

# OAKLAND PARK BEFORE IT WAS OAKLAND PARK

***Sharing local history is key to  
building a sense of community***

**Presented by Susan Gillis**

T. 19 S. R. 12 E.

McKay Williams  
surveys  
1845/1870  
showing parts of  
Oakland Park and  
Wilton Manors





What did it look like?  
Sabal palms, royals, saw  
palmettoes, cypress,  
pines & more pines &  
oaks

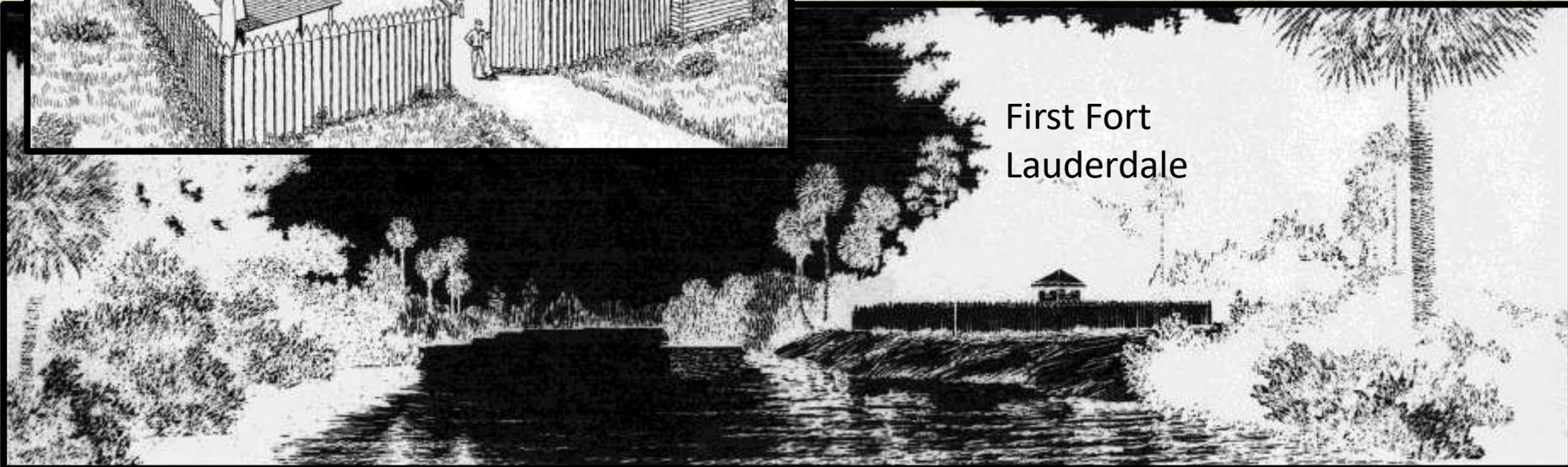
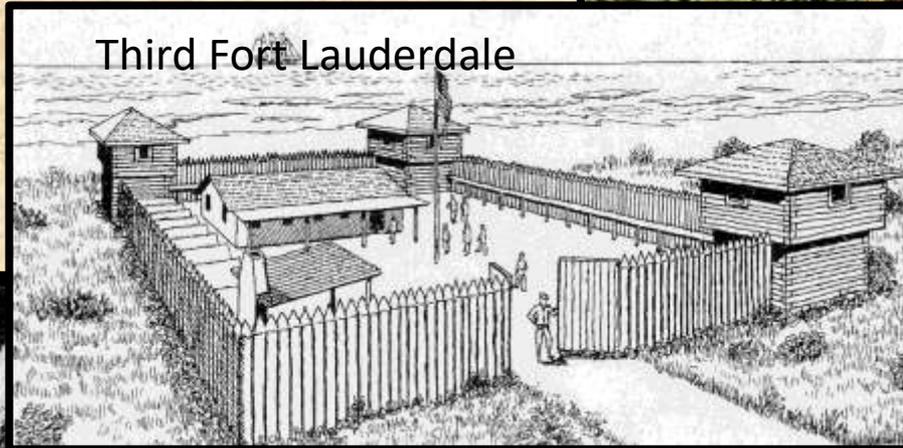
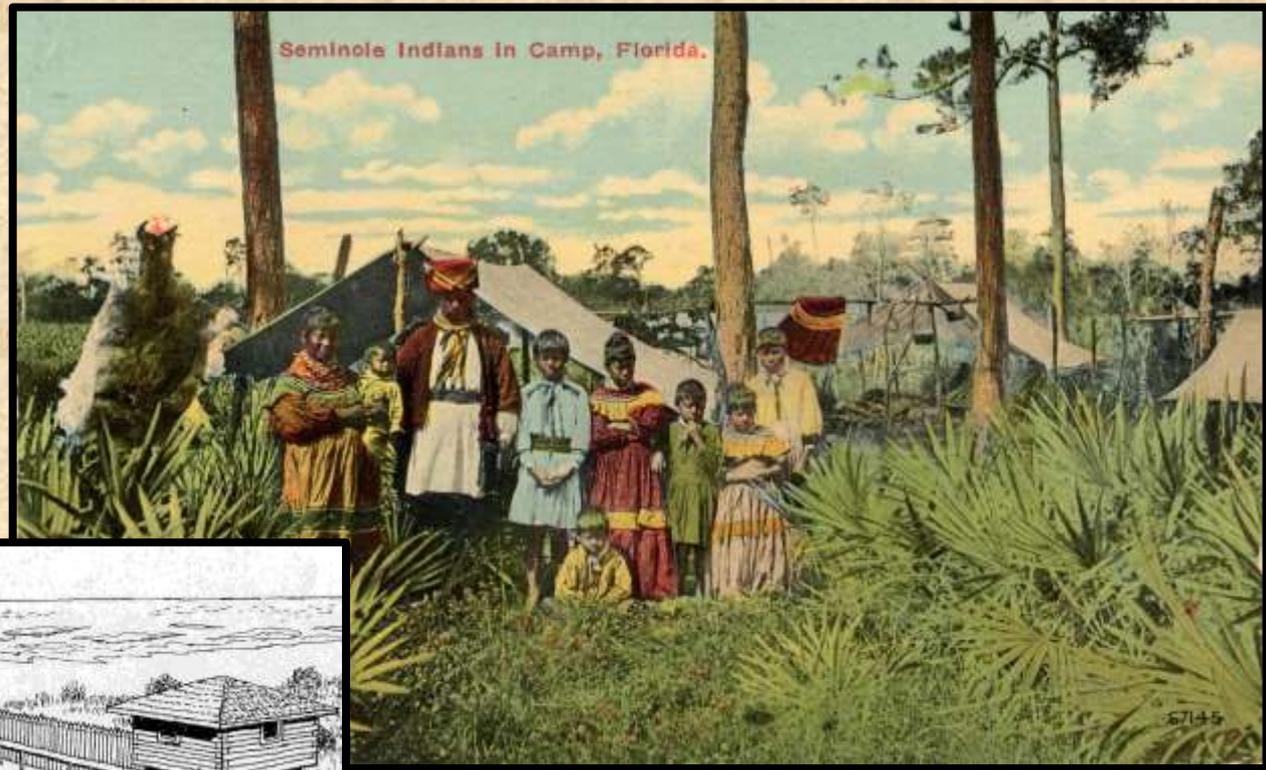


