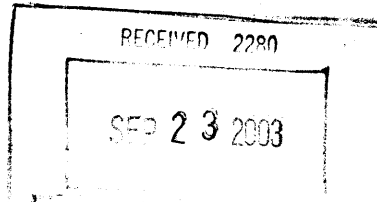


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name GLEN SAINT MARY NURSERIES COMPANY

other names/site number FMSF# BA471

2. Location

street & number 7703 Glen Nursery Road N/A not for publication

city or town Glen St. Mary vicinity

state Florida code FL county Baker code 003 zip code 32040

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Scott Andrew Matthews 9/18/2003
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Division of Historic Resources, Bureau of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

- entered in the National Register See continuation sheet
- determined eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register See continuation sheet.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain) _____

EB
Signature of the Keeper

11.7.03
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- buildings
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include any previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
18	3	buildings
1	0	sites
3	1	structures
0	0	objects
22	4	total

Name of related multiple property listings

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

"N/A"

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: horticultural facility

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE: horticultural facility

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER: Frame Vernacular
Late 19th & Early 20th Century Revivals: Colonial Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation BRICK
walls WOOD
roof METAL
other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B** removed from its original location.
- C** a birthplace or grave.
- D** a cemetery.
- E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F** a commemorative property.
- G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 36) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

AGRICULTURE

Period of Significance

1883-1953

Significant Dates

1883

Significant Person

Taber, George L.

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Taber, G.L. builder

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State Agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of Repository

Glen St. Mary Nurseries
Name of Property

Baker Co., FL
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approx. 640

UTM References

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

1 1 7 3 8 5 7 6 0 3 3 4 8 1 8 0
Zone Easting Northing
2 1 7 3 8 8 1 8 0 3 3 4 8 1 4 0

3 1 7 3 8 5 7 2 0 3 3 4 6 3 6 0
Zone Easting Northing
4 1 7 3 8 8 1 4 0 3 3 4 6 3 8 0

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Taber, Margaret/Robert O. Jones, Historic Sites Specialist

organization Bureau of Historic Preservation date August 2003

street & number 500 S. Bronough St. telephone 850-245-6333

city or town Tallahassee state FL zip code 32399-0250

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A Sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items

(check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name G.L. Taber, III, President

street & number 7703 Glen Nursery Road telephone 904-259-6256

city or town Glen St. Mary state Florida zip code 32040

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and amend listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1

**GLEN SAINT MARY NURSERIES COMPANY,
GLEN SAINT MARY, BAKER CO., FLORIDA**

SUMMARY

The Glen St. Mary Nurseries Company is located on more than 1000 acres, of which approximately 640 are nominated to the National Register. The nursery includes a complex of 18 contributing buildings, 3 contributing structures, 1 contributing cultural landscape, and 4 non-contributing buildings. The nursery remains a large commercial operation with a high degree of integrity in the areas of frequent activity. The historic dirt roadways through the property define the historic circulation patterns across the landscape. The section of dirt road historically known as the National Highway contained within the nursery, is one of the contributing structures within the landscape.

SETTING

Baker County and the region around the Glen St. Mary Nurseries, and Glen St. Mary is rural. The county has a population of 22,562, and Glen St. Mary has 473. The town was incorporated in 1957. Interstate Highway 10 runs east/west immediately north of the, and the Highway intersects with County Road 125 that bounds the nursery on the east. The land is gently rolling, and slopes to the south as it borders the South Prong St. Marys River. Mature forests border the property, and mature oak, pine, magnolia, and palm trees are found across the property. Varieties of ornamental trees such as camphors are present. On the lower slope of Brooker Hill, adjacent to the river, prehistoric pottery sherds have been discovered through a ground scatter search. Florida Master Site Files BA #355 & 356 have been recorded. The number of sherds is high at one location, but no further investigation or dating have been done, and nursery activities have disturbed the sites.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Buildings & Structures

(18 buildings, 2 structures, National Highway structure discussed under "landscape")

#1, Taber House/President's House, 1883. (Photos #1&2) This house consists of two, two-story, frame buildings, joined by an open breezeway. Built by Mr. Taber and helpers, he with his new wife moved in the last day of 1883. Built on brick piers with wrap around first-story open porches, the house is in the Georgian Style. The house is symmetrical with a central hall flanked by pairs of rooms, and a hipped tin roof with sculpted brackets at the eaves. The second story has another large hallway with two bedrooms on the south and a bath and bedroom on the north. A widow's walk is on the roof. The main house is connected by a "dog trot" or breezeway, to a two-story building containing a kitchen, large dining room, and ice room. Upstairs are three bedrooms used by hired help, and a bathroom. In 1906 the front porch was removed and a portico was added. The south porch is screened in and the north porch is a sunroom and storage area. At one time these rooms functioned as an additional kitchen and utility room. Inside the main house, rooms were modified in 1906;

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walls and fireplaces were removed and new fireplaces added. The widow's walk was removed but put back in 1999. The kitchen was remodeled and modernized in 1955.

