD**

# LITTLE HOLLYWOOD

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Historian, Little Hollywood Improvement Association

1992



LITTLE HOLLYWOOD IMPROVEMENT ASSN., INC.  
9808 RIVERVIEW DRIVE, MICCO, FL. 32976

**Preface**

Many of us have, over the years, discussed the rich history and background of our chosen area of residence. Some of us have even talked about putting together the story in some form. Time seems to be the problem.

Enter Barbara Maltby. Barbara is historian for our association. Barbara, and her husband Gordon, have taken the time to make this booklet a reality.

We are grateful and deeply indebted to the Maltby s whose versatility is truly outstanding. Their untold hours of research, interviewing long-time neighbors, historical documentation, compilation, typing and proofreading from the outset to the final copy is demonstrated herein for all to enjoy. As in all endeavors of this nature, a few people who give generously of themselves and their time make all of our lives much richer.

We hope you enjoy this booklet and appreciate having a small part of seeing it become a reality. If you find that you have additional information that can be included in future updates, Barbara and Gordon would appreciate it being made available to them.



December 20, 1991

Donald J. McCuen, 1991 President

## INTRODUCTION

I was asked to be the Historian for the Little Hollywood Improvement Association and write a brief history of Little Hollywood. My first job was to sort through old files, news articles, minutes of meetings and interview residents. Slowly the project grew. Board meetings were boring, neighborhood projects were necessary and important, but could not be compared with the possibility that a pirate buried treasure along the St. Sebastian River or that a handsome Spanish explorer might have stood on the banks of what would be part of Little Hollywood one day. Even the remembrances of panthers screaming in the night took on new meaning.

I had to go back in time. It will be many pages before you get to the Board of Directors meetings of the Little Hollywood Improvement Association, but you may find the discovery of mastodon teeth, the excitement of shipwrecks and treasure and a glimpse into the past to find who roamed the Little Hollywood land before you moved here, all more interesting than meetings.

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## BEFORE WE ARRIVED

A million years ago this area of Florida looked very different. The water and marshlands extended west covering much of the land that is there today. Many pre-historic shells were found when the dam on the North Fork of the St. Sebastian River was built. Huge mastodon teeth and bones were found near the junction of the Sebastian River and Indian River when they dredged up the spoil islands in the Indian River to make a channel for the Inland Waterway. Imagine having a mastodon tooth for a doorstep! Many Micco residents collected these old treasures. Even today if one walks north from the Barefoot Bay pier you might find a camel bone or a sloth artifact. To the east there was the barrier island (but no Ala). Through all the area, jungles and marshes formed a rich habitat for horses, bears, wolves, sloths, mastodons, tigers, camels and four-foot armadillos.

It was 10 to 12,000 years ago that the first Indians came into this part of Florida. They were semi-nomadic hunters and gatherers. These early human beings had trouble finding fresh water as the lakes and Everglades were dry. Wetlands were around for only the last six thousand years.

About 5000 BC the first villages were established by Indians who hunted mostly shellfish, mollusks, nuts and roots, leaving many shell heaps.

Two thousand years later evidence of the first pottery appeared. The Indians first used fibrous materials such as shredded palmetto, Spanish moss and grass as temper. Some farming was begun about 1000 BC.

The Ais Indian culture may have developed as early as 500 BC in this part of Florida from where Cape Canaveral is today down as far as the St. Lucie River. They maintained a separate culture from other Indians in Florida and relied mainly on seafood. They were here to greet the first white men who arrived in the late 1400's. The Indian River was called the Ays or Ais River during this time, although according to legend it may have been called the "Sweetwater River" by the earliest Indians. The Ais are considered by some to be a branch of the Timucuas tribe.

The Ais ate raw shellfish, palm berries, coco plums, seagrapes, animals and fish. It is known they had fire by the 1500's as the pottery shows signs of being baked. Some said they were cannibals and considered them the "worst Indians in the world" but others had kinder things to say about them. However, it is known that many French and Spanish sailors who were

shipwrecked off our coast from 1500 on, lived out the rest of their lives with the Ais, voluntarily or not. It was the Ais who helped Jonathan Dickinson, the young Quaker merchant, his wife, young infant son and about 20 other survivors, get back to civilization after being shipwrecked off Jupiter Island.<sup>1</sup>

Many Ais Indians lived on the north shore of the St. Sebastian River, although shell and pottery heaps are found on both sides of the river. They located their fishing communities facing east on the north side of the river where "fresh water seeped and the morning sun could warm their huts."<sup>2</sup> The woods gave them protection from the winds and the forests provided firewood. For some of the same reasons many of us chose to live here in Little Hollywood today.

In about 1750 an Indian chief, Secoffee, led a party of Creek Indians down from the Georgia area. They were called Seminoles, named for the Creek word Sim-a-no-le, meaning "runaway". Other sources say the name means "Men of Distant Fires". They lived peacefully with their cattle and respected the natural order of things, which is more than can be said of the white men. Under Spanish rule they were allowed to settle peacefully and build villages, raise crops or have ranches. They seemed to assimilate the best parts of the other various Indian cultures and were not warlike unless provoked.

When Spain controlled Florida, the Seminoles were citizens of Spain but when Florida was transferred to England, many Timucuan, Calusas, Apalachees and others left for Cuba and other Spanish islands. The Seminoles, however, stayed and became faithful subjects of England. Many of them lived along the St. Sebastian River.

The Seminole Wars (or Wars for Seminole Removal) lasted from 1834 to 1842 due in part to the first Provincial Governor of the Territory, Andrew Jackson's hatred and treatment of the Seminoles as well as partly due just to greed. The Indians were not all removed but many were pushed back into the southern interior of Florida. The Indians had been peaceful until their lands were threatened. These Indians, as other tribes in our country, had no chance and were hunted, forcibly removed and treated unfairly by the United States. During 1845 the Army regularly scouted the St. Sebastian area for Indians. The numbers declined but a few survived and stayed.

### Seminoles

*You are the People of hidden places.  
Behind your dark guarded eyes  
Are the secrets of the Everglades  
And the mysteries of the jungles.  
Your ears hear the song of the land  
And your hearts know the language of the night.  
You know the prophecies of the stars  
And the warnings whispered by the wind.  
You read the book of the seasons  
And know the blooming of flowers  
And the fruitage of the trees.  
You trust the moccasin of the river  
Or the rattlesnake of the pines  
More than you trust the white aliens  
Who came among you like a scourge.  
You are children of the Earth  
And god-children of the Sun  
And the moody Moon.  
You move among us, silent and distrustful,  
Like creatures of the wood,  
Bright in your vivid garments,  
Like gay plumage of jungle-birds  
Or the scaled patterns of the coral-snake.  
Keep to the Hidden Places, Oh, Seminoles.  
Trust the spider, the moccasin. Trust the hawk.  
There is no peace in our gifts.  
There is death in our friendship.*

*by Don Blanding in Floridays*

## FLORIDA'S MANY FLAGS

### Spanish

In 1513, Ponce de Leon first visited Florida. He named the land Florida because of Easter, the season of Pascua Florida or 'Flowery Easter', according to Born in the Sun.<sup>3</sup> There were earlier white men who came to this land from the late 1400's but no records were left. One of these early adventurers could have been Columbus. The first map showing Florida was made in 1502. In 1521 Ponce de Leon returned to establish a plantation colony for Spain. This was the first attempt to relocate in the New World. Other adventurers followed like Hernando de Soto, Panfilo de Narvaez, and Tristan de Luna. These first white men did not find the gold they were seeking but did find military and political recognition and helped in the Spanish claim to Florida.

Spain's conquests in Central America gave that nation much gold and silver. To take these treasures back to their king they had to pass near the east coast of Florida. Severe storms sank many of their vessels much to the delight of pirates and others. One of the worst disasters was in 1715 when 11 ships known as the Silver Fleet or Flota de la Plata wrecked off our coast.

### France

Soon France became interested in Florida and sent Jean Ribaut and Rene de Goulaine de Landoniere to establish colonies for religious freedom as a cover so that Frenchmen could also prey on the Spanish Plate Fleet and return the wealth to France. This angered the Spaniards so they sent Pedro Menendez de Aviles to fight the French and establish a haven for shipwrecked sailors. In 1565 he established St. Augustine, the first permanent settlement in the United States. He got rid of the French by an effective series of massacres.

France later retaliated and reclaimed some of her land, but Spain still advanced in her conquest of Florida.

### English

The English decided to press their claim on Florida and laid siege to Spanish forts. This was the beginning of the end for Spain in Florida. Although Spain and France joined forces to repel the English, Florida was given to England in 1763 under the Treaty of Paris. The terms of the treaty included an exchange of Florida for Cuba as the English had captured Cuba just for this trade as a last resort in their hope of acquiring Florida

Economic progress became better under the British rule. Florida "forged ahead toward peace and prosperity and during the twenty years under the British flag progressed more than three

centuries of Spanish control", wrote A. Hyatt Verrill in Romantic and Historic Florida.<sup>4</sup> Indians hated the English more than the Spanish for some reason, even though the English were better to the Indians than the Spanish. Maybe the Indians just enjoyed the flamboyance of the Spanish more.

When the Revolutionary War began, thousands of Royalists from Georgia, the Carolinas and further north fled to Florida for the first "Florida boom".

### Spain Again

Just as the English settled in for the long haul, Spain captured the British Bahamas in 1783. To regain the islands England gave Florida back to Spain. Florida always seemed to be a barter item. England had also lost out in her bid for the 13 colonies so this was another reason to give up her designs on Florida. She has since regretted making the trade of Florida for the Bahamas. Following the trade many English moved to the Bahamas from Florida.

When Spain was in control of Florida again, it was said that things went from bad to worse. In the early 1800's due to pressures at home, Spain and the United States began negotiations to transfer Florida to the United States.

### United States in Control

Spain handed Florida to the United States in 1819 for \$5,000,000. The United States relinquished all rights to Texas in this deal. No money changed hands as Spain owed the U. S. all that amount and more.

Congress created the Territory of Florida with Andrew Jackson as the first Provisional Governor. Our part of this territory was named Mosquito County.

Partly due to Andy Jackson's treatment and hatred of the Indians and the "greed" of settlers, the Seminole Wars of Indian Removal lasted from 1834 to 1842. They did not remove them all but pushed a large portion of them into the southern interior.

The Seminole Wars helped clear the way for white settlement and several other factors contributed to the influx of white men specially in this area. The first was the passing of the "Armed Occupation of 1842", a Government act that gave 160 acres to any settler who could hold that land for seven years. Although designed to help move the Indian out of Florida, it also caused many people to move to Florida.

Florida became a state in 1845. When Civil War came in 1861, Florida was first to secede from the Union and declared herself to be a "sovereign and independent nation".

### Steamboats

Perhaps the main reason in this period that settlement was increased was the steamboats. Before the power boats, most commerce and passengers had been served by sail boats. River travel by steamboat began in the early 1800's and opened up many areas including this part of Florida.

"One of the most romantic and colorful aspects of the history of Brevard County and the Indian River is the tie connected with the steamboat life and the river transportation industry of earlier days." So says Fred A. Hopwood in Steamboating on the Indian River.<sup>5</sup>

"Handsome little steamers gliding up and down the Indian River and in and out of its tributaries and inlets, with black clouds of smoke from their lightwood fuel billowing from their stacks, soon quickened and gladdened life all along the river, where pioneer farmers, citrus-men and pineapple growers, trappers, sportsmen, naturalists and adventurers had earlier been drawn",<sup>5</sup> he further states.

The "golden steamboat era" came between the years 1880 and 1899. The first steamboat was the Pioneer but before the period was over more than two hundred boats cruised the Indian River. To name a few: Indian River, Progress, S. V. White, St. Augustine, St. Sebastian, St. Lucie, Georgiana, Santa Lucia and Sweeney. Titusville was the county seat of Brevard County and most of the river boats covering the southern area sailed from this city. Sidney Lanier in his book Florida, Its Scenery, Climate and History mentions that the Pioneer was making trips from Titusville to Sebastian on Monday and Wednesday of each week at the end of the nineteenth century.<sup>6</sup>

On the Indian River along what is now Route 1 were settlements like Lyrata, Lagrange, Pace's Landing, Carlile's Landing, Sand Point, Magnolia Point, City Point, Indian River City, Coquina Bonaventure, Pineda, Hartland, Bahia, Goshen, Sarno, Tillman, Chipco (later called Micco) and Rio. Many of these communities are no longer on the maps, but in the "steamboat days" were thriving towns where the boats stopped to deliver and pick up freight, mail and people.

To describe a few of the boats: the St. Sebastian steamboat was 130 feet long and 24 feet wide, fitted with carpeting all over, with fine staterooms. The Florida Times-Union described this ship as the handsomest steamboat ever seen in Florida

waters. The St. Sebastian ended her service to this area in 1895 and then moved to the Lake Worth area. In 1898 she hauled munitions to Key West in the Spanish-American War. She ended her career as a ferry at Fernandina. The Rockledge was considered the Queen of the Indian River and was the flagship of the Indian River Steamboat Company.

There were several ways travelers could get to the Micco area, before the railroad was built all the way south, and before the Haulover Canal was dug, thereby making it possible to travel from Jacksonville to Miami along the Inland Waterway. When the railroad was servicing Palatka from Jacksonville, travelers could take the train to Palatka and get on a steamer from there to Sanford, Lake Poinsett or Enterprise. Then they could ride on a mule or horse-pulled wagon over sand roads often in waist or ankle-deep water to Titusville. This part of the trip would take about 15 hours. Halfway there would be a stop to rest the animals and get dinner. Then from Titusville south they could ride the steamers.

Small boats could be portaged over the sand bar separating the Mosquito Lagoon from the Indian River which was called Haulover. A delay to the development of the Indian River was caused by the lack of a navigable opening to the Indian River from the Halifax River, Banana River and Mosquito Lagoon.

The steamers, however, were the main transportation. There were no paved roads or railroads coming south, so steamboats were the most comfortable means of travel. Sidney Lanier states that "Without the tremendous downstream passenger and express business supplied by the early steamboats, it is unlikely that the southeast Florida coast, including Brevard County, would have witnessed so rapid a development."<sup>6</sup>

Steamboating left much to be desired from the passengers' viewpoint. They spoke of fumes from the stacks leaking into the cabins disrupting sleep, being soaked with spray from the paddles and burned by sparks from the stacks. But steamboating was interesting as travelers passed wilderness that had yet to be invaded, and sea birds of all kinds. The water abounded with fish and at night the stirring of the water produced exciting phosphorescence. At each stop they could enjoy the life along the river by mingling with the local residents and watching the exchange of goods. Many travelers would shoot birds for sport as they cruised by.

For the residents of Brevard County along the route of these steamboats, there was special excitement when they heard the "deep, melodious whistles of the boats".<sup>5</sup> Each gave a different sound that distinguished it from the others. Most captains sounded the horns day or night and an early resident could be lying in bed in the middle of the night and be able to say, "That

is the Santa Lucia" or "That is the St. Sebastian". It was much the same as peddlers calling when the boats stopped at the remote communities. At places where no dock existed the people would row out to the boat to buy supplies. Children, though few in number, looked forward to the arrival of the supply boats, as they could go aboard and usually were rewarded with candy or something equally valuable to young ones.

A lot of the mail was delivered by sail boats and this was true to some extent up to 1926 when Cocoa Beach was still getting mail that way. However, in competition with the steamboats the sail boats finally acquired gasoline-powered engines.

Steamboats began their decline around 1894 as the railroads offered better and faster services.

### Railroads

Railroads had a profound effect on the settlement of Florida and particularly on Brevard County. In 1893 Henry Flagler was pushing his railroad south to Titusville, Cocoa and Rockledge and during that year the railroad bridge across the St. Sebastian River was completed. When the first train rolled into Sebastian, things changed a lot. It helped the fishing industry, made mail delivery more efficient, and made communication all over Florida much easier.

Continuous railway service was completed between Jacksonville and Miami in 1896. Another small railroad between Sebastian and Fellsmere, important only to local residents, also began service that year. The overseas railroad to Key West was completed in 1912. Florida was ready for industry and tourists.

### Crackers

It is fascinating to learn about those early pioneers. Who would want to subject themselves to the hordes of blood-sucking mosquitoes and sand flies in such a wild land? They were an interesting people who came for many reasons. There was an abundance of game, fish, shellfish, a warm climate and lots of sunshine. It was in the days before the swamps were drained so traveling overland was difficult. Panthers, wildcats, bears, alligators and snakes were plentiful. As in any pioneer community, neighbors helped neighbors and there was a closeness.

The early residents were called "Crackers". This is a term hard to define, although many have tried. Some say that it meant just a Florida-born native but this was not always true.

John Keasler said, in Born of the Sun, "A Cracker is inclined to gamble, and knows when it is going to rain."<sup>3</sup>

Crackers ate grits, collard greens, heart of palm, stewed gopher tortoise, guinea fowls, chickens, cornmeal, wild meat, gravy, sweet potatoes and sugar cane.

The term "cracker" derives from the cracking of a whip. Rawhide bullwhips were used when working animals in the turpentine and timber industries. According to William Ervin,<sup>20</sup> they used medicinal remedies that were at hand, like panther oil, to ease stiff joints, quinine to cure malaria and all sorts of teas and brews from native plants to offer remedies for ills. They observed the Indians' use of plants for medicinal purposes and other things. The palmetto offered protection from wind and sun, the dried wood could be used for fuel for fires, and palmetto berries could ease a sore throat. Even though bears, birds and other wildlife would react in a crazy manner when eating these berries, the settlers found them effective and intoxicating. They also used the loufah - the young pods were food, the foliage and pods were fodder for animals, and once dried, the pod could be used as a sponge for cleaning and bathing. From the pine tree they got turpentine and tar to be used as cough syrup, dressing for wounds and insect repellent.