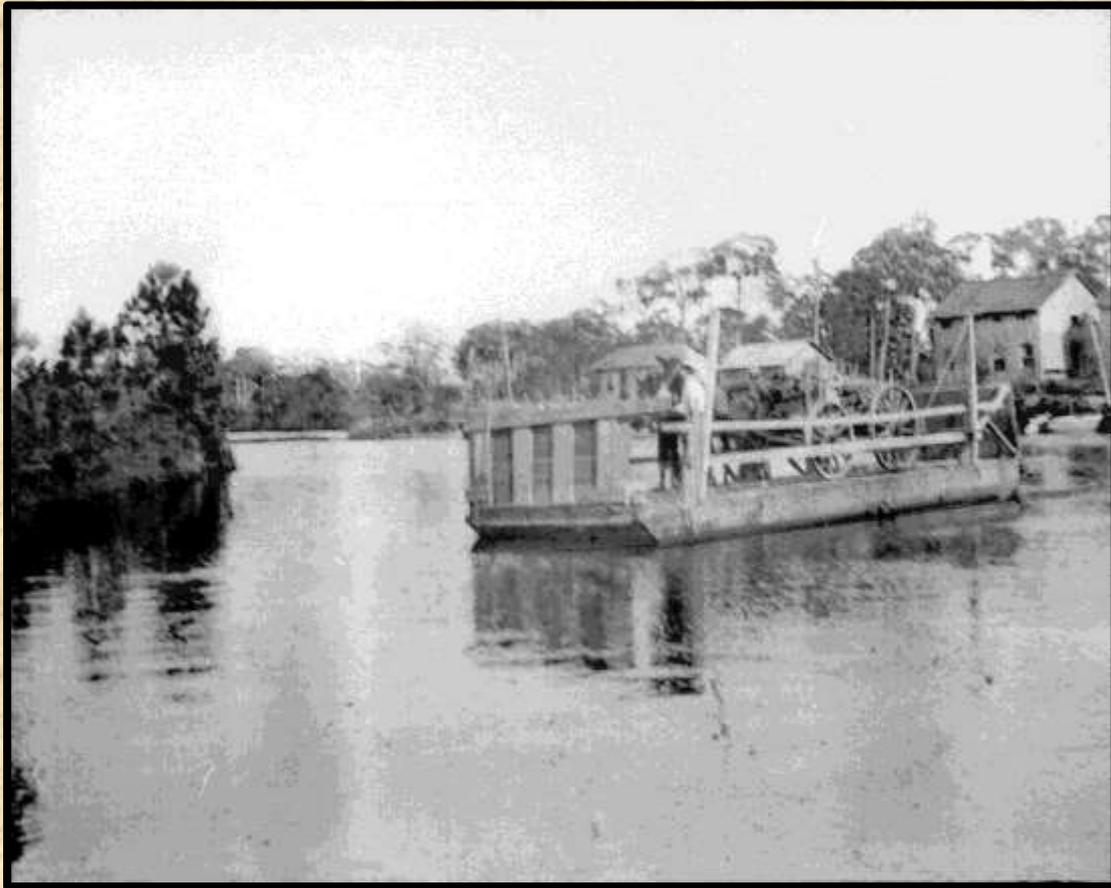


Left First known residents—Tequesta;  
Right New River (Fort Lauderdale) –white  
Bahamian planters 1790s—“New River  
settlement”

