

CONTINENTAL'S ACREAGE WAS PURCHASED FROM Hester 9/7/1971

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For Builders

License Fee Schedule Set By Sumter Board

By **WALTER BUCKLEY**
Star-Banner Correspondent

BUSHNELL — A fee schedule for licenses was adopted by the Sumter County Contractors Competency and Licensing Board at its first meeting recently.

The board, headed by John Knight, of Bushnell, and Walton T. Locke, vice-chairman, set a fee of \$25 for a general contractor; \$12.50 for a building contractor and \$5 for a residential builder.

Also adopted was an examination patterned on the one used by Zephyr Hills.

Competent builders will be permitted to continue under the old system until the new rules become effective July 1.

THE COMMISSION agreed to underwrite its expenses in getting started and authorized

printing licenses, stationery and postage, not to exceed \$100.

All members of the board serve without compensation.

Robert Oatman, of the Lake County Zoning Board, appeared before the new commission and explained the steps necessary in setting up a building code that would take care of the needs of the county.

He said a graduated scale of license fees would enable the operation to become self-sustaining after a few years of deficit financing.

Adoption of the Southern Building Code, National Electrical Code and Southern Code covering plumbing was agreed to.

MINIMUM requirements under the codes would be

upgraded when the department gains more experience.

Commissioners, clerk and board attorney toured the old Hester property in the Lake Okahumpka area.

George Wayson, of the Continental Camper Resorts, Inc., explained the company's plans for the acreage.

The development would give all consideration to the ecological aspects of the area.

Pointing out that there were four world record trees on the property, Wayson said the company had already altered some plans to preserve as many of the trees as possible.

A total of 1,300 quarter-acre spaces are being planned for campers in the completed project.

tering the business. And with more competition, the level of luxury at the campsites also grows.

According to the Wall Street Journal, some campgrounds resemble small towns, and investments run into millions of dollars. A facility near Wildwood, Fla., will open next month with 1,150 campsites, and plans call for 1,900 sites by the end of next year. "On a full day it will have a population upwards of 3,000 people," says George Wayson, president of Continental Camper Resorts Inc. which owns the facility. The company's investment will total nearly \$6 million.

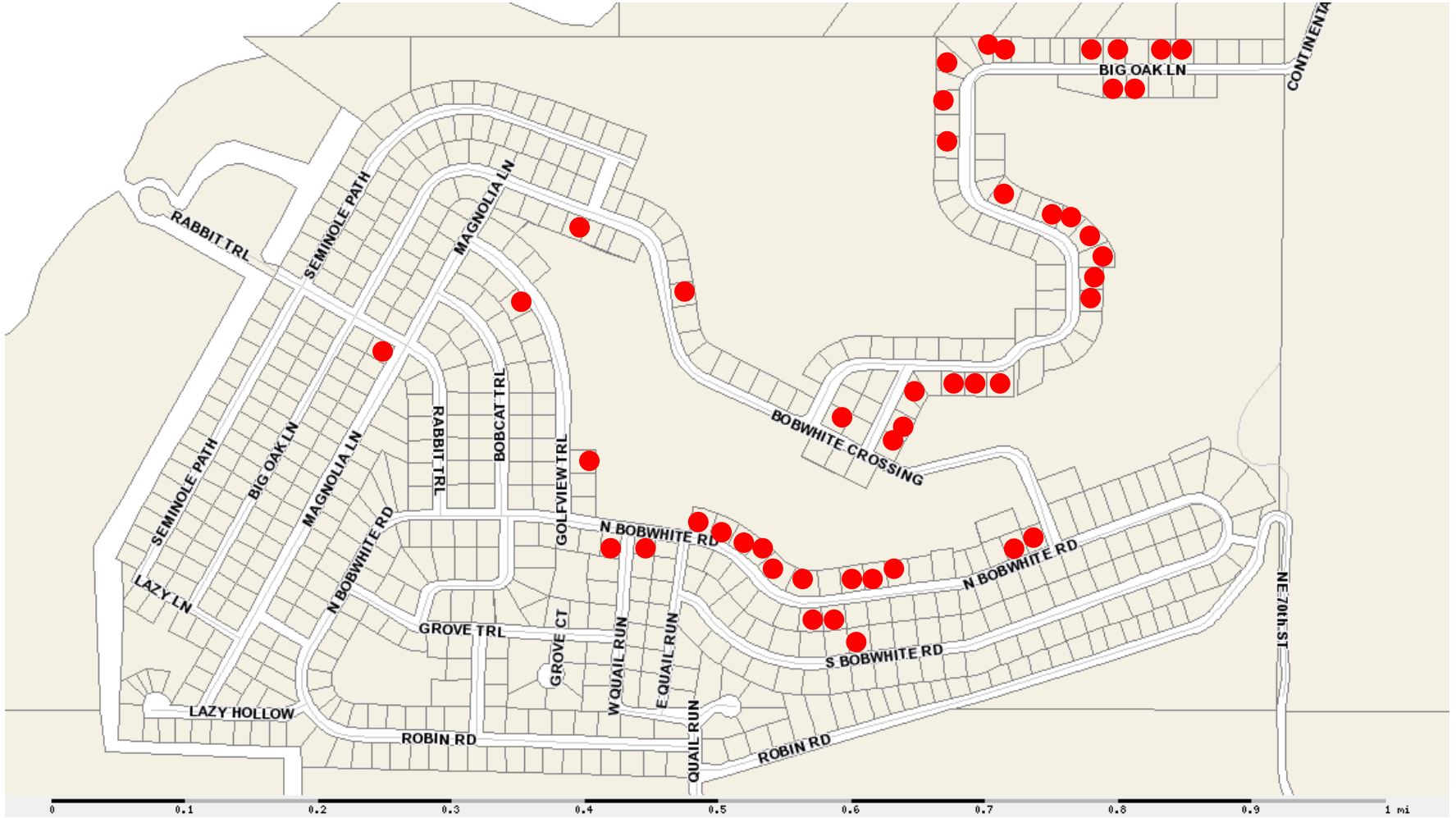
Each campsite has a telephone, and the sites are arranged around an 18-hole, 6,500-yard golf course. A \$1 million clubhouse has locker