These early settlers farmed, fished and hunted. Wild turkeys were abundant as were bear, deer, and other animals. They raised citrus in an area well-suited to that endeavor. Some collected the wild cattle left by the Spaniards or they stole cattle from the Seminoles who raised them. Some hunted turtles especially for the eggs, but often they had to compete with the bears. The plume trade was a big industry at this time. The "Plumers" or white hunters using shotguns would kill all nesting birds in the rookeries during the spring when plumes were the best and leave the ground covered with hatchlings, chicks and dying birds, according to Born of The Sun.<sup>3</sup> The Roseate Spoonbill on Pelican Island, though seldom found there today, was killed for plumes for ladies' fans. It was known that 60 were shot in one day there. The Seminoles seldom participated as they were more concerned with their feeling of oneness with nature. In 1900 the laws changed and the plume trade ended.

Just to mention a few of the early pioneers that came to this area: August Park moved from Germany to Sebastian in 1865. He lived on Barker's Bluff in the Sebastian area and operated a trading boat on the Indian River. He was one of the first permanent settlers in Indian River County. Robert Toombs Smith and brother Charles Smith from Georgia homesteaded on the barrier island in 1885. When they first came, they worked at the only industry in Melbourne Beach - pineapple fields. Then they homesteaded 160 acres of their own five miles north of the Sebastian Inlet across the river from Grant. They raised sweet potatoes, collards, cabbage and beans and always kept their guns handy for protection from panthers, bobcats and other wild

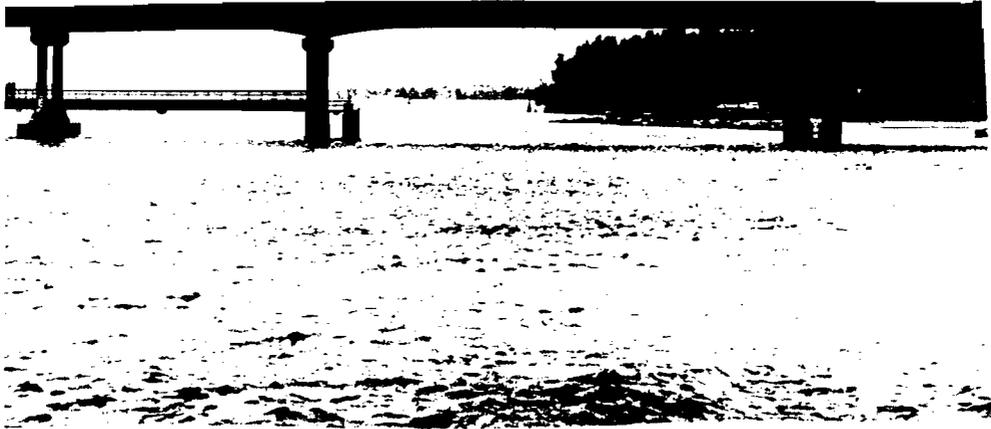
animals. They had just a crude cabin roofed with palm fronds. The men married later and then built a two story house about 1898. The first child born to Robert and Elizabeth Wells Smith was Laura Hiott who was born in 1900. Laura told later how the Indian River was muddy and dirty. She used to go to the river shore early in the morning to pick up sunrise shells, fiddler crabs and coquina shells. Her mother made soup with the coquinas. Fish were plentiful in the Indian River. Smith fished for a living, but the main thing was his bean crop. He shipped beans to Chicago, New York, Atlanta and other large cities. He actually shipped beans to Franklin Delano Roosevelt when he was governor of New York and when Roosevelt became President, the beans were shipped directly to the White House.

Dempsey Cain, an Irishman from Georgia, moved to part of the Cameron acres on the west side of the railroad tracks. More about him later.

All those early residents were adversely affected by the yellow fever epidemic in 1888 and the serious "big freeze" of 1895.

#### Spanish Moss

Spanish moss, "old man's beard" is in the Bromelaceae family like the pineapple. It does not live off the tree -- just hangs in there and will not kill the tree unless it gets too heavy. Moss blocks out sunlight so some ground plants can exist. Birds use it for roosting, nesting and rearing of young. Raccoons and squirrels make use of the moss for nests and protective cover. In 1936, they had gins for drying and combing the moss they sold. It was collected by hand with the help of a hook, piled in heaps and buried in shallow pits to let the gray outer cover rot away and leave the black, tough part. This was used for horse collars, railroad coach seats, mattresses and chairs. Moss was packed around citrus in shipping for protection of the fruit. Spanish moss may be dying out due to pollution. Florida would not look the same without this adornment.



Sebastian Inlet



Near Sebastian Inlet

### Sebastian Inlet

Attempts were made over the years to dig an inlet from the Ocean to the Indian River where the present day Sebastian Inlet provides access to the ocean for fishermen. The Reverend Thomas New was the first man to try to dig that passageway. He convinced some others to help him dig at a narrow point opposite Sebastian on the barrier island. The group of men only had a shovel and wheelbarrow. The trench called the "New Cut" quickly filled in with sand. Another resident, Captain David Gibson (of questionable reputation) tried again unsuccessfully five years later and this was named "Gibson's Cut. Captain Gibson lived on the barrier island with three wives (all at the same time), which was illegal, and when the police tried to catch up to him he fought back and secluded himself and his wives in an inaccessible area on the island.

There were several times that natural cuts formed and were closed again by wave action on a regular basis. Mother Nature has a way of claiming back her own just as with the spoil islands in the Indian River which were formed when the channel was dug. There have already been two such dredgings and local residents feel that with another hurricane there will be the need for another one.

The Sebastian Inlet was destined to be a reality to help the residents of Micco and Sebastian have ocean access and later to provide recreational areas for the residents of Little Hollywood. Roy Couch, of well-drilling fame, who designed pumps to drain swamps, became interested in cutting the Inlet at Gibson's Point where the Inlet is today. Charles Sembler I and many other men helped operate the dredge. Wave action filled up the cut as nature is a powerful force.

The Inlet District was formed in 1918. Due in part to floating dredges and the jetties, the Sebastian Inlet opened successfully in 1919.<sup>33</sup> This changed the fishing industry as sports fishing replaced much of the river fishing. The lines of small fish houses with nets drying decreased.

Charles William Sembler I was one of the men who helped dig the Sebastian Inlet. Charles William Sembler II, present state legislator for Indian River County and Little Hollywood is his great-grandson. Charles II, who is the grandson of Bruce and Margaret Harlan, lived in Little Hollywood as a boy, the son of Charles Day and Paige Harlan Sembler.

## THE CENTURY TURNS

### Description - 1900's

The turn of the century brought big changes to this part of Florida and eventually to Little Hollywood.

In the early 1900's no bridges spanned the Indian River. Ducks were everywhere from shore to shore. Schools of mullet churned the water and tall cabbage palms and Australian pines grew along the Indian River in the Sebastian and Micco areas. Piers, racks for drying nets, fish houses and crab-picking shacks were along the river banks. The St. Sebastian River was dotted with boats of all kinds because of the nearness of the Sebastian Inlet which gave access to the Atlantic Ocean. Micco was peaceful, but busy. People were beginning to retire to this area.

Panthers were common in the early 1900's, according to the Hume family. Bounty hunters were hired in the 1930's to help the cattlemen, as the panthers killed the cattle. There was a panther near the Hume home as late as the 1960's. They often heard the panther screaming like a woman late at night but did not go out to check. They tell a story of the bridge tender on the north side of the Sebastian bridge who heard a noise in the bushes and shone his light into the face of a panther one night. No one knew who was the most scared and both took off in different directions. Foxes and deer were usually further back in the swampy areas. Rattlesnakes were abundant, especially in the groves. It was said in the Cabell Grove that if they did not get one rattler per day they were disappointed. Alligators were plentiful, particularly west in the marshy areas. No one paid much attention to them, according to the Humes.

### Love in the Everglades

*There once was an old alligator  
Who said of his mate, "How I hate her,  
She's ugly as sin with warts on her chin.  
How in heck did I happen to mate her?"  
Then said the she-alligator  
As she felt hot anger inflate her,  
"Now I'm not imbued with the thoughts of a prude,  
Your morals are lewd and your love-making crude.  
Your manners are rude. And need I allude  
To the scent you exude...like cabbages stewed?  
Though you think you're a dude of great pulchritude  
And your dewlaps are chewed. I think perhaps you'd  
Be all right as a food with a sauce, barbecued.  
I have great fortitude but I'm not in the mood  
For a fight nor a feud. I prefer solitude. You intrude!"  
So enraged was the he-alligator that he roared, "agitator"..  
And ate her.*



*by Don Blanding*

Manatees were a food animal. Early in the morning the men would go out to the old wooden bridge across the St. Sebastian River and harpoon the manatees as they came swimming under the bridge. They would tie a keg on the end of the line and let them drag it out into the Indian River to tire out. Then they would shoot them with 30.30 rifles and tow them up the Sebastian River to the railroad bridge, pull them ashore and butcher them. There was a \$500 fine even then, but as the Humes said, "The sheriff was in Titusville and who was to catch them?" Manatees were tough meat, so the hunters would wrap the meat in papaya leaves and tenderize it in papaya juice for 24 hours before cooking.

Many bears lived on the barrier island opposite Micco and Sebastian and were hunted for meat. They also competed with the settlers for game. James Hume tells of his family arriving in this area in 1923 and staying with a family named Ashley. A Mr. Brunch killed a bear for that first meal. Another story could have been Mr. Brunch's last bear story. He met two bears and had only one bullet left in his gun. He killed the first bear with that remaining shot, but the second bear was angered and charged Mr. Brunch. Trying to outrun that angry bear he tripped over a piece of lumber. He realized this was his only weapon as the bear was about to attack him, so he picked up the lumber and swung at the bear killing him with one blow.

Wild hogs roamed the area. They were descendants of the domestic pigs who escaped from earlier settlers.

Surrounding areas were also destined for change. In 1912 Fellsmere had 12 houses. Wabasso had citrus groves, packing houses and a sawmill. The Guale Indians migrated to this area from Ossabaw Island in Georgia. Wabasso is Ossabaw spelled backwards.

Vero Beach was isolated for many years from the interior of Florida due to dense hammock undergrowth, marshlands, and thickly wooded sections called "scrubs". But in the early 1900's a road penetrated this hostile environment and opened up settlement west of Vero Beach. Truck gardens, cattle ranches, lumber mills and citrus groves were started. McKee Jungle Gardens opened in 1931 with 80 acres and 2500 varieties of tropical flora.

Fort Pierce was a shipping port and grew citrus, vegetables and pineapple.

In other areas of the state, Key West was the haunt of Hemingway; Daytona Beach auto races began on the beach; Teddy Roosevelt drilled his Rough Riders behind the luxurious Tampa Bay Hotel, and most interesting, the green fees for the Miami

Country Club were only \$1.00. The WPA Guide describes Florida in the 1930's as boisterous and beautiful.<sup>7</sup>

### Micco Changes

Changes began to take place in our Micco area after Frank Smith became the first settler in 1877. Small industries were started, groves were planted, fishing became more lucrative, and the tourists began to look at this area for fun and relaxation and a great "getaway".

Much of the development of Micco could be told with the story of the Bertelsens. Danish Sea Captains Peter Bertelsen along with Peter Koller and Frank Foster (old ferry captains no longer needed in that business) were among Micco's earliest residents who arrived in 1886. Captain Bertelsen was a sailing master for the Red Star Line for many years. The three men came to Titusville by train and then bought a large sailboat for the trip south. At first Bertelsen lived off the land, planted orange groves and opened a tourist home.

Captain Bertelsen and his wife Ida Swanson Bertelsen were important figures in connection with the Post Office in Micco (Once known as Chipco). The Post Office opened in 1884 with John Bowie as the first Postmaster. Ida Bertelsen was the Postmistress of Micco from 1900 to 1936. After that, Emma Bertelsen Jordan, their daughter, kept the job until 1955. The first Post Office was in their home in the early years and later moved to a separate building. Emma remembered how the mail came down the river on steamboats before the advent of the Florida East Coast Railroad. Robert Hume, who came to Micco in the early 1920's, remembers when the mail was thrown from the train as it sped through the town. He sometimes worked as mail messenger, retrieving the mail pouches from the ditch alongside the tracks. In 1916 a "mail messenger", what a postal carrier was called back then, was paid \$25.50 for a three-month period. The job entailed placing the mail on the mail crane beside the tracks and retrieving the mail pouches thrown from the train. Old Peter Bertelsen was often seen riding his horse and buggy for the mail. Kids would follow him back to the Post Office and adults gathered, as it was prime social time for the community.

Emma Jordan lived to be eighty-eight. She had a strong character and will. She never had a telephone or a television and seldom used electric lights. Friends say she would eat her evening meal before nightfall, then sit in a rocking chair in her bedroom in the darkness. She had radios in the house but never listened to them after her husband died. She made only two concessions to "being modern". She had indoor plumbing and she read a newspaper every day. The first thing she turned to were the obituaries. So says Weona Cleveland in a Florida Today article, probably after talking to the Humes, as they were

closest to Emma Jordan and inherited the postal records when she died.<sup>8</sup>

Micco no longer has a Post Office due to cuts in federal funds in the 1950's, but residents are working to re-instate our historical Micco name on a new facility.

Dr. David Rose was the first resident doctor in the Sebastian area and at first made house calls on horseback in a wide area, including Micco. He rode his horse through palmettos and scrub brush to treat anyone who was in need, including some of the railroad track and bridge builders who often got into fights, were bitten by snakes or had other medical problems. When there were roads, he used a horse and buggy. Later he drove the first automobile in Sebastian. It was a Model T and had a red cross on the radiator ornament.

The Hume family were involved in and contributed much to the life of Micco from 1917 to the present day when members are often giving interviews on the history of Micco and Grant. They spend a lot of time at the Grant Historical House where they are guides for this interesting piece of history.

Bob and James Hume's parents, Alfred and Moria Ellen, were born in England and moved to Canada. They bought one of those famous Florida properties (that was mostly under water) in Boynton Beach. Disappointed with his first Florida venture, Mr. Hume went to West Virginia to mine coal. There he met Mr. Cabell who hired him to work in his groves in the Micco area in 1923. The Humes also boarded school teachers in their home many times and Mrs. Hume was involved in the Micco school in many ways. Bob and James grew up in Micco and still live there. Bob and wife Florence are active in many civic endeavors and James and wife Rosemary pursue art in many forms. Rosemary is a very talented sculptress and painter. She has done bronze figures of all the Seminole chiefs and gives fascinating lectures on the Seminoles. James did a "walking tape around Micco" as he is interested in preserving the past of this community.<sup>9</sup>

### Roads, Bridges and Ferries

The first wooden railroad bridge was built across the St. Sebastian River in 1893 by the Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Indian River Railroad. It had a "draw" so large boats could use the river. In 1926 a new steel and cement railroad bridge was built at the same spot by the Virginia Bridge and Iron Company.

Very likely, the first road through the Little Hollywood-Micco area was a single-lane sand and rut road from the ferry landing on the north shore of the St. Sebastian River, along the bank to the Indian River where it turned north. Roads were built around 1908, when the first automobiles were used in



Bass Point  
Site of Old Wooden Bridge  
Across St. Sebastian River



Indian River Looking Toward  
Barrier Island and ALA

Florida. That first road was eventually called Dixie Highway. (Dixie Highway was completed, Maine to Miami, in 1915.) Later a second lane was added and the ruts were filled with shell. The ferry was replaced by a wooden bridge in 1909.

Prior to that first wooden bridge was a self-service ferry. The ferry crossing was located on the Roseland side about where 135th Street ends. No information is available where the ferry landed on the north side of the river. Travelers drove cars or other vehicles onto a barge, with a hinged flange on each end, that slid upon the sand when landing. Making sure it was secure, drivers propelled it across the river by pulling the wires or cable that were fastened from one side to the other. If, however, the barge was on the opposite side when a traveler arrived, he had to walk up the river bank to the railroad bridge, cross it, and walk down the other side to the ferry so he could bring it back across. Imagine the traveler's frustration if he made that long walk to get the ferry and meanwhile, another traveler from the other direction had already propelled the ferry across the river. There must have been a path made by the travelers in this long trek along the river banks -- right through what would later become Little Hollywood.

Eventually, they had a ferry attendant and horses pulled the ferry back and forth. The first ferry operator was Bob Bowles. It is not certain when the ferry first began operation, but Cora Sadler tells us it was operating in 1901 when her family first arrived in this area.

The first bridge across the St. Sebastian for vehicles was built in 1909. The location of this bridge was up the river a short distance from where the bridge is today. It crossed from Bass Point on the Roseland side to Eugene Warner's property on Riverview Drive where the old pilings still exist today. C. G. Redstone built this wooden structure and claimed he lost \$300 in building the bridge. After a new bridge was built in 1925, the old bridge was "torn down some, some faded away and the hurricanes and storms got the rest." So says Bob Hume.

As traffic increased, the first cement bridge was built in 1925 and the highway was surfaced. During the surfacing of this road, traffic was detoured west on Micco Road and just before the tracks the detour turned south, staying about half way between Dixie Highway and the railroad (the railroad angled or veered off in a more westerly direction). When the detour crossed what is now Main Street it made a bend to the left, crossing the wooden bridge in the vicinity of the area now called Micco Park.

There were other small roads (or ruts) into the interior west of Micco and what is now Little Hollywood as the logging and turpentine industries required access.

In 1955, the Florida Turnpike was begun.

Again as traffic increased even more, the bridge was four-laned in 1957 by building a second cement bridge and adding two southbound lanes, taking the front yards of many Micco residents and requiring many homes and other buildings to be torn down. The older two lanes were resurfaced making them into the northbound roadway. About this time Dixie Highway (or Old Dixie Highway as it was called by then) was changed to U. S. 1.

Micco residents felt that the highway should have gone behind their property to the west, and many were willing to donate land so that could be done, but the state turned down the idea.

### Schools

There were two schools in the Little Hollywood-Micco area in the early 1900's: the Fleming Grant School and the Micco School. Both schools had grades from one through eight. After that, students went to Melbourne to the Ruth Henegar High School.