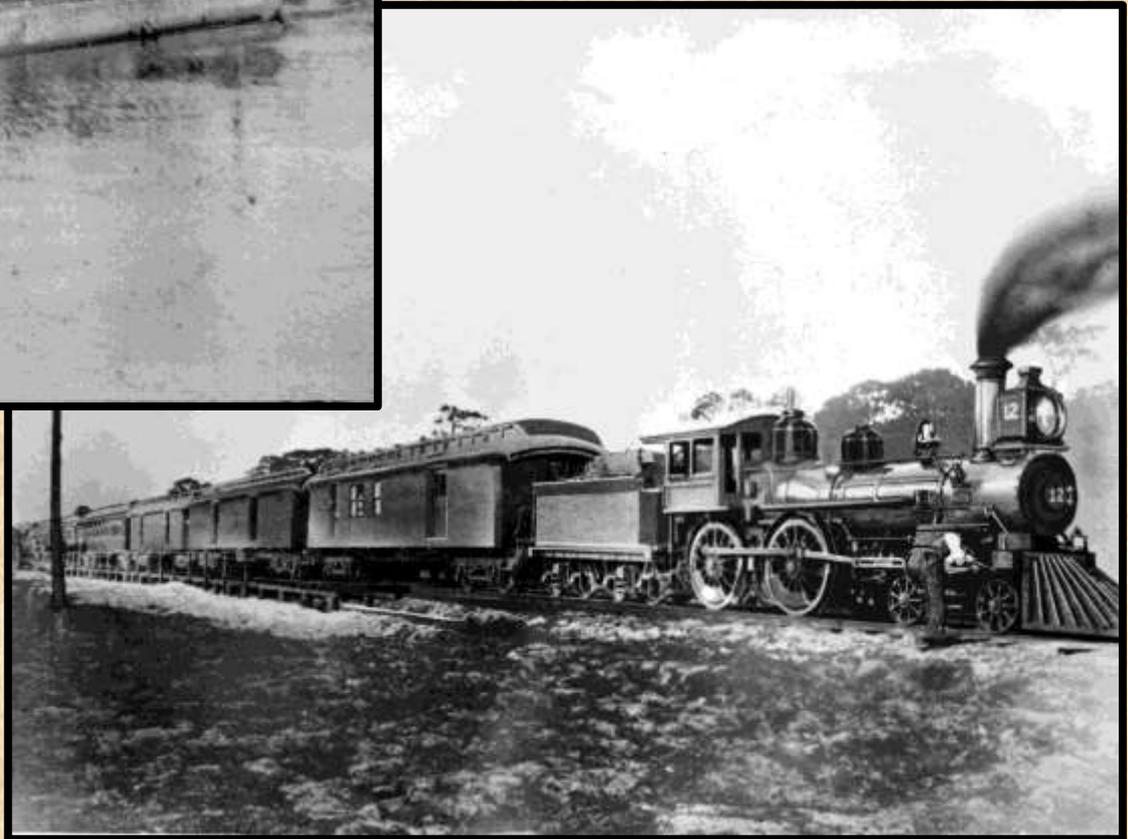


People we call Seminoles  
also move into South  
Florida in the late 18<sup>th</sup> C;  
2<sup>nd</sup> Seminole War 1835-  
1842  
Fort Lauderdale  
established on New River  
in 1838





(Dade) County Road 1892 & stage line and Stranahan's trading post 1893 where Stranahan House is today- beginning of modern city of Ft L



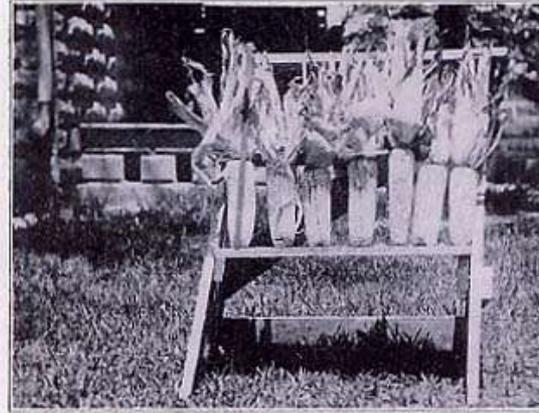
Florida East Coast Railway extended through to Miami 1895; first through train 1896

Both of these ran through the future Oakland Park

Everglades drainage began with the North New River Canal off the South Fork of New River in 1906. This opened former 'glades lands for farming.

# FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

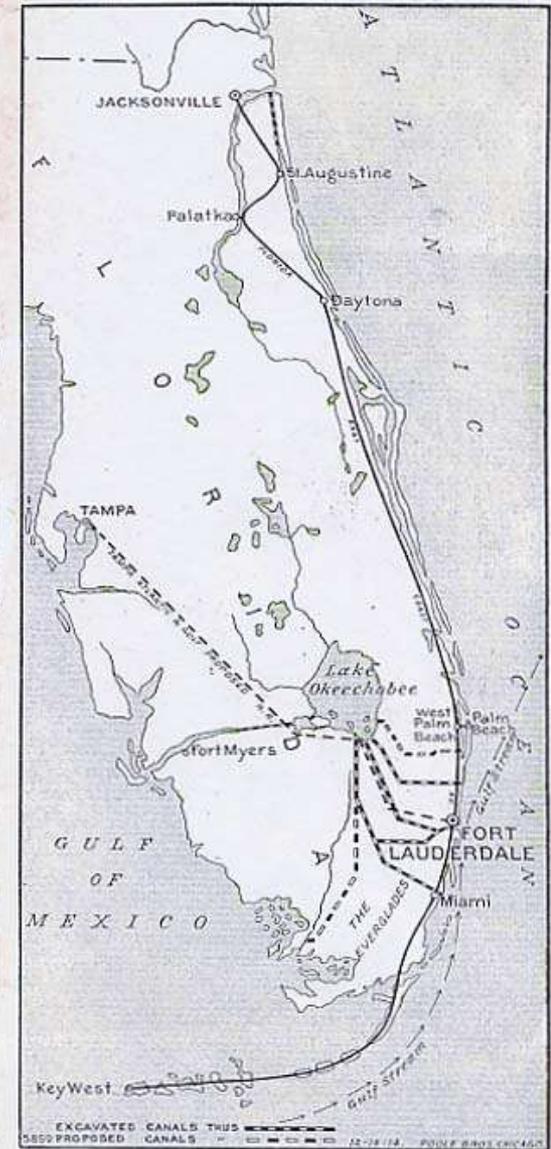
## "THE GATEWAY TO THE EVERGLADES"



Corn Grown on Muck Land



Happy, favored homes for all.