#2, Truck Barn, ca.1890. (Photos #3&4) Built in 1890 or earlier, it is a two-story frame, pole construction with a tin gable roof. The floor is dirt. It served as the nursery's main barn, used for trailers (drawn by horses and mules) and for storage. The upstairs was a packing facility where hand made sorting bins for citrus are still seen. The barn was shored up in 1993 and survived the March 13th 1993 "Storm of the Century."

#3, Shed, ca.1900. The one story rectangular wooden shed, open along the south elevation, was associated with the main barn. It housed mules, horses, and later tractors and implements.

#4, Garage, ca.1898. (Photos #5&6) This two-story, frame building built in 1898 or earlier became a garage in 1902 to shelter Mr. Taber's Holsman car. The siding is surfaced with large decorative tin plates. It has a large second story used for storage. A Delco battery system was installed on the first floor by the east wall to supply electricity to the house.

#5, Pump House, ca.1900. Located on the northern bank of the South Prong St. Marys River, the building is one-story, constructed of a narrow variety of concrete block covered with stucco. The tin gable roof was originally covered with slate. It contains a kerosene, one-cylinder pump with flywheel. The building also contains an electric pump. The kerosene pump no longer works. The pump's primary function was irrigation of plantings.

#6, Bell Tower, 1900. This steel frame structure houses a bell at the top. Until the mid-1990s, the bell was rung at 8 am, 12 pm, 1 pm, and 5 pm, to announce work times. The tower once held a cypress water tank. The water was pumped into the tank, and gravity supplied the water to dwellings.

#7, Glass Greenhouse Complex, 1922. These metal and glass buildings on masonry foundations were state-of-the-art green houses in the 1920s. They were built by Lord and Burnham Company of New York. They have been unused for several decades and are in poor, overgrown condition.

#8, Water Tower, 1922. (Photo #7) The sixty foot high steel frame water tower is immediately west of the greenhouse complex. It served the growing commercial needs of the nursery.

#9, Coquina Stone Shed, 1922. The one-story, one room stone shed is currently overgrown, and its historic function is unknown. It is on the eastern edge of what had been a large public azalea garden.

#10, Office, 1912. (Photo #8) This brick, two-story building has two one-story wings. The symmetrical design, broad hipped roofs, and hipped roof first story veranda, large square brick columns, exposed rafter at the eaves,

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**GLEN SAINT MARY NURSERIES COMPANY,
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and 9/1 wooden sashes, convey a modest Craftsman Style. The building had a basement which housed the central heating system but was filled in around 1975 due to water seepage. There is a dark room upstairs, used to process photos used it for the company's sales catalogs, and a small attic. J.H.W. Hawkins drew the plans. Cost for the building was less than \$10,000.00. The walls are 10" thick, though they were planned to be 12". The brick was brought from Georgia. There are two original fireplaces, and one built in the 1970s. The brick office replaced the original log cabin office that had been the first building constructed by Taber.

Glen St. Mary was not a populated area with available housing, so by the turn of the 20th century, the nursery invested in providing quarters for steady workers. Modest frame houses were constructed on property now north of Interstate 10, and south of the river. These outlying buildings are now gone, and all that remain are south of Interstate 10. All built houses are frame; some have horizontal siding and some with board and batten, constructed on brick pier foundations. Most roofs are gable with metal surfaces.

#11, Lauramore House, 1895. A two-story house with open front porch, a living room, kitchen, dining room, bathroom, and one bedroom. Bedrooms were on the second floor. J.J. "Bruiser" Lauramore was a regular employee who made it a practice to plant a camphor tree beside each residence. These large trees today mark the locations of early habitations, many now gone. Larrimore's house is on the old National Highway that runs east/west across the nursery property.

#12, Hume House, 1907 (Photos #9&10). The two-story house is in two parts with a covered breezeway joining them. The buildings are symmetrical with hipped roofs and corbled brick chimneys. The main building has one-story open porches spanning the north and east sides. All porches have hipped tin roofs. The downstairs has a central hall, living room, bedroom, and bathroom. Upstairs are three bedrooms and one bathroom. The second building has a kitchen, dining room, bathroom, and on the second floor are three bedrooms and a bath. The house was built for Dr. H.H. Hume, a famed horticulturalist, when he joined the nursery.