The Fleming Grant School was a one-room school built on property donated by James Grant, located near Thompson Road on the Fleming Grant Road. Later it was moved to Micco Road next to what is now Beck's Garage and is presently a green, asbestos shingled residence. One of the teachers, Marie Abernathy Braddock tells of teaching at the Fleming Grant School in the 1921-22 term. She would walk from Roseland, where she lived, across the railroad bridge, then through the woods, to the school. She taught mostly Cain, Grant and Stokes children.

Micco School was also a one-room school and had only one teacher. It was located on Micco Road where Beck's Garage stands. James M. Hearndon II had given the property to the School Board so they could build the school. It was on a cleared, sand lot and had two outhouses, one for boys and one for girls. The Humes boarded teachers from this school in their home and Mrs. Moria Ellen Hume was involved in the Micco School in many ways.

The small schools were closed in 1935 in this area of Brevard County and all the children were bused to Melbourne to school.

### Shopping

James Wilson opened one of the first grocery stores in Micco in the early 1920's near the railroad tracks on the north side of Micco Road. He later sold the business to Mr. Mosley who operated it for many years before it finally burned.

After the Mosley store was gone, Mrs. H. W. Ashley (not related to the Ashley gang), started a business in the old Micco Garage on Micco Road, not far from U. S. 1. She sold gas, had a mechanic and also sold a limited variety of groceries. Residents could also go to Grant at this time for shopping, as this community had two small grocery stores, including the one that is still in business today on U. S. 1.

Later, the Last Chance Store was opened for business. It was located at Micco Road and U. S. 1 at the present location of the Cumberland Farm Store.

### Churches

There were few churches in Micco in the early 1900's. An Episcopal Church was built there in 1920 on land given by Mrs. Charles Cabell of the Chief Micco Groves. The congregation was small, often only about 10 people. The church was built of cement block with a tile roof. It closed in 1932 or 1933 and was burned by a young boy later, after it was abandoned.

Both the Methodists and Baptists used the Micco School for Sunday afternoon services.

A Sanctified Church for Negroes was located out Micco Road, on the north side. It were not open for worship all the time and had only itinerant preachers. Music was often bongos and horns. "Great music", so says James Hume, who, as a boy, used to stop nearby and listen. Later, a permanent black church was built.

### Mosquitoes

Residents should not complain about a few mosquitoes around Little Hollywood in these modern times with airplane and truck spraying, repellants, and screens. In the old days there was a real problem.

The early settlers in the area burned smudge pots in the yard and the women wore gunny sacks over their legs and a net over their faces when they hung up clothes or went out for other reasons. Men would line the inside of their trousers with newspapers. Everyone carried a mosquito switch (a piece of pine or palmetto, often shredded and about two feet long) to shoo the insects from their bodies. The mosquito brush was always kept

outside the screen door so, upon entering one could brush off the pests. Flit guns were used and often screens would be painted with kerosene and motor oil, especially for the sand flies or "no-see-ums". After countless coatings of insect repellent oils the screens would no longer let air come in.

In 1865, Secretary of War John C. Breckinridge said after a visit to this area, "I cannot give you an adequate idea of these insects. They attacked us, not two or three at a time, but in swarms and incessantly the whole night long. Both hands were kept going and still they bit us. With his arms tied and his face exposed, I am sure they would kill a man in two nights".

The fishermen put lanterns on the end of their mullet nets when they "choked mullet" with their gill nets. Then the nets would be turned loose to float and the fishermen would cruise off somewhere until the fish got tangled in the nets. Sometimes the mosquitoes were so bad that the air would be cut off from the lanterns and the lights would go out.

Children made a game of the plague of insects. Remember how youngsters played, making shadows with their hands? These children had fun putting their hands on the inside of the screen and the mosquitoes would gather to bite those hands. When the kids took their hands away, there would be the hand imprint on the screen of nothing but mosquitoes. Who needed television in those days?

Mosquitoes were so bad that the cows would wade out into the St. Sebastian River at night for protection. They would go deep enough so just the head and neck was out of water and there they would spend the night, just shaking their heads.

Bob Hume said they would use Bee Brand Insect Powder. It was poured out in a lid and smelled bad. It worked for shooing them away, but not to keep them from biting and it would not kill them. They also had Flytox, Gulf Spray and Flit.

James Hume was the first mosquito sprayer hired by the county. He used a pulse jet on a Model A truck in the early 1950's and fogged the area, using DDT and diesel.

The Humes told several good stories about mosquitoes. They said the strong muscular ones would push the little brothers through the woven wire of the screen doors so they could unlock the door and let the bigger ones in. If you believe that one, maybe you will believe this next one. They told me if you took a 10 -quart bucket and swung it around at arm's length one time and if it was not half full of mosquitoes, then they were not bad that day.

Don Blanding said: "There's a law of nature I'd like to veto.....It's the life and love of the damn mosquito." 10

## Citrus

Colonel Thomson Dummit (or Dummett) and son, Captain Douglas Dummit sailed past the Haulover area in 1807 and smelled the orange blossoms. Citrus pulp and seed tossed over from Spanish ships from the Mediterranean as early as 1567 had taken root and flourished on Merritt Island and groves of oranges were growing wild by the mid-1700's. The Dummits realized the potential and brought budwood from orange trees planted by the Spanish near St. Augustine. They grafted the wild Merritt Island trees and started a grove. After a terrible freeze in 1895 most other groves were wiped out but Merritt Island has protection from the cold, as it is bordered on both sides by bodies of water, so the groves survived there. Douglas Dummit was a familiar figure in a dugout canoe on the Indian River in those days. He shipped citrus north to St. Augustine in huge dugouts.

Soon the citrus business spread when businessmen saw how lucrative it was and how sweet the oranges along the Indian River were. The Sotille family, originally from Miami, came to Micco in the late 1950's or early 60's and started a ranch for cattle and citrus. It soon became the largest citrus grove in operation in Brevard County, extending three miles wide and stretching 18 miles west into the wilds of Florida.

The Williamson family owned a large grove that would become Barefoot Bay, one of the largest mobile home subdivisions in the nation. Mr. Williamson planted the seedling grove that 100 years later towered over the land near the Hume home. Williamson sold to the Couch family. Mr. and Mrs. Couch, Sr. lived in the first prefabricated house that was shipped from New York by barge and ox cart in the late 1800's. The Humes remember it had 10 foot-ceilings and two fireplaces. One day when "old man" Couch was clearing brush on a creek bank, a fire got to him and burned him badly before he could be saved. He died in that house. The story goes that at the time of his death Mrs. Couch told the Indians who had always come for visits, not to come any more as she did not want them around. They never came back. The Couch son, Royden Oester began the Couch Manufacturing Company in Grant.

Mr. Charles Cabell bought the grove, home and surrounding land from the Couch family and developed it into a thing of beauty. The house was built of coquina rock that was hauled down from the Titusville area, chipped and carved to make blocks. It was a showplace he could bring his rich northern friends to and show what he had done. Two hundred acres were in citrus. Cabell named it the Chief Micco Grove as the Indians came south for fishing during the winter months and camped on the north side of Couch Creek. He spared no expenses and even had avocados, mangoes and coconut trees which can no longer be grown in this area. He even had a power house on Couch Creek and generated

110-volt current, later to become a hydro plant for the packing house and five other buildings. Then in the 1940's Florida Power and Light came in.

The Hume family came to live and work at Cabell Grove and moved into the old Couch home where the Barefoot Bay office is today. Alfred Hume worked for the Cabells for many years. Later, Ray Stosberg bought the Cabell grove.

### Fishing

At the turn of the century, fishing was excellent, but since the Inlet conditions were not dependable, it was mostly river fishing. Cabell, owner of Chief Micco Groves also operated a fishing business. A 1000-foot dock reached out into the Indian River at the same location as the Barefoot Bay dock today. Cabell built a wooden track for a trolley or push carts to take out ice and bring back fish. A two-story fish house was on the north side of the dock. When the railroad came in, fish were shipped north by train. Prior to the railroad the fish were shipped by boat. Weak fish or speckled trout, caught in the Indian River were so large and plentiful that many fish houses would not buy the large ones unless they could be bent to get them into the barrel.

Five generations of Semblers have operated a fishing business in Sebastian. Edwin Sembler and his partner, T. B. Hicks moved from Titusville to this area to start the fishing business.

River fishermen would leave their docks in the late afternoon, fish all night, and return at dawn to count the catch and dry their nets to be ready for the next day. A thousand to 1500 fish was a good haul. Fish were then packed in ice and shipped north. Ice had to come from Fellsmere or Fort Pierce in the early days.

The crabbing industry became important after World War II. Oystering was not done commercially in this area, but residents could get enough for dinner. The same was true of shrimp as they could get some prawns and grass shrimp out of the rivers for the dinner table before the Inlet was opened, permitting commercial shrimping. Clamming was not done commercially in the early 1900's. It was said that Roy Couch perhaps started some clams near the Inlet by bringing them down from up north.



### Other Industries

Ranching was a way of life in this area as in many parts of Florida. James M. Hearndon had the first and biggest ranch in this area. He was an "old Cracker" who homesteaded west and north of Micco Road and was Cabell's closest neighbor.

Hearndon, originally from Wilmington, North Carolina, came to south Brevard County from Orlando in 1887. He died in 1929 and the cattle and ranchland was taken over by his son, James M. II, who built up his herds and ran cattle all over south Brevard and even into Osceola County. The Hearndons continued to buy land at property tax sales. The original homestead land was sold in 1946 when Mrs. Hearndon died and is now a part of the Corrigan ranch. James II died in 1987 and the Hearndon tradition of ranching was carried on by James M. Hearndon III, known as "Pete" who presently resides on the border of Micco and Grant.

The Hearndon family had acquired property north of Barefoot Bay which was sold in recent years to Avatar, developer of Barefoot Bay, which plans a community of homes there in the future.

James M. Hearndon II had 15 children and there was a problem about schooling, since they lived five miles west of Micco and had to ride horseback each morning to the nearest school in Malabar. So the father moved his brood to Micco Road between what is now U. S. 1 and the railroad tracks, where he built his home. He donated land in 1917 to the county to build a school nearby on the spot where Calvin Beck's Garage now stands just off U. S. 1 on Micco Road. The present James M. Hearndon, "Pete" went to school there.

There was a turpentine still and sawmill down near the railroad tracks in Micco where the cement plant is today. The lumber and turpentine industry were important in helping develop this area.

Frog legs were a big enterprise in Roseland. Tropical fish were raised in many areas nearby.

Alligator hunting for skins and meat was widespread until the "gators" were put on the endangered species list.

Bootleg whiskey and stills were not actually an industry in this area, but they did exist. Men used to bring booze over from Bimini and would try to land at the Cabell dock. Alfred Hume would try to shoo them away, but they would just wait until he slept and then come in anyway. The Humes tell of a mash barrel that sat where the Micco Library is today. It contained 55 gallons of mash. An old gunny sack was thrown over the top of these corn squeezings. One of the old German workers at the Cabell grove, as he left for home each night, would take his

dinner bucket, reach down in that barrel and scoop up the mash, take a good slug of it, fill his jug, and be on his way. As Bob Hume says, "He emptied that cotton-pickin' barrel".

### Tourists and Development

Tourists began to flock to the Micco-Sebastian area, attracted by the nearby waters and good fishing. Hotels were built adding to the life of the area.

The sprawling Ercildoune and Bay Crest Hotels were both located near where the St. Sebastian met the Indian River and were popular winter resort destinations in the early 1900's. The Ercildoune was built by Larry Moore in 1889 in the same area as Flagler planned to put one of his big hotels - upstream on the south bank of the St. Sebastian River. President Theodore Roosevelt stayed at the Ercildoune in 1903. President Cleveland also stayed there and used another name to hide the fact he was there. It was said that Cleveland loved the river near Micco and always arrived there by boat.

The Bay Crest in Micco was located on the riverfront near where the Moose Club is now. It was a large building made of cement block and frame, with hard maple floors. A dock with a gazebo reached into the Indian River. A woman named Mrs. Tucker worked there and had a dog named Shaky Tail. The Bay Crest Hotel closed in 1912 and later burned. The rest was torn down when the highway came through in 1957.

There were three other hotels in the Roseland area: one on Bay Street, one on Berry Street and the Hammond Hotel built in 1923 near the Community Building.

Out on the barrier island the popular hotel for many tourists, especially naturalists and artists was the Oak Lodge run by the much-loved Ma Latham. Wealthy recluses came there if they wanted to live in a tropical wilderness yet enjoy a "good table". The old hotel went up in flames the night that Haleys Comet lit up the sky in 1910. Frank Chapman, the ornithologist, stayed there many times and spent his honeymoon there in 1889.

One of the most interesting stories was about the Carlton Hotel. John and Elizabeth Carlton and nine-year-old son Chester from New York purchased some land up the St. Sebastian River known as Sheepshead Bluff. Elizabeth also had a daughter who was a professional violinist, who visited occasionally. John Carlton began building a house and hotel. He wanted a place in this semi-tropical land where large boats could bring tired businessmen up the St. Sebastian. The bridge opened up for large boats at that time. He hired Dave Dugger from North Carolina to build it. All materials had to be boated up the river and pulled up that high bank. This was to be a southern mansion with four

columns out front, paneling on the inside, a beautiful chandelier and a grand piano. Before it was completed the Carltons ran out of funds and Mr. Carlton went to the District of Columbia to raise some money. At some point he was arrested, tried and convicted and sent to prison for a confidence game. Mrs. Carlton and Chester, now 12, were left alone. Lovely furniture was repossessed and servants left. The wildness of the area frightened Mrs. Carlton and she was very lonely. So she and Chester moved to Roseland. Elizabeth Carlton was said to be mentally ill and had to be institutionalized for awhile. Friends described her as attractive but a sad, thin woman who just would not stop talking. Later, she recovered and returned to Roseland and died there.

Chester later moved back alone to the home on the river. He was always building something. He tore the home down and moved it to Roseland and built another house there. None ever was finished. He was known as "Nature Boy" and the "first hippie" because he was quite a character, often wearing two Mexican hats or other outlandish garb. He was known to be very inventive by those who were more charitable. He remained for awhile in Roseland and tried to install a water system in the town. The story goes that someone offered him a good price for pipes, so he dug pipes up all over Roseland and soon irate residents were coming to his door saying they had no water.

There is a sadness in the air when one goes up the river to Sheepshead Bluff today. The timbers of the house have long since gone. The jungle is slowly wiping out all evidence that anyone lived here. But one can almost feel the loneliness of Elizabeth as she waited for a husband who would never return, as she listened to panthers scream in the night. John Carlton died in prison and Chester finally left Roseland for Brazil in search of another dream --gold -- and died there.

#### Development

Haven Green was a development in Micco built by Julius and L. Eurora Gaines. It was platted on June 30, 1958. The 160 acres in the development was divided into many 75' x 90' lots. He had high hopes and dreams for his houses. They were poorly built and later mismanaged and destined to be bull-dozed down by Barefoot Bay.

Mr. Francis Whitfield, who called himself a black "Realatist" as he could not qualify as a Realtor, tried to sell the houses, but failed. Eventually, Haven Green was auctioned off.

## Brevard County Story

Brevard County presently has 1,031 square miles of land and 279 square miles of water. The elevation of this county is from zero to 26 feet. There are two theories but it is generally believed to have been named for Judge Theodore Brevard who was State Comptroller of Florida in 1861. (the other theory says that maybe it was named for Dr. Brevard of North Carolina, author of His Country's Assertion of Independence from Britain in 1775).

In 1825, Brevard County was included in Mosquito County, one of the seven counties established at that time. Mosquito County stretched from Lake Monroe in the north to Lake Okeechobee in the south and from the Atlantic Ocean to Lake Apopka or the Kissimmee River. The village of Enterprise, on Lake Monroe north of Orlando, was the first county seat.

In 1845, the land that is now Brevard was part of Orange County, St. Lucie County in 1849, Volusia County in 1851, and later Hillsborough County. In 1854 part of Hillsborough County was cut away and became part of Brevard.

When the railroad came through this part of Florida in 1893, Brevard was on both sides of the St. Sebastian River. The Dempsey Cain property on the north bank of the St. Sebastian was considered to be in Roseland at that time.

In 1903, the Brevard borders were established by carving away part of St. Lucie. By 1905 settlers were crowding into the Brevard area. At that time the part of the Sebastian River flowing about 45° to the northeast became the boundary line between Brevard and St. Lucie Counties. Later Indian River County was formed and became Brevard County's neighbor across the St. Sebastian River.

To further complicate the story and hamper historians and surveyors, part of St. Lucie County records were destroyed by fire set by Indians prior to 1838. The Legislature provided that the records of St. Lucie and Mosquito Counties be kept in separate books at St. Augustine. These records from the years 1838 to 1842 have not been located.

## ST. SEBASTIAN RIVER STORY

The St. Sebastian River borders Little Hollywood and plays an important part in the lives of the residents. It was a haven from rough waters in the old days and still is. Technically our river is a major geographical part of the St. John River water system and one of Florida's most water-rich locations and the "principal tributary of the Indian River lagoon...."<sup>28</sup>, according to Brandon Timm of the Sebastian Sun.

Cattails, saw grass, and spider lilies grow along the St. Sebastian River. Wild grapes, pond apples, ferns, cypress knees, wild orchids and willows grow along the banks. Herons, pelicans, cormorants and anhingas feed from or fly over the water. Turtles, snakes, alligators and manatees inhabit the river.

Who sailed, rowed or motored by over the years? Picture the Ais Indians fishing for mullet with their weirs, spearing the alligators, hunting deer, bear, squirrels and turtle. They undoubtedly paddled up the river, camped here and ate shellfish, as even today we find the shells beneath our lawns.

