

### **307(b) NARRATIVE (HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA)**

As the Commission's records will reflect, George S. Flinn, Jr. ("Flinn") was the winning bidder in Auction 68 for new FM Permit MM-FM063-A (Cedar Key, Florida). Consistent with the Commission's Report and Order in MB Docket No. 05-210 (RM-10960) released November 29, 2006, Flinn is herein requesting a change in the community of license for the proposed station (i.e., from Cedar Key, Florida to Homosassa, Florida). The subject narrative will demonstrate that Homosassa, Florida (a Census Designated Place) is "a community suitable for allotment purposes" (See Report and Order, supra, at Paragraph 10) and that the proposed change in the community of license represents a net service benefit under the Section 307(b) priorities and the Commission's rules and policies generally.

### **Proposed Channel 260A (Homosassa, Florida)**

In reviewing the subject FCC Form 301 application, the Commission must consider whether the proposal would serve one or more of the Commission's four allotment priorities.<sup>1</sup> Flinn proposes, via this minor-change application, to re-allot the vacant allotment on Channel 261A at Cedar Key, Florida to Channel 260A at Homosassa, Florida. The Homosassa, Florida proposal is mutually-exclusive with the current Cedar Key, Florida allotment.

The following points are relevant to the determination that the proposed change in community of license to Homosassa, Florida is in the public interest:

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<sup>1</sup> See ***Parker & Port St. Joe R&O***, 11 FCC Rcd 1095, 1095 (Para. 4) (1996). The four allotment priorities are: (i) one full-time aural reception service to a community; (ii) a second full-time aural reception service to a community; (iii) one local transmission service to a community; or (iv) other public interest factors. (Note: The second and third criteria have equal priority).

- ❑ Cedar Key, Florida has a 2000 U.S. Census population of 790 persons. Cedar Key, Florida has an existing aural transmission service (i.e., WRGO; Channel 274C3) assigned thereto. As such, vacant Channel 261A represents a second aural transmission service at Cedar Key, Florida.
- ❑ Homosassa, Florida is census designated place (CDP), has a U.S. Census population of 2,294 persons and has no local FM or AM transmission service. Thus, the proposed re-allotment will result in a first local aural transmission service at Homosassa, Florida.
- ❑ The 70 dBu allotment reference contour for Channel 261A at Cedar Key, Florida does not encompass any urbanized area.
- ❑ The community of Homosassa, Florida is not located within any urbanized area. The closest urbanized area to Homosassa, Florida is Brooksville, Florida. At its allotment reference coordinates, the proposed Homosassa, Florida 70 dBu reference contour will encompass 6.1% of the Brooksville urbanized population and 6.9% of its area.
- ❑ The Cedar Key, Florida (Channel 261A) loss area contains 2,212 persons over 802 square kilometers of land area. The Homosassa, Florida (Channel 260A) gain area contains 191,304 persons over 1,788 square kilometers of land area.
- ❑ Not including Channel 261A at Cedar Key, there are four protected services available to Cedar Key, Florida (i.e., WKTK; WKZY; WRGO; and, vacant allotment 240C3 at Otter Creek, FL).
- ❑ Not including the proposed Channel 260A at Homosassa, Florida, there are at least nine protected services to Homosassa, Florida.

In sum, it is respectfully submitted that the proposed community of license change represents a net service benefit under the Section 307(b) priorities. Specifically, under Priority (iii), Homosassa, Florida will receive a first local service (without depriving Cedar Key, Florida of its existing broadcast service, WRGO). In addition, the proposal will result in a net service gain of 189,092 persons and 909 square miles over land.

### **No “Tuck” Showing Required**

As noted hereinabove, the community of Homosassa, Florida is not located within any urbanized area. The closest urbanized area to Homosassa, Florida is Brooksville, Florida. At its allotment reference coordinates, the proposed Homosassa, Florida 70 dBu reference contour will encompass 6.1% of the Brooksville urbanized population and 6.9% of its area. If a proposed station (i.e., in this case, the proposed Homosassa station) will place a 70 dBu signal over less than 50% of an Urbanized Area, no “Tuck” showing is required. See, Report and Order (“Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations [Healdland, Alabama and Chattahoochee, Florida]”), 10 FCC Rcd 10352, 1995 FCC Lexis 6207.