Whidbys first known non Indian settlers in  
Oakland Park area 1901

Tom and Netta Whidby at  
left and others



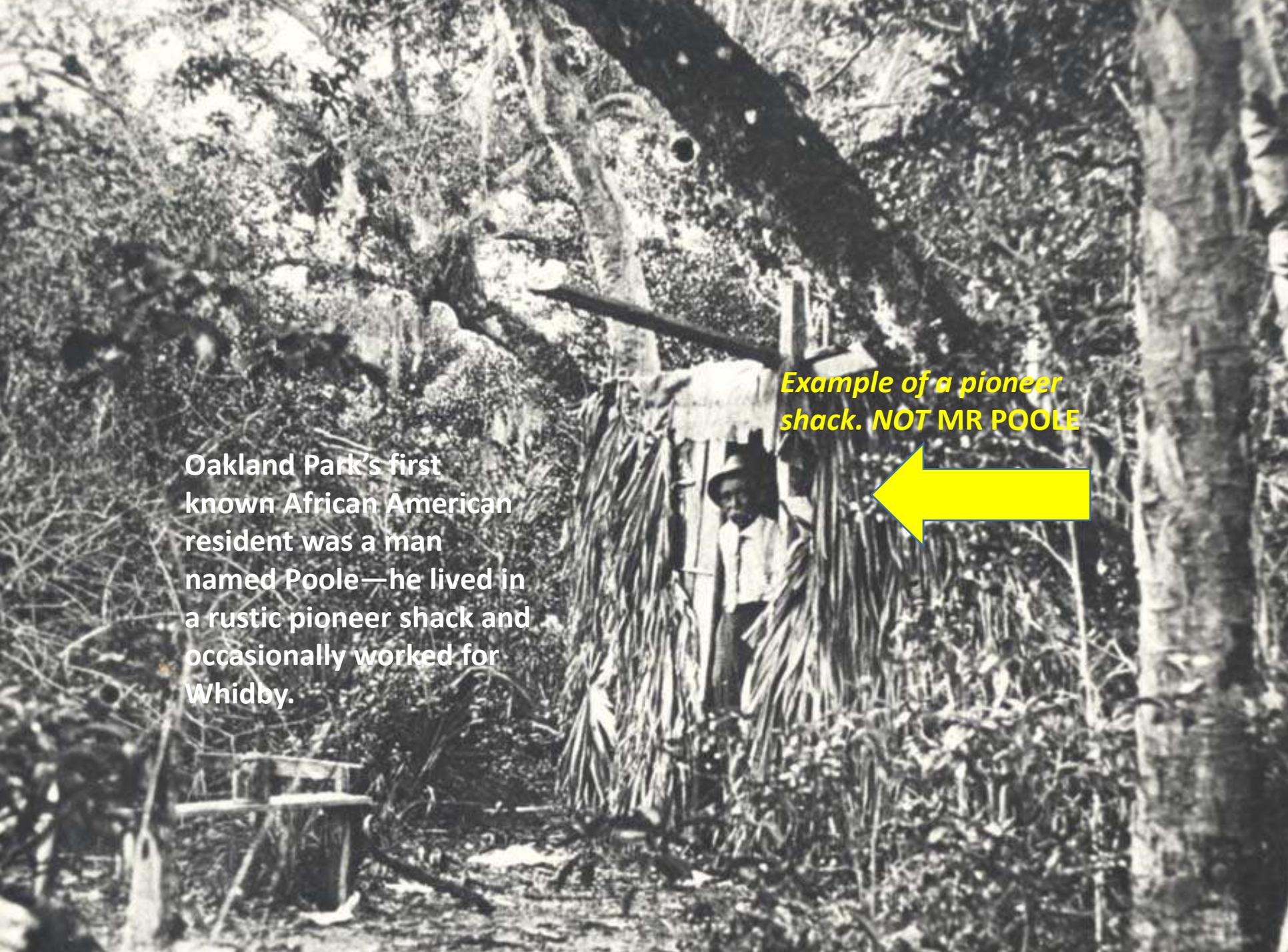
Whidby Farm-located where  
Jaco Pastorius Park is today.  
Farmed tomatoes, eggplants,  
onions, cabbages, pineapples,  
beans etc.

Note the pine forest



Oakland Park's first known African American resident was a man named Poole—he lived in a rustic pioneer shack and occasionally worked for Whidby.

