

PH0002038

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Florida	
COUNTY: Collier	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUL 24 1974	

1. NAME

COMMON: Ted Smallwood's Store
 AND/OR HISTORIC: Smallwood's Trading Post FL 29 in Everglades National Park

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: U.S. #41, west to S.R. #29; south on S.R. #29 to Chokoloskee Island; right on Chokoloskee Drive; left on Mamie Street; approx. 1/4 mile south, past Blue Heron Motel; Island
 CITY OR TOWN: Chokoloskee Island Chokoloskee
 STATE: Florida CODE: 12 COUNTY: Collier CODE: 021

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes: Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

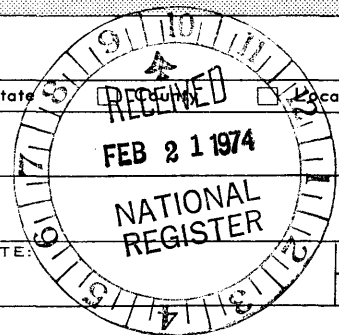
OWNER'S NAME: Thelma Smallwood
 STREET AND NUMBER: U.S. Post Office Zip Code 33925
 CITY OR TOWN: Chokoloskee Island STATE: Florida CODE: 12

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Collier County Court House
 STREET AND NUMBER: Court House Complex
 CITY OR TOWN: East Naples STATE: Florida CODE: 12

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: N/A
 DATE OF SURVEY: Federal State Local
 DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
 STREET AND NUMBER:
 CITY OR TOWN: STATE: CODE:



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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

H2
No
M

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

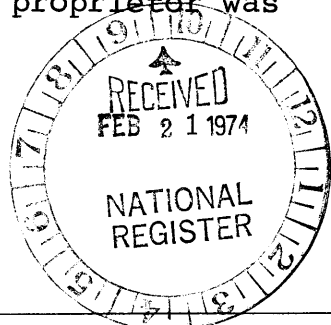
SEE INSTRUCTION

Ted Smallwood's store and trading post is located on the eastern portion at the southernmost tip of Chokoloskee Island in Collier County, Florida. The Island is surrounded by Chokoloskee Bay, and is separated from the Gulf of Mexico by the Ten Thousand Islands, just south of the Florida Everglades. The one-story, board and batten structure is rectangular in plan, and is raised on wooden pilings. When built in 1917 by C.S. "Ted" Smallwood, the structure was a few feet above ground level; however, a storm in 1925 flooded the floor of the building, and it was in this year that Smallwood elevated the building to its present height. A six-foot space under the entire structure is perhaps the main reason the building has withstood the many years of hurricane and wind damage. The building is of simple construction design, and has a gabled roof covered in corrugated tin. The north and south sides of the structure are also covered with corrugated tin. The single entry on the main (east) facade extends through to the west portion of the structure which faces Chokoloskee Bay. An open veranda at the rear of the building spans its width, and a portion of it extends out over the Bay. The upper one-fourth of the building is covered with corrugated tin. A steep, wooden stair leads up to the entrance which consists of a heavy wooden door. Two pair of windows flank this entry; those on the left (south) side were boarded.

In addition to a meager inventory of some modern-day merchandise for sale to the local residents, the store contains a vast collection of memorabilia dating back to the early part of the decade. Unsold merchandise which has accumulated over the years is found on nearly every shelf and counter. Among the relics are tools, cooking implements, photographs, posters, and displays of shells and artifacts. A set of Howe Scales, dated 1898, used when Smallwood first opened his trading post, rests on the old wooden counter. The porch still contains an old gasoline pump used when Smallwood's was the center of an active trading post and fishing center.

Scattered around the grounds of the building are the rusted remains of boat ways which were used to haul boats up from the Bay.

The Chokoloskee Post Office is also contained in Smallwood's Store, as it has been since the pioneer proprietor was appointed postmaster in 1906.