rooms, dining rooms, a pro shop and whirlpool and sauna baths. All the campground's restrooms are air-conditioned, and one restroom, which cost \$100,000, is especially equipped for the elderly with grab rails, wheelchair ramps and individual shower stalls.

Other companies are developing "condominium" campgrounds where the individual campsites are sold to campers. Outdoor Resorts of America Inc. formed four years ago to build campgrounds, has developed three such facilities in Florida and one in Tennessee, and it plans a dozen more in Michigan, Colorado, California, New York and Missouri. The sites measure 35 feet by 70 feet and sell for \$4,200 to \$9,000 depending on location. When

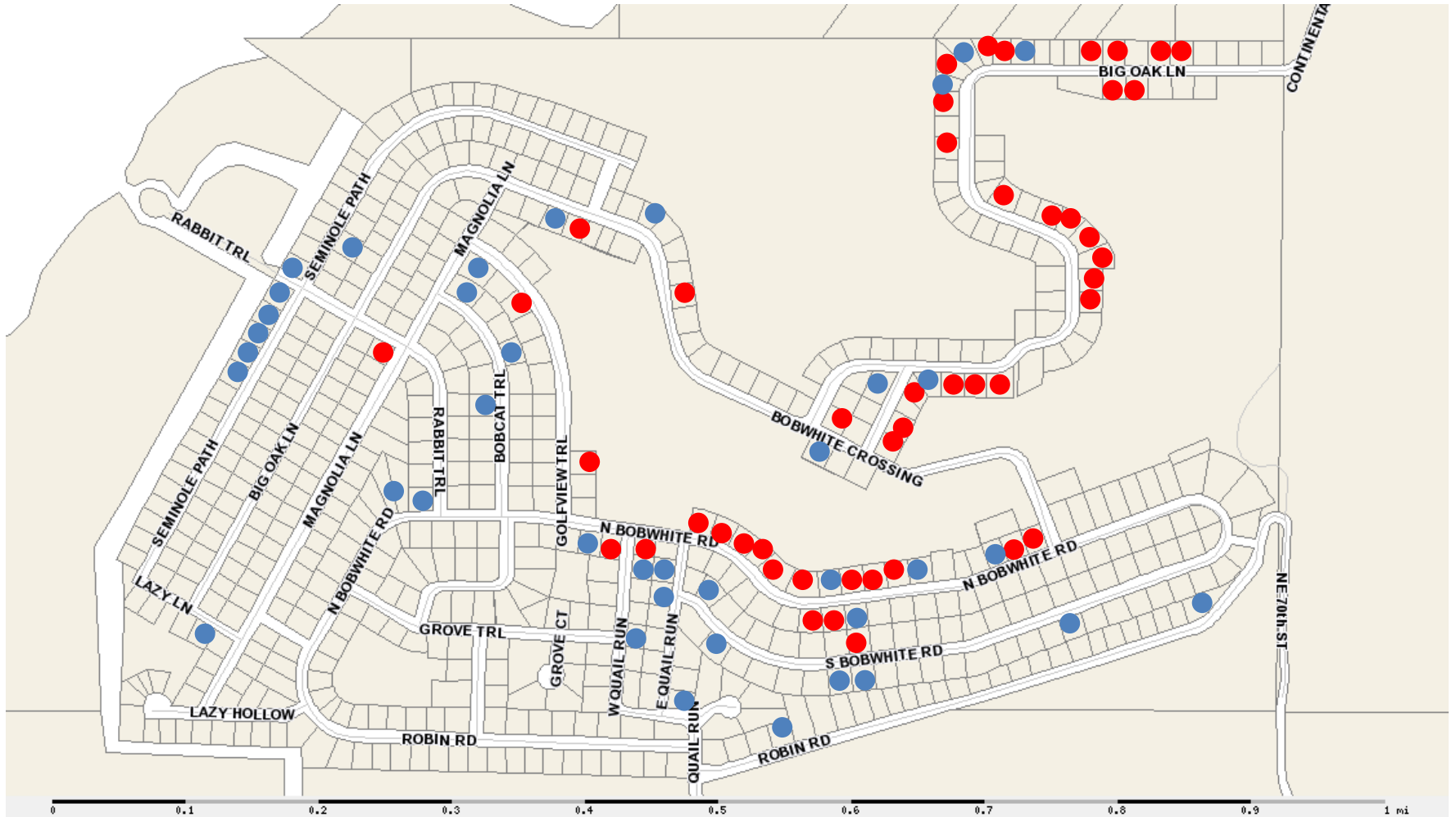
INITIAL CAMP SITES SOLD 1972 46 SITES

PARK ONLY OPENED IN AUGUST 1972



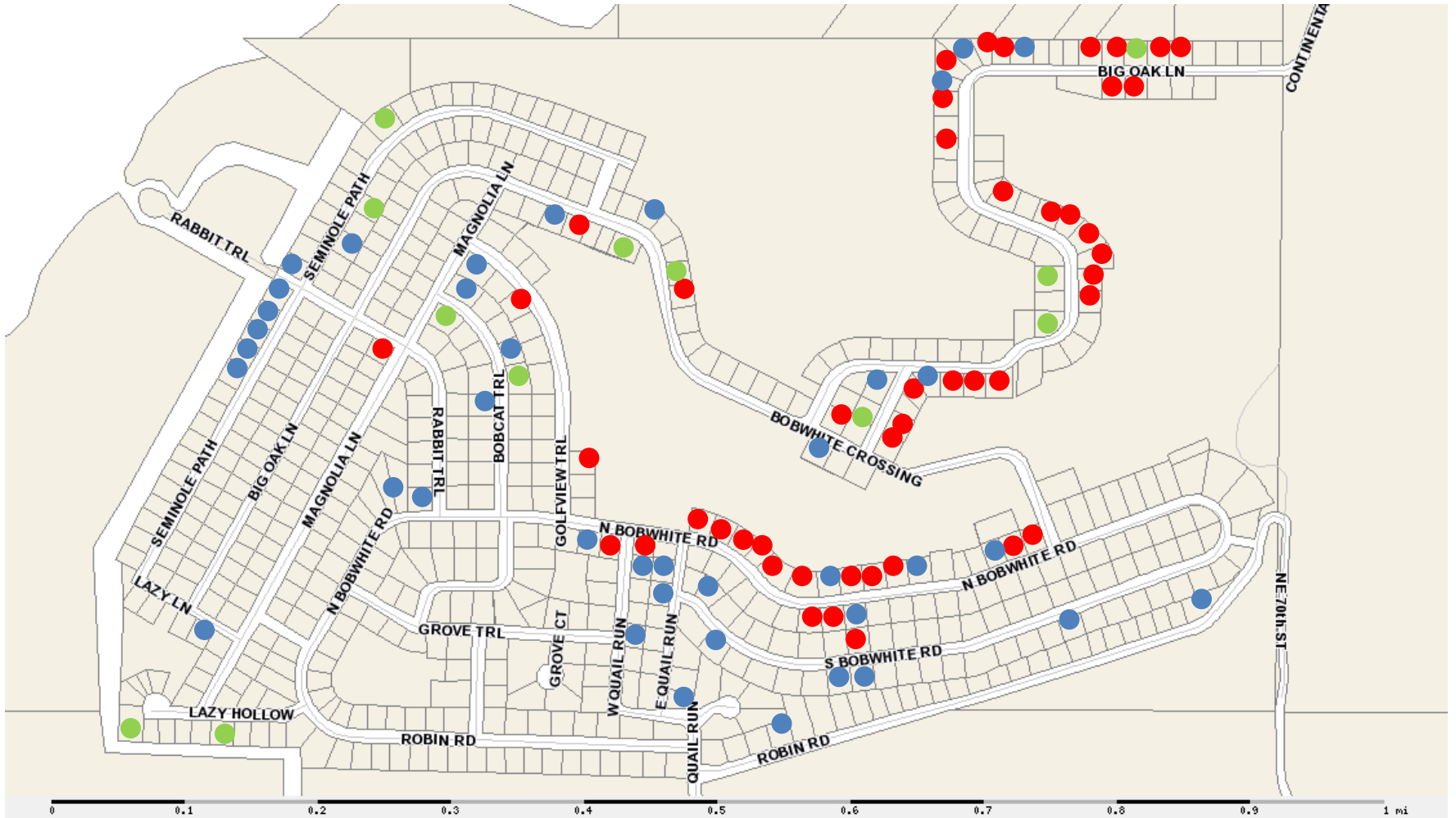
INITIAL CAMP SITES SOLD 1972 & 1973 85 SITES