*Example of a pioneer shack. NOT MR POOLE*

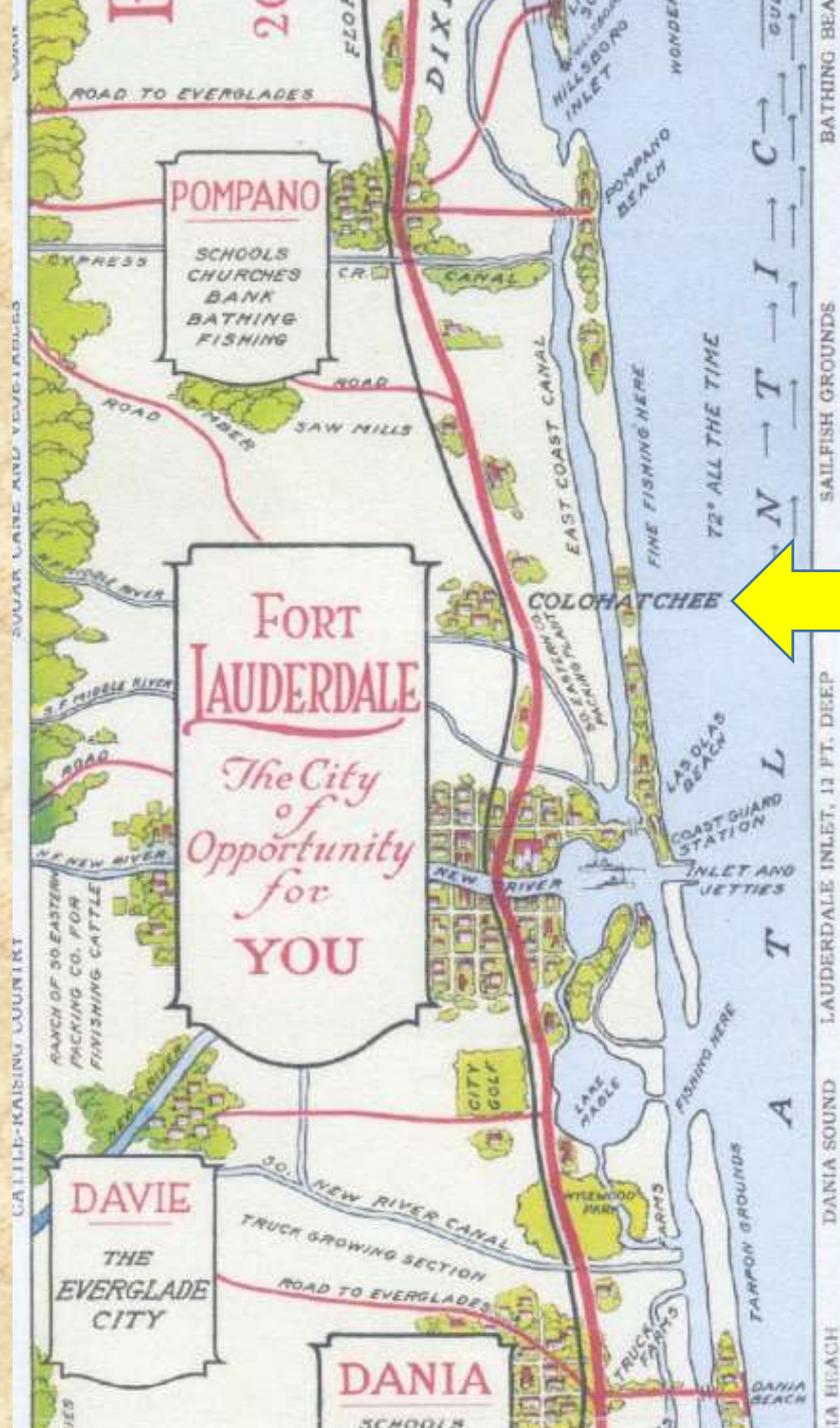




Seminoles had a camp on Cypress Creek where the Westin Hotel is now. (Robert Osceola's cypress dugout camp)

What is now Wilton Manors/ Oakland Park area becomes known as Colohatchee after 1910.

By 1914, the Prospect School opens in the future Oakland Park— location unknown





THE village of Colohatchee, located just north of Fort Lauderdale, on the Dixie Highway, is a shipping point for large quantities of produce. The beautiful scenery around Colohatchee is a delight to the eye. A small river, where bass and sergeant entice the angler, runs near the hamlet.

Picturesque palms and pines overhung with characteristic Spanish moss form as pretty a setting as one could desire.



Typical packinghouse –  
probably tomatoes

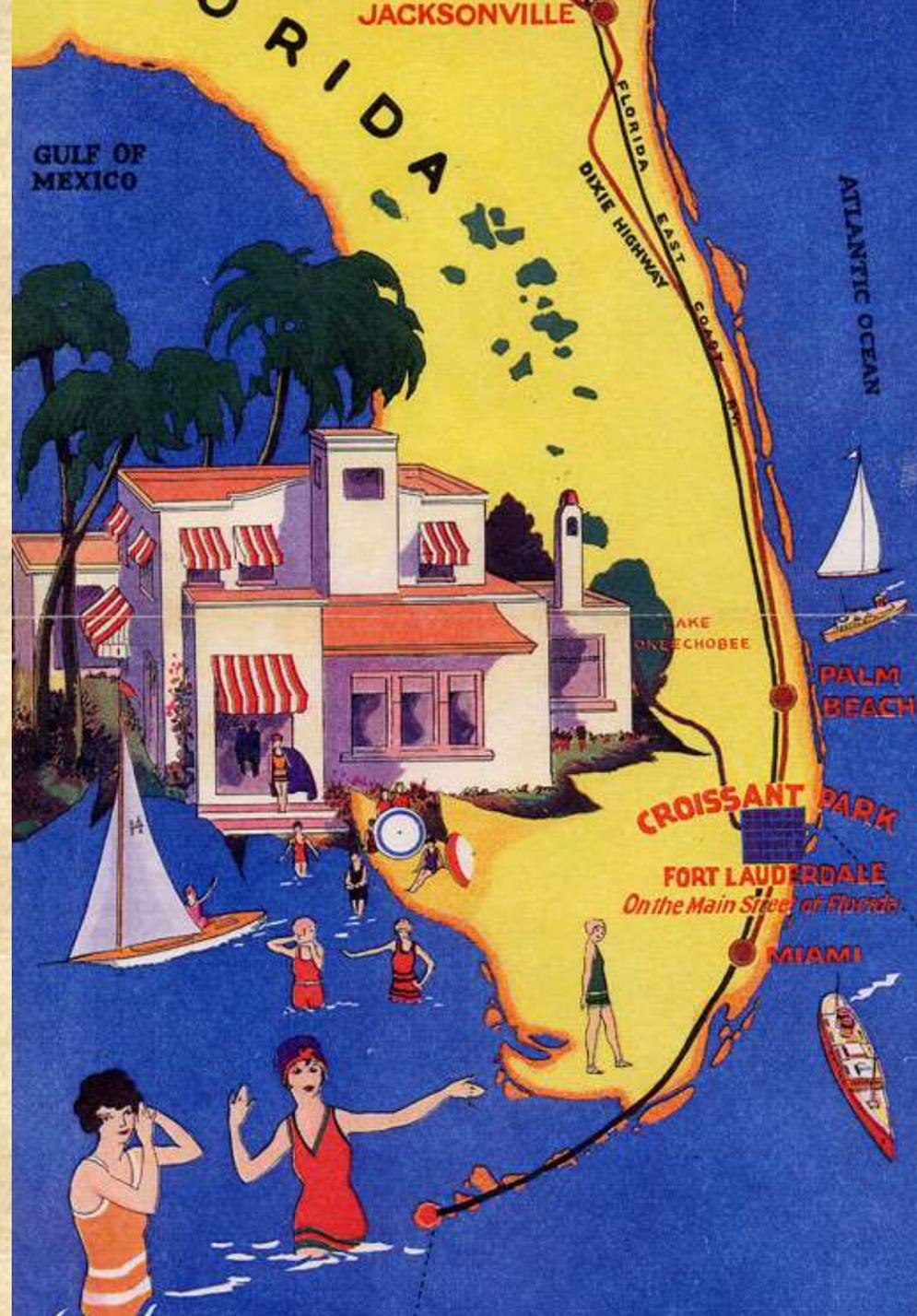
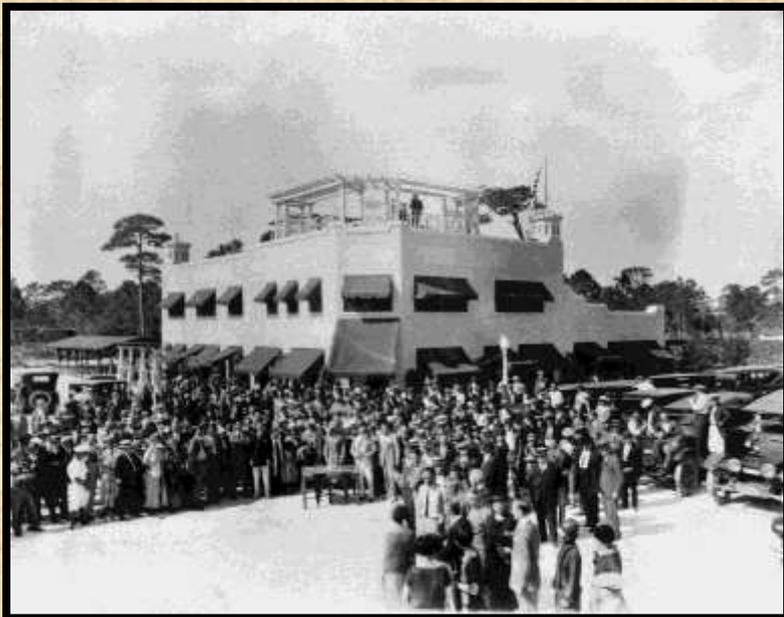