#13, Steele House, 1910 (Photos #11&12). The two-story home has an irregular footprint, cross gable tin roof, diamond-shaped vents in each gable, and one-story porch with a hip roof that spans the north elevations and wraps around the east corner. Due to termite damage the rear was altered. The interior includes a living room, kitchen, dining room, den, four bedrooms, and two bathrooms. The house was used by E.L. Steele, a manager of the company.

#14, Mathis House, 1915 (Photos #13&14). This two-story house has a complex gable roof, now surfaced with tin. It has porches on the north, west and south elevations. Since 1930 the second floor has been unfurnished and unused. The downstairs includes 2 baths, kitchen, living room, den, 2 bedrooms, 2 screened porches, and a large deck. A garage building is directly west of the house. Budder Mathis was a manager for the company.

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#15, Potting Shed, historic (date unknown). This is a small, frame, one-story lean-to with a tin roof. It was used as a potting shed and is currently in disrepair. It is a short distance to the east of the Mathis House.

#16, Workers House, ca.1900. A one-story house, with gable roof. Contains a living room, dining room, kitchen, bath, and two bedrooms.

#17, Workers House, ca.1920 (Photo #15). This two storied house with screened porch is a typical worker's dwelling. It contains a living room, two bedrooms, and one bathroom,

#18, Workers House, ca.1920. A one-story house with gable roof. Another house used to be immediately to the north.

#19, Workers House, ca.1907 (Photo #16). A two-story "I" House form with gable roof.

#20, Workers House, ca.1910. A one-story house with gable roof. Used by a cook. Currently in poor condition, and used as a horse and hay barn.

#21, Workers House, ca.1910. A two-story house with gable roof, built of cypress. The house is a little bigger than the average worker's home. It has a living room, kitchen, one and one-half bathroom, and three bedrooms. It also has a screened porch with dormer windows.

#22, Workers House, ca.1910. A one-story house with gable roof. Currently in poor condition.

Non-Contributing Buildings and Structures

#23 Saw Mill (on foundation of early barn) Non-Contributing. A barn was destroyed by the Storm of the Century in 1993, but its foundation remains. A "drying shed" has been constructed on it for a sawmill. The nursery has always had a mill in association with a blacksmiths shop at this location. Lumber is cut from the trees. Boxes for shipping plants was made from the wood, as well as caskets for local funerals.

#24, Shop, Non-Contributing, 1950s. This concrete block building serves as a mechanical and repair shop.

#25, Pool, Non-Contributing, Built in 1966, the swimming pool is directly north of the Taber House.

#26, Service Building, Non-Contributing, 1993. A large metal building located adjacent to the National Highway road, it serves the large fields of nursery stock.

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CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

The Glen St. Mary Nursery property retains its historic character as a cultural landscape to a large degree. However, the property north of Interstate 10, and south of South Prong St. Marys River, does not retain this character. Both areas were used for worker housing, which are gone, and for some plant cultivation, which no longer is practiced. One enters the nursery grounds from the north/south County Road 125 (see map). Turning west a wide dirt road goes directly west an eighth of a mile, then angles southwest another quarter mile before it turns due west near #14 Mathis House. This road continues west through the hub of the built nursery complex. Just west of the #10 Office is a intersection turning north. This northerly dirt road passes between the #1 Taber House, and the #4 Garage, and continues north. Historically this road continued north to Glen St. Mary and was a primary circulation route between the town and nursery. From the Office the main dirt road continues west past the #2 and #3 big barn and shed, and #6 Bell Tower. The road turns due south and runs for an eighth of a mile until turning due west and running past the nursery boundary. This westerly stretch of road is the primary access to huge fields of rotating, cultivated plantings. This east/west dirt road, and northerly road are the historic and current axis of circulation for commercial and personal use.

“Old National Highway”

From County Road 125 just north of a bridge over the South Prong St. Marys River, a dirt road runs to the southwest between an overgrowth of mature trees. This dirt road continues to the south of #11 Lauramore House where it angles due westerly, and continues until it intersects with the frequently used western portion used to access the fields. On a 1914 survey map this road is identified as the “Old National Highway” (Photo #17). The road predated the 1881 Taber purchase. The 1839 Seminole War era map “Seat of War in Florida,” shows this as the major thoroughfare between Jacksonville and Alligator (Lake City). This historic roadway retains its integrity as a narrow dirt road, and is a contributing structure within the cultural landscape. This early roadway is worthy of further investigation because the earliest roads were critical to the state’s development, and few early roads are intact and retain high integrity.