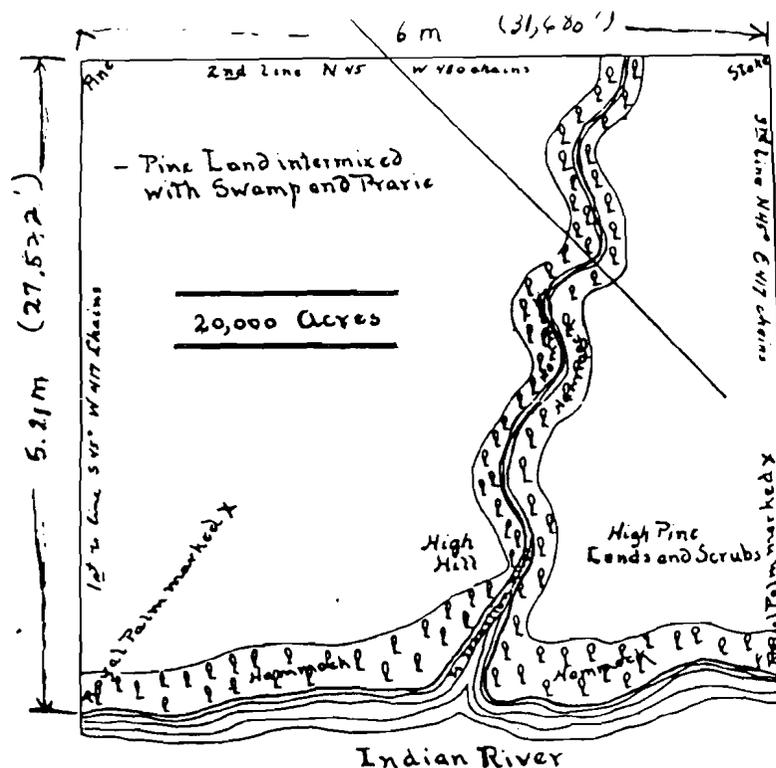
### Visitors

Captain Alvero Mexia, a Spanish soldier, was sent to this area where he made the first known record of the river. During the Spanish days it is told that the wide harbor at the mouth of the St. Sebastian River witnessed the running gun battle when the pirate, Henry Jennings attacked the Spanish as they were attempting to salvage gold from the wrecked Treasure Flota. Some believed Jennings buried gold along the Indian River or up the St. Sebastian River.

Jonathan Dickinson, his wife, infant child and shipmates walked overland and paddled up the Indian River for three months with the help of the Ais Indians, arriving in Charleston, South Carolina the day after Christmas in 1696. They stopped the longest in October near the St. Sebastian River.<sup>1</sup>

Bernard Romans, a naturalist, recorded the St. Sebastian River on a chart of Florida for the first time by name. He described the Rio d'Ais or Palmar de Ais (due to the great number of palms) as "Abounds so much in fish of various kinds, that a person may sit on the bank, and stick the fish with a knife or a sharp stick, as they swim by....."<sup>11</sup>

In 1837 Lieutenant L. M. Powell, USN, attached to the First Regiment of Artillery, was sent with some sailors to explore the St. Sebastian River area for forts and depots. He camped in December on a high bluff on the north bank of the river. About this period of time at least one search party led by General Hernandez conducted an Indian hunt along the St. Sebastian.



### Survey sketch was registered in 1820

Andres Burgevin's survey sketch of the St. Sebastian River was registered in St. Augustine in 1820 and probably made in 1819. It encompasses a five-by-six mile area of the original 20,000-acre Flemming Grant. Much of the "high pine lands and scrubs" noted to the north of the river can still be found along with the "high hill" area across the river south in what is now Indian River County.

The Barefoot Bay Sun, Week of January 16, 1992  
 Article about local historian, George B. Keyes  
 and his knowledge of the St. Sebastian River.

Another Army man arrived in 1837. Jacob Rhett Motte, an Army surgeon, was involved in the war against the Seminoles. He traveled by boat southward along the Indian River lagoon in this area and was moved by its beauty. He may have cruised up the St. Sebastian River too. By 1845, the Army regularly scouted the St. Sebastian River area.

Andrew P. Canova and Ed Marr, the first white Little Hollywood area residents, lived up river around 1858 and fished and hunted nearby. More will be told about these two men later in the book.

Dr. James Henshall visited the St. Sebastian River in 1879 in an 18-foot sailboat bound for Titusville with five young patients who were bronchial sufferers. He tells of seeing black bass, leaping mullet, quail, hares, coons, squirrels and opossums. He experienced an earthquake. The ground trembled and the guns and pans rattled. About five years later he made another trip up the St. Sebastian River. His log tells how he entered the mouth of the river and went about a half mile up by poling. There he anchored and ate his supper of cold duck, dried beef, hard tack and coffee. The next day he poled some more and saw a house on the bluff on the north bank which belonged to a Mr. Kane. He described the magnificent pine woods, manatees, tarpon and immense alligators.<sup>12</sup>

A Dr. George Field explored the head of the St. Sebastian River where swallow-tailed kites, wood ibis and Carolina parakeets (parakeets) lived.

Ornithologist Frank Chapman spent much time at the Oak Lodge on the barrier island in 1889 and he often came up the St. Sebastian River looking for the Carolina parakeets. The parakeets had been used for plumes and food so had gotten very scarce. He found 50 of them and was able to collect 15 near the head of the river. He described the river as one half mile wide at the mouth, narrowing rapidly until three miles above the mouth it was but a little stream. He told of the many blooms of the moon flowers and how pine forests and prairie extended as far as one could see.<sup>25</sup>

The St. Sebastian River had its share of criminals, outlaws, rum-runners, refugees from the law and river tramps. The notorious Captain Beard used the Sebastian Harbor to meet the Indians when he traded his "firewater" for otter pelts. Even in our modern times the drug smugglers are said to use the St. Sebastian River for illegal activities. What a shame to desecrate this beautiful spot for such shady doings!

In 1924, the infamous Ashley gang was stopped on the old St. Sebastian River bridge. Joe Ashley, the father, brought the

family from the Caloosahatchee River in Fort Myers to the East Coast to help build the railroad. The family lived mostly in the Pompano area. The son, John Ashley and the rest of the gang terrorized this part of the coast for 13 years. They robbed banks, held up trains, hijacked rum-runners and were themselves liquor runners. They were jailed many times but always broke out. It was Micco's version of Jesse James.

On November 1, 1924, John Ashley, oldest living son and leader of the gang; Hanford Mobley, his nephew; Ray Lynn and Bob Middleton were heading north in a small touring car, heavily armed with rifles and pistols, when they came to a chain stretched across the St. Sebastian bridge and a red lantern hanging on it. The law enforcement officers had been warned they were coming.

Vernon Lamme in Florida Lore tells what he feels is the true story of the Ashley "massacre". He says they were slain by Palm Beach County Sheriff Bob Baker, and deputies Henry Stubbs, Elmer Padgett, O. B. Padgett and L. B. Thomas. They were also joined by the St. Lucie County Sheriff Merritt and deputies Smith and Wiggins. The gang had to stop to release the chain stretched across the bridge while the sheriffs and deputies were hiding on both sides of the causeway leading to the bridge. As the gunmen approached single file, shots rang out and the gang lay dead, torn and bleeding on the roadway. The famous Ashley gang was no more.<sup>13</sup>

Another part of the story that Vernon Lamme cannot swear to was about the "Queen of the Everglades", Laura Upthegrove, the girlfriend of John Ashley. She walked into the courtroom of Sheriff Bob Baker after the killing, drew a .45 caliber pistol and demanded John Ashley's glass eye which the sheriff had boasted he would wear on his watch fob forever. She got the eye.<sup>13</sup>

#### What's in a Name

The naming of the St. Sebastian River has an interesting history. The Spaniards and Indians called it the Rio Saint Sebastian. George Keyes in Tales of Sebastian relates that "St. Sebastian was a captain in the Roman army who was ordered to be shot to death by arrows after he spoke out against the persecution of Christians. He survived the attack and returned to denounce Emperor Diocletian a second time and was beaten to death with clubs."<sup>11</sup>

In 1882, a Rand McNally map names it the Saint Sebastian Creek. It was also called St. Sebastian Bay on some of the early maps. Over the next years it came to be known as the Sebastian River. George B. Keyes worked diligently to have the proper name restored to the river. On December 21, 1988, the United States

Board of Geographical Names told Keyes that the St. Sebastian River name had been approved.

### Our Own Little Hollywood Monster

The last story of the St. Sebastian River tells of a sea serpent much like the Loch Ness Monster. In an article by Brandon Timm in the Sebastian Sun in 1982, he reported that Charlie Foth, a long-time Sebastian resident and angler, saw a sea monster swimming along the north shore of the St. Sebastian River. He described its large head and neck, as he saw it from 50 yards away. Another creature was seen near Grant and yet another one was sighted at the Sebastian Inlet.<sup>14</sup>

Today when the jet skis roar by on the river, and the tour boat, River Queen, passes, the old river travelers and adventurers, and especially that sea monster, are still alive in the memory of Little Hollywood neighbors.

Death of a River  
by "Heck" Thornburg

Once I was clear and all sparkling,  
My waters were filled with fish,  
My pools reflected the sunlight  
I was all that a man could wish.

Children waded and played on my shoreline,  
My oysters were gourmets delight.  
Fish reproduced by the millions,  
My birds were a beautiful sight.

Manatee grazed in my weed beds,  
Otter and 'coon played on my banks,  
The alligator lived in my bayous,  
In my bays the deer cooled their shanks.

From his lofty perch in a pine tree,  
The eagle surveyed my waters below.  
A fish dinner was easy to come by,  
They were so fat, and lazy and slow.

My waters were shaded and cooled,  
By the mangrove, the oak and the pine,  
By the cypress, the palm and the hickory,  
And many more trees of their kind.

Down where I merged with the saltwater,  
My shellfish produced by the ton,  
Pollution was unknown on the Sebastian,  
And gathering them was fun.

My sandbars were covered with eelgrass,  
Where shrimp were incubated and grew.  
The blue crab was hatched and nourished  
In these sheltered areas they all knew.

The trout and the jack and the snapper,  
The flounder, the sheephead, the snook,  
All spawned in my shallow, sunlit waters,  
Then found them a well-shaded nook.

I've been called the Queen of the Southern streams,  
I've been proud of the life I have nurtured and fed.  
Man and beast have lived from my waters,  
NOW, I'm a stream that soon will be dead.

I am no longer clear and sparkling,  
No more do I hear the bird's song.  
The otter, the deer and the turkey,  
My friends of the past are now gone.

My murky waters no longer nourish,  
 As they've done from the beginning of time.  
 No longer do children wade in my shallows,  
 For my bed is all covered with slime.

My sandbars are barren and sterile,  
 My shallows now covered with muck.  
 Where the eagle and egret once flourished,  
 Now only the buzzard has luck.

Came Man with his saws and his axes,  
 My cypress, my pine and my oaks,  
 Were torn from the banks of my waters,  
 Leaving me helpless, like a wheel minus spokes.

Next came the planter and builder,  
 Came the bulldozer, the dredge and the plow,  
 "PROGRESS!", the people all shouted.  
 You see what they've done to me now.

Industry has diluted my waters,  
 With the deadliest poisons they know.  
 The fish lie dead on my shoreline,  
 In windrows, like wind-drifted snow.

The buzzard now has replaced the eagle,  
 The gar and the mudfish, the snook,  
 Down thru the ages remember  
 The millions of lives that you took.

My bottom is covered with beer cans,  
 My shores are denuded and bare,  
 My waters are poisoned with insecticides,  
 Many other poisons are there.

Down thru the ages, all mankind  
 Has burned and destroyed and killed.  
 Thoughtless people never realize  
 This is not what the Lord has willed.

Now that I am a dying River  
 Filled with muck and sewerage;  
 How proud can you fine people be  
 Of your Great American Heritage??

H. L. Thornberg known as "Heck" was a former Little Hollywood resident who lived at 9920 Riverview Drive. He was retired from General Motors and worked as a real estate salesman for the Athas. He wrote this poem during his membership in the Sebastian River Area Inlet Conservation Club, Inc.

# PLAT

Showing the subdivision  
of 46

## FLEMING GRANT.

BREVARD COUNTY

FLORIDA

T.30N.31. R.37.38&39 E.

BY THE

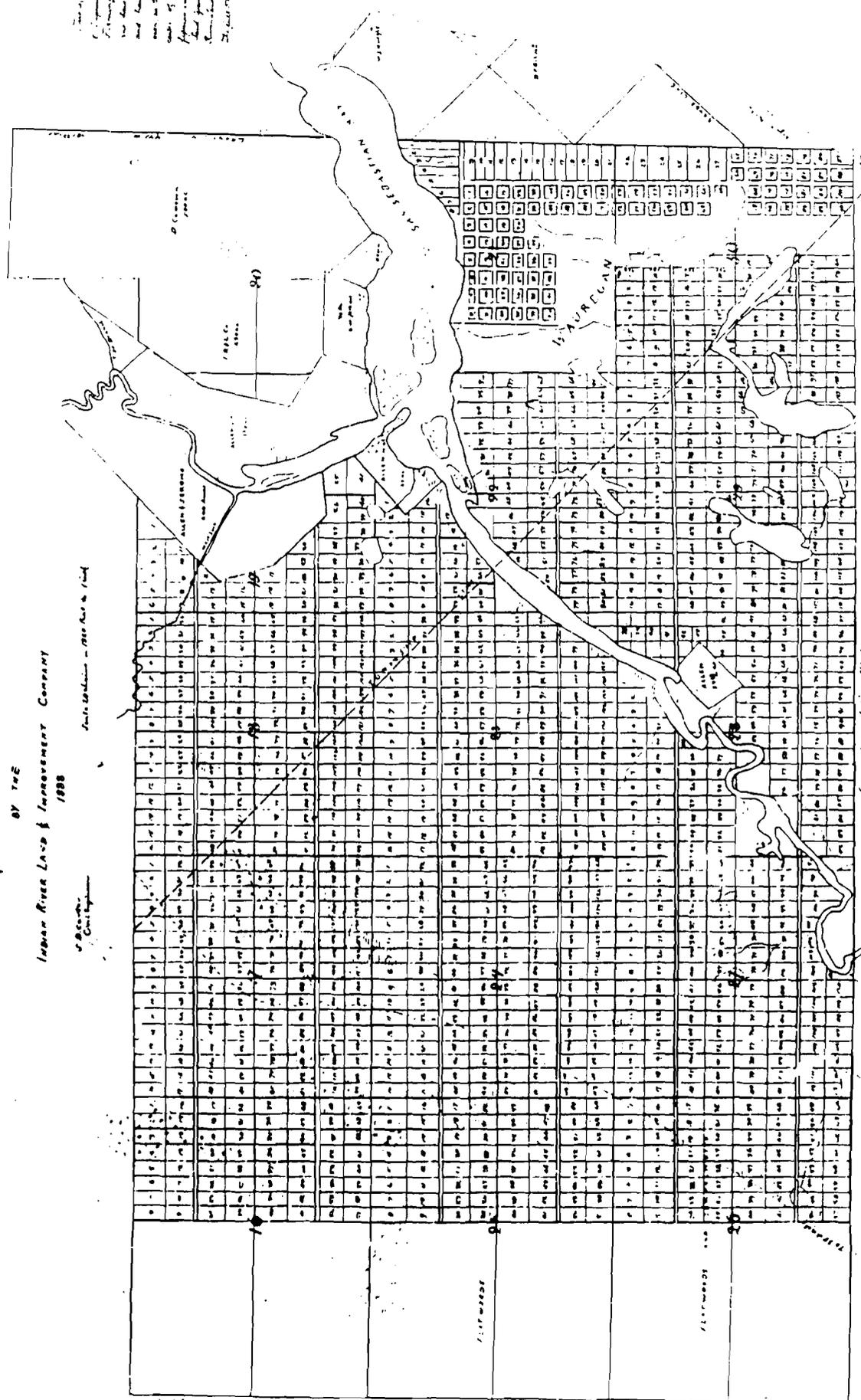
Indian River Land & Improvement Company  
1988

of Record

Subdivision - 1988 and 1989

D. Cameron	500 acres
D. Cain	20 acres
B. W. Jerome	40 acres
IR & L Co.	230 acres
Allen et Al.	136 acres
Allen and Jerome	200 acres

The 46 acres of the Fleming Grant...  
 Commissioned by the...  
 Fleming Grant...  
 and the...  
 as they...  
 of the...  
 from...  
 to...  
 the...



1988/89

Continuation of Plat

## FLEMING GRANT TO LITTLE HOLLYWOOD

Fleming Grant  
by Gordon Maltby

To all of us living in Little Hollywood the words "Fleming Grant" are of more than just casual interest as they are an early physical description of the area in which we live.

"Fleming Grant" was a grant of 20,000 acres of land in what is now the State of Florida by Spanish authorities to a Don George Fleming. George Fleming was a captain in the Spanish militia and was married to Dona Sophia Phillipina Fatio. Fleming joined the Royal Colonial army and apparently gave extraordinary service for Spain in order to be awarded such a large tract of land. Some say the grant was made by the King of Spain, but the records state: "Governor Coppinger granted to George Fleming 'All that certain tract or parcel of land situated and being in the territory of Florida on the banks of the River St. Sebastian to the south of Indian River between the eastern coast of Florida and the River St. Johns, consisting of and containing 20,000 acres on September 24, 1816.'"<sup>15</sup>

The original survey of the grant was done by Andrew (or Andree) Burgivin using Spanish methods and measurements in 1819. In later years United States surveyors had to translate the measurements to United States standards.

