

PATENT TO THE EVERGLADES, 1903.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

To all whom these presents shall come, greeting:

Whereas by the act of Congress approved September 28, 1850, entitled "An act to enable the State of Arkansas and other States to reclaim the 'swamp lands' within their limits," it is provided that all the "swamp and overflowed lands," made unfit thereby for cultivation, within the State of Florida which remained unsold at the passage of said act shall be granted to said State; and

Whereas, in pursuance of instructions from the General Land Office of the United States, the several tracts or parcels of land hereinafter described have been selected as "swamp and overflowed lands," inuring to the said State under the act aforesaid, situate in the district of lands subject to sale at Gainesville, Fla., to wit:

The Everglades, being the swamp and overflowed lands within the following metes and bounds: Commencing at the southwest corner of T. 60 S., R. 37 E., where the west line of said township touches the water; then run north along said west line of said T. 60 S., R. 37 E., to the northwest corner of said township; then east along the north line of said township to the southwest corner of T. 59 S., R. 38 E.; thence north along the west line of Tps. 59, 58, and 57 S., R. 38 E., to the northwest corner of T. 57 S., R. 38 E.; thence east along the north line of said T. 57 to the northeast corner of sec. 6, T. 57 S., R. 38 E.; thence north along the west line of secs. 32, 29, 20, 17, 8, and 5, T. 56 S., R. 38 E., to the northwest corner of sec. 5; thence east along the north line of T. 56 S., R. 38 E., to the southwest corner of T. 55, R. 39; thence north along the west line of said T. 55 to the northwest corner of said township; thence east along the north line T. 55, Rs. 39 and 40, to the northwest corner of sec. 3 of said T. 55, R. 40; thence north along the west line of secs. 34 and 27, T. 54 S., R. 40 E., to the northwest corner of sec. 27; thence east along the north line of sec. 27 to the northeast corner of said section; thence north along the west line of secs. 23, 14, 11, and 2, T. 54, R. 40, to the southwest corner of sec. 2; thence east along the north line of secs. 2 and 1 of said T. 54 to the northeast corner of sec. 1; thence north along the west line of Tps. 53 and 52 S., 41 E., to the southwest corner of T. 52; thence east along the north line of T. 52, R. 41, to the northeast corner of said township; thence north along the west line of Tps. 51, 50, 49, 48, and 47, R. 42, to the northeast corner of said T. 47; thence west along the north line of T. 47 to the northwest corner of sec. 2, T. 47; thence north along the west line of secs. 35, 26, 23, 14, and 11, T. 46, R. 41, to the northwest corner of sec. 11; thence east along the north line of sec. 11, T. 46, to the middle of said section; thence north along the middle line of sec. 2, T. 46, R. 41, and sec. 35, T. 45, R. 41, to the middle of the south line of sec. 26, T. 45, R. 41; thence west along the south line of sec. 26 to the southwest corner of said section; thence north along the west line of

secs. 26, 23, 14, 11, and 2, T. 45, R. 41, to the northwest corner of sec. 2; thence west along the south line of T. 44, R. 41, to the southwest corner of said township; thence north along the west line of said T. 44 to the northwest corner of said township; thence west along the south line of T. 43, R. 40, to the southwest corner of said township; thence north along the west line of said T. 43 to the northwest corner of said township; thence west along the north line of T. 43, R. 39, to the northwest corner of said township; thence north along the west line of T. 42, R. 39, to the northwest corner of said township; thence north along the west line of T. 41, R. 39, to the southwest corner of sec. 19, T. 41, R. 39; thence west along the north line of sec. 24, T. 41, R. 38, to the southwest corner of said sec. 24; thence north along the west line of said sec. 24 to the northwest corner thereof; thence west along the south line of sec. 14, said T. 41, R. 38, to the southwest corner thereof; thence north along the west line of said sec. 14 to the northwest corner thereof; thence west along the south line of sec. 10, same township and range, to the southwest corner of said section; thence north along the west line of said sec. 10 to the northwest corner of said section; thence west along the south line of sec. 4, same township, to the southwest corner of said section; thence north along the west line of said sec. 4 to the northwest corner thereof; thence west along the north line of T. 41, Rs. 38 and 37, to the waters of Lake Okeechobee; thence southerly and westerly around the shores of Lake Okeechobee and northerly along said lake to a point in T. 41 S., R. 32 E., where the north line of said township strikes the lake; thence west on the north township line of T. 41, R. 32, to the northeast corner of lot 1 of sec. 5, in said T. 41, R. 32; thence along the meander line, in a southerly direction, of secs. 5, 8, 17, 16, 21, 28, 32, and 31, in T. 41, R. 32; thence southerly along the meander line of sec. 6, T. 42, R. 32; thence along the meander line southwesterly of secs. 1, 11, 14, 22, 21, 28, 29, and 30, T. 42, R. 31; thence south along the west line of said T. 42, R. 31, to the southwest corner thereof; thence east along the north line of T. 43, R. 31 E., to the northeast corner of fractional sec. 4; thence south along the east lines of fractional sec. 4 and of sec. 9 to the southeast corner of said sec. 9; thence east along the north line of sec. 15 to the northeast corner of the W. $\frac{1}{2}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$ of said sec. 15; thence south along the east line of the W. $\frac{1}{2}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$ and W. $\frac{1}{2}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$ of said sec. 15, and the east line of the W. $\frac{1}{2}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 22, to the southeast corner of the W. $\frac{1}{2}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$ of said sec. 22, same township; thence east along the middle line of sec. 22, to the northeast corner of the SW. $\frac{1}{4}$ of said sec. 22; thence south to the center of sec. 34, in the same township; thence east along the middle line of secs. 34, 35, and 36, to the east township line; thence from the northeast corner of the SE. $\frac{1}{4}$ of said sec. 36, to the southeast corner of said section; thence east along the north line of T. 44 S., R. 32 E., to the northeast corner of said T. 44 S., R. 32 E., thence south along the east line of said township 44 to the southeast corner thereof; thence east along the north line of T. 45, R. 33, to the northeast corner of said T. 45; thence south along the east line of Tps. 45 and 46, R. 33, to the southeast corner of T. 46; thence east along the north line of T. 47, R. 34, to the northeast corner of lot 1, sec. 5, T. 47 S., R. 34 E.; thence south to the center of sec. 5; thence east to the northeast corner of the SE. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 5; thence south along the east line of secs. 5, 8, 17, and 20 to the northeast corner