The roadway entering the property off of County Road 125, (located north of the National Highway entrance) originally went due west without angling to the southwest. The road ran straight to the front door of the Taber House. To reduce public traffic to the private house, it was diverted in the 1920s. The acreage north of this entry road was the location of Taber’s early orange groves. This area has now grown to forest and no longer retains its integrity and character as a historic landscape, and is therefore excluded from the National Register boundary. To the west of the #8 Water Tower used to be a large formal Azalea Garden. This area has also overgrown and no longer retains its integrity and character as a historic landscape. This area has also been excluded from the National Register boundary.

In the 1910s there was brief interest in bamboo as an ornamental plant. At that time the nursery planted several varieties around the property, especially adjacent to the roadways. There are currently large stands of bamboo

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**GLEN SAINT MARY NURSERIES COMPANY,
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in the western and northern areas of the nursery. The southern and western portions of the nursery are dominated by large open fields of nursery stock (Photo #18). The great variety of plants historically have been grown in the ground. In recent times, aboveground cultivation in pots has been the practice, but in-ground cultivation is returning for many plant varieties.

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Section number 8 Page 1

**GLEN SAINT MARY NURSERIES COMPANY,
GLEN SAINT MARY, BAKER CO., FLORIDA**

SUMMARY

The Glen Saint Mary Nurseries Company is nominated to the National Register under Criteria A and B for state level of significance in the area of Agriculture, and for the biographical association with George L. Taber. The nurseries were one of the leading developers of fruit trees in Florida and the South, and their introduction of the Hamlin orange, and Lue Gim Gong orange were major contributions to the Florida citrus industry. Since 1924, the nurseries have been the supplier for the cultivation of the Temple orange. The nursery also introduced many varieties of peach trees, and a broad range of other trees and ornamentals. The nursery began as a twenty-acre farm in 1882, reflecting the agricultural interests of George Lindley Taber, and under his direction grew into a several thousand acre complex of fields, buildings, and roadways.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

The Spanish brought the cultivation of citrus to Florida, and in his 1773-1774 travels, William Bartram noted expanses of wild trees. After Florida became a United States territory in 1821, cultivation of sweet oranges grew in the areas around the St. Johns River that served as a transportation route. With imports coming from the Mediterranean region and the West Indies, Florida growers began to recognize the potential market for citrus in the 1870s. In the St. Johns region sweet oranges were grafted into the wild Spanish rootstock. North central Florida had the greatest concentration of cultivation. The devastating freeze of 1894-1895 destroyed much growth, however, and most replanting occurred a hundred miles further south.

In 1874, the first Florida horticultural society, the Florida Fruit Growers Association, was formed in Palatka. This was a speculative period for growers, and the organization dissipated. In 1886, the Florida Nurserymen's Association was formed, and the interests of the members were diverse. It was decided to invite horticulturalists to join, and in 1887 the membership broadened. The Association sought to increase the knowledge of raising, transporting, and selling fruit. The organization had a substantial influence on the promotion of agriculture in Florida, and exists to this day.

Baker County was and remains very rural. When Taber came to the Glen St. Mary area in 1881, the population was sparse, and the town was only a small settlement oriented on a railroad depot. The east/west railroad in the area closely paralleled the Old Spanish Trail, still a dirt road, which ran through the settlement. This road provided Taber his primary access to Jacksonville, the nearest city and source of supplies.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

George Lindley Taber (1854-1929) was the founder of the Glen Saint Mary Nurseries, a major developer and supplier of citrus to agribusiness in the South and in Florida (see figure 1). Taber was born in Vasselboro, Maine, and worked as a stockbroker in Chicago at the Board of Trade. In 1881, his doctors urged him to move

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**GLEN SAINT MARY NURSERIES COMPANY,
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to a more temperate climate, fearing that he did not have long to live. He arrived by train in Glen Saint Mary, (twenty miles west of Jacksonville) for a visit, and soon decided to stay and buy land. Taber and a partner, Thomas P. Beath, bought 20 acres of land on September 12, 1882, not far from the Seaboard Air Line Railway which was a good selling point in those days. The soil was excellent for growing, and was rolling enough for good drainage without wash. The property bordered the headwaters of the Little Saint Mary River. Taber and Beath bought supplies in Jacksonville the next day, and moved onto the property the next. They built a log house, raised a few head of cows, and prepared a garden of sweet potatoes, greens, and fruit trees. The two room log house was the first building where Taber lived when his farm and nursery was first begun. After his residence was completed in December of 1883, he used the cabin for the business office. A house and well immediately followed. Taber budded peach trees for himself, and the sale of surplus trees was profitable. Fruit tree cultivation evolved into a formal business, the Glen Saint Mary Nurseries Company in 1883. Beath let Taber buy-out his investment, ending their partnership on April 20, 1883, though they continued to work together for a short while. On November 28, 1883, Taber married Gertrude St. John. Following her death from illness he married Mildred Willey. Over the next 25 years the nursery grew steadily, and by 1907 he had purchased a total of 470 acres with over 300 acres in cultivation. Taber was a founding member of the Florida Nurserymen's Association in 1887, and served as the secretary from 1888, until becoming vice-president in 1891. He served in that capacity until becoming president in 1898.