Since the Homosassa, Florida 70 dBu contour will encompass significantly less than 50% of the nearby Urbanized Area of Brooksville (i.e., 6.1% of the urbanized population and 6.9% of the urbanized area), no “Tuck” showing is required in connection with the subject application.

### **Homosassa, Florida is a Community**

As the Commission noted in its Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (“Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations [Willows and Dunnigan, California]”), 9 FCC Rcd 1802, 1994 FCC Lexis 1475:

Communities are defined by the Commission as geographically identifiable population groupings. As a general rule, if a community is incorporated or is listed in the U.S. Census, that is sufficient to demonstrate its status as a community for allotment purposes.

Homosassa, Florida is census designated place (CDP) and, as such, is presumed to be a community for allotment purposes. Notwithstanding this presumption, other objective facts support a conclusion that Homosassa is a community. The Homosassa, Florida community has:

- ☐ Its own post office (established in 1845).
- ☐ Its own zip codes (i.e., 34446 and 34448).
- ☐ Its own volunteer fire department.
- ☐ A wide variety of available (owned and leased) real estate (both business and residential).
- ☐ A wide variety of commercial lodging (e.g., MacRea's of Homosassa; Homosassa Riverside Resort; The Last Resort; Manatee Campground and Marina; Turtle Creek Resort; Camp-N-Water Outdoor Resort; American River Rendezvous; Natures Resort Campground and Marina).
- ☐ A number of restaurants (e.g., The Shed at MacRae's; Charlie Brown's Crab House; Smokehouse of Old Homasassa; Yulee Café; Dunbar's Old Mill Tavern; Museum Café; Crowdaddy's Bar and Grill; The Seagrass Pub; Margarita Grill; and, Nature's Resort Grill).
- ☐ Several area shops and art galleries (e.g., Riverworks; Earth-Star Designs, River Safaris and Gulf Charters; and, Neat Stuff).

- ❑ Several public boat ramps and a number of local marinas/marine businesses (e.g., Gulf Coast Marine Services; River Safaris and Boat Charters; Tradewinds Marina; Magic Manatee Marina; River Haven Marina; Riverside Resort Marina; Old Homosassa Boat and Boat Trailer Storage; MacRea's of Homosassa; Homosassa Propeller; The Last Resort; and Natures Resort Marina).
- ❑ A State Park (Sugar Mill State Park).
- ❑ Numerous churches (e.g., First Baptist Church of Homosassa; Seventh-Day Adventist Church; Christian Center Church; and, First United Methodist Church of Homosassa).
- ❑ A variety of businesses, including doctors, dentists, lawyers (e.g., Robert S. Christenson, Esq. and the Law Offices of Clark A. Stillwell, LLC), insurance agents and financial advisors.

A comprehensive analysis of the community of Homosassa is found in the Old Homosassa Redevelopment Area Plan (adopted by the Board of County Commissioners on November 18, 2003), which is attached hereto as Attachment A.

### **Conclusion**

As may be noted above, grant of the subject FCC Form 301 application will provide substantial technical and public interest benefits. Homosassa, Florida will receive a first local service (without depriving Cedar Key, Florida of its existing broadcast service, WRGO). In addition, the proposal will result in a net service gain of 189,092 persons and 909 square miles over land. Homosassa, Florida is a census designated place and, as such, under Commission precedent, is presumed to be a community for allotment purposes. Notwithstanding that fact, Homosassa is in reality

an established, vibrant community (and has been since the 1800's). Homosassa represents a complex blend of local residents, local businesses, local students, local industry, local churches and local services. As demonstrated herein, Homosassa has gone to great lengths to establish itself as a community with a distinct identity. Local Homosassa businesses are proud of their connection to the community and the number of businesses which list "Homosassa" in their name is significantly illustrative of their communal identity. A new FM broadcast service, with its local Homosassa identity, will be a perfect addition to the existing community tapestry.