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1917**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | | U.S. Post Office |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

C.S. "Ted" Smallwood came to Chokoloskee Island as a permanent settler in 1897, and was one of the largest landholders in the area, having owned 35 1/2 acres. The Post Office at Chokoloskee was established November 27, 1891. As a pioneer, Smallwood started his trading post in his home which was located only a few yards from the water which surrounds the Island. In the same year, 1906, he became postmaster--a post held by him for 35 years until his daughter, Thelma, succeeded him. The post office was also operated from his home. The Smallwood trading post became trading headquarters for the region, although the Storter interests at Everglades were also prospering and rivaled Smallwood's business.

In 1917, Smallwood built the general store that still serves as postoffice and store for the residents of Chokoloskee Island. The structure has weathered South Florida hurricanes during the 56 years of its existence, and appears relatively unchanged during all this time. The fact that the structure has withstood the elements of time and weather could be attributed to Smallwood's ingenuity when, in 1925, he raised the building on pilings in order to prevent flooding. He is also responsible for discovering one of three artesian wells on the Island.

Smallwood was a seafarer who sailed along Florida's east coast and was a frequent visitor from Key West in 1894, prior to the advent of the railroad. He was born in Lake City, and went to sea from Punta Gorda at the age of ten. In 1918, he recognized the need for easy access to his island enterprises, and dredged a channel from the deep water to his dock at store front--a move which proved a considerable commercial advantage, as well as opening up that side of the Island to increased trade. Fish houses which formerly were located farther back on the Island, were relocated to either side of his trading post; a boatways was erected to haul boats from the Bay; and the water's edge settlement became a center of activity for several years.

Included among the significant facts associated with Chokoloskee Island is its use as a military base for expeditionary forces during the final days of the Seminole Indian wars.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

(SEE ATTACHED SHEET)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

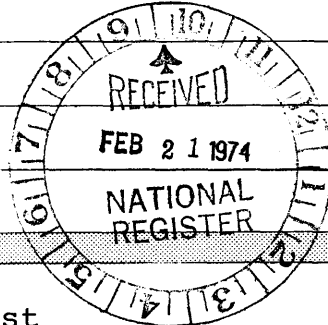
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		N 25 48 34	W 81 21 45	
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

less than ten acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A		N/A	
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mary K. Evans, Historic Sites Specialist

ORGANIZATION: Records Management
Dept. of State; Div. of Archives, History, &

DATE: 9/12/73

STREET AND NUMBER:
The Capitol

CITY OR TOWN: Tallahassee

STATE: Florida

CODE: 12

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Richard Williams

Title: Historic Preservation Officer

Date: February 6, 1974

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

A. R. Mortensen
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 7/24/74

ATTEST:
Ronald M. Greenberg
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 7/22/74

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(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Florida	
COUNTY Collier	
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ENTRY NUMBER JUL 24 1974	DATE

(Number all entries)

9. Bibliography.

"Chokoloskee Pioneer," Fort Myers News Press, October 26, 1955.

Collier County Court House, Naples, Florida. Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court. Collier County Records (Subgroup: deeds).

Fuller, Walter P. "State Your Name; Don't Ask Name of Islander," Tampa Tribune, n.d.

Morgan, Tom. "Mystery of E. J. Watson Gets Deeper Every Year," The Miami Herald, April 21, 1964.

Pratt, Theodore. "Papa of the Everglades National Park," Saturday Evening Post, August 9, 1947.

Smallwood, Thelma. Personal Interview (by Mary K. Evans), July 23, 1973. Chokoloskee Island, Florida.

Tebeau, Charlton W. Florida's Last Frontier. Coral Gables, Florida: University of Miami Press, 1957.

Tebeau, Charlton W. The Story of the Chokoloskee Bay Country with the Reminiscences of Pioneer C. S. "Ted" Smallwood. Coral Gables, Florida: University of Miami Press, 1955.

