

AC-0147

Click Here
to view
this month's
featured properties
Robyn Pfister Griffin

Bonitanews

- [Banner](#)
- [Columnists](#)
- [7-Day Archive](#)
- [About Us](#)

Sites

- [naplesnews.com](#)
- [bonitanews.com](#)
- [marconews.com](#)

Registration

- [Login](#)
- [Sign up](#)
- [Having trouble?](#)

Sections

- [At Home](#)
- [Bonita Banner](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Classified](#)
- [Editorial](#)
- [Florida](#)
- [Hurricane '05](#)
- [Local](#)
- [Marco Eagle](#)
- [Neapolitan](#)
- [Perspective](#)
- [Police Beat](#)
- [Real Estate](#)
- [Scanners](#)
- [Search](#)
- [Showcase](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Stocks page](#)
- [Tides](#)
- [Travel](#)
- [Varsity](#)
- [Weather](#)
- [Webcams](#)

Local Events

- [Entertainment](#)
- [Local events](#)
- [Night Scene](#)
- [Movie listings](#)

For Fun

- [Community](#)

[PRINT THIS STORY](#) | [E-MAIL THIS STORY](#)

Preservation panel votes to buy historic Estero estate

By CHAD GILLIS, cegillis@naplesnews.com
February 7, 2004

One of south Lee County's most historic homes should soon be in public hands after state officials voted Friday to pursue the purchase of the Boomer estate along the Estero River.

Members of the state preservation group Florida Forever expanded the boundaries of the Estero State Buffer Preserve to include the 100-acre Boomer estate. Placing the land within the boundary signals that the state is ready to purchase the Boomer land. The family is asking nearly \$15 million and offered the home to Lee County several weeks ago.

"Now, we can immediately contact the landowner and start working on negotiations and a contract," said Florida Forever Coordinator Mark Glisson. Florida Forever is a state land preservation initiative that is expected to spend \$3 billion on land preservation over the program's 10-year life. Members of the group meet regularly each year to rank projects nominated for state preservation.

A residence dating back to 1916, the Boomer home, called Mirosal by the family, represents one of the few lasting links between the Koreshan settlement and south Lee County. The Koreshans were a utopian cult that moved from Chicago to Estero in the late 1800s and created a thriving religious society in then-remote Estero.

Cyrus Teed, the cult's charismatic leader, died in 1908 and the community dwindled until the state park system took over most of the remaining Koreshan land and buildings in 1961.

"I am so happy," said Mimi Straub with the Estero Historical Society. "I hope it goes through because it would be such a wonderful thing for Estero."

Lee County Commissioner John Albion traveled to Tallahassee on Thursday to speak to Florida Forever members about the importance, both environmentally and historically, of the former Koreshan land.

Albion said with Koreshan State Historic Site, the Estero River, Estero Bay and the Estero River Scrub — a property purchased with Florida Forever funds — nearby, the Boomer purchase would be a nice addition.

RELATED STORIES

[Boomer estate evokes area's past](#)







[Conservation 2020 group to pursue Boomer property](#)

[Donated caretaker's house may one day serve as museum](#)

[Property with historic home on sale for \\$14.5 million](#)

Market Place

CLASSIFIED

 HOMES	 AUTOS	 JOBS
 RENTALS	 STUFF	 OBITS

CLICK HERE TO BROWSE ALL CLASSIFIED

Classified DAY NIGHT

Place an ad in print & online 24/7 Click Here

YELLOW PAGES

bestredyp.com

Search yellow pages by Name, Category or Keyword

TODAY'S ADS

Browse Today's Newspaper Ads By Category

Categories  

- [Crossword](#)
- [Comics](#)
- [Fantasy Sports](#)
- [Horoscopes](#)
- [Lottery results](#)
- [Postcards](#)
- [Soaps](#)
- [TV listings](#)
- [Word Search](#)

About Us


- [Copyright](#)
- [FAQ](#)
- [Feedback](#)
- [Letters policy](#)
- [Staff directory](#)

Services


- [Archives](#)
- [AP Wire](#)
- [Death notices](#)
- [Free e-mail](#)

Etcetera:


AP's The Wire:

The top stories from the Associated Press. 

Audio update:

The hour's top news live in RealAudio. 

Awards:

The Daily News' Web site has earned state and national awards. 