The main focus of the business was cultivation and experimental work with fruit trees. Hundreds of new fruits were tested. Several peach varieties were introduced by the nursery, including Angel, Climax, Colon, Imperial, Taber, Triana, Estella, Florida Crawford, Gibbons October, and Powers September, and Jewel. Citrus cultivation was an area of intense interest, experimentation, and business. The citrus industry in the lower South (Texas, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and parts of Northern Mexico) was trying to get established, but it was not until the value of the Satsuma Orange on Citrus Trifoliata Stock was recognized that the industry was placed on a stable footing. The Satsuma orchards at the Glen Saint Mary Nurseries Company covered about 25 acres, and were the largest and oldest bearing groves in the Southern states in 1907. The Glen Saint Mary Nursery Company first tested the Satsuma on a large scale during the season of 1905-1906, when ten railroad carloads of fruit were shipped. On the second floor of the oldest barn are still hand built sorting bins used to size this early citrus (see figure 2). During that season the Glen Saint Mary Nursery was the largest grower of citrus in America. Taber made extensive trips through the Southern states encouraging growers that citrus was an important industry.

In 1907, the nursery incorporated under the laws of the State of Florida. At that time a promotional publication documented buildings composing the operation. Eighteen buildings were on the property. Two were large, two storied houses, and sixteen others ranging from small four-room houses, to eight larger six-room houses. Taber and a manager occupied the large houses. All others were occupied by workers on the nursery. The other buildings comprised large barns and sheds for hay, feed and work stock. There were twelve mules and two horses, a packing house, plant sheds, a blacksmith, and a carpenter shop. Water was initially supplied from a

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GLEN SAINT MARY, BAKER CO., FLORIDA**

4500 gallon tank placed on a 40 foot steel tower (bell tower, still stands). A partial listing of equipment in the publication includes: 33 plows, 4 wagons, a tree digger, stump puller, mowing machine, horse rakes, spades, etc.

It was recognized that the largest region of citrus cultivation was in central and south Florida, so in 1908 acreage was bought in Winter Haven, and in 1911 in Dundee, for the cultivation of citrus stock. The nursery's citrus center based in Winter Haven became one of the major suppliers within the state.

Dr. H. Harold Hume, a nationally known horticulturist and botanist, joined the Company in 1906. He was the author of several widely read reference works on fruit growing and gardening, the foremost of which were The Cultivation of Citrus-Fruits; Gardening in the Lower South; Hollies; and Camellias in America. Upon Mr. Taber's retirement from active service in 1920, Dr. Hume assumed the presidency of the Company and was Chairman of the Board of Directors for many years. Dr. Hume took a job at the university in Gainesville, Florida, but remained an active director of the company. Dr. Hume's scientific knowledge was invaluable in guiding the company's horticultural progress, and he assisted the acquisition of new and commercially profitable varieties, thereby furthering the already considerable reputation of the company.

In addition to furnishing citrus trees to Southern Gulf States during the early years, the export business expanded to a great extent. Shipments of orange and grapefruit trees were made to all of the citrus growing sections of the world, notably to the South American countries, West Indies and Spain. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, recognizing the reliability of the nurseries, purchased many trees not only for their own experimental use, but also for shipment to the Agricultural Departments of other countries for trial purposes.

Between 1910 and 1932, Glen Saint Mary Nurseries Company was instrumental in introducing two varieties of oranges that have come into standard commercial use. In 1912, negotiations were completed with Lue Gim Gong, a Chinese horticulturist of DeLand, Florida, to introduce his late maturing orange. This has resulted in thousands of this variety of trees being planted throughout the state. The Lue Gim Gong orange matures later in the Spring than any other orange, and it is more cold resistant than many other varieties. Extensive plantings, particularly on the lower East Coast, have for years brought to growers handsome profits in mid-summer, when most of the other fruit from the state has been marketed.

The Glen Saint Mary Nurseries Company also takes credit for the introduction of the Hamlin orange, an extremely early variety maturing in October. This orange has a history dating back to 1879; however, it was not until 1913 that it was brought to the attention of the officers of the Company. At that time, budwood was secured from the parent tree and a 10-acre grove planted near Winter Haven, Florida, at that branch of the nurseries. For a number of years while these trees were growing and while the fruit was being observed and tested, the Company grew only a few nursery trees for sale. These few trees were always eagerly bought by

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Section number 8 Page 4 **GLEN SAINT MARY NURSERIES COMPANY,
GLEN SAINT MARY, BAKER CO., FLORIDA**

people who knew of the Hamlin. The demand rapidly increased as the fruit was recognized to be superior to any other early orange in the state.