## THE FLORIDA LAND BOOM of the 1920s

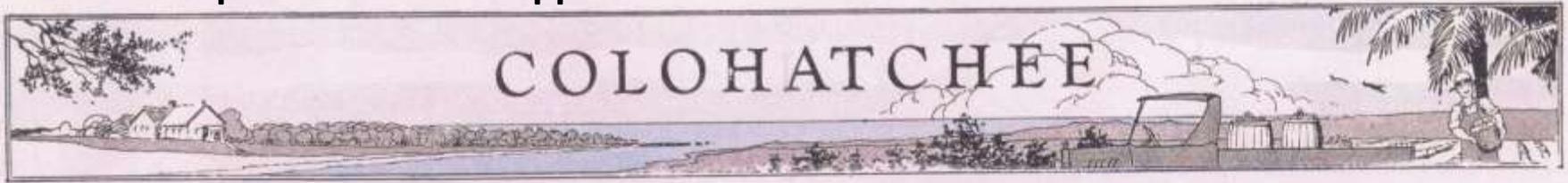
Real estate and  
tourism replaced  
farming as focus—for a  
time

Beach becomes  
important

*Croissant Park in Fort  
Lauderdale is typical*



## 1922 2 important events happen



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Picturesque palms and pines overhung with characteristic Spanish moss form as pretty a setting as one could desire.

The Woman's Club of Colohatchee is very active and enterprising in the upbuilding and welfare of their village.

A large amount of development and improvement work has been completed near Colohatchee.



1922 Southeastern Packing Co. opens on present NE 12<sup>th</sup> Terrace. It provides O.P. with electricity.

Barbeque sponsored by the two companies near intersection of Dixie Hwy and current OP Blvd 1923

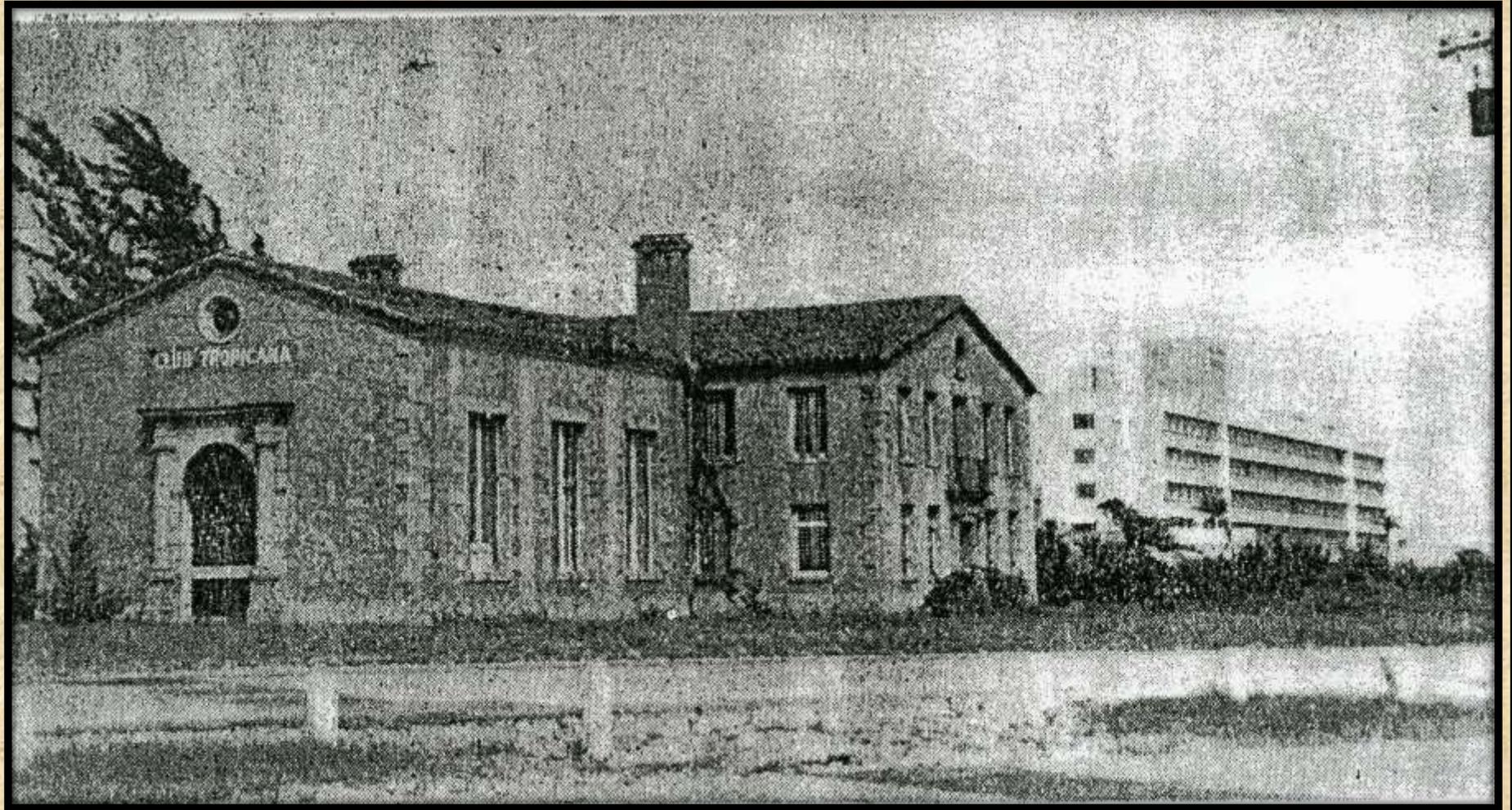


1922 Barkdull Investment Company lays out a new development along north fork of Middle River east of Dixie to be called Oakland Park  
At right—actual oaks of Oakland Park on north fork



People gather along Dixie Highway near future Oakland Park Blvd for the barbeque, 1923.





