

# Florida Historical Quarterly

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Volume 26  
Number 4 *Florida Historical Quarterly*, Vol 26,  
*Issue 4*

Article 7

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1947

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### Recommended Citation

Goggin, John M. (1947) "A New Collier County Map," *Florida Historical Quarterly*. Vol. 26: No. 4, Article 7.  
Available at: <https://stars.library.ucf.edu/fhq/vol26/iss4/7>

A NEW COLLIER COUNTY MAP  
by JOHN M. GOGGIN

Maps are not generally reviewed, but one currently published is of such interest that it should be noted. This is the *Map of Collier County, Florida*, computed and mapped under the direction of D. Graham Copeland, and published in April 1947 as an official county map for general use.

Most maps are of interest only as a geographical guide. However, this map can also be profitably used as a research tool by historians, archeologists, physiographers, and many others. Like the usual county map, this one presents communities, airfields, and other political features, but in addition it indicates Indian camps, ranches, Civil Aeronautics beacons, navigation lights, oil wells, dip vats, and much other data. Roads of all kinds, county, state, and private, are shown, as well as trails in the swamps, once used alike on foot or in canoe depending on the season but now beaten down by Glades buggies and airboats. Not only are railroads included but also all abandoned grades of public as well as private logging railroads, together with pertinent identification. These last are of such a temporary nature that they are usually not recorded and the traveler in the woods who finds the old embankments is often curious as to when they were used. The date of use and abandonment of these is given.

The usual county map is a neat network of grids indicating section and township. However, much of Collier County is still rough undeveloped country which has not yet been visited by the surveyor. Original government Land Office surveys made here in the latter part of the last century covered only a limited area and modern traverses have not covered, much more. It is probable that half of the county has not been sectioned. On this map government and later surveys are clearly indicated by different symbols. The exact survey line is precisely shown and permanent monuments are indicated. In all cases the exact lines are given and not the

closed section unless it was actually closed by a survey. Miscellaneous lines such as the old Collier City Rail Road survey are also indicated.

Historians will be interested in numerous spots marked on the map. These include modern places, such as the site of Governor Sholtz's "Pow Wow" with the Seminoles in 1936, and locales abandoned for many years, among them many old Seminole War forts such as Fort Harrell on New River, Camp Keais and Fort Simon Drum in the Big Cypress. Elusive Fort Shackelford and Sam Jones Old Town are definitely located. Crossings on Okaloacoochee Slough used in the Seminole Wars as well as modern ones are also marked.

Prehistorians, too, will find much of interest. For no other county in Florida is such a detail of archeological data available on a map. A good proportion of the known sites in the county are shown, sometimes with the size indicated. Certain of the coastal sites had previously been depicted on Coast and Geodetic charts, but others are indicated here for the first time. The locating of interior sites is a particularly important contribution, for this is a wild country, difficult to penetrate, and it will be many years before archeological interest will be sufficient to make a detailed survey worth the expense.

But the map has still more detail. The basic vegetation complexes are indicated by symbols : cypress, pine, mangroves, palms, palmettoes, willows, marsh, salt marsh, prairie, and saw grass. Not only are the details of value, but the whole mass impression, with the contrast ranging from cypress to prairie, is such that the drainage pattern stands out clearly.

In years to come, when folklorists and others interested in the "names on the land" lament the passing of the colorful vocabulary of the pioneer, his traces will remain on the map. The history of the successive occupants of the county may be traced here in its names. The original Indians left little, although they are responsible for the terms Caloosahatchee River and Big and Little Carlos Passes in adjacent Lee County. The

centuries of Spanish occupation are indicated by names on the coast, including Caxambas, Marco, and Cape Romano, and the Seminole has left his strong imprint with Chokoloskee, Fakahatchee, Okaloacoochee, and Im-mokolee, among others. The white fishing pioneer on the coast was more restrained for his names are simple and short, e. g., Tarpon Bay, Shell, Hog, Fire, and Panther Keys; John and Blind Passes. However, the cracker pioneer of the interior had less inhibition and his country is full of colorful names like Corkscrew March, Twelve Mile Prairie, Lard Can Slough, Gator Hook Strand, and Sadie Cypress. The more "sophisticated" approach to naming so common in other parts of the state is perhaps represented by Sunniland and Belle Meade.

It is the writer's opinion that no single Florida map of any period can approach this one in either interest or factual value. Both Mr. Copeland and the other officials of Collier County are to be commended for this excellent work. It is a worthy goal towards which other counties can aim.