Homosassa, Florida (a census designated place) is "a community suitable for allotment purposes". The proposed community of license change (from Cedar Key to Homosassa) represents a net service benefit under the Commission's Section 307(b) priorities and its rules and policies generally. It is respectfully submitted that the public interest benefits highlighted herein support grant of the subject FCC Form 301 application.

**ATTACHMENT A**

## **APPENDIX H**

### **Old Homosassa Community Redevelopment Area Plan**

Referenced in the Future Land Use Element

Adopted by the Board of County Commissioners  
on November 18, 2003. Ordinance No. 2003-A35



## **I. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE**

The southwest corner of Citrus County is home to the unique community Old Homosassa, known for years as an area rich in traditional fishing village history, cracker style architecture, and distinctive natural resources. The unique character of this unincorporated Florida town is under considerable pressure from development, which has led the community to establish community goals and prepare a redevelopment plan.

Recent policy and development issues have impacted Old Homosassa, known for its "Old Florida" lifestyle. The 1993 Net Ban, incoming sewer lines, and the recent completion of the Suncoast Parkway from Tampa to US Hwy 98, are all issues that could potentially threaten the quality of life Homosassa residents and visitors alike have come to enjoy.

Since 1997, the Department of Community Affairs (DCA), through the Waterfronts Florida Partnership, has been helping to chart a new course for Waterfront communities. Every two years new waterfront communities are designated as Waterfronts Florida Communities by the Secretary of the DCA. The program provides support, training, innovative technical assistance, and limited financial assistance to communities striving to revitalize waterfront areas in a manner that incorporates: environmental and cultural resource protection, integration of the viable traditional waterfront economy, hazard mitigation, and public access to the waterfront.

This program requires a commitment from the community, both in terms of finance and time, to identify and pursue solutions to the problems facing individual waterfront areas. In March 2001, the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) authorized the Community Development Division to apply for participation in the Waterfronts Florida Program. By so doing, the BOCC recognized that this Program could be instrumental in retaining Old Homosassa's character in face of development challenges.

The Community Development Division and a group of citizens worked together to present an application to the DCA. In July 2001, the group's work was rewarded when Secretary Steven Seibert of the DCA announced that Old Homosassa, along with Panacea and Port Salerno, was designated as a Waterfronts Florida Community.

A Waterfronts Steering Committee and a Program Manager were selected in September 2001. It soon became apparent that the entire community wanted to participate in the goal-defining "visioning" sessions.

In two "visioning" meetings in November 2001 and January 2002, the community listed its strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities. From community issues identified at the visioning six goals were identified:

- 1) Preserve the existing character of the community;
- 2) Protect the environmentally sensitive community resources;
- 3) Promote uniform development and redevelopment;
- 4) Promote public recreation and access to the river, as well as general pedestrian connectivity;
- 5) Reestablish the original design elements of the 1886 Town Plat as practical; and
- 6) Support the commercial fishing industry.

To accomplish these goals, three areas are established as follows:

- Area (A) = "Walk to the River"
- Area (B) = Core Study Area
- Area (C) = Proposed Overlay District (to be incorporated into the Citrus County Land Development Code)

## II. HISTORY

Old Homosassa is an area rich in history. Its varied habitat and natural features, combined with a history of different cultures, has made Old Homosassa the unique community it is today.

The first inhabitants were Native Americans. Archeological research indicates that Citrus County was occupied by pre-historic aboriginal people for 12,000 years prior to the arrival of Spanish explorers.

Although Hernando de Soto explored the area in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, it was the passage of the Armed Occupation Act of 1842 that spurred development. The act stated that a 200,000-acre area south of present-day Gainesville was open for settlement. This law stipulated that one hundred and sixty acres would be given to any head of family or single man over eighteen who was able to bear arms, could live on the land in a house fit for habitation during five consecutive years and cultivate at least five acres. (Knetsch Jan./Feb. 1999)

William Cooley took advantage of this opportunity offered by the Federal government. Cooley and his neighbors found the Act's incentives appealing and submitted numerous applications to settle the land. As a landowner, merchant, pioneer, shipper of red cedar and the area's first Justice of the Peace, Cooley played a prominent role in the settlement of Homosassa. Cooley sold his land to David Levy Yulee and moved to Tampa in 1847. (Knetsch Mar./Apr. 1999)

With the land purchased from William Cooley and the land that had been left to his father through a Spanish land grant, Yulee "established a 5,100-acre plantation and sugar mill in 1846." (Homan & Reilly 19).