PARK ONLY OPENED IN AUGUST 1972



INITIAL CAMP SITES SOLD 1972, 1973, 1974 98 SITES

PARK ONLY OPENED IN AUGUST 1972



Phase I unsold units 1982





1941



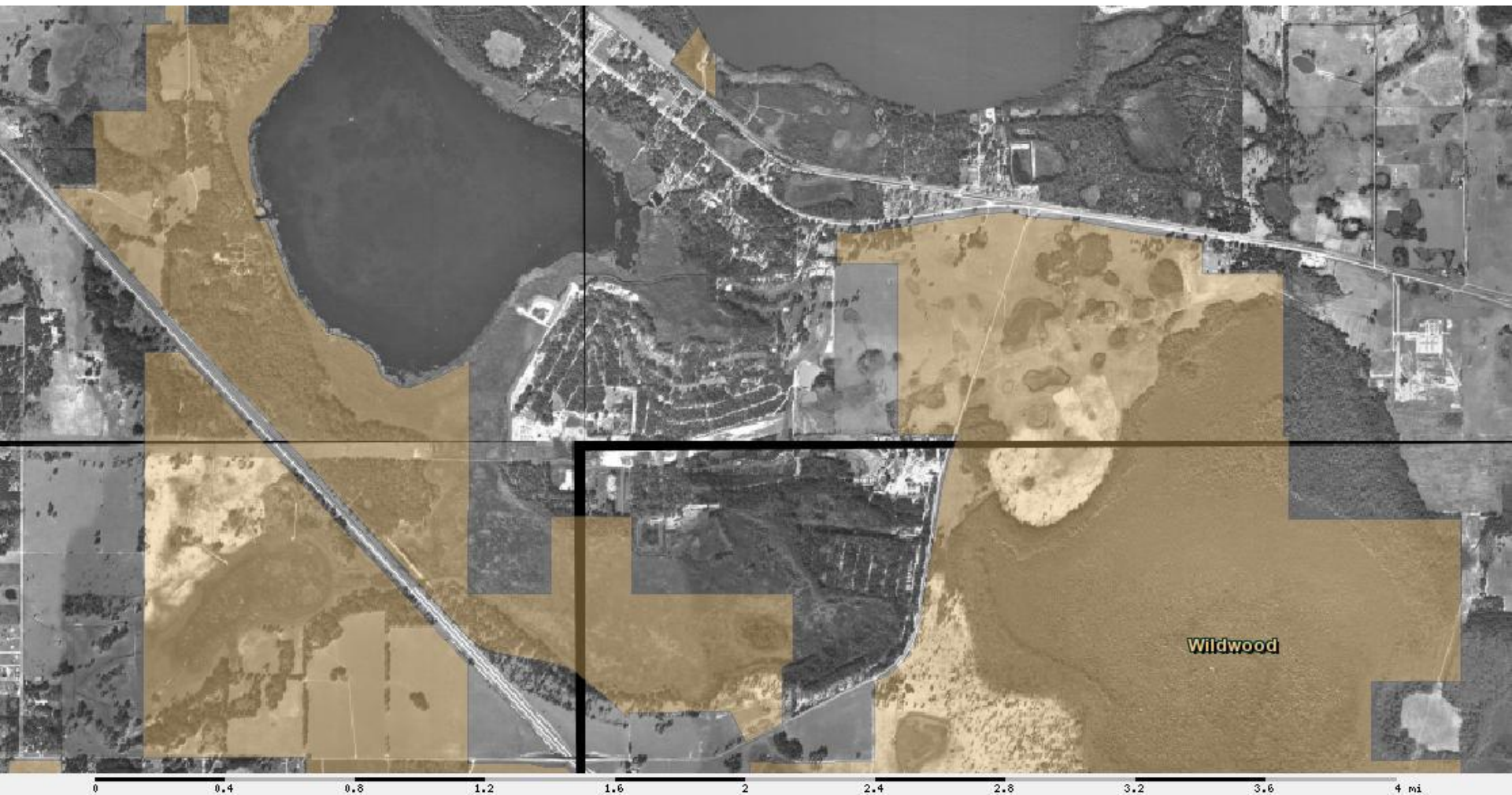
1953



1960



1969



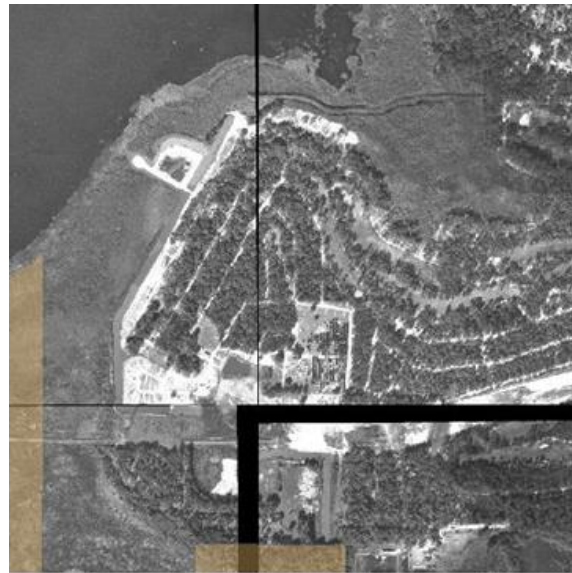
CIRCA 1970 AERIAL PHOTO, THOUGHT TO BE 1972 OR LATER
(REF SUMTER COUNTY GIS 1970 BACKGROUND)



“Keep in mind that the lower half of what is Phase I had huge, solid water oaks and other trees,” Prevo said. “As the utilities were extended and roads paved, the trees couldn’t survive the damage to their root systems. That is why that area today has fewer standing older trees. The area around Seminole Path was semi-swampy, necessitating the use of a lot of fill dirt, most of which came from the water pond near Lake Okahumpka.” Ref Resident Ladies' club History, 1994



1969



1970+



1984

1970+

TRAILERS USED DURING
CAMPING PERIOD

HESTER'S ORANGE GROVE



1974



1984





1970 Monitor camping trailer 26'

Prevo said that George Wayson's original concept was based upon the idea that people would be attracted to quiet, back-to-nature vacations in a fully-furnished trailer in an isolated, woodsy setting. He therefore ordered 100 Monitor Trailers of varying lengths and had them parked at the truck stop at Highways 44 and I-75.