Affiliates:

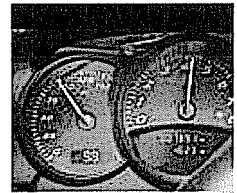
Get news from the Tampa Bay area at [Tampa Bay Live](#); the latest from the Treasure Coast and the Palm Beaches at [TCPalm.com](#); and local news from around the country at [other Scripps papers](#) and stations.

"This is a piece that fits very logically in the mix," Albion said. "Florida Gulf Coast University is there, and that's where the growth is. We still have some work to do, but now we can put on a uniform and go out and play."

The Boomers were instrumental in bringing Teed to Estero, helping the Koreshan leader purchase a boat and bringing the group to what is now the Koreshan State Historic Site. Fittingly, the Boomer home was built directly across the river from the original Koreshan settlement. Now the home, and dozens of acres of environmentally sensitive land, may be preserved alongside the park.

Preserving the Boomer home and surrounding lands has been widely supported by the Estero community. From the Estero Historical Society to area civic leaders, many groups and residents have pushed for both Lee County and the state to pursue conservation of the residence and shoreline property.

Some residents even have said they'd like to see the property preserved merely to avoid more development and traffic congestion in the rapidly developing Estero community.



Driveways
Driveways
Driveways

Driveways:
Every
Saturday in
print in the
Bonita Banner
and Bonita
Daily News.
South Lee
County's #1
Source for
Automotive
News.

 **SPECIAL SECTIONS**



[Driveways](#)



[Coastal Elegance and Wealth](#)



[Destination Naples](#)

- [Living Well](#)
- [Communities of SW Florida](#)
- [Mind, Body & Spirit](#)
- [Real Estate Marketplace](#)
- [Nautically Speaking](#)

CLICK HERE TO SEE ALL SPECIAL SECTIONS

State closer to purchase
of 100-acre Boomer site

By CHAD GILLIS
Staff Writer

One of south Lee County's most historic homes should soon be in public hands after state officials voted Friday to pursue the purchase of the Boomer estate along the Estero River.

Members of the state preservation group Florida Forever expanded the boundaries of the Estero State Buffer Preserve to include the 100-acre Boomer estate. Placing the land within the boundary signals that the state is ready to purchase the Boomer land.

The family is asking nearly \$15 million and offered the home to Lee County several weeks ago.

"Now, we can immediately contact the landowner and start working on negotiations and a contract," said Florida Forever Coordinator Mark Glisson.

Florida Forever is a state land preservation initiative that is expected to spend \$3 billion on land preservation over the program's 10-year life.

Members of the group meet regularly each year to rank projects nominated for state preservation.

A residence dating back to 1916, the Boomer home, called Mirosal by the family, represents one of the few lasting links between the Koreshan settlement and south Lee County. The Koreshans were a Utopian cult that moved from Chicago to Estero in the late 1800s and created a thriving religious society in then-remote Estero.

Cyrus Teed, the cult's charismatic leader, died in 1908 and the community

dwindled until the state park system took over most of the remaining Koreshan land and buildings in 1961.

"I am so happy," said Mimi Straub with the Estero Historical Society. "I hope it goes through because it would be such a wonderful thing for Estero."

Lee County Commissioner John Albion traveled to Tallahassee on Thursday to speak to Florida Forever members about the importance, both environmentally and historically, of the former Koreshan land.

Albion said with Koreshan State Historic Site, the Estero River, Estero Bay and the Estero River Scrub – a property purchased with Florida Forever funds – nearby, the Boomer purchase would be a nice addition.

"This is a piece that fits very logically in the mix," Albion said. "Florida Gulf Coast University is there, and that's where the growth is. We still have some work to do, but now we can put on a uniform and go out and play."

The Boomers were instrumental in bringing Teed to Estero, helping the Koreshan leader purchase a boat and bringing the group to what is now the Koreshan State Historic Site. Fittingly, the Boomer home was built directly across the river from the original Koreshan settlement. Now the home, and dozens of acres of environmentally sensitive land, may be preserved alongside the park.

Preserving the Boomer home and surrounding lands has been widely supported by the Estero community. From the Estero Historical Society to area civic leaders, many groups and residents have pushed for both Lee County and the state to pursue

boomer_purchase_02-11-2004

conservation of the
residence and shoreline
property.

Some residents even have
said they'd like to see the
property preserved merely
to avoid more development
and traffic congestion in the
rapidly developing Estero
community.

(Contact Staff Writer Chad
Gilus at 213-6040 or
cegilus@naplesnews.com)