

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

**FOR NPS USE ONLY**  
RECEIVED FEB 24 1984  
DATE ENTERED JUN 14 1986

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

TCHEFUNCTE RIVER RANGE REAR LIGHT

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

NORTH SIDE LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

MADISONVILLE

FIRST

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

LOUISIANA

22

ST. TAMMANY

103

**2 CLASSIFICATION**

| CATEGORY                                      | OWNERSHIP                                  | STATUS  | PRESENT USE                                    |
|---|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED        | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)          | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE           | <input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED                 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH              | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS           | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE                 | <b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>                  | <b>ACCESSIBLE</b>                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT               | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED  | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL            |
|   | N/A  | <input type="checkbox"/> NO                         | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY              |
|   |  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM                |
|   |  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> PARK                  |
|   |  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE     |
|   |  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS             |
|   |  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC            |
|   |  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION        |
|   |  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:                |

**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

U. S. COAST GUARD COMMANDER, EIGHTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT

STREET & NUMBER

HALE BOGGS FEDERAL BUILDING, 500 CAMP STREET

CITY, TOWN

STATE

NEW ORLEANS,

— VICINITY OF

LOUISIANA 70130

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Register of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

St. Tammany Parish Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Covington,

Louisiana

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

N/A

DATE

— FEDERAL — STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

JUN 25 1986

# 7 DESCRIPTION

| CONDITION                                |                                       | CHECK ONE                                     | CHECK ONE   |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT       | <input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD | <input type="checkbox"/> RUINS        | <input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED              | <input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> FAIR            | <input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED    |   |   |

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A masonry Conical Tower built in 1867. Site occupied as a lighthouse since 1839. The lighthouse is presently unmanned and in automated service.

1. Approximate dimensions - Base 30 ft. to top, 100 ft. above sea level
2. Material construction - Brick
3. Form of Lighthouse - Brick Cyclinder
4. Type of Illuminate and Lens - 250mm/condensing panel
5. Color of Lighthouse - White with a black vertical stripe
6. Special Signaling devices - None
7. No Additional structures
8. No Alterations to existing lighthouse
9. No Special Features

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

| PERIOD  | AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW |   |   |  |  |
|---|--|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING     | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION            |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC     | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION           | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS              | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE           |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION              | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY               | <input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799            | <input type="checkbox"/> ART                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING            | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC                  | <input type="checkbox"/> THEATER             |  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899 | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE                | <input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY             | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION      |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1900-                | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS          | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY               | <input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |  |
|   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |   |  |  |

SPECIFIC DATES 1867

BUILDER/ARCHITECT UNKNOWN

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

TCHEFUNCTE RIVER (1838)

The Tchefuncte River Range Rear Light is significant because of its architecture. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and method of construction common to the 1860's. Its level of significance is at the State level.

In the War of 1812, the Tchefuncte River (also spelled Chefunti, Chifuncta, etc.) distinguished itself as a Naval Yard. Madisonville, just above the mouth, remains as a small shipyard and yacht harbor.

A tower was erected at the mouth of the river in 1838 with a Fifth Order lens, its 10 lamps visible 11 miles. The lighthouse was rebuilt in 1857, about the same time as New Canal, across the lake. The 1886 light list shows the light on a 34-foot white tower, 38 feet above the lake and visible 11 miles.

Some rebuilding took place in 1867. Also that year, the lantern from the lighthouse at Cat Island was shipped to Tchefuncte. The Cat Island tower had been damaged by a hurricane and burned at the outset of the war. Installation of the lantern was halted for four weeks in August and September 1867, by the Yellow Fever epidemic that swept through the Gulf Coast. The rebuilding was completed in early 1868.

The Station received the usual minor repairs and renovations until August 19-20, 1888, when a storm swept away all but the keeper's quarters and the tower. The outside kitchen, woodshed, washhouse, boathouse, and picket fence were among the structures destroyed.

The lighthouse is presently in full service, although automated. A black vertical stripe on the white tower improves its visibility as a daytime range marker.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lighthouses and Lightships of the Northern Gulf of Mexico  
 Department of Transportation, U. S. Coast Guard

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .006 acres (50' X 50' of land under the light)

UTM REFERENCES

|   |      |             |               |   |      |         |          |
|---|------|-------------|---------------|---|------|---------|----------|
| A | 1 5  | 7 7 2 0 0 0 | 3 3 6 4 0 0 0 | B |      |         |          |
|   | ZONE | EASTING     | NORTHING      |   | ZONE | EASTING | NORTHING |
| C |      |             |               | D |      |         |          |

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Latitude: 30-22-36 North  
 Longitude: 90-10-12 West

The lighthouse is located on the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain due west of the confluence of the Tchefuncta River and the lake. Only the light tower and land immediately beneath it are nominated.

