

# Gladesmen: Gator Hunters, Moonshiners, And Skiffers - , Laura Ogden

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Few people today can claim a living memory of Florida's frontier Everglades. Glen Simmons, who has hunted alligators, camped on hammock-covered islands, and poled his skiff through the mangrove swamps of the glades since the 1920s, is one who can. Together with Laura Ogden, he tells the story of backcountry life in the southern Everglades from his youth until the establishment of the Everglades National Park in 1947. During the economic bust of the late '20s, when many natives turned to the land to survive, Simmons began accompanying older local men into Everglades backcountry, the inhospitable prairie of soft muck and mosquitoes, of outlaws and moonshiners, that rings the southern part of the state. As Simmons recalls life in this community with humor and nostalgia, he also documents the forgotten lifestyles of south Florida gladesmen. By necessity, they understood the natural features of the Everglades ecosystem. They observed the seasonal fluctuations of wildlife, fire, and water levels. Their knowledge of the mostly unmapped labyrinth of grassy water enabled them to serve as guides for visiting naturalists and scientists. Simmons reconstructs this world, providing not only fascinating stories of individual personalities, places, and events, but an account that is accurate, both scientifically and historically, of one of the least known and longest surviving portions of the American frontier. Author: Simmons, Glen Author: Ogden, Laura Publisher: University Press of Florida Illustration: N Language: ENG Title: Gladesmen: Gator Hunters, Moonshiners, and Skiffers Pages: 00224 (Encrypted EPUB) On Sale: 2010-09-05 SKU-13/ISBN: 9780813015736 Category: History : United States - State & Local - South Category: History : United States - State & Local - General

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