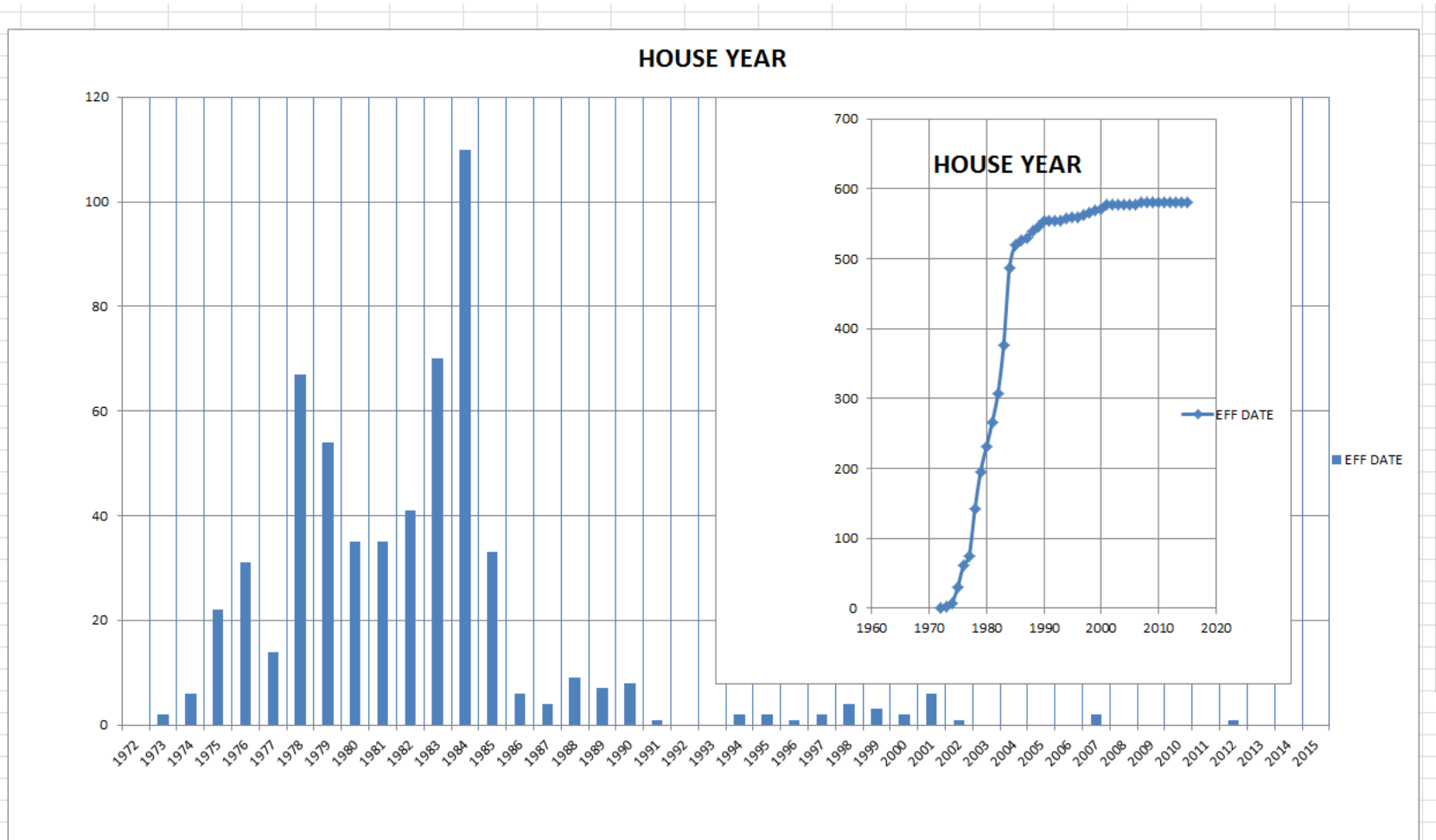
In August of 1973, a magazine called *Florida: Fun and Sun Country* ran a six-page feature article with pictures about Continental Camper, written by Roger Langston.²⁵

It would be impossible to reproduce it all here, but Langston waxed lyrical about the place.