In 1919, the Buckeye Nurseries of Winter Haven, Florida, introduced the Temple Orange. From the very beginning the Glen Saint Mary Nurseries Company had it under close observation and thoroughly investigated its behavior. The Company discovered that propagated on the correct root stock, the Temple had promise to be the finest orange ever brought into cultivation. Being a copyrighted variety, the Glen Saint Mary Nurseries Company was unable to sell the Temple themselves, but in 1924, when the holdings of the Buckeye Nurseries were taken over, the copyright to the Temple Orange became the property of the Company. Since that the wonderful record it had made as a consistent moneymaker for citrus growers has justified time the faith of the Company in the Temple Orange.

Another notable achievement of the Glen Saint Mary Nurseries Company was the standardization of orange varieties. As late as 1912, Florida nurseries were listing in their catalogues as many as 40 different varieties of oranges, claiming certain qualities for each of those varieties. This was very confusing to prospective planters. By a gradual process of elimination, the Company selected a few varieties that were of outstanding merits in their respective seasons of maturity. For many years when grapefruit was first being introduced, the Company recognized the excellence of three outstanding varieties: Duncan, McCarty and Marsh Seedless. These three had stood the test of time and, together with the later introductions of pink varieties, Foster, Thompson, and Glenred, comprised the main production of the Company, and of the citrus centers of Florida.

Other notable introductions by the nurseries were of woody ornamental shrubs that included Ilex Howard, Ilex East Palatka, Ilex Hume and Ilex Taber. In 1938, the George L. Taber Azalea was introduced to the market. The Orchid Azalea, as it is sometimes called, began life as an isolated single twig on a lavender Omurasaki Azalea. The parent was definitely not Formosa contrary to what many people think. Omurasaki was and is one of the hardy types indigenous to parts of the Orient and much used as a grafting stock in this country and abroad. George Taber, Jr., named this Azalea for his father. The Magnolia grandiflora Saint Mary and Weaver Dogwood also add to the Company's long list of "firsts."

In early 1900, Glen Saint Mary Nurseries was a significant contributor to not only the young town of Glen Saint Mary, but also as the largest employer of local people, second only to the turpentine industry. Providing housing for many was a large undertaking. In the 1920's and 1930's, Glen Saint Mary Nurseries employed several hundred workers many of them housed on the property. The foundation of a large boarding house and Commissary can still be seen. The nurseries cultivated a large Azalea garden west of the 1922 water tower. A baseball field was located there also. Current generations of nursery employee's families played an important role in the Centennial Celebration of the town of Glen Saint Mary in 1981.

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**GLEN SAINT MARY NURSERIES COMPANY,
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During the 119 years of the existence of the Glen Saint Mary Nurseries Company, the many threats of freezes, hurricanes, real estate booms, bank failures, wars, depressions, and drought have been successfully overcome. In propagation, they have been careful to use only selected scions, cuttings or seeds from rigidly controlled stock blocks in order that true strains and varieties will always be disseminated. Around 1966, the Company became strictly wholesale, selling to registered members of the trade; growers, landscapers, retail centers and wholesalers.

While the nurseries operate within a business format, sound horticultural practice and hospitable service to the public since the time of George L. Taber, Sr. has always been the basis of the operation. Taber was succeeded in the business by his son, G.L. Taber, Jr., who until his death on July 28, 1998, was Chairman of the Board. His son George L. Taber, III, joined the Company in 1958 and is the President today. Taber Jr's wife, Emily F. Taber, is Secretary, and Mr. O.O. McCollum, III, is the Vice President, Treasurer.

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Section number 9 Page 1

**GLEN ST. MARY NURSERIES COMPANY,
GLEN ST. MARY, BAKER CO., FLORIDA**

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Section number 10 Page 1

**GLEN ST. MARY NURSERIES COMPANY,
GLEN ST. MARY, BAKER CO., FLORIDA**

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Approximately 640 acres are nominated to the National Register (See scaled USGS map, Manning and MacClenny West quads).

