

PH0012386

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Florida
COUNTY:	Nassau
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 23 1972

HZ
NO
11-9

1. NAME

COMMON:
Fort Clinch

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Three miles north of Fernandina Beach on Florida A1A

CITY OR TOWN:
Fernandina Beach vic.

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Florida	12	Nassau	089

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____
		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments	_____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **Division of Recreation and Parks
Department of Natural Resources**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Larson Building

CITY OR TOWN: **Tallahassee** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12**

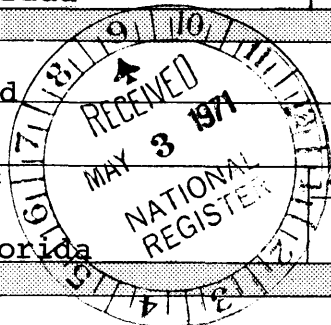
STATE: Florida
COUNTY: Nassau

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund

STREET AND NUMBER:
Elliott Building

CITY OR TOWN: **Tallahassee** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12**



6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Florida Historic Sites Survey 1940

DATE OF SURVEY: **1940** Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Division of Archives, History and Records Management

STREET AND NUMBER:
Department of State, The Capitol

CITY OR TOWN: **Tallahassee** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12**

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fort Clinch is a pentagonal structure of brick and concrete. The inner wall is pierced with tunnels, while the eight-foot outer has large loopholes for musketry. The armament, at the time of its completion, included two large rifled guns, and twenty-seven 32-pounders. The permanent works were flanked with water batteries, and strengthened with sand embankments.

Behind the fort are high sand dunes covered with dwarfed live oaks and cedars, their tops flattened by the prevailing east wind.

A schematic drawing is enclosed. Excerpts from a report directed to General Totten, Chief Engineer, U.S.A., dated August 24, 1863, provides the following information on the progress of the work at Ft. Clinch:

Nos. 41 and 40: "The Workshops and Baker, including casements in rear have been entirely built and are now prepared for their roofs, which are very, very nearly ready to place in position." No. 39 refers to the soldier's barracks: "Foundation walls of the soldier's barracks have been laid and are ready for the super-structure." In the aerial photo provided with the nomination this building is shown without a roof which has since been restored. The report tells us that buildings nos. 37 and 38 are "complete"; but leak badly from defective roofs." The storehouse, building no. 43, (which is now used as a museum) had only the first story walls completed but the rest of the material including window frames were available on the ground for its completion.

Work has never really halted on Ft. Clinch. After it outgrew its usefulness for a coastal defense standpoint, its value was recognized as a historic site. The WPA did restoration work and the Division of Recreation and Parks continues that effort today.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian	<input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century
<input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century	<input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Political	<input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation			_____

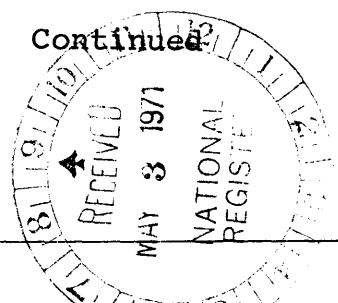
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Fort Clinch was built over one hundred years ago on the north end of Amelia Island. The site commanding the entrance to St. Marys River and Cumberland Sound was recognized as strategic in early times, and Oglethorpe occupied it in 1736. The British erected a fort there during the American Revolution, and the island was the center of Patriot War troubles of 1812. Amelia Island has played a colorful role in our nation's history and the island has seen eight flags fly over it: France, Spain, Great Britain, Patriots, Green Cross of Florida, Mexico, Confederate and United States.

Construction of the present fort was begun in 1847. However, such a project was a great undertaking in those days, and it was not completed at the outbreak of the Civil War, though it was occupied by a garrison of about 2,000 Confederate troops in 1861. In 1850, it was named for General Duncan Lamont Clinch of North Carolina - an important figure in Florida's Seminole Wars of the 1830's. The location was important because the harbor afforded a haven for blockade-runners considerably nearer than any other to the neutral ports at Bermuda and on the Bahamas.

In February, 1862, an expedition was organized at Port Royal and sailed on the last day of that month for the capture of Fernandina. The fleet consisted of 19 Federal vessels, mainly gunboats of light draught. In March, 1862, on receiving word of the approach of the greatly superior Federal invasion force, the Confederates at Fort Clinch were ordered to abandon the fort and evacuate the town. When the Federal force arrived, the evacuation was complete, and the American flag was raised over Fort Clinch in March, 1862.