“The official name for this fantastic piece of real estate is Continental Camper Resort,” he wrote. “Here is camping to challenge the very senses of modern man.”

He and his family were impressed by the 26-foot Monitor trailer with air conditioning, gas range, refrigerator, shower and bathroom.

ACCUMULATION OF HOMES AT CONTINENTAL



YEAR	1		2		3		4		5		6		7		8		9		10		11		12	
	EFF DATE	SALE DATE	EFF DATE	SALE DATE	EFF DATE	SALE DATE	EFF DATE	SALE DATE	EFF DATE	SALE DATE	EFF DATE	SALE DATE	EFF DATE	SALE DATE	EFF DATE	SALE DATE	EFF DATE	SALE DATE	EFF DATE	SALE DATE	EFF DATE	SALE DATE	EFF DATE	SALE DATE
1972		16		7		3		18		1							1							7
1973		3		2		6		1	8		5		3		2				1					2
1974		1	1	4	2	2	3	1		1									2			1		1
1975	6	4	5	5	5	4	6															1		
1976	6	3	4	1	4	4	10	8	4	1	1					1							2	
1977	1				1	1	8	13	2	3			1			1								
1978	3			3	3	1	21	12	35	31	2					2	1						1	
1979	2		3	1	12	10	13	9	5	7	9	10	2	2	8	8								
1980	2		6	5	9	8	12	10			1		1	1	4	4								
1981	2		2	3	10	10	2		2						12	9	3	3		1				2
1982	3		6	3	5	2	2	1					7	1	7	5	5	2	1		3			2
1983	1	1	9	3	3	3	7	4			1	1	12	16	8	5	18	20	1	2	8	19	2	4
1984	1	2		1	2	2	5	2	1		1		25	17	2	15	7	5	5	33	20	22	35	
1985	4	3					1	1					1	7	3	1	1	1	1	4	2	21	6	
1986	1	1	2			1		3		1			1	3		1	5		1	1	2	2	2	2
1987								1		1				1			2		1		3	2	2	2
1988	1	1	1										1	1					1		2	4	3	
1989			1	2		1													3	1	1	3	1	1
1990													1	1		1			4	1	2	1	2	2
1991														1			1		1	2				1
1992																								
1993																								
1994			1																		1	1		
1995				1													1						2	1
1996																	2				1	1	1	1
1997																			1	1			1	
1998							1						1						1	1			1	
1999	2					1		1											1					1
2000					1																		1	1
2001	1				2							1	1								1	1	1	1
2002		1										1	1			1								
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2006																								
2007	1																						1	
2008																								
2009																								
2010																								
2011																								
2012																							1	
2013																								
2014																								
2015																								
SUMS	36	36	41	41	59	59	92	92	50	50	15	15	55	55	43	43	45	45	20	20	55	55	70	70

YEAR	TOTALS		CUMULATIVE SUM	
	EFF DATE	SALE DATE	EFF DATE	SALE DATE
1972	0	46	0	46
1973	2	39	2	85
1974	6	13	8	98
1975	22	15	30	113
1976	31	18	61	131
1977	14	17	75	148
1978	67	48	142	196
1979	54	47	196	243
1980	35	28	231	271
1981	35	27	266	298
1982	41	14	307	312
1983	70	78	377	390
1984	110	93	487	483
1985	33	24	520	507
1986	6	20	526	527
1987	4	9	530	536
1988	9	6	539	542
1989	7	8	546	550
1990	8	7	554	557
1991	1	5	555	562
1992	0	0	555	562
1993	0	0	555	562
1994	2	1	557	563
1995	2	2	559	565
1996	1	4	560	569
1997	2	1	562	570
1998	4	1	566	571
1999	3	3	569	574
2000	2	1	571	575
2001	6	3	577	578
2002	1	3	578	581
2003	0	0	578	581
2004	0	0	578	581
2005	0	0	578	581
2006	0	0	578	581
2007	2	0	580	581
2008	0	0	580	581
2009	0	0	580	581
2010	0	0	580	581
2011	0	0	580	581
2012	1	0	581	581
2013	0	0	581	581
2014	0	0	581	581
2015	0	0	581	581
	581	581		