"In the early 1840s David Levy Yulee, one of Florida's first senators and developers, purchased thousands of acres on the Homosassa River. His slaves cleared over 1000 acres of land and planted sugar cane. He constructed a sugar mill and built a fine home on Tigertail Island, which became a port of call for the coastal steamers that linked the steamers on the Gulf to the world. A post office was established in 1845 and the 1850 Census reveals that settlers from many places and with varying skills were entering the area, taking advantage of land offered by the Armed Occupation Act." (Laurie B-17)



FIGURE 4 *The Yulee Sugarmill*

Homosassa's growth was interrupted by the Civil War. Interrupted is an appropriate word because only a few years after the war, there were many enterprises underway. "During the Civil War, Homosassa operated in support of the Confederate effort and was successful in stopping an attempted raid early in the war. In the end however, Homosassa was defeated and fell victim to the Union gunboats. Union soldiers destroyed the great sugar plantations, ending an era." (Boyd 12)

David Yulee felt first-hand the effects of the war. "In May of 1864, a Union Naval attack destroyed Mr. Yulee's mansion on Tigertail Island in the Homosassa River. The Sugar mill was not destroyed, but never put to use again." (Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park, website)

Seeing the area as an opportunity for profit, three Northern investors created the Homosassa Company in 1884 to develop Old Homosassa's land. John Dunn, Joshua Chamberlain, and Benjamin Dutton purchased thousands of acres of land once owned by Yulee with the "intent on developing the area as a vacation spot for northern visitors, complete with railroad access and a resort hotel" (Homan & Reilly 21).

The Homosassa Company platted its acquired lands with full intentions of creating a city designed in the neo-classical tradition of combined diagonal streets and grid pattern. The 1886 plat pre-dated the "City Beautiful" planning movement, in which cities included public parks on the waterfront. However, the plat did express two of today's community goals, pedestrian connectivity and public access to the waterfront, to greater extent than exists today. The platted public plaza, a pedestrian amenity, was replaced by a fire station, a danger to pedestrian activity. The platted lake access to the river was never constructed and is now the elementary school.

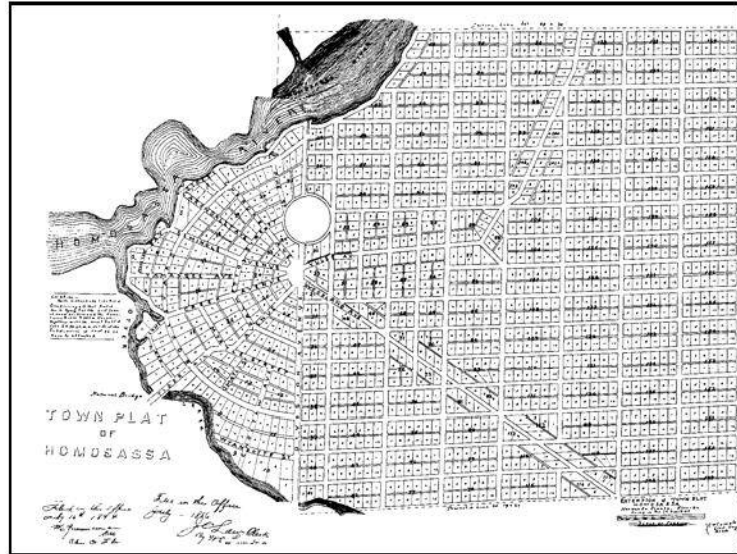


FIGURE 5 *The 1886 Plat created by the Homosassa Company  
Not reflective of the current plat(s) of record.  
Current plat reflects allowable lower densities.*

Although the 1886 plat was never completely constructed and has been compromised by repeated street vacations and lot reconfigurations, its original design intent is a historical legacy that is in part visible today. In 1985 a prescriptive plat was recorded based on a survey of the area and the original town plat.