When the United States of America ratified the treaty with Spain in the year 1821, this grant came under the jurisdiction of the United States. In November of the year 1828 by Act of the Territorial Legislature, "said land became a part of and was located in St. Lucie County, one of the seven counties into which the State of Florida was thereby divided. And in March of 1834 this grant was confirmed to the heirs of George Fleming (Sophia, his widow, son Lewis and his wife Margaret, son George and his wife Mary and daughter Mary J. Fleming) by the United States Supreme Court."<sup>15</sup>

Twenty-thousand acres is a very large parcel of land. A square mile is only 640 acres giving an idea of the magnitude of this grant. The actual boundaries interpreted into 1992 landmarks are as follows:

Starting at a point in the Indian River just off shore of the Hurricane Harbor Restaurant in Sebastian and proceeding in a northwest direction across U. S. 1 close to the Kentucky Fried Chicken Restaurant, across Roseland Road to the St. Sebastian River at about 135th Street, across the St. Sebastian River coming ashore on the Little Hollywood 'Island', 50' north and parallel to River Oak Lane, forming the north boundary of Little Hollywood for a short distance, then continuing in a northwest

direction across the railroad, across Fleming Grant Road, across Micco Road just to the west of Barefoot Bay to a point near the Barefoot Bay sewage treatment plant. At this point the boundary turns southwest across I-95 almost to point (near Fellsmere) where Babcock Street crosses the C-54 Canal (Indian River and Brevard County line). Here the boundary turns southeast to a point on Highway 512, half way between I-95 and where Highway 510 joins Highway 512. The boundary turns northeast across the south fork of the St. Sebastian River along the airport on Fleming Grant Avenue crossing U. S. 1 near the Southeast Bank, then to the point of beginning.

When one looks at a detailed map of Florida, the Fleming Grant stands out because early in Florida's history, even before it became a state, a method of locating property by survey was in use. Everything was based on being either east or west of the Tallahassee Meridian and being further divided along north-south or east-west lines into Ranges, Townships and Sections. In the middle of all this orderly north-south/east-west layout is the Fleming Grant where everything is at a 45-degree angle. The boundaries all run NE, SE, SW and NW.

The Fleming widow and surviving children sold the entire 20,000 acres to Charles Downing on March 9, 1837 for \$6000.00.

In 1888 a plat was made of this area showing a house (Brown) and pineapple field across from what is now the Moose Lodge. A sawmill was located where the present marina is located on Main Street.

In 1889, S. B. Carter surveyed the entire Grant for the Indian River Land and Improvement Company and divided the land into 30 sections and further divided some of the sections into five-acre lots. These lots were for the most part located in Wauregan, which included some of Sebastian and part of Roseland.

The Fleming Grant 20,000 acres changed hands many times during the next 50 years. One conveyance of interest, was the tax deed on February 27, 1886 from the State of Florida to Herbert M. Linnell for \$2734.74 which represented the tax sale for unpaid taxes for the years 1871, 1872, 1873 and 1874.

Mr. Linnell deeded a portion of this grant to Dempsey Cain on May 3, 1886. This portion of land is described as a "20-acre 'house-lot' on the north bank of the St. Sebastian River on the west side of a Spring Branch, west of Cain's clearing and residence....."<sup>15</sup> This land is located at the end of Riverview Drive where it continues to the west across the railroad and is known as the Dempsey Cain Subdivision. This is why the small triangle of land bordered by Riverview Drive, the St. Sebastian River and the railroad is not part of Little Hollywood.

Mr. Linnell deeded another portion of this Grant which bordered the Cain "house-lot" to a Frank H. Allen and Frances L., his wife on July 26, 1886. This 500-acre tract except for the Cain property, in turn was acquired by Dwight F. Cameron.

"Beginning at intersection of east line of said Grant as surveyed by the U. S. authorities with the north line of the St. Sebastian Bay or River (a point on 'island' 50 feet north of River Oak Lane) running thence N 45° W. along said E line 100 chains to a stake; thence at right angles to the first course S 45° W 50 chains to a stake; thence turn angle and run S. 45° E to the N. bank of St. Sebastian river; thence easterly along N bank of river to point of beginning."<sup>15</sup>

Cameron held this land for many years and it is referred to in Title Abstracts as the "D. Cameron Tract" or the "Cameron 500 acres". On February 1st, 1893 he conveyed a 100-foot strip of land to the Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Indian River Railway Company. The name was later changed to the Florida East Coast Railway Company.

Changes were coming in the mid-1800's. Fleming Grant would be divided, let go for taxes, used by hunters and squatters, but development was in the wind.

The first white residents in this area were two men who did not even own the land, Andrew Canova and Ed Marr. They arrived from the Tampa area and built a hut with palm fronds about two miles southwest of the mouth of the St. Sebastian River on the north shore where there was a bubbling spring. An educated guess puts their thatched hut just west of the Dempsey Cain "20 acres" possibly on the Jerome acreage. Canova and Marr wanted to start a citrus grove, but gave up that idea and just fished, hunted and "raised onions". Canova was a writer, so he left us his book, Life and Adventure in South Florida, which told of his adventures here.<sup>16</sup>

One day he went on a hike to the head of the St. Sebastian looking for bee trees and was bitten by a cottonmouth. This bite can be fatal, but Canova claimed he survived due to treatment with his onions which he used as a poultice.

Another time, Canova and a friend were hunting and were amazed to see a bear overhead with its body flattened on a palm tree trying to extricate the heart of palm from the tree. When the heart gave way, down came the bear and it landed at Canova's feet. We can assume either the bear ran off or was shot by Canova, as Canova survived this encounter too.

In 1860 Canova left to enlist in the Civil War. Marr remained awhile and then drifted away.

### Dempsey Cain

The time came for more permanent settlement in this area when Dempsey Cain bought his 20-acre "house-lot" next to what would one day be Little Hollywood.

In true pioneer style, Dempsey Cain headed for the 20 acres he bought for \$250 that lay across the railroad tracks from the future Little Hollywood. Dempsey was a carpenter by trade, originally from Georgia. Lucky for him, a freighter with a load of lumber wrecked off the east coast near Ft. Pierce where he was living. Lumber enough to build a house washed ashore. Dempsey built a floating home from the lumber by tying the pieces together and attaching them to the largest of his two sailboats in the center for a cabin to protect his family. He had a wife, Celia Padgett Cain and 10 children. After poling much of the way, they arrived in 1877 and anchored west of where the railroad bridge is today. Katherine Cain White was a baby during this two-month trip. She claimed this voyage and remote living were responsible for her good health and that of her entire family. The Cains slowly established a home in the wilderness and in 1886 he bought his 20-acre "house-lot". By the end of the century, a few other brave souls became neighbors such as Benjamin Jerome, a bachelor from Connecticut, who built his home west of the Cain house and later the Stokes family, who "built east of where the railroad came through in 1891".<sup>17</sup> Times were hard, but fish and game were abundant. Alligators were plentiful and predators were around but well-fed, so there was no problem to human beings. Their biggest problem was the hordes of mosquitoes and the incessant biting. Indians were friendly and it was said they often borrowed tools but always returned them promptly and in good condition.

### San Sebastian Corporation

No history of this area would be complete without mentioning the San Sebastian Corporation. In January, 1926, this corporation acquired 2,600 acres, with an option on an additional 10,000 acres (including the Cameron 500 acres) from the Realty Bond and Share Company in exchange for a \$1,261,125.00 mortgage.

San Sebastian Development Corporation, in October, 1926, granted the Florida Power and Light Company an easement "to construct, operate and maintain a line of poles for the transmission of electricity, including all telephone, telegraph and other wires....."<sup>15</sup>

The San Sebastian Corporation had big plans for the development of much of this area that is now Little Hollywood

### Harlans and Athas

Margaret and Bruce Harlan had sold their lumber business up north and moved to Florida in 1952. They drove along the St. Sebastian River on the north shore and knew this was the place they wanted for their home. In 1954, they bought the remaining vacant lots in Little Hollywood from the Conners. Less than a dozen houses were here when they arrived including Cousins, Babcock, Blanski, Thorrez and a few others. The Harlans built their first house across from what would later become the community dock property and where the Galds later lived for years. When they first moved into the area the roads were sandy and Mr. Conner had just dug the community lake. The Harlan children could not swim in it at first as the sand was still suspended in the water for months.

Ken and Margaret Atha moved down to this area in 1953 from Dayton, Ohio where Ken was an insurance and real estate executive. When he first lived here, he owned a franchise for Tastee-Freez that covered all of Florida (except the Panhandle) and part of Georgia. Ken Atha says he moved to Little Hollywood because he wanted a rural area with a safe place to dock his boat and be near an inlet to the ocean. He was an avid fisherman. This area was just right.

Margaret Atha had a colorful childhood. Her father, Harry Moller had a successful career in vaudeville and minstrel shows, including working for the Al G. Fields-Gus Evans Minstrels. He ran away from home when he was 12 and joined the Ringling Brothers Circus as a high-wire artist. His beautiful tenor voice helped him perform in many shows, including some he staged himself. Margaret sang and did acrobatics with her father when she was young. She even played with Judy Garland and knew Vince Minnelli. She remembers it all with a lot of pleasure. Harry Moller became head of the Sebastian Chamber of Commerce for several years.

A friendship developed between the Harlans and Athas and the four decided to go into business together in 1957. By this time, they both had houses built by a neighbor, W. R. "Cap" Albright, on Riverview Drive. The back of these houses bordered the canal that formed the River Oak Lane "island".

Atha remembers seeing bobcats in Little Hollywood, a panther on the nearby Fleming Grant Road. A 14½-foot alligator was killed on the island. He recalls the old golf course partly laid out (and never used) with the sand traps, ponds and 6" artesian wells. He tells about fishing with the senior Ronald Senne in the St. Sebastian River and how they usually brought home seven and eight-pound trout.

Ken Atha loved real estate and was anxious to get back into this business as, he had been a developer in Michigan earlier in his life. Bruce Harlan liked the idea of Tastee-Freez and was impatient with real estate, although Margaret Harlan loved it. So they made a deal. Bruce "hit the road" to develop Tastee-Freez stores throughout the state and the Athas and Margaret Harlan handled the real estate end of things. Ken Atha was one of the first realtors between Vero Beach and Melbourne in those early days.

Eventually the Harlans concentrated only on Tastee-Freez after selling out the land interests they owned to the Athas. Bruce Harlan died in 1966 and Margaret was left with the soft ice cream business and a family to take care of alone. She ran the business mostly from her home with the help of her seventeen-year-old son. He would often go on trips with her as she had to travel all over the state.

Margaret eventually felt the need to be more useful to society, so she decided to teach school. She went back to college for a master's degree and credentials for teaching and then taught at the Ruth Henegar Elementary School in Melbourne. She ended her teaching career as head of the English Department at Palm Bay High School. She sold the Tastee-Freez corporation and again invested in real estate in the Little Hollywood area.

Meanwhile, Ken Atha arranged for zoning regulations for an orderly growth of Little Hollywood as there was no zoning up to this time. He then turned his attention to the "island". There was only one house (the Cousins) and some cabbage palms that still stand today on the island when he first came to this area. He exacted a promise from the county that they would dig out the canal and put in a culvert, but they never did put one in. Miss Evelyn Mudge, who later lived in the Cousins' house, donated 15 feet to the county for this purpose. Ken Atha bought a sand pump and pumped in sand from the St. Sebastian River to make the island higher. The Athas eventually built their home there, where they spend their winters today.

#### Little Hollywood Description

Little Hollywood Subdivision was originally platted by P. D. Conner in 1949 and consisted of 30 lots along the St. Sebastian River from the east line of Fleming Grant to where Riverview Drive joins Pine Street. Later, on January 27, 1953, the first addition was made, adding all of the land west of Riverview to the railroad and north to Lakeview Drive.

Later the original plat of the first seven lots of the original 30 were re-platted. A canal was dug behind these seven lots (by P. D. Conner) and River Oak Lane was added, establishing the area that is called "the island".

Still later the second addition was added. This added land west of Riverview Drive and north of Holly Street to a point 150' short of Main Street, then parallel to Main Street west to the railroad right-of-way to the Fleming Grant line; then southeast along the Fleming Grant line to a point of intersection with an extension of the south boundary of Micco Park; east along this Micco Park boundary to the Holly Street and Riverview Drive intersection. Micco Park was not included.

Roughly, Little Hollywood now in 1992 includes the land enclosed from a point on Riverview Drive 150' south of Main Street, south on Riverview to River Oak Lane, River Oak Lane to the river, south along the River to the Florida East Coast Railroad, north along the railroad right-of-way to a point 150' south of Main Street, then east to the point of beginning.

Exceptions are:

1. Triangle of property at south end of Riverview Drive along the river to the railroad bridge, along the railroad right-of-way to the intersection of Riverview Drive, along the south edge of Riverview Drive extended to the river.
2. A large parcel bounded by Lakeview Drive, the railroad, Fleming Grant NE line, south boundary of Micco Park and Riverview Drive.
3. Micco Park (purchased by the Harlans from William Parker and later deeded to the Athas, who then sold it to Brevard County.)

#### Neighboring Developments

The Dempsey and Celia Cain Subdivision was never platted so there is no record when this was done. Later it was divided into lots and called Sebastian River Heights.

Sebastian River Estates was developed west of Little Hollywood across the railroad tracks. It was recorded April 25, 1925.

Bayside Subdivision was north of Little Hollywood on the St. Sebastian River. (recorded in 1949)

Sebastian River Heights (duplication of the name) was adjacent to Bayside Subdivision on the river)

Duffields Subdivision bordered on Main Street west of the beginning of Riverview Drive.

William Parker owned and developed land in this part of Micco also.

### Life in Old Days of Little Hollywood

Margaret Harlan describes Little Hollywood in those early days. She said they all had such a good time as there were so few residents in the neighborhood. Everyone was friendly and helpful. One of her earliest recollections was of Peg Jeffrey, who lived near the south end of Riverview Drive, coming down the road pulling a wagon with a kettle of lentil soup about midnight one New Year's Eve. She stopped at the Harlans and other neighbors just to bring them good cheer - and good soup.

Christmas was a time to form traditions in this new neighborhood and one event was very special - Santa Claus on the St. Sebastian River. The residents of Roseland wanted a Santa Claus to travel by boat up the river to a community park near the railroad bridge where goodies would be given to the children. They asked Little Hollywood residents to help with the idea. The Harlans offered the use of their boat which Bruce decorated with lights and a small lighted tree. Ken Atha agreed to be Santa Claus, so he stuffed pillows in his trousers and slung a big bag full of candy and other gifts over his shoulder. The two men had a lot of fun celebrating Christmas with the local kids in this way for a number of years.

In later years Santa also came through the neighborhood riding on a fire truck sounding the siren. The firemen and Santa waved at the kids and threw candy to everyone along the way.

The Micco Fire Department had its beginning in Little Hollywood at the Harlan house. Bruce McMann and Jim Bricker (both 15 years old at the time) urged their fathers to start a fire department. They were too young to do it themselves. The County Commissioner from this district, Richard Muldrew, and the District Fire Chief, Midge Shave, planned on having a meeting, but since they had no place big enough, they met that first time at Harlans with 36 people in attendance. The notes of this first meeting are in the archives of the Micco Fire Department today. Bruce McMann, Senior accepted the position as the first Fire Chief of Micco.

Margaret Harlan is still active in community life and one of her projects has been to try to get the Post Office back at Micco where it belongs. Evidently some unfortunate politics caused Micco to lose the Post Office they had had since 1884. Since we are actually a part of Micco and closely associated with it here, most Little Hollywood residents would prefer to have our own Post Office here. Mrs. Harlan has been a single voice trying to get it back and she needs some help.



Bruce Harlan  
Canada, 1934



Bruce Harlan  
Little Hollywood 1961



Left: Margaret and Ken Atha

Below: Margaret Atha, her father,  
Harry Moller and Ken Atha  
at their dock, overlooking  
the "Island" and Cousins'  
house





*Ken Atha*



Little Hollywood Alligator



*Bruce Harlan*

As Little Hollywood grew larger many groups and clubs formed - some for bridge, canasta, poker, gourmet cooking and other endeavors. It was a friendly place.

Mrs. H. L. Thornberg organized the Little Hollywood Garden Club in 1963. Members included Louise Summers, Peggy Jeffrey, Nancy Hillyer and others. The group usually met in a house they rented in the Roseland area and had interesting speakers and family dinners. The Little Hollywood Garden Club only lasted about two years.