Floranada Administration Building with marble floors, mahogany doors etc. —never completed—stood at the northwest corner of Floranada Rd and Federal. After Floranada, it briefly became a bar but closed soon after. Demolished ca. 1961.



Florida East Coast freight depot near present city hall

hands to toiling hands. Rusty dollars are worthless. Shiny dollars keep us from groping in the dark, and from STU

# FORT LAUDERDALE DAILY NEWS

232. FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, MONDAY, JULY 1, 1929. AND EVENING EDITION.

## RD WILL TEAR ASSESSMENT PROTE urities Are Deferred; Interest Is Met

### UNABLE TO MATURITY OF SSANT ROAD

Interest Due But Can Not Pay \$49,000 of Bonds Maturing

Payments totalling \$114,104.11 were made by city officials of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., today for the city to defer release of special district assessment bonds.

### FORMER COUNTY OFFICERS - TRIAL IS POSTPONED

Case Against Paul Bryan and Ex-Officials Temporarily Delayed

TRIAL of the former circuit court officials was temporarily postponed today morning. The Federal jury, which is trying another case, was excused by the judge until 2 o'clock this afternoon.

### GEORGIA SOLONS PRAISE BOBBY

ATLANTA, July 1. (AP)—Bobby Jones, Atlanta's great golfer, was congratulated on his victory in the open golf tournament today in a resolution adopted unanimously today by the Georgia house of representatives. The legislators voted for the measure with a tie. It was introduced by Rep. H. H. Hatcher of Hartsville county in which Bobby Jones, the Georgia champion of Golf, resides of New York, state, is located.

### PLAYING SAFE WITH DRY AGENTS



The old adage about "no sense of pretence in north a good deal" is taken literally by N. M. Bosterfeld, of Los Angeles. Having "read" in the paper the other day that bootleggers were being shot, he decided to play it safe. He went to the store and bought a sign that said "I'm not a bootlegger. DON'T SHOOT. I'll STOP." He then went to the store and bought a sign that said "I'm not a bootlegger. DON'T SHOOT. I'll STOP." He then went to the store and bought a sign that said "I'm not a bootlegger. DON'T SHOOT. I'll STOP."

### COMMISSION POSTPONE ASKED UNTIL

Members Feel that Work Will Over Until Next Month Governor's Request

No postponement will be made meetings of the County commission board of equalization this week, but commissioners will receive the budgetary tax districts, drainage boards' report authority, from county tax assessors following which they will hear any objections of these districts may make, before for this county for the coming year.

### CROWDS GREET MRS. RUTH OWEN AT CITY PARK

Congressman From Fourth District Gives Account Of Activities

A crowd of more than 1,000 people gathered at the city park today to greet Mrs. Ruth Owen, congresswoman from the fourth district, who arrived in Fort Lauderdale today on her return from Washington, D. C., after a week's stay in the nation's capital.

### WILMER STULTZ IS KILLED IN PLANE CRASH

Pilot Of Amelia Earhart On Trans-Atlantic Hop Dies With Two Companions

ROCKFORD, Ill., July 1. (AP)—Wilmer Stultz, pilot of the Amelia Earhart plane, was killed today in a crash landing near Rockford, Ill., on his trans-Atlantic hop.

### FLORANADA CEASES TO EXIST TODAY

Community Henceforth Will Be Known As Oakland Park As Passed In Election

OAKLAND PARK, July 1.—The town of Floranada ceases to exist today as the new community of Oakland Park goes on the map of Florida.

### GOVERNOR'S RECALL OF VETO AND NON-SIGNED MEASURES

Chief Executive's Recall of Vetoed and Non-Signed Measures

WALLINGBORO, N. C., July 1. (AP)—Governor Owen today recalled the veto of the 1928 highway bill and the 1928 highway bill.

### VACANCY ON PORT BOARD IS ACTUAL TODAY

Blank From Governor's Appointment

PORTLAND, Ore., July 1. (AP)—The vacancy on the board of the Portland Harbor Authority is actual today.

### SEEK WINTER

Seeking to Beat Heat

Seeking to beat the heat, many people are flocking to the mountains for a winter vacation.

### VOTING IS LIGHT IN CITY ELECTION

Only 100 Had Cast Their Ballots In Charter Amendment Trial

Despite the fact that every ballot box in the city was overflowing with voters, only 100 people had cast their ballots in the election for the charter amendment.

### COAST GUARDS HOLD TWO IN RUM SEIZURE

May White Of London Is Offender

COAST GUARDS today held two men in a rum seizure. The men were found with a large quantity of rum on board their boat.

### "SCOOTER" BOAT TO BE FINISHED

May White Of London Is Offender

A "scooter" boat is being finished in the shipyard. The boat is a small, fast motorboat that is popular with the wealthy.

### MAJOR SAID RECOVERING

Major Recovering From Illness

A major is recovering from a serious illness. The major is expected to return to duty soon.