"In 1887-1888, the Silver Springs, Ocala, and Gulf Railroad Company constructed from Dunnellon to Homosassa an extension of its Ocala to Dunnellon line, which was built in 1885-1887. The train opened up trade and tourism between Homosassa and Ocala," and from Ocala to the northeast and the rest of the country. "The railroad facilities in Homosassa consisted of the depot, a freight dock and storage shed, a siding for cars to be loaded and a turntable for turning the locomotive around. In November 1941, the track and depot in Homosassa were retired and the nostalgic days of railroading came to an end." (Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park, website)

"A familiar pattern was beginning to evolve, one that is still being used by land developers. Advertising and a well-designed sales campaign drew prospective buyers who came as tourists, staying at hotels built by the land company. Well-connected investors and visitors to the area such as Grover Cleveland, John Stetson, John Jacob Astor, and Henry Plant added prestige." (Laurie B-19)

"The West Coast Development Company tried again in the 1920s to take advantage of the public's fascination with Florida land. Like the Homosassa Company, they purchased thousands of acres, advertised heavily, brought in celebrities to attract prospects, and began ambitious building projects" (Laurie B-19).

The Great Depression brought notions of powerful development to a halt in the 1930's. The only legacy that remained was Dunn's Homosassa Inn "which was visited by such notables John Jacob Astor, Winslow Homer, and Thomas Edison." (Homan & Reilly). Now owned by the MacRae family as a private residence, the Homosassa Inn still stands as a beautiful landmark for Homosassa.

Although the construction of U.S. 19 in the 1940s provided an easier access for motoring tourists, it wasn't until the 1960s that another development company was influential in Old Homosassa. The Norris Development Company, led by Bruce Norris of New York demolished the original Riverside Lodge built by B.F. Dutton and created a resort with such amenities as a boat ramp, pool, and a 74-room hotel. This time, Homosassa was widely recognized as a recreation, resort, and retirement center. Moreover, Homosassa's transition from water-dependent (fishing) to a water-enhanced (tourism) economy was clear (Watermarks 3).

The latter half of the twentieth century brought with it an increase in infrastructure for Old Homosassa. The roads were paved from US 19 into the heart of Old Homosassa soon after the Norris Development Company had built the Riverside Resort. Along with increased tourism came permanent residents and the necessary infrastructure; water lines were laid and became available in 1957, and a fire station, library, new elementary school, and new post office were all built in the years that followed.

David Yulee's sugar cultivation was not the only natural resource in Homosassa that provided an economic market. The lumber and citrus industries were both integral to Homosassa's growth and notoriety. "Cedar mills processed the lumber from the trees which had once covered all of the coastal islands until there were few trees left and the sawdust was used for fill in the swampy shores so that more land could be developed." (Laurie B-19) Second forest growth has covered the evidence of these industries and there has been no agricultural redevelopment.

The natural resource that has had the most impact on Homosassa's economy is the fishing industry, both commercial fishing and sports fishing. The numerous species found throughout the Homosassa River and Gulf of Mexico have provided a subsistence and profitable way of life for generations of Homosassa residents, as well as recreation for tourists. From the time of the Indians to the time of the "Mullet Express," the seafood industry was a staple and integral part of Homosassa's culture. Unfortunately, "most of the commercial fishing industry has succumbed to the combined pressures of decreasing catches, pollution, net bans, environmental regulations, and the high cost of fuel and fleet maintenance." (Homan & Reilly 9).

Today, Old Homosassa still has a sense of place as a "fishing community" which coexists with an ever-growing tourism industry. Until now, development of the community has been slow and largely in keeping with the community's image of itself. A community plan is required to insure that Old Homosassa's image and sense of place is retained.

### III. INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES

#### A. The Community

The Census Designated Place that includes Old Homosassa is largely the same as Area (C), the Overlay District.

The following demographic information includes Homosassa to the west of US Hwy 19:

- Riverhaven and other properties to the north of the Homosassa River
- Old Homosassa and other properties south of the Homosassa River

People residing in this area represent a homogeneous community in terms of age.