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cash, W. T. The Story of Florida. Vol. 2. New York: American Historical Society, Inc., 1938.
 Davis, William Watson. Civil War and Reconstruction. New York: Columbia University, 1913.
 Federal Writers Project. Florida A Guide to the Southernmost State. New York: Oxford University Press, 1939.
 Norton, Charles Ledyard. A Handbook of Florida. New York: Longmans, Green and Co., 1891.

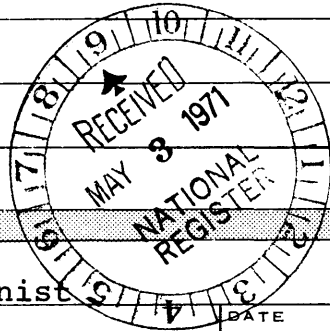
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	30° 42' 21"	81° 27' 23"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	30° 42' 21"	81° 27' 13"				
SE	30° 42' 13"	81° 27' 13"				
SW	30° 42' 13"	81° 27' 23"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 14.5 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Randy F. Nimnicht, Historic Preservationist
 ORGANIZATION:
Division of Archives, History and Records Mgt. DATE: 3/9/71
 STREET AND NUMBER:
Department of State, The Capitol
 CITY OR TOWN:
Tallahassee STATE: Florida CODE: 12

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION **NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION**

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:
 National State Local
 Name: *Robert Williams*
 Title: State Liaison Officer
 Date: April 29, 1971

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.
Ernest A. Connelly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
 Date: FEB 23 1972
 ATTEST:
W. Bradford
 Keeper of The National Register
 Date: February 15, 1970

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

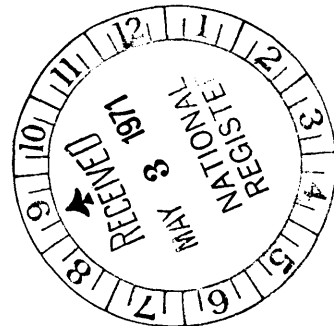
(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Florida	
COUNTY Nassau	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 23 1977

(Number all entries)

Fort Clinch, Significance, Page 2

Of the United States forts seized by the Confederates, Fort Clinch was one of the first to be regained. The occupation of Fernandina restored to Federal control the whole of the seacoast of Georgia, and afforded a convenient base of operations against Jacksonville and St. Augustine. Federal troops occupied the fort for the duration of the war. It was garrisoned for six years after the war and again in 1898, when troops encamped there during the Spanish-American War. After that, the fort was completely abandoned until its rehabilitation by the Civilian Conservation Corps.



Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	Florida
COUNTY	Nassau
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 23 1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Fort Clinch
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Three miles north of Fernandina Beach on Fla. A1A
CITY OR TOWN: Fernandina Beach
STATE: Florida CODE COUNTY: Nassau CODE
12 089

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE: National Archives, Washington, D.C.
SCALE: 1" = 100'
DATE: 1851

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

THE ORIGINAL PLAN OF FORT CLINCH
Scale 1" = 100'

Adapted from the original drawings, Cartographic Section, National Archives, Washington, D. C., Record Group 77, Fortification File Drawer 71, Sheet 9, dated 1851 (?). Later modifications have been located but not drawn to scale.

LEGEND

GENERAL

1. Cumberland Sound
2. High Water Mark in ca. 1850
3. Old Fernandina

OUTWORKS

4. Glacis
5. Seawall
6. Breast-Height Wall
7. Covert Way Terreplein
8. Counterscarp
9. Ditch
10. Ravelin
11. Outer Entrance
12. Wooden Bridge
13. Drawbridge
14. Sally-port