Left to right: Al Roth, County Commissioner Richard Muldrew, Bruce McMann, Chief Midge Shave, Conrad Bockman, LeCarr Bricker and Jim Hoffman -- standing by the first Micco Fire Truck



Little Hollywood "Island"  
Before Development

Conner Park - 1973



Collage of Old Days in Little Hollywood

PLAT OF LITTLE HOLLYWOOD  
AND SURROUNDING AREA - 1992



26

N

BREVARD COUNTY  
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

24

SECTION 21  
SECTION 22

CAMERON TR  
PB 1-21 # HM

CAMERON TR  
(1-21) # HM

COUNTY RD. RIVERVIEW

SEBASTIAN  
RIVER HEIGHTS

DRIVE  
DRIVE  
DRIVE

RAILROAD

STREET

MAPLE STREET

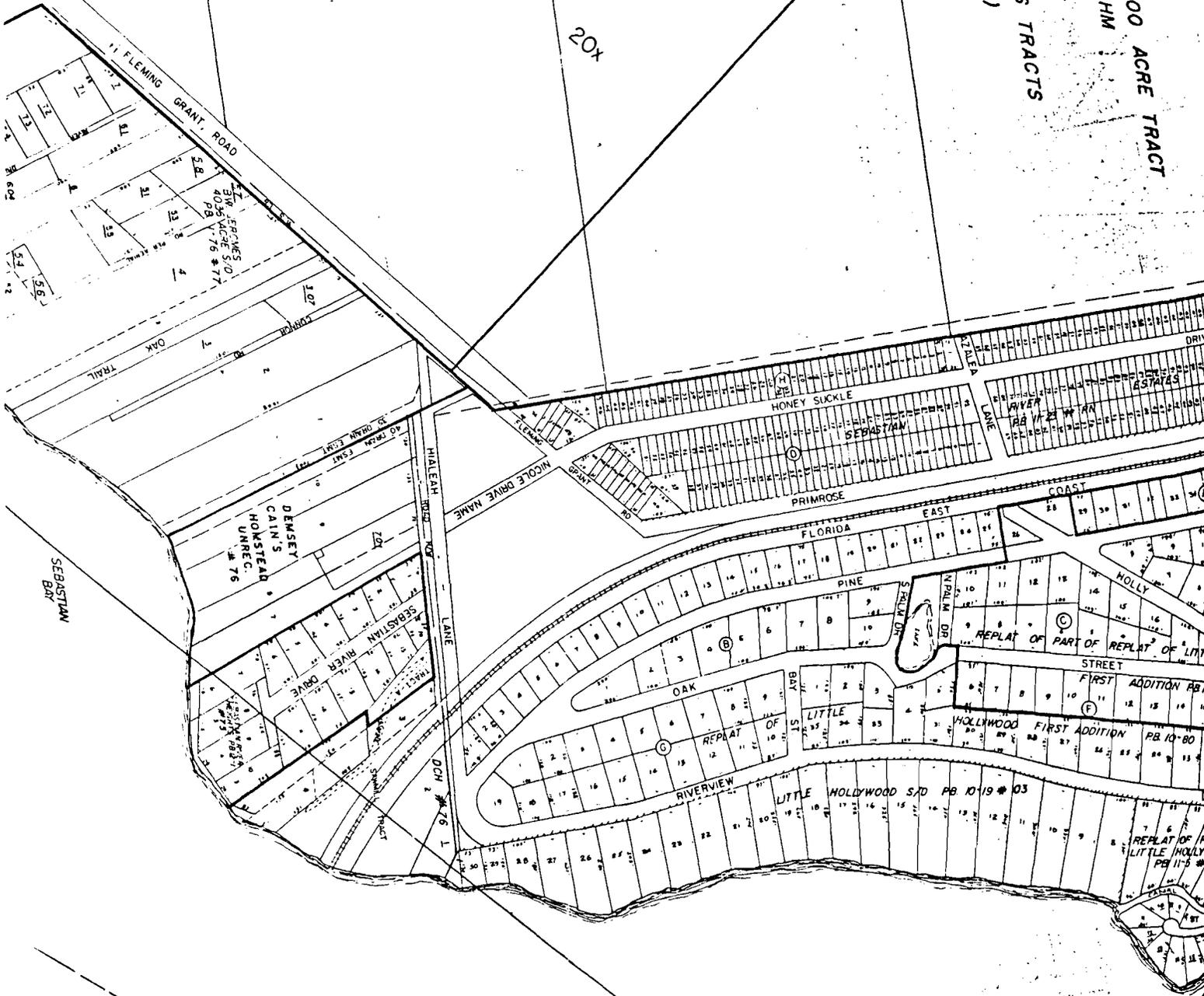
STREET

LITTLE HOLLYWOOD

STREET

DRIVE

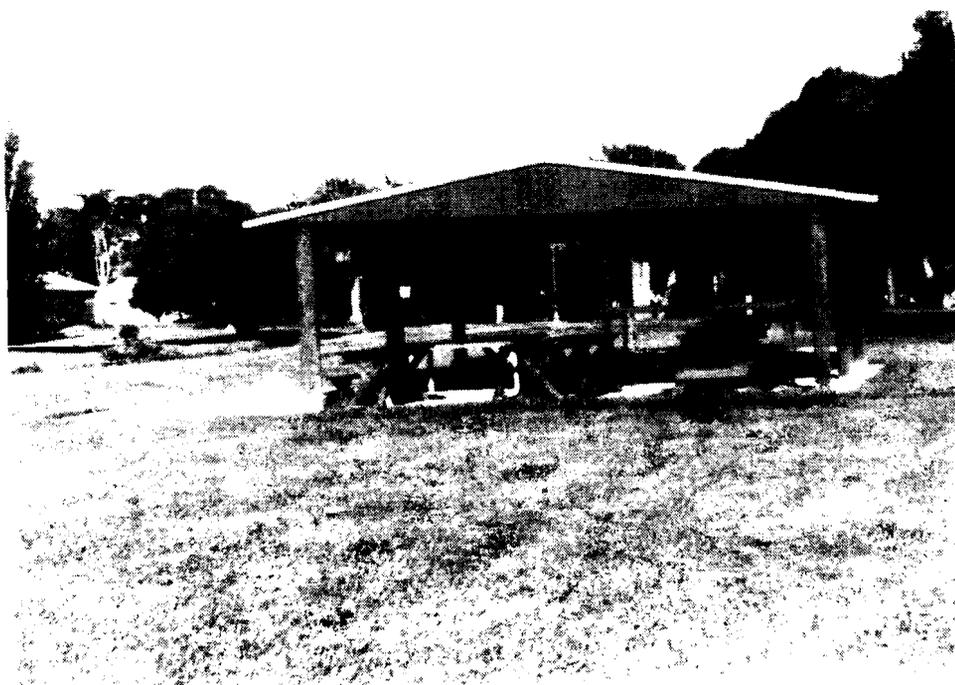
D. CAMERON 500 ACRE TRACT  
(1-72) #HM  
SEBASTIAN OAKS TRACTS  
UNREC.)



BREVARD COUNTY  
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY



Little Hollywood Pond Park - 1990



Conner Park - 1990



Little Hollywood



Bonnie



Conner Park Work Day  
Building a picnic table  
May 26, 1984



Scenes  
Little Hollywood Picnics  
Conner Park



## LITTLE HOLLYWOOD IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

(Information taken primarily from minutes of meetings of the Association)

1953

A group of Little Hollywood residents met at the home of Captain and Mrs. Leander Jeffrey on Friday, February 13, 1953, to form an association for the betterment of the area. The name chosen was "The Little Hollywood Improvement Association". Attending that first meeting were the W. R. Albrights, the Bruce Harlans, the H. D. Babcocks, the P. F. Blanskis, the P. D. Conners, the Captain Jeffreys, the A. N. Thompsons, the Camiel Thorrezs and the C. Westcotts. Captain Jeffrey was elected president and Mrs. Clair Babcock the secretary-treasurer. It was decided meetings were to be held in the homes of members in alphabetical order on a monthly basis. Dues were set at \$1.00 per person per year. By the second meeting there was \$14.00 in the treasury as 14 members attended and paid. The first big project that first year was to plant a 100 coca plumosa trees in Little Hollywood.

1954

In 1954 the treasury contained \$11.02 and \$1.70 of that amount was owed for fertilizer for the trees and 29¢ for the secretary's book. At one meeting a guest speaker, Robert Cammack of the Roseland Men's Club spoke about the hyacinth spraying in the Sebastian River. Members were asked to donate to this project and the Association voted \$5.00 to help the cause. This was generous considering the state of the treasury. A motion was also made to check into the cost of spraying for hyacinth control on the north fork of the St. Sebastian River. It was found to be \$150, so donations would be needed. County Commissioner Max Rhodes in Melbourne said the plane could do the big areas for no charge the next time they were spraying. He also spoke of a dredge that could help open up the north fork of the river in about a year.

Mr. Conner told the Association that he had given the pond and riverfront property, free of taxes, and hoped that in the future a dock, playground or clubhouse could be built.

At one meeting it was voted to charge \$1.00 per boat brought out of the water at the dock at Conner Park. Getting garbage collection started in Little Hollywood was a problem and required much effort and pressure by the group.

1955

Incorporation was the big news item in The Little Hollywood Improvement Association in 1955. It was needed before the lots donated by Mr. Conner, Harlans and Athas could be formally and legally accepted by the Association. Trustees had to be voted in office so they could accept the deeds to the Conners' lots until the Corporation could be formed. Attorney Richard Lawrence of Melbourne, was hired to form the corporation. Trustees were Ken Atha, Camiel Thorrez and LeRoy Stockstill. The minutes state that present owners of the lots, Harlans and Athas, offered to clean lots and put down a well if the Association showed interest in planting and caring for shrubbery. A Park Committee was appointed to do just that.

The Warranty Deed and Fee Simple Deed transferring ownership of the Conner Park and the pond park were signed by P. D. and Kate W. Conner and transferred to K. K. Atha, LeRoy Stockstill and Camiel Thorrez, Trustees of the Little Hollywood Improvement Association, on December 14, 1955. Both documents have the following restrictions as part of the contents:

"A consideration of this deed is that the above described lot be used in perpetuity for the benefit of the residents of all of Little Hollywood, which area is intended to include the present Little Hollywood, together with all of the land now owned by parties of the first part (as yet undeveloped) which lies between Little Hollywood and the Florida East Coast Railroad and the Fleming Grant line. It is a further consideration of this deed that said lot be used for access to and from the Sebastian River, or for a park or for a clubhouse, or any lawful use for the benefit of all concerned as aforesaid. PROVIDED that said land shall not be encumbered, nor shall intoxicating drinks and beverages be sold on said premises; Provided further, that nothing shall be done by the said trustees, their legal successors and assigns that will prejudice in any way their ownership in and to said land for the benefit of the said residents of Little Hollywood as above defined. And should said restrictions be broken it is a further consideration of this deed that said land shall thereupon revert to the parties of the first part, their legal heirs, administrators and assigns."

1961

The following year, 1961, brought changes to the area. A new building was under construction across the St. Sebastian River to house 12 bowling lanes and a super market had plans to go in next to the bowling alley. There was talk about an elementary school in the Little Hollywood-Micco area. Sebastian Inlet was cut to a depth of 12 feet and width of 150 feet. A new bridge was underway that would span the Inlet making ALA continuous along the oceanfront from Fort Pierce to Cape Canaveral.

All these changes inspired the Little Hollywood Improvement Association to speak of a civic building in the neighborhood. A pledge of \$2,500 was offered if the community could raise the rest. That idea seemed to fade rather quickly, especially considering the treasury held only \$865.70. In January of this year the Association had been \$12.60 in the red so this got the immediate attention of the trustees and officers. The membership had increased by this year, making it hard to contain everyone in private homes for meetings, so the annual meetings were moved to the Roseland Women's Club. Problems continued with the neighborhood shop and material storage buildings rented to Kenny Klave, a local contractor.

Little Hollywood, with the rest of the world, was excited about putting its first astronaut, Navy Lieutenant Commander Alan Shepard, Jr. into space marking the beginning of the Space Program in earnest. This would help develop all this part of the east coast of Florida.

1962

The annual meeting this year officially named the road nearest to the St. Sebastian River, "Riverview Drive" and the county was notified. Medical needs of the area was one topic of discussion and everyone hoped to interest a doctor in moving to this area. Flood lights were completed, and signs were erected saying "Entering Little Hollywood". Street signs were promised by Ken Atha and the neighborhood was thankful. The diving board at the pond was reinforced and a ladder added.

1963

A plan for numbering houses and lots, similar to street numbering systems in Philadelphia and other places, was presented by the president and adopted in 1963. President Isaac Habben was to advise the postmaster in Vero Beach and request his concurrence. The membership was told that the Lion's Club was helping in a search for a doctor in the area. It was suggested this year to make Little Hollywood a "bird sanctuary" but nothing seemed to come of this idea. Other items on the agenda this year

included park improvement, paving of streets, street signs, maps and owners' list, bank requirements, taking care of unsightly areas, landscaping of public areas and dock maintenance.

#### 1964 to 1965

In 1964 and 1965 no records can be found except a brief account of a Board Meeting where street paving and lighting was an issue.

#### 1966

In 1966 extensive maintenance was done to the pond to make it a safe place to swim. Obnoxious grasses and mire, the source of vegetation growth, was removed by a large pump and auxiliary power to empty the pool so a large and costly self-loader could remove and haul away the unwanted muck (more than 100 yards of vegetation and mire) and then line the pond with nearly 300 yards of white sand. The cost of this exceeded the balance in the Treasury but the apparent physical improvement of the pool adequately justified the expense, according to the president. The streets and drainage improvements by the county took considerable efforts on the part of the directors with much pressure to keep the job moving. Some blacktopping was done. Drainage and the need for more culverts were a problem. Dock repairs were made at Conner Park and dredging to improve boat launching was considered.

Two special meetings were held with Richard Lawrence, the lawyer hired by the Association, to begin discussions about what to do with the legal status of the Little Hollywood Improvement Association. Mr. Lawrence was authorized to draft the proposed Articles of Reincorporation to be submitted for approval of the membership.

#### 1967

The annual meeting in 1967 was a time for important decisions. A proposal for a new way to increase revenue for the Little Hollywood Association was presented for a vote. The boundaries of Little Hollywood would be extended to include about 27 additional acres of non-resident property to the north, then under development. This would help relieve the financial difficulties and in the future this property would be occupied by beautiful homes. The second proposal presented for a vote was the reincorporation of the Association. Mr. Lawrence said that our status as a corporation was legally in doubt since it was incorporated under sections of the Florida Statutes now obsolete. The new Articles of Incorporation would give the membership more determination in the affairs of the corporation. He felt the new Florida laws were vastly superior to the old, thus providing more protection to all concerned. He was also concerned that the

Association never adopted any written By-laws. Both proposals were approved by the members. The year ended on a more positive, hopeful note.

#### 1968

The prospect of more income caused the Directors to plan things in 1968 that had been delayed in the past due to lack of funds. Plans were made for swimming tags to be worn by members and guests to simplify enforcement and practically eliminate trespassing - or so the membership felt. Street lights were installed at Main Street and U. S. 1.

Some time in the late 1960's Little Hollywood Improvement Association planned a shuffleboard court on the triangle between Oak and Holly Streets - on county property. With mostly retired residents the game was enjoyed by many and the court and equipment were taken care of. But with the influx of a younger generation who enjoyed skating on the court and a few who found vandalism fun, the courts were damaged, the benches destroyed and the equipment lost. Shuffleboard had to be abandoned.

#### 1969

After much pressure and watch-dogging, the blacktop was finished on all streets planned for Little Hollywood. Grading and drainage problems had also been solved. Planks were replaced and repairs done to both parks, so 1969 was a good year.

#### 1970

This was the year Bruce and Florence Wandel finished building their home. Bruce was 78 at that time and Florence felt if they had one good year in the new home it would be worth it, but as Florence says, "We had 17 beautiful years". The Wandels, Lowes and Galds made a tradition of holiday dinners together over the many years.

Little Hollywood Improvement Association's first liability law suit (involving a non-resident, Edward Manz who claimed he injured himself at the pond) was settled out of court for \$500. A new diving board was made and installed at the pond. Mowing of vacant lots continued by the Association which was costly, as bills for this service were hard to collect when owners had not asked that the job be done.

#### 1971

The Little Hollywood Improvement Association received a certificate from the Department of State for exemption from taxes as a non-profit organization.

The year of 1971 seemed almost entirely dominated by a resident who presented several problems, the first being that he had horses and was letting the children ride them, thereby causing a danger; secondly, he was using the dock for commercial purposes and thirdly - he was not even a member of the Association. The only other momentous topic of conversation that year was about the high diving board installed that year that was removed because it was a hazard to children's safety.

Committees were appointed this year for the first time in a slowly expanding organization to help handle the projects and problems. By-laws were again revised.

Disney World opened this year and everyone looked forward to visiting Mickey Mouse.

### 1972

Big news in 1972! A general hospital was to be erected on 26 acres of land at the corner of Bay Street and U S. 1 in Roseland, across the river. This would be a 101-bed hospital costing \$4,000,000 and would be completed in two years. Good news for the area!

President Atha pointed out that there would be a need for more housing in the area and he planned on asking for a revision of the zoning ordinance, so there would be duplex houses, townhouse retirement units and apartments. The community generally felt uneasy about rentals on the 30 acres they had thought would have beautiful one-family homes. So on April 27, representatives of Little Hollywood attended the Zoning Board Hearing, voicing the concern of the Little Hollywood Improvement Association. The request for the change of zoning was denied. "Citizens in Action" could be the title of this story.

Another problem that would plague Little Hollywood for at least 20 more years was regarding the culvert under River Oaks Lane to help the flow of water through the boat canal that formed the island. It involved about 12 to 14 residents living along the canal. County Commissioner Val Steele was to be contacted. Mr. Gald warned that success could come only if the appeal was based on accurate, factual data stressing ecology and pollution.

The pond was causing much concern with broken glass and noisy activity of outsiders. A vigilante group was assigned to try to stop the youngsters. Stanley Hillyer, Ed Arens, George Theriault, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Worthen and Normon Windisch were to give the necessary surveillance. When old stories are re-told, the tale of Stan and Ed and others armed with baseball bats and old shot guns "scaring the devil out of the teenagers" brings many interesting mental pictures - and it worked.

1973

Inflation came to the Little Hollywood Improvement Association in 1974 -- dues went up from \$2.00 to \$5.00. The spotlight was on Micco Park and ways to make it safer by getting a watchman to live on the property in a trailer, improve the playground area and provide summer activities. The acreage of the park had changed ownership from William Parker to Bruce Harlan to Ken Atha, who sold it to Brevard County.

The water level in the Little Hollywood pond park was lowered and partially cleared out, more sand was added for the beach and repairs were done to the dock and diving board.

Ed Arens reported on his visit to the County Solicitor's office, where he learned that if unauthorized people have used the pond and not been evicted previously then Little Hollywood members could not legally eject them in the present.

Heavy planks were replaced at the pier. Sand bags were filled with a mixture of sand and cement and fitted in place to prevent severe erosion at the pond and dock areas. Much volunteer effort went into the pond to clean out the unwanted grass. Swimming tags were a continual problem and a constant item for discussion.

County Commissioner Val Steele talked to the Association at a potluck supper in October about street lights, traffic regulation, holes in the road, road sign replacement and the sheriff's budget.

1974

The usual maintenance was done at both dock and lake parks. Many zoning infractions were discussed, Commissioner Val Steele was contacted and a lawyer engaged to study the problems.

1975

The new year of 1975 got off to an active start with a tour of Little Hollywood by Macon Ballard, Director of Roads and Bridges, Lloyd Behrendt, assistant to Commissioner Val Steele and assorted Little Hollywood officers and members. Drainage, blacktop, lighting, building code violations and that elusive culvert problem on River Oaks Lane were pointed out for study by the participants later. Not much action was a result but it was good exercise for all the walkers.