**TABLE 1**  
**AGE DISTRIBUTION**

<b>Age</b>	<b>Percent of Population</b>
0-19 years	12 percent
20-44 years	18 percent
45-64 years	35 percent
65 years and over	35 percent

Source: U.S. Census, 2000

Seventy percent of Homosassa's citizens are aged 45 or over, contributing to a median age of 58. Considering that the median age for Citrus County is 53 and that the median age for Florida is 39, it is clear that Homosassa is an "older" community. Age is the most important dimension of population in that it relates to service needs. The older composition of Old Homosassa is one reason for the goals of pedestrian connectivity and local community facilities being identified in "visioning" meetings.

Homosassa's recent population growth rate is smaller than that of Citrus County and Florida. This smaller growth rate is largely responsible for the retention of Old Homosassa's character. It is anticipated that the future sewer lines, projected to be installed by 2004, and the nearby availability of the Suncoast Parkway will bring increased population growth to the area.

**TABLE 2**  
**POPULATION GROWTH**

	<b>1990</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>
<b>Homosassa</b>	2,170	2,294	5.7 percent
<b>Citrus County</b>	93,515	118,085	26.3 percent
<b>Florida</b>	12,937,926	15,982,378	23.5 percent

Source: U.S. Census, 2000

Old Homosassa has numerous businesses and organizations, all of which contribute to the character and success of the community. Concentrating on Area (B), the Core Study Area, the following is a description of the major businesses, historic structures, organizations, government entities, and public facilities (Harmon, except as otherwise noted).



## B. Resorts

The tourism and sports fishing industries have led to the development and redevelopment of two notable resorts. These resorts have been maintained in private ownership, somewhat restricting public access to the Homosassa River while at the same time maintaining high aesthetic standards for tourists and local customers.



FIGURE 6 *Homosassa Riverside Resort*

### **The Homosassa Riverside Resort**

Initially built as a "bed-and-breakfast" inn in the late nineteenth century by B. F. Dutton, this location has been a destination for visitors since its inception.

Today, the Riverside Resort is a 74-bed resort catering to both tourists and the community. Included within the Resort are a restaurant, private boat ramp, marina, dive shop, conference room, and guide services (Boyd 13).



FIGURE 7 *MacRae's Bait House*

### **MacRae's of Homosassa**

Established by Scottish immigrants Mary Isabell and James Alexander MacRae in the early twentieth century, J. A. MacRae's General Store was the first of many MacRae family business endeavors.

Currently, MacRae's maintains a bait-house, a 23-room motel, boat rentals, tiki bar, gift shop and charter services (Boyd 13).

### C. Historic Residences

The history of Old Homosassa is visible today in these structures. One of the community's goals is to preserve this historic character.



FIGURE 8 *The MacRae House*

#### **MacRae's House**

"Built by land agent and developer John Dunn in 1882, the Homosassa Inn was a sportsmen's lodge. James and Mary MacRae purchased the structure in 1919 with the provision that the previous owner, Helen Richardson, be permitted to live there until her death. In 1932, the MacRae family reopened the house as a lodge and later a restaurant. By the mid-1990's family members had once again converted the Homosassa Inn to a private home" (Homan & Reilly 37).



FIGURE 9 *The Whilden House*

#### **Elta Whilden's House**

Constructed in 1926, the Whilden house is still occupied by one of its original residents. As Old Homosassa's oldest resident, Ms. Elta Whilden is still able to provide a colorful history. Her husband Wade constructed their house standing adjacent to what was the train turntable. As the train conductor, Wade was able to attend to his duties in a moment's notice.

#### D. Fishing Businesses

Commercial fishing is in decline in Old Homosassa, leading to the possibility that these properties could face redevelopment to some other use if not protected and encouraged.