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

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

E. L. RICKS, CWO3, USCG

*E. L. Ricks*

11/14/83

ORGANIZATION

Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

Hale Boggs Federal Building, 500 Camp Street

TELEPHONE

504-589-2121

CITY OR TOWN

New Orleans,

STATE

Louisiana

## 12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

*Carol R. Ricks*

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National  State  Local .

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

*[Signature]*

TITLE

DOT HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

DATE

2/14/84

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*[Signature]*

DATE

7/14/86

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

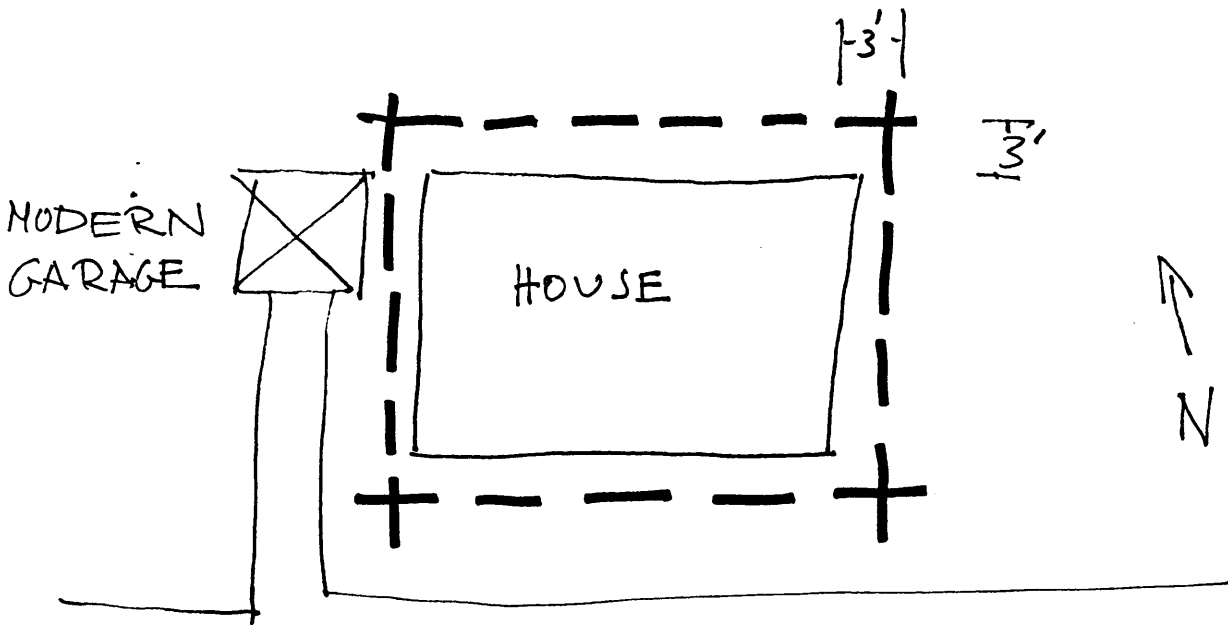
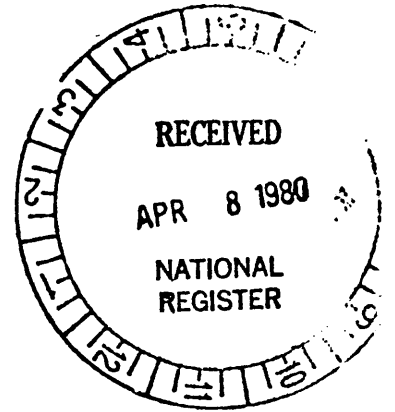
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