At the annual meeting that year current problems were outlined: litter at the lake, poor appearances of some rental property in the area, sheriff protection and the poor condition of road shoulders.

#### 1976

In the 1976 Annual Meeting, Commissioner Steele gave his version as to why there could not be better police protection of our forgotten area and Sheriff Leigh Wilson explained why he could not put any more men down in the south end of the county.

#### 1977

The job of secretary-treasurer was split into two jobs at the time of the annual election in 1977. The same old problems were re-hashed. Repairs, painting and general maintenance were done.

Anne Nelson gave free swimming lessons at the pond - a wonderful community service. Who says there is nothing free in this world?

#### 1978

The traditional speech at the annual meeting to welcome and inspire the new officers was given, as usual, by Dr. D'Arcy Cook. Plans were made for the year which included pier repairs and pond maintenance.

#### 1979

In September of 1979, Hurricane David blew into Little Hollywood causing quite a bit of damage, mostly to trees. Evelyn Mudge left the community after a pot-luck dinner held for her at the Methodist Church with many from Little Hollywood in attendance. She would be missed as a neighbor and a faithful secretary to the Association. Eighty-nine members now belonged to Little Hollywood Improvement Association. No major work was needed this year at the two parks except some herbicide to control weeds and some dragging.

#### 1980

This may not be momentous news, but it sounded wonderful to hear that wild flowers were reported coming back, adding beauty to the area.

#### 1981

The beginning of the end came for the pond ("ye ole swimming hole") in 1981. A scare was caused when a young boy died in the

neighboring community of Grant. He was a victim of a "water born" ailment contracted in a similar-type lake. Warning signs were erected beside the pond in the hot summer time so this tragedy would not strike our community. Evidently the germ was present only when the water got hot in the summer, but it worried everyone even though the water was tested.

There was an environmental concern to address before the boat dock area at Conner Park could be cleaned out with a back hoe.

#### 1982

The first efforts of the Crime Watch program were started in 1982 with a visit from Ed DuPuy of the Brevard County Sheriff's Office. Our Little Hollywood had few crime problems compared to more cosmopolitan areas but we wanted it to be as safe as it could be. Dues were increased to \$10.

#### 1983

Bumper stickers became a big thing in Little Hollywood in 1983. They helped identify cars that belonged in the area, were given to encourage membership and were an added source of income for the Association. Ed Gustafson had to quit as president due to ill health and Don McCuen took over. Don set up a computer system and card file to make contacting and keeping track of the membership easier. Modernization came to Little Hollywood.

#### 1984

The first big problem for the Association in 1984 was the proposed changes in the Micco Fire Department. There was a move to add paid firemen to partially replace the volunteers and have the Fire Department come under Brevard County. President McCuen wrote to Commissioner D. Gene Roberts, Congressman Bill Nelson, Senator Tim Deratany and all the other commissioners to ask if the residents of the extreme south Brevard County were not entitled to the same public safety protection as other Brevard residents. He did not feel we would have the same protection under the new system, as there would no longer be a chief, ambulance costs would rise, volunteers would not be needed for meaningful jobs, and the costs would be high.

A new organization came into being - the South Brevard Mainland Civic Association which was formed to allow the residents of lower South Brevard a voice in matters affecting our area. Representatives of homeowners from Valkaria to the St. Sebastian River were to be involved and Bruce McMann would represent Little Hollywood.

# Residents Form Crime Watch

Vero Beach  
Press Journal  
June 30, 1984

Increasing reports of vandalism and prowlers have spurred Little Hollywood residents to form a Neighborhood Crime Watch program.

The Little Hollywood Improvement Association met with Cpl. Ron Birch of the Brevard County Sheriff's Department Thursday night in Roseland to further discuss the Crime Watch program.

Neighborhood Crime Watch programs were introduced throughout the county by law enforcement agencies in an effort to get residents to help assist in stopping crime.

Residents help law enforcement agencies by watching neighboring homes and reporting any suspicious persons or incidents.

Statistics have shown that crime decreases in communities which have formed Neighborhood Crime Watch programs.

The Little Hollywood Crime Watch Program was started a month ago, said June Flack, secretary for the improvement association.

Little Hollywood, an unincorporated community nestled on the banks of the Sebastian River, has been experiencing problems with

speeders, vandals and prowlers, she said.

The association's 130 members said it was time to take action to stop crime in their community.

"We have had increasing problems with youngsters knocking over mailboxes and driving fast," Mrs. Flack said. "A lot of our residents go up north for the summer and need to have their homes watched. The community also has a lot of elderly residents who we must help.

"The Crime Watch gives neighbors the opportunity to watch out for each other," she said. "The community has established captains and assistant captains who in turn have set up patrols.

"The community is off the beaten track," she said. "Because we are an unincorporated community, we depend on the Sheriff's Department for our police protection."

Mrs. Flack said signs have been posted throughout Little Hollywood designating the community as a Crime Watch area. The signs are a reminder to criminals that if they enter the community, they are being watched.

After a car was stolen and thousands of dollars worth of antique guns taken from a house on the river, more emphasis was given to the budding Crime Watch Program. Unsavory intruders were causing problems at the Micco Park at night. The watchman was absent a lot and there were hints of drug dealing, so changes were needed there. A letter was written to the Park and Recreation department of Brevard County asking about the Micco Park management. June Flack claimed that the manager did not watch over the park or lock up at night, that the watchman was rarely there and intimated there could be drug dealing in that area. The County promised to make changes.

Little Hollywood joined in the many voices crying for making the Sebastian River a "Manatee Sanctuary Area". We were all asked to keep track of manatee sightings and report the time, place and number of animals.

The McCuens especially did a lot of work that year, even though Don had to resign during his term due to work load. Sandy spent a lot of effort getting the pot-luck suppers arranged, urging businessmen to contribute many door prizes. She also wrote a column in one of the local papers about the activities of Little Hollywood.

# Little Hollywood is proud rural community with heart

December 1985

By Elliott Jones  
FLORIDA TODAY

Little Hollywood is small-town America — without a town.

It's a quiet, rural residential area of 100 homes tucked away on the banks of the Sebastian River, on the southern boundary of Brevard County. Across the river is Indian River County.

"If we wanted to live in a town, we'd move to one," said Bruce McMann, a Florida Department of Law Enforcement agent who has lived in Little Hollywood since his youth. "We're totally opposed to incorporation.

"I've traveled from Key West to Pensacola, and I never found a place I like more," McMann said.

His neighbors include a Vas-sar College professor from New York, a doctor and an occasional alligator cruising the river.

Most residents learned of the place by either visiting people who lived there or by hearing of Little Hollywood from a



Elliott Jones, FLORIDA TODAY

**TRIMMING ROSES:** Retiree Henrik Leidenfrost, formerly of New York, is content with his rural community home.

## HOMETOWN

### LITTLE HOLLYWOOD

friend.

Retiree Henrik Leidenfrost, formerly of New York, likes to trim the roses in his front yard.

And resident Mary Holmes talks of "how we have a lot of community pride" that extends beyond the neighborhood and includes rural residential areas on both banks of the Sebastian River, which is their equivalent of Main Street.

Holmes, a retiree, heads the auxiliary at Humana Hospital Sebastian in northern Indian River County. She also belongs to the Roseland Women's Club.

And groups on both sides of river have worked to protect the manatees. Little Hollywood residents took a leading role in getting the state to study the plight of manatees that swim in the river, McMann said.

McMann belongs to the South Brevard Mainland Civic

Association, a group of homeowner associations south of Malabar. Earlier this year they got Brevard County to provide an advanced life-support ambulance system without charge.

McMann's father started the Micco Volunteer Fire Department, which is up the road from Little Hollywood and has been providing volunteer ambulance service for the community.

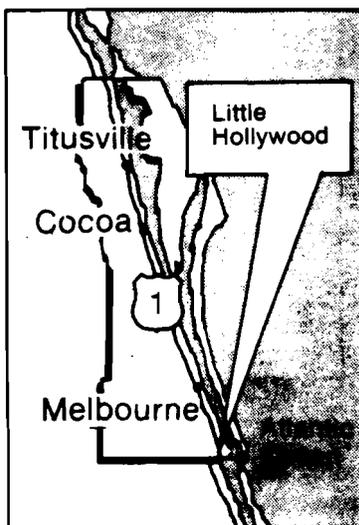
Little Hollywood got its start in 1949 when Kate Sawyer and her husband bought the land and created a subdivision for single-family homes.

Somewhere on the land map was the word "Hollywood," so they decided to call it Little Hollywood, McMann said.

"Indians were still coming down from North Carolina and camping on the river at that time," he said. The first road was made out of oyster shells from an ancient Indian trash heap.

Little Hollywood still retains a lot of its ruralness "and people would go to any length to protect it (the environment)," McMann said.

"It's a beautiful place where people care."



FLORIDA TODAY

1985

Bruce McMann took over as president in 1985 and joined other civic group heads to meet with the county commissioners to urge them to cancel, withdraw or eliminate the proposed new County Fire and Ambulance Consolidation Plan. Bruce explained that "almost to a man" all supported the stand taken by Mr. Smith of the South Brevard Mainland Civic Association. He told them he hoped they would re-think and re-evaluate this plan, which the residents don't want and think is unneeded.

The first annual Little Hollywood picnic was held at Conner Park in October, 1985 and seemed to bring neighbors closer together. There was a decision to build a pavilion at Conner Park for future use. Arrangements were made to dredge the boat dock area to an average depth of three feet. A bulletin board was to be erected at the park for information for all the neighborhood.

News came that the Micco-Barefoot Bay area was to have a 6,000 square-foot library and a search was begun for a site, so the bookmobile would be phased out. The county agreed to pave River Oaks Lane and if residents paid for the material, the county would put in a culvert in the fall. Promises! Promises!

1986

The second annual picnic was held in 1986. There was discussion at the picnic about the pavilion and a name change for Little Hollywood. Fortunately, the plans for the pavilion went ahead and the name change was dropped.

Good news from the Sheriff's Department was that 26 more deputies were being hired and deputies would get a pay increase. The membership seemed to feel our community would have better protection and we could feel more secure in a world of rising crime. Dues had been raised to \$25 the year before and now they were lowered this year to \$20 as adjustment was needed, depending on needs for projects.

The McManns had their usual Christmas party for all residents of Little Hollywood and the "spirit of caring" was evident in the neighborhood as our President McMann made sure the shut-ins were contacted and had a Christmas dinner.

1987

President June Flack had a way with words when she said, "1987 was a year of highs and lows in the nation, the world and even in our Little Hollywood. The stock market went down, down, down and our pavilion went up, up, up. Work days were fun and

productive. The cost of living went up and we didn't even increase our dues, having dropped them to \$20 last year. How's that for economic management? All the signs have been repainted and look good.....".

Poles were purchased for the edge of the pond and white sand was brought in for the swimming area. Don McCuen offered his address to be used for a permanent LHIA address: (9864 Riverview Drive).

### 1988

The first Trash and Treasure sale was held in Little Hollywood in 1988 and was a success. The turnout for many work days in the community seemed to improve. The Christophers, Mary Holmes and June Flack moved out of Little Hollywood. All were made first-time honorary members because of their many contributions to the Association.

Two picnics were held that year - one in the spring and one in the fall. A large charcoal grill was added for the park.

The county promised changes at Micco Park to make it safer. The restroom would be re-done and locked and a fence was to be replaced and moved toward Riverview Drive with gates to be locked from sunset to sunrise.

Many work days were held to improve LHIA properties and almost enough volunteers responded. Pressure was brought on the county to pave Pine Street and Lakeview Drive. South Brevard Mainland Civic Association asked for our "wish list". Residents wished for bike paths, tennis courts at Micco Park and stop signs to be re-designed.

### 1989

Finally in 1989 the St. Sebastian River was declared a "Manatee Sanctuary". All manatee lovers hoped reduced speeds on the river would soon follow.

Two Trash and Treasure sales were held at the pavilion bringing our Trash and Treasure take to \$1,276.71. Joe Bombera and Karl Young worked hard to make a success of these ventures. Two picnics were held in the spring and fall. Ed Coble built a bulletin board for the dock area, Joe and Grace Cathey and Charlie Stearns built the picnic tables, Bill Lewis donated the paint and stain and Susie Johnson painted all the new and old tables and benches. Others helped make the neighborhood a place to be proud of. "Block heads" were assigned to disseminate information to members in the area as communication is always a problem. A new and different workday called "Scoop the Scum" happened in June at the pond. Conner Park picnic area was paved. The treasury improved due to Rose Stearns bake sales at events.

The Micco Park made extensive changes to enhance the existing facilities -all encouraged and helped by the Catheys.

#### 1990

Phyllis McCullers published a newsletter periodically in 1990, so the historian and all the neighborhood became better informed about what was going on in Little Hollywood. We learned that D'Arcy Cook celebrated his 100th happy birthday on February 6. Friends and neighbors attended an open house to celebrate Dr. Cook becoming a centenarian Gladys Habben turned 92 that February. There must be something about Little Hollywood to make for longevity. Carole Coble told us that Little Hollywood homeowners saved at least 500 trees with the newspaper collection and recycling. A spring and fall picnic were again held and the Trash and Treasure sales brought in needed money for the treasury which now held \$3,486.39. Micco Park had a fence-moving party in December to display the expanded park area.

The road paving in Little Hollywood is finally done making all the letters, phone calls, and personal visits from our representatives worth the effort to keep the pressure on the county. Street lighting and culverts are still a problem.

#### 1991

As we reach the end of the historical reporting of Little Hollywood Improvement years, we realize how much has been done. The pavilion is a meeting place for activities, both Association lots are kept mowed and free of fire ants, and there is a lock on the dock park with key control to keep some degree of privacy. There are still the culvert problems, street lights needed, and occasionally a stray dog problem, but so much has been accomplished.

The first annual Christmas caroling began in Little Hollywood on December 23. About 50 people assembled at Conner Park and pulled a punch bowl wagon used by Don McCuen many years ago when he was a young boy delivering papers in Philadelphia. One resident brought his float boat on a trailer and some rode along with the group. Al Schultz' Model A often led the singers, honking for attention, so residents would open their doors and listen. It was a good beginning to a new tradition.

# Brevard Purchases Land For Park

By **HAROLD AND BETTY COX**  
Press-Journal Correspondents

A "Fence Moving Ceremony" planned by County Commissioner Carol Senne's office was held Dec. 7. The land adjacent to the park was purchased by Brevard County to enlarge the Micco Park. Refreshments were served by Micco and Little Hollywood Home Owners Associations.

Dorothy Welsh volunteered to plant flowers at the base of the flag pole and she is giving them TLC. The latest addition to the park is the installation of an electrical outlet at the south pavilion and pitching stands at both horseshoe pits. This work was completed by county employees. The trees are doing well and Bill McCready is continuing to give them daily care.

The park is looking great and everyone that attended the MHOA picnic was very appreciative of their improved park. The picnic was well-attended. Good food and excellent entertainment. Christ Artus and Louis Lavrick, both talented musicians, provided the music for everyone's enjoyment. The day was windy and cool, but that didn't stop the festivities. MHOA presented Bill with a certifi-

cate proclaiming November 10th, "Bill McCready Day." Then several people marching with signs stating that Bill was their "man."

The Micco Home Owners are starting a new walk from the park for anyone who would like to walk. Their plan is to meet at the park and decide where everyone would like to walk that day.



There will be coffee and donuts at the park before starting and lots of good conversation. Watch for information on this project some time after the first of the year. Many new plans for the park will be announced later in the year.

### The Final Word

.....We all enjoy Little Hollywood and its quiet streets. The joggers or walkers in the early morning see quail, cardinals, jays, rabbits and squirrels, maybe a wandering gopher tortoise and, if lucky, a bald eagle circling overhead. At dusk the strollers spot owls perched on overhead wires. Residents can go out on the dock to see the pelicans, egrets and herons flying back to the rookery, or find a manatee family chomping on some water delicacy in the river. Crabs abound in the St. Sebastian River, clamming is good in the Indian River and shrimp can be caught at the Inlet when the moon is full.

It is good living here. There is a mixture of young and old so we all learn to understand the wants and needs of different ages. Homes range in size from a fisherman's cottage to an exotic mansion. Residents include local businessmen, fishermen, treasure hunters, craftsmen, retirees and others.

The little jet skis and a sightseeing boat called the River Queen have invaded the silence and tranquillity of the St. Sebastian River but we still see canoes being paddled silently up the river and fishermen in boats drifting lazily along the shore.

Friends ask us how we found our home in Little Hollywood as it seems to be tucked away and hidden from those who whiz by on U. S. 1. We first found the St. Sebastian River and then searched its banks, not unlike the explorers who came earlier. We were drawn to the beautiful river, the privacy of such a secluded area and the feeling of "country".

The first dwellers along the St. Sebastian River were horses, bears, wolves, sloths, mastodons, saber-tooth tigers and armadillos four feet long. Then came shellfish-eating human beings who later added birds, fish, animals, palm berries, coco plums and sea grapes to their diet. And Mr. Canova, that first white resident moved to the Little Hollywood area for the climate, to live in a palm-thatched hut and fish, clam and hunt -- and fight mosquitoes.

Not much has changed in all these years. The mastodons and tigers are gone but the armadillo remains, just shorter. Some say a few sloth-like creatures and certainly wolves are still around in the form of certain human beings. We still enjoy the shellfish and fish in the area and make sea grape jelly now and then. Like Mr. Canova, we came here for the climate and peaceful nature of the area and at tax time "hanker" for that palm-thatched hut of old -- and we still battle mosquitoes.....