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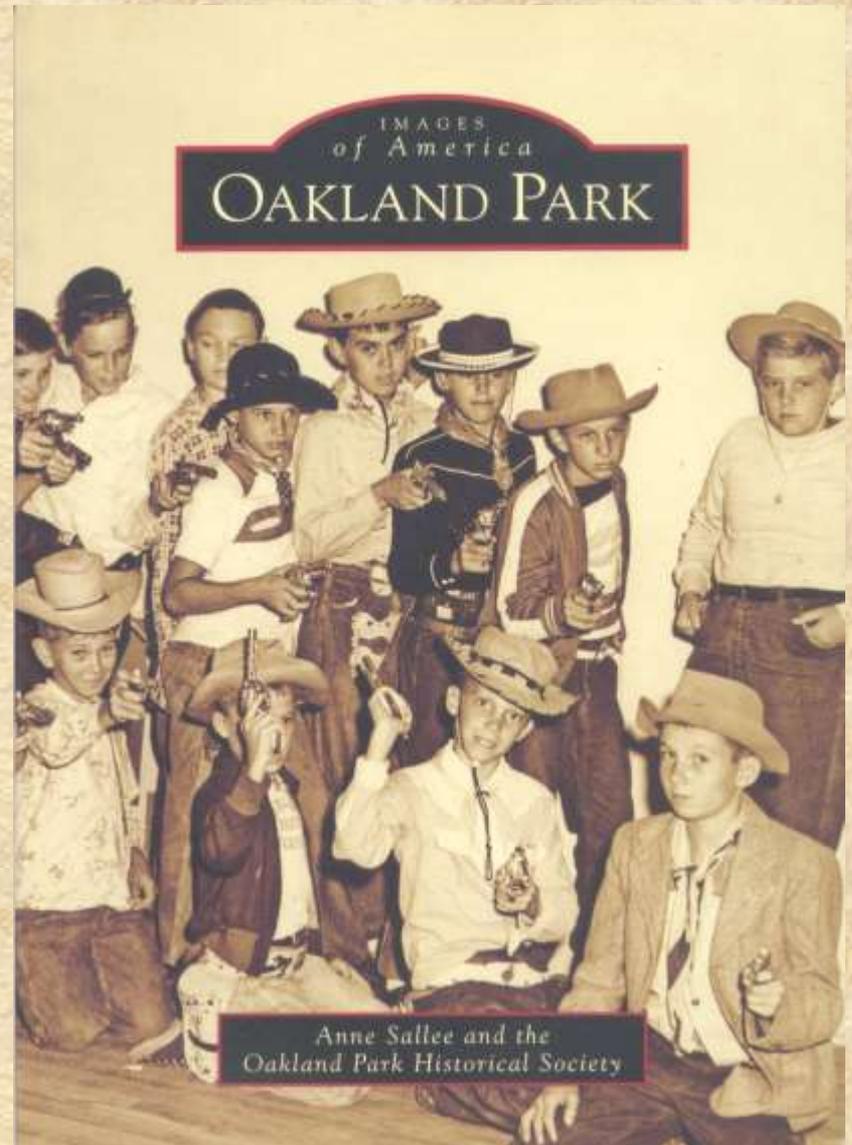
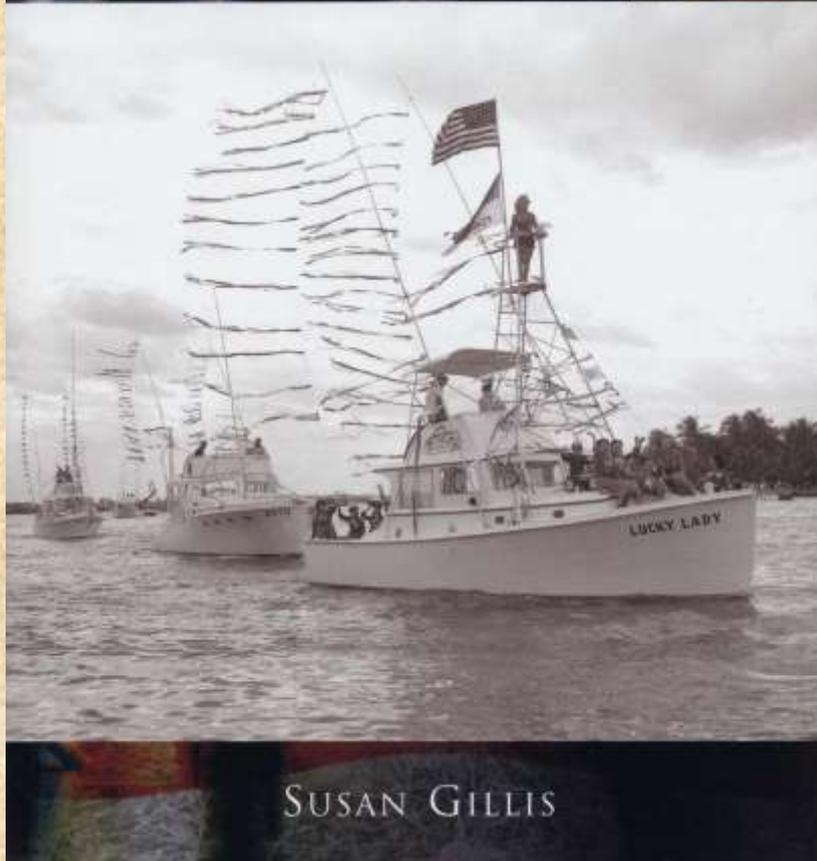
OAKLAND PARK, July 1.—The town of Floranada ends today and the new community of Oakland Park goes on the map of Florida. This was ordered Saturday at the last meeting of the city council under the referendum on the recent act of the legislature.

The act of the legislature was accepted and a copy was ordered attached to the minutes. The clerk was instructed to cancel all outstanding checks drawn on the Bank of Pompano prior to July 1 and make a record of the same, adding this amount to the cash on hand. The city clerk was authorized to turn over to the new city council all records and property of the city together with all money.

The clerk was authorized to notify the Security Bond company that he had been released of all responsibility in connection with the acts of the city of Floranada. The bonding company is also released from such obligations. J. B. Johns presided at the meeting.

A joint meeting of the old and new city councils will be held Monday for the purpose of clearing up all matters relating to the change of administration.

The land boom goes bust and so does Floranada. In 1929 citizens decide to reincorporate as Oakland Park. From 12 sq miles to 3/4 of 1 mile sq pop. 463 but debt free.



To find out more...