BASTIONS

15. North Bastion
16. Northwest Bastion
17. Southwest Bastion
18. South Bastion
19. East Bastion

SCARPS AND RAMPARTS

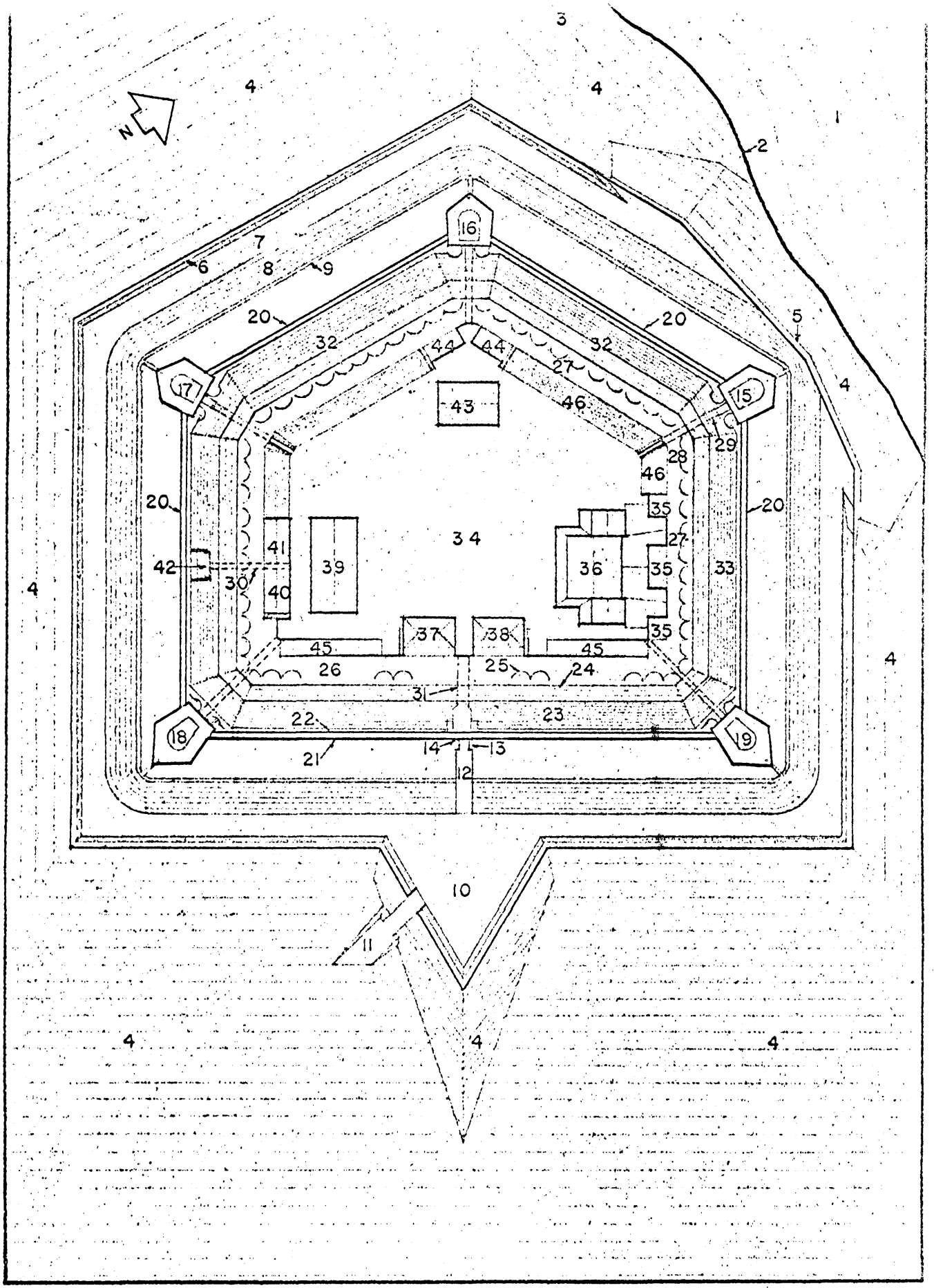
20. Scarp Wall
21. Scarp Wall of Gorge Front
22. Chemin-des-ronde
23. Rampart
24. Parapet
25. Location of Typical Gun Platform as originally designed
26. Terreplein of the Ramparts
27. Location of 2 - 15 inch guns installed in 1865
28. Location of 8-inch breech-loading rifle installed in 1898

GALLERIES

29. Typical Bastion Gallery
30. Latrine Gallery
31. Entrance Gallery
32. Location of Curtain Gallery installed in 1865-66
33. Location of Kitchen Gallery installed in 1866-67

PARADE AND ITS BUILDINGS

34. Parade
35. Officers' Kitchens
36. Officers' Quarters
37. Guardhouse
38. Prison
39. Soldiers' Barracks
40. Bakery
41. Blacksmith Shop
42. Privies (Latrines)
43. Storehouse (now the Museum)
44. Lumber Shed
45. Ramp
46. Location of Parados installed in 1865-67



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(July 1969)

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
Three miles north of Fernandina Beach on Florida A1A			
CITY OR TOWN:			
Fernandina Beach			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Florida	12	Nassau	089
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:			
U.S. Coast & Geodetic, Fernandina Beach Quad., 7 1/2 min. series (topo)			
SCALE: 1:24,000			
DATE: 1958			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