Begin where the right of way of County Road 125 meets the north edge of the South Prong St. Marys River, and proceed southwest along the river's meandering shoreline to the point where sections 10 and 11 meet. Proceed due north along the sections line approximately three-sixteenth of a mile; then proceed due west approximately five-sixteenth of a mile; then proceed due north approximately a quarter of a mile to the south edge of the Old National Highway road; then proceed northeasterly along the south edge of the road approximately five-sixteenth of a mile to the point where section 10 and section 11 join; then proceed due north along the section line approximately a quarter of a mile; then proceed due east approximately five-sixteenth of a mile; then proceed due north approximately three-eighths of a mile to the right of way of Interstate 10; proceed to the northeast along the right of way for approximately five-sixteenths of a mile; proceed due south approximately three-eighths of a mile; proceed due east approximately three-sixteenths of a mile; proceed due north approximately three-eighths of a mile to the right of way of Interstate 10; proceed to the northeast along the right of way approximately seven-eighths of a mile; proceed due south approximately seven-eighths of a mile to the north edge of Glen Nursery Road; proceed easterly along the north edge of the road approximately two-eighths of a mile to the western right of way of County Road 125; proceed due south along the right of way approximately one-eighth of a mile to the point of beginning.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

Glen St. Mary Nurseries Company is a portion of the historical property. The National Register boundary within the current property retains its physical integrity and historic association with the Glen St. Mary Nurseries Company. The National Highway is a portion of the current property.

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**GLEN SAINT MARY NURSERIES COMPANY,
GLEN SAINT MARY, BAKER CO., FLORIDA**

PHOTOGRAPHIC LIST

1. Glen St. Mary Nurseries Company, 7703 Glen Nursery Road, Glen St. Mary
2. Baker County, Florida
3. George L. Taber, III
4. February, 2003
5. Glen St. Mary Nurseries Company
6. Taber House main facade, looking west
7. Photo #1 of 18

Items #1 through #5 are the same for the following photographs.

6. Taber House, kitchen and dining portion, looking northeast
7. Photo #2 of 18

6. Truck Barn, east elevation, looking west
7. Photo #3 of 18

6. Truck Barn, south elevation and corner shed on left edge, looking northeast
7. Photo #4 of 18

6. Garage, south elevation, looking north
7. Photo #5 of 18

6. Garage with metal siding, looking west
7. Photo #6 of 18

6. Water tower, looking west
7. Photo #7 of 18

6. Office, looking north
7. Photo #8 of 18

6. Hume House, main façade, looking south
7. Photo #9 of 18

6. Hume House east elevation, looking west
7. Photo #10 of 18

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**GLEN SAINT MARY NURSERIES COMPANY,
GLEN SAINT MARY, BAKER CO., FLORIDA**

- 6. Steele House, main façade, looking south
- 7. Photo #11 of 18

- 6. Steele House east elevation, looking west
- 7. Photo #12

- 6. Mathis House, main façade, looking south
- 7. Photo #13 of 18

- 6. Mathis House, west and south elevations, looking northeast
- 7. Photo #14 of 18

- 6. Worker's House #17, main façade, looking north
- 7. Photo #15 of 18

- 6. Worker's House #19, south and east elevations
- 7. Photo #16 of 18

- 6. Old National Highway, looking east
- 7. Photo #17 of 18

- 6. Field, looking south
- 7. Photo #18 of 18

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Section number _____ Page 1

TERRA CEIA VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION HALL
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTOGRAPHS

List of Photographs

1. Terra Ceia Village Improvement Association Hall
2. 1505 Center Road, Terra Ceia (Manatee County), Florida
3. Tami Zonies, Terra Ceia Village Improvement Association
4. 2003
5. Cathy Slusser, Manatee County Historical Resources Department
6. Main (East) Facade, Looking west
7. Photo 1 of 22

Numbers 1-5 are the same for the remaining photographs.

6. Main (East) Facade, Looking South
7. Photo 2 of 22

6. North Elevation, Looking Sout
7. Photo 3 of 22

6. West Elevation, Looking Southeast
7. Photo 4 of 22

6. Rear (West) Elevation with Restroom and Kitchen Addition, Looking South
7. Photo 5 of 22

6. Rear Kitchen Addition, Looking East
7. Photo 6 of 22

6. Rear Storage Addition, Looking East
7. Photo 7 of 22

6. South Elevation, Looking East
7. Photo 8 of 22

6. South Elevation, Looking Northwest
7. Photo 9 of 22

6. Interior, Assembly Hall, Looking South
7. Photo 10 of 22

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TERRA CEIA VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION HALL
MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA
PHOTOGRAPHS

- 6. Interior, Assembly Hall, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 11 of 22

- 6. Interior, Assembly Hall, Looking Northwest
- 7. Photo 12 of 22

- 6. Interior, Assembly Hall, Looking Northeast
- 7. Photo 13 of 22

- 6. Interior, Assembly Hall, Looking North toward Stage
- 7. Photo 14 of 22

- 6. Interior, Assembly Hall, Looking South from Stage
- 7. Photo 15 of 22

- 6. Interior, Assembly Hall, Looking West in Front of Stage
- 7. Photo 16 of 22

- 6. Interior, Assembly Hall, Looking North from Kitchen Door
- 7. Photo 17 of 22