Officers in Little Hollywood Improvement Association -  
1953 to 1991

- 1953 - Leander Jeffrey, President  
 Clair Babcock, Secretary-Treasurer
- 1954 - Leander Jeffrey, President  
 Clair Babcock, Secretary-Treasurer
- 1955 - Harry Cousins, President  
 Marge Blanski, Secretary-Treasurer (resigned)  
 Barbara A. Albright, Secretary Pro Tem
- 1956 - Camiel Thorrez, President  
 Mrs. Millirk, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Board of Directors: P. D. Conner, Bruce Harlan,  
 LeCarr Bricker, L. C. Benjamin
- 1957 - Camiel Thorrez, President  
 LeCarr Bricker, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Board of Directors: P. D. Conner, Bruce Harlan,  
 L. C. Benjamin
- 1958 - Camiel Thorrez, President  
 Sarah Daugherty, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Board of Directors: Bruce Harlan, L. C. Benjamin,  
 George Heiter, Leroy Stockstill
- 1959 - Virgil Apke, President  
 Maurice Grabiell, Vice President  
 Sarah Daugherty, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Board of Directors: Isaac Habben, Leroy Stockstill
- 1960 - Maurice Grabiell, President  
 Isaac Habben, Vice President  
 A. F. Huch, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Board of Directors: Mrs. LeCarr Bricker, Graham  
 Lowe, Virgil Apke
- 1961 - Isaac Habben, President  
 Graham Lowe, Vice President  
 A. F. Huch, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Board of Directors: Mrs. LeCarr Bricker, Al Roth
- 1962 - Isaac Habben, President  
 A. J. Roth, Vice President  
 Robert L. Atha, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Board of Directors: Graham Lowe, Mrs. Paul Wright

- 1963 - Alvin Bullerman, President  
Paul Wright, Vice President  
Graham Lowe, Secretary-Treasurer  
Board of Directors: Harry Leland, Arthur George
- 1964 - (no information)
- 1965 - (no information)
- 1966 - Ken Atha, President  
Isaac Habben, Vice President  
Peder Gald, Secretary-Treasurer  
Board of Directors: (no information)
- 1967 - Ken Atha, President  
Isaac Habben, Vice President  
Peder Gald, Secretary-Treasurer  
Board of Directors: (no information)
- 1968 - Ken Atha, President  
Isaac Habben, Vice President  
Peder Gald, Secretary-Treasurer  
Board of Directors: Gary Worthen
- 1969 - Isaac Habben, President  
D'Arcy Cook, Vice President  
Mrs. Gil Swiger, Secretary-Treasurer  
Board of Directors: William Herr
- 1970 - Isaac Habben, President  
John Lilliendahl, Vice President  
Drucie Christopher, Secretary-Treasurer  
Board of Directors: William Herr, Bruce Wandel
- 1971 - D'Arcy Cook, President  
John Lilliendahl, Vice President  
Drucie Christopher, Secretary-Treasurer  
Board of Directors: William Herr, Bruce Wandel,  
Stanley Hillyer
- 1972 - D'Arcy Cook, President  
George Theriault, Vice President  
Evelyn Mudge, Secretary-Treasurer  
Board of Directors: Stanley Hillyer, Glen Breedlove,  
Charles Day Sembler

- 1973 - Edward Arens, President  
 George Theriault, Vice President  
 Evelyn Mudge, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Board of Directors: Charles Day Sembler, Glen Breedlove  
 Harold Christopher, Stanley Hillyer
- 1974 - Ed Arens, President  
 Norman Windisch, Vice President  
 Evelyn Mudge, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Board of Directors: Charles Day Sembler, Mr. Frank  
 Kendall, Arthur Franco, Stanley Hillyer, Gladys Habben
- 1975 - Ed Arens, President  
 Norman Windisch, Vice President  
 Mrs. Dan Martin, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Board of Directors: Cecil Grimes, Evelyn Mudge  
 Frank Kendall, Isaac Habben, Stanley Hillyer
- 1976 - Robert Schaber, President  
 Mack May, Vice President  
 Kathie Hulse, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Board of Directors: Percy Jones, Frank Kendall,  
 Pete Spangler, Bruce Wandel, Ed Arens
- 1977 - Robert Schaber, President  
 Mack May, Vice President  
 Evelyn Mudge, Secretary  
 Pat Arens, Treasurer  
 Board of Directors: Ed Arens, Percy Jones,  
 Frank Kendall, Pete Spangler, Bruce Wandel
- 1978 - Mack May, President  
 Percy Jones, Vice President  
 Yvonne Atha, Secretary  
 Mary Holmes, Treasurer  
 Board of Directors: Ed Arens, James Robertson,  
 Robert Schaber, Herman Swierkos, Leonard Zeman
- 1979 - Percy Jones, President  
 Jim Robertson, Vice President  
 Florence Cornwall, Secretary  
 Faye Swierkos, Treasurer  
 Board of Directors: Mack May, Bob Schaber,  
 Herman Swierkos, Leonard Zeman, Mary Holmes,  
 Bruce Wandel

- 1980 - Percy Jones, President  
Robert Schaber, Vice President  
Barbara Maltby, Secretary  
Faye Swierkos, Treasurer  
Board of Directors: Mary Holmes, Leonard Zeman,  
Gordon Maltby, Arthur White, Herman Swierkos,  
Mack May
- 1981 - Robert Schaber, President  
Arthur White, Vice President  
Barbara Maltby, Secretary  
Sarah Parmley, Treasurer  
Board of Directors: Gordon Maltby, Bruce McMann,  
Edward Gustafson, Willard Cornwall, Susan  
Schubert
- 1982 - Arthur White, President  
Helen Gustafson, Vice President  
Sarah Parmley, Treasurer  
Agnes White, Secretary  
Board of Directors: Bruce McMann, Susan Schubert  
Bob Schaber, George Douglas, Gladys Habben
- 1983 - Edward Gustafson, President  
Don McCuen, Vice President  
Drucie Christopher, Secretary  
Susan Schubert, Treasurer  
Board of Directors: Bruce McMann, George Douglas,  
Ken Atha, Rick Raynor, Willard Cornwall
- 1984 - Don McCuen, President  
Bruce McMann, Vice President  
June Flack, Secretary  
Frances Starck, Treasurer  
Board of Directors: Willard Cornwall, Rick Raynor,  
Susan Schubert, Drusilla Christopher, Ed Gustafson,  
John Mazur, Percy Jones, Richard Gemberling
- 1985 - Bruce McMann, President  
Ron Adams, Vice President  
Effie Martin, Secretary  
Frances Starck, Treasurer  
Board of Directors: Willard Cornwall, Drucie Christopher  
John Mazur, Don McCuen, Edward Gustafson, Percy Jones

- 1986 - Bruce McMann, President  
Ron Adams, Vice President  
Pat Arens and Mrs. Nancy Hillyer, Secretaries  
Frances Starck, Treasurer  
Board of Directors: Drusilla Christopher, John Mazur  
Don McCuen, Carole Coble, Ed Arens
- 1987 - June Flack, President  
Bruce McMann, Vice President  
Yvonne Atha, Secretary  
Frances Starck and Nancy Hillyer, Treasurers  
Board of Directors: Ron Adamson, Barbara Allen,  
Helen Gustafson, John Mazur, Don McCuen
- 1988 - Don McCuen, President  
Bruce McMann, Vice President  
Yvonne Atha, Secretary  
Phyllis McCullers, Treasurer  
Board of Directors: Nancy Hillyer, Barbara Allen  
Robert Soulioutis, William Lewis, John Mazur  
June Flack, Al LaFevre, Ed Arens
- 1989 - Edward Arens, President  
Phyllis McCullers, Vice President  
Yvonne Atha, Secretary  
Frances Starck, Treasurer  
Board of Directors: Al LaFevre, Bob Soulioutis,  
Susie Johnson, Effie Martin, Bruce McMann
- 1990 - Bruce McMann, President  
Karl Young, Vice President  
Mari P. Viviano, Secretary  
Pat Schalk, Treasurer  
Board of Directors: Yvonne Atha, Ed Arens,  
Bill Lewis, Susie Johnson, Phyllis McCullers  
Barbara Maltby, Harriett Washer, Al Lefevre
- 1991 - Don McCuen, President  
Bruce McMann, Vice President  
Vivian Murray, Secretary  
Diane McCauley, Treasurer  
Board of Directors: Bill Lewis, Charlie Stearns,  
Karl Young, Ed Arens, Yvonne Atha, Susie Johnson,  
Barbara Maltby, Harriet Washer

Oldest Little Hollywood Improvement Association Memberships

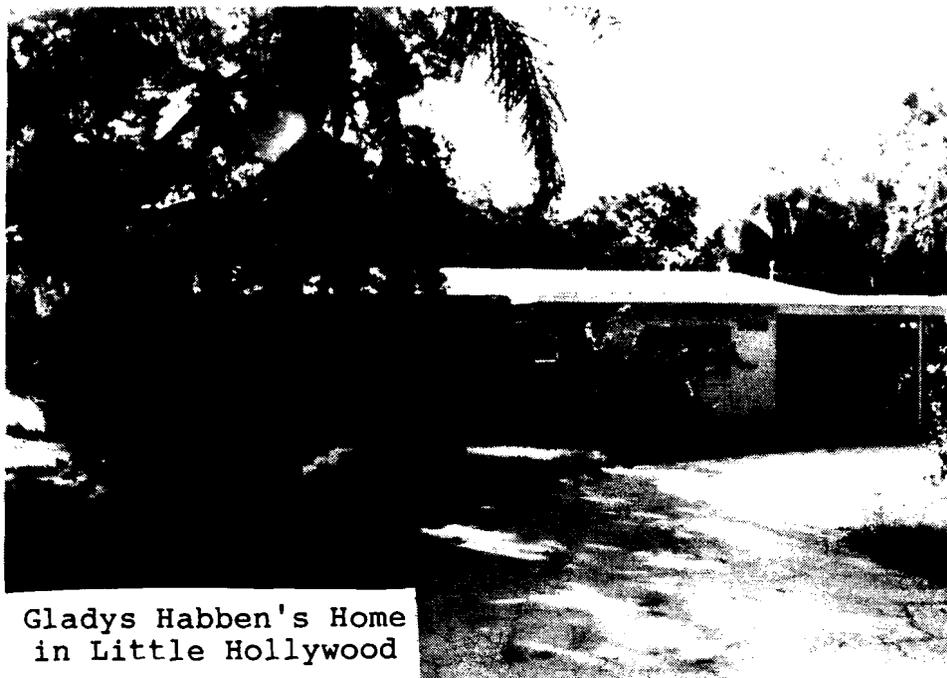
Margaret Harlan (from 1953)  
 Ken and Margaret Atha (from 1954)  
 Gladys Habben (from 1958)  
 Bruce and Kaye McMann (from 1960)  
 Stanley and Nancy Hillyer (from 1967)  
 D'Arcy and Lucy Cook (from 1970)  
 Florence Wandel (from 1970)

Honorary Lifetime Memberships

Harold and Drucie Christopher  
 Mary Holmes  
 June Flack



Margaret Harlan  
 First Home in Little Hollywood



Gladys Habben's Home  
 in Little Hollywood



Satisfaction and Delight

by D'Arcy Cook

*Oh, how great it is to be  
A human being grand and free,  
So free to roam upon the earth  
Investing life with joy and mirth.*

*To greet all persons with a smile,  
And walk with each the second mile,  
Content to lift each other's load,  
And be a neighbor on the road.*

*It's good to know the right from wrong,  
And match life's sadness with a song,  
To sing and whistle when we're gay,  
And cheer each other on the way.*

*Then lend yourselves to every joy,  
And thus your hearts and minds employ.  
Come, let your lives with love agree,  
Be joyful, happy, kind and free.*



## Flora and Fauna of Little Hollywood Area

(A list of some of the vegetation, wild life and water creatures we can enjoy in this area)

### Trees and Shrubs

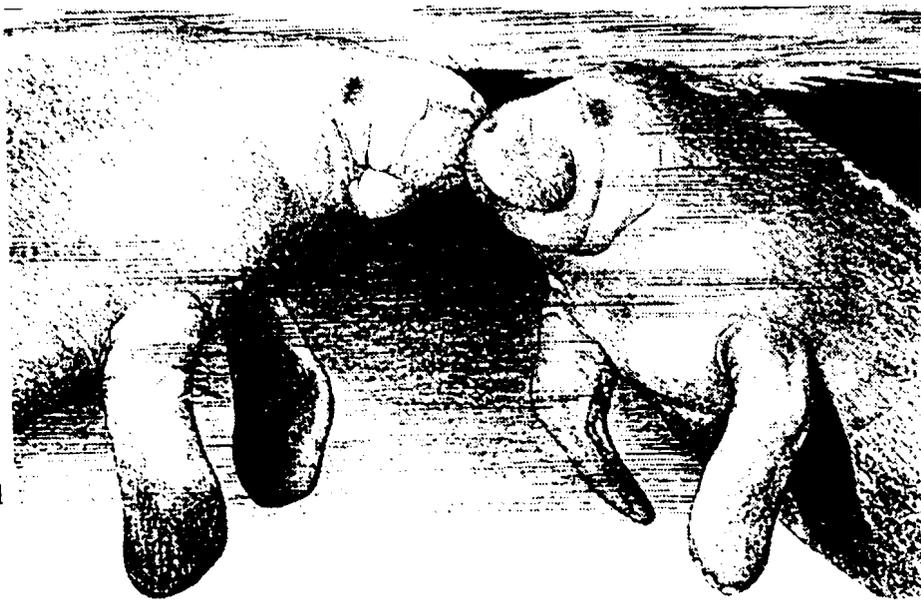
Live Oak  
Willow Oak  
Water Oak  
Red Mangrove  
Black Mangrove  
Cabbage Palm  
Palmetto  
Pine  
Cypress  
Magnolia  
Sweet Bay  
Holly  
Casuarina  
Sea Grape  
Brazilian Pepper  
Melaleuca  
Citrus

### Mammals

White Tail Deer  
Opossum  
Armadillo  
Bob Cat  
Panther  
Raccoon  
Gray Squirrel  
Fox Squirrel  
Citrus Rat  
Mole  
Eastern Cottontail  
Swamp Rabbit  
Skunk  
Wild Hog  
Otter  
Manatee  
Bottlenose Dolphin

### Reptiles

Alligator  
Sea Turtle  
Loggerhead Turtle  
Trunk Back Turtle  
Ripley Turtle  
Green Turtle  
Eastern Box Turtle  
Soft Shell Turtle  
Basking Turtle  
Gopher Tortoise  
Anole  
Skink  
American Common Toad  
Tree Frog  
Bull Frog  
Snake  
Coral  
Rattler  
Pigmy rattler  
Water Moccasin  
Cottonmouth  
Black Racer  
Corn Snake  
Indigo



Birds

Bald Eagle  
 Hummingbird  
 Quail  
 Pigeon  
 Cardinal  
 Blue Jay  
 Scrub Jay  
 Purple Martin  
 Painted Bunting  
 Common Crow  
 Turkey Vulture  
 Grackle  
 Carolina Wren  
 Cattle Egret  
 Wood Stork  
 Oriole  
 Mockingbird  
 Morning Dove  
 Wild Parrot  
 Owl  
 Poor Will's Widow  
 Limpkin  
 Pileated Woodpecker  
 Red-Bellied Woodpecker  
 Sparrow  
 Brown Thrasher  
 Ground Dove  
 Wild parakeet  
 Peregrine Falcon  
 Hawk  
 American Robin  
 Flicker  
 Downey Woodpecker

Water Birds

Great Blue Heron  
 Tern  
 Anhinga  
 Osprey  
 Green Heron (Crackers  
     called 'Poor Joes')  
 Brown Pelican  
 White Pelican  
 Cormorant  
 White Heron  
 Blue Heron  
 Kingfisher  
 Sea Gull  
 Snowy Egret  
 White Ibis  
 Skimmer  
 Merganser Duck  
 Mallard Duck  
 Wood Duck



Sealife (found generally in the ocean nearby)

Rock Shrimp	Manta Ray
Trigger Fish	Spearfish
Lizard Fish (Charlie Brown)	Remora
Amberjack	Porcupine Fish
Grunt	Cobia
Tile Fish	Sea Bass
Wahoo	Lane Snapper
Red Snapper	Barracuda
Sail Fish	Marlin (blue)
Tuna (yellow)	Marlin (white)
Tuna (black)	Bonita (False Albacore)
Tuna (blue fin)	Atlantic Bonita
Needlefish	Swordfish
Red Grouper	Blue Runner
King	Permit
Jewfish	Ribbon Fish

River Life (found generally in Indian and St. Sebastian Rivers)

Mussel	Eel
Clam	Catfish
Stone Crab	Spot
Queen Crab	Mangrove Snapper
Blue Claw Crab	LADYFISH
Florida Lobster	Snook
Shrimp	Trout
Oyster	Sheepshead
Sea Horse	Triple Tail
Sting Ray	Blowfish (puffer)
Menhaden (Porgie)	Grey Grouper
Spanish Mackerel	Silver Mullet
Croaker	Whiting
Pilchards	Goat fish (sand perch)
Lady Fish	Bream
Tarpon	Shark
Sea Robin	Redfish
Black Mullet	Jack Crevalle
Spotted Sea Trout	Weakfish
Large-Mouth Bass	Pig Fish
Drum	Speck
Blue Fish	Pompano



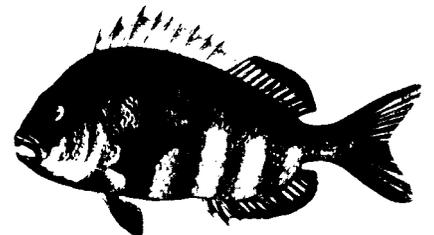
WHITING



COMMON WEAKFISH

SEA TROUT

TARPON



SHEEPSHEAD



**YOU'RE THE SOLUTION  
TO WATER POLLUTION**

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### Credits

Bob and Florence Hume's hours of talking about the "old days in Micco"

Margaret Harlan's view of Little Hollywood's earliest days and her help and encouragement.

Mary Holmes, former Historian, Little Hollywood Improvement Association notes.

Ray and Frances Starck's help in listing flora and fauna in Little Hollywood

Stanley and Nancy Hillyer's recollection of their early life in Little Hollywood

Talk and walk with Ken and Margaret Atha

Gordon Maltby's technical assistance with abstracts, maps and many miles of driving around the area.