of the SE. $\frac{1}{4}$ of said sec. 20; thence east to the center of sec. 21; thence south along the middle line of secs. 21 and 28 to the southeast corner of the SW. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 28; thence east along the south line of sec. 28 to the northeast corner of sec. 33; thence south along the east line of sec. 33 of said T. 47, R. 34, to the southeast corner of said sec. 33; thence east along the north line of T. 48, R. 34, to the northeast corner of said township; thence south along the east line of Tps. 48 and 49 to the southeast corner of T. 49, R. 34; thence west along the south line of said T. 49 to the southwest corner of said T. 49 S., R. 34 E.; thence south along the east line of T. 50, R. 33, to the southeast corner thereof; thence east along the south line of T. 50, R. 34, to the southeast corner thereof; thence south along the west line of Tps. 51 and 52 to the southeast corner of T. 52, R. 34; thence west along the north line of T. 53 to the northwest corner of T. 53, R. 33; thence south along the west line of T. 53, R. 33, to the southwest corner thereof; thence west along the north line of T. 54, Rs. 32, 31, 30, and 29, to the waters of the Gulf of Mexico; then following the mainland in a southerly direction to the point of beginning in T. 60 S., R. 37 E. There are eliminated and excepted from the above all islands in the Gulf of Mexico adjacent to the mainland, all of what would be the school sections if the lands were surveyed, and the following descriptions, viz:

The SE. $\frac{1}{4}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 23, and the NW. $\frac{1}{4}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 25, T. 50 S., R. 40 E.; the NE. $\frac{1}{4}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 20, T. 50 S., R. 41 E., the W. $\frac{1}{4}$ NE. $\frac{1}{4}$, E. $\frac{1}{4}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$, SW. $\frac{1}{4}$ NW. $\frac{1}{4}$, NW. $\frac{1}{4}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$, and N. $\frac{1}{4}$ SW. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 1, and the E. $\frac{1}{4}$ SE. $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 2, T. 51 S., R. 41 E., as surveyed by Special Agent J. O. Fries in 1898, and as designated on a special plat approved November 16, 1899, accepted April 25, 1900, containing in the aggregate an estimated area of 2,862,080 acres, and for which the governor of the State of Florida did on the 6th day of April, 1903, request a patent to be issued to the said State as required in the aforesaid act.

Now, therefore, know ye, that the United States of America, in consideration of the premises, and in conformity with the act of Congress aforesaid, have given and granted, and by these presents do give and grant, unto the said State of Florida, in fee simple, subject to the disposal of the legislature thereof, the tracts of land above described; to have and to hold the same, together with all the rights, privileges, immunities, and appurtenances thereto belonging, unto the said State Florida, in fee simple, and to its assigns forever.

In testimony whereof, I, Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, have caused these letters to be made patent and the seal of the General Land Office to be hereunto affixed.

(Imprint of the seal of the General Land Office.)

Given under my hand at the city of Washington, the 29th day of April in the year of our Lord 1903, and of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-seventh.

By the President:

T. ROOSEVELT.

By F. M. McKEAN, *Secretary*.

C. H. BRUSH,

Recorder of the General Land Office.

Recorded V. 3, pp. 333-336, inc.

Also filed in the office of commissioner of agriculture of the State of Florida, at Tallahassee, Fla.