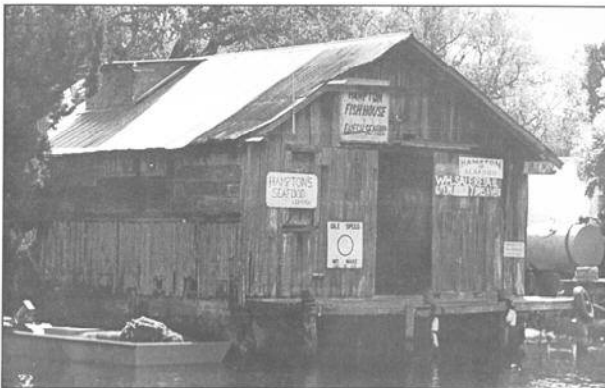


FIGURE 10 *Hampton's Seafood*

##### **Hampton's Seafood**

The Hampton's Fish House was built in the 1920's by Luther and Doc McReynolds. It was soon sold to T. L. Rogers who then passed the business to his sons, Buddy and Dick Locklar. The Locklar family still owns the fish house and currently leases it to an independent fishing family.



FIGURE 11 *Homosassa Seafood*

##### **Homosassa Seafood**

Since the 1920's, a fish house has occupied the property where Homosassa Seafood stands today. Currently, the company maintains a large shrimping and crab fleet, selling wholesale.



FIGURE 12 *Cedar Key Fish House*

##### **Cedar Key Fish House**

Established in 1962 by Buck Sheppard and family, the Cedar Key Fish House has the reputation for introducing mullet and mullet roe to the world. Shrimp, stone crabs, oysters, scallops, and other fish are sold retail and wholesale. The family currently leases the fish house to another seafood company, Shrimps Landing.



## E. Community Facilities

Old Homosassa is fortunate to have a number of community facilities. One of the community's goals is to preserve these facilities as part of Old Homosassa's character.



FIGURE 13 *Homosassa Elementary*

### **Homosassa Elementary School**

Homosassa Elementary educates approximately 400 students in grades Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Although the existing school was constructed in 1971, it is not the first Homosassa Elementary. Three schools are known to have existed in Old Homosassa prior to this one, the first one dating from 1882 on Gordy Island.



FIGURE 14 *Homosassa Post Office*

### **Post Office**

The first Post Office was constructed on the north side of the river in 1880 and moved to the south side in 1913. Prior to the current location, a post office made of cabbage logs was constructed in 1948. Today's post office was constructed in 1968.



FIGURE 15 *Homosassa Civic Club*

### **Homosassa Civic Club**

Founded in 1950, the Homosassa Civic Club constructed its clubhouse in 1957. Today, the clubhouse serves as headquarters for the club as well as a meeting place for community organizations.



FIGURE 16 *Old Homosassa Public Library*

### **Old Homosassa Library**

Constructed in the late 1960's on property donated by the Homosassa Civic Club, the quaintness of Homosassa's public library is in keeping with the character of the town.



FIGURE 17 *Old Homosassa Firestation*

### **Old Homosassa Fire Department**

The Homosassa Volunteer Fire Department occupies a building constructed in 1964 and continues to provide services for the community.

## F. Public Recreation

Two public recreation areas exist in Old Homosassa today, a State of Florida park and a Citrus County Boat Ramp. A future park is planned by the Civic Club in the Waterfront District.



FIGURE 18 *Picnic Area at Yulee Sugar Mill Ruins State Park*

### **Yulee Sugar Mill Ruins State Historic Site**

The Yulee sugar Mill Ruins were managed by the Citrus county Federation of Women's Club until they donated the land to the Florida Board of Parks and Historic Memorials on June 24, 1953. Today, this 4.49-acre site encompasses the Sugarmill ruins and a picnic area and is maintained by the Florida Division of Recreation and Parks.



FIGURE 19 *Citrus County Public Boat Ramp*

### **County Boat Ramp**

Centered between MacRae's and the Riverside Resort is the County boat ramp. The established date of the boat ramp is unknown, but according to local historians "there has always been a public boat ramp." The County has recently constructed a parking facility for users of this boat ramp.



FIGURE 20 *Homosassa Civic Club Park*

### **Homosassa Civic Club Park**

The Homosassa Civic Club Park is currently used for the annual Fish and Arts and Crafts festival and related parking (Boyd 13).