Funny, I was just speaking with Steve Sharp about some deer fence issues. Isn't the attached map a Collier survey map?

As I am sure you know, the Deer Fence was constructed from the west coast to the Everglades to quarantine the deer from migrating north or south. I understand that the deer fences were constructed 24 miles apart and ran from coast to coast, except when they intersected the Everglades. Then hunters were paid per deer killed thinking that the Tick Fever could be controlled by killing off the deer. Turns out that was not a good solution nor was it the deer that were the problem. That's also when the State invested in the dipping vat program and filled them with arsenic. They were placed at a days cattle drive distant from each other with the intent of the cowboys collecting a wild herd as they drove them to the next vat, dipped them, spent the night and began again the next morning headed to the next vat, again collecting a new herd as they went. That was also at a time when there were no fences and no fence laws.

Yes, Sam Jones was a Indian trader and his place was on the old "Babcock Ranch" (now Southern Gardens SC-200-006). When I surveyed it in 1974, I tried to find some evidence of its location. The information that I had was that it was located in the southern most pine head on the property. It was said that there was a "Collier Monument" placed there to mark its location but I never found it or the evidence of its location. When I surveyed it, it was a active ranch with rough pasture over the south half of the property and USSC purchased it for their Ranch Division. The south ten sections were very rough with cypress and oak heads intermingled. Everything east of the L-3 was muck and sawgrass. The west boundary of the Everglades Patent divided the ranch. If you follow the patent's legal description, it stair-stepped from the northwest corner of section 4 to the southeast following sectional breakdown lines such as 1/4, 1/4 lines, etc. The only place that I know of where the Everglades Patent didn't just follow section lines. We assumed that the State did a good job of finding GLO evidence and it did not become a problem breaking down the sections, however the later Collier survey did not line up with the State surveys. I guess that is why the Collier survey was ignored.

When I worked in the field on the property, I was setting Horizontal and Vertical control targets for the entire 20,000+ acres lying west of the L-3. In addition I was to run out the section lines but the effort did not turn into a boundary survey as USSC did not want to spend the extra money at that time (there was a recession going on at that time), however they did want to take advantage of my traverse work and have me tie in as much boundary monumentation as I could. That's where I ran into the Deer Fence and the Collier Monuments. East of the L-3 I did not set target control. I ran out the north township line and the east range line in the sawgrass. Later on, USSC had me set Rail Road Rails on the boundary east of the L-3.

A side note: Around 1976, I was tasked to design a set of cattle pens for the ranch. It turned out to be the largest set of pens in South Florida and was built at a cost of $250,000. It had a scale, dipping/spray vat area, holding pens, five way cut shoot. All wood fencing planks were cypress as cypress would not shatter when kicked like pine
would. USSC brought buyers to a covered elevated catwalk for beef buyers to purchase the herds directly from the seller at that site.

Later it was cleared and planted for citrus after the Ranch Division was done away with.

Best Regards,
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