# SKETCH MAP

.1 acres

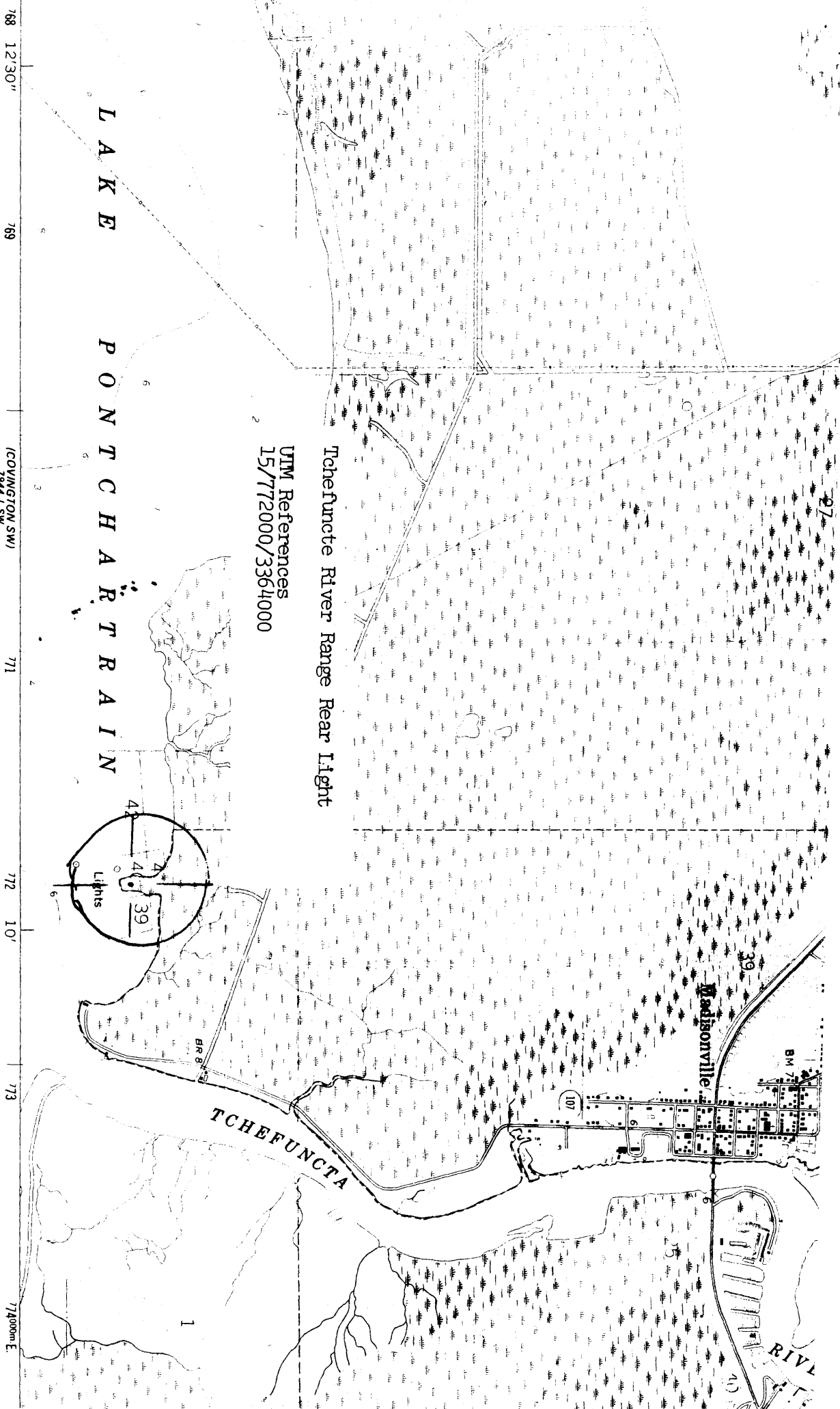


LAKESHORE DR

① PHOTO

② PHOTO

Boundaries drawn 3 Ft. from the exterior walls of the house to exclude modern garage and extend recognition only to the house itself.

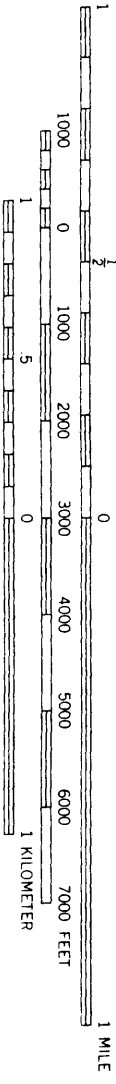


UTM References  
15/772000/3364000

Tcheffuncte River Range Rear Light

(COVINGTON SW)  
7944 1' SW

SCALE 1:24 000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET

NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929  
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET — GULF COAST LOW WATER DATUM  
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE  
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER  
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 1/4 FOOT



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

THIS CHART COMPLEIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

Depth signs shown in circles and soundings simplified