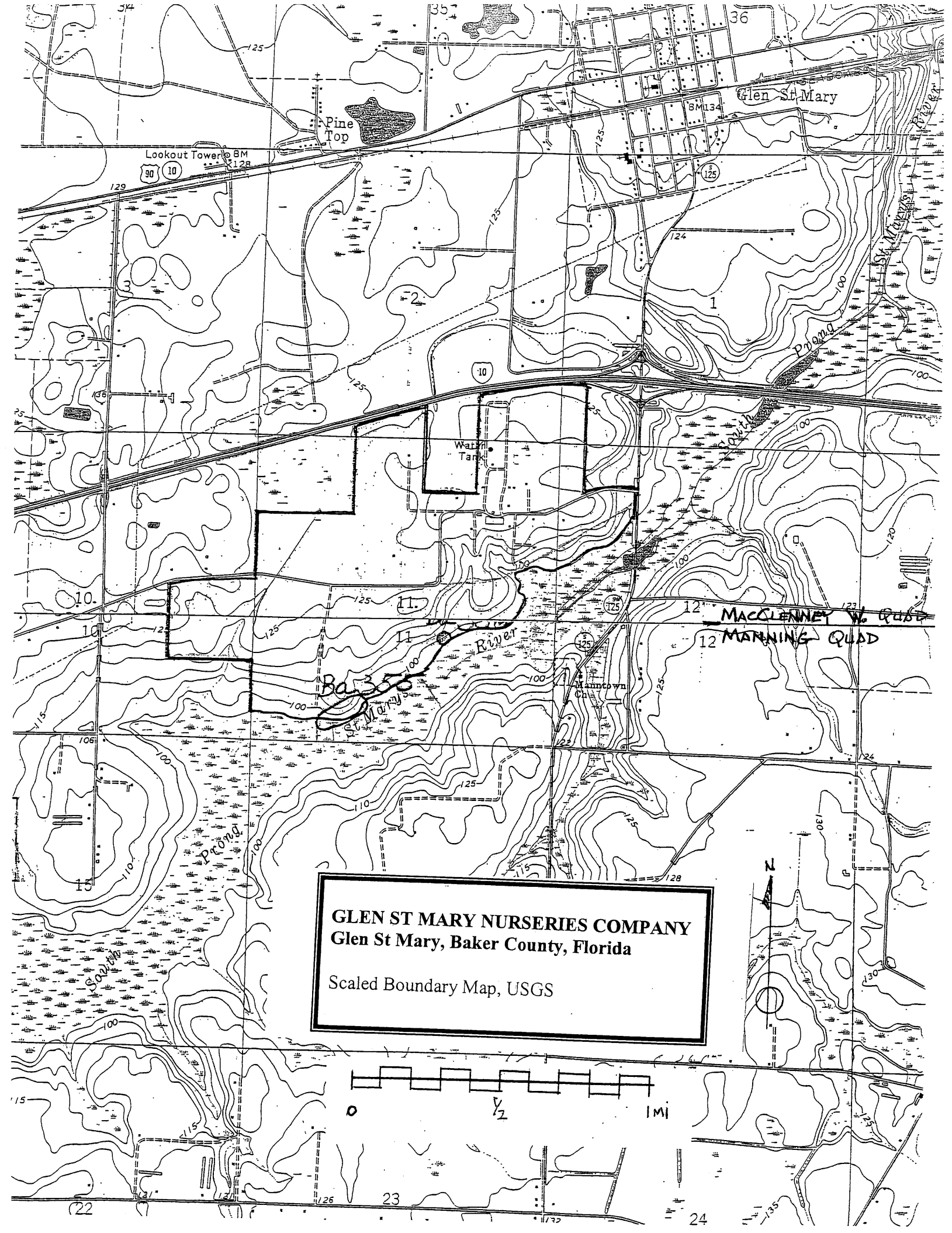
- 6. Interior, Assembly Hall, Looking West toward Kitchen
- 7. Photo 18 of 18

- 6. Interior, Kitchen, Looking Southeast toward Assembly Hall
- 7. Photo 19 of 22

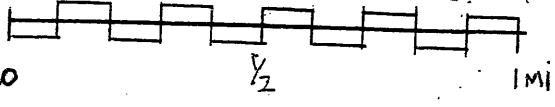
- 6. Interior, Kitchen, Looking North
- 7. Photo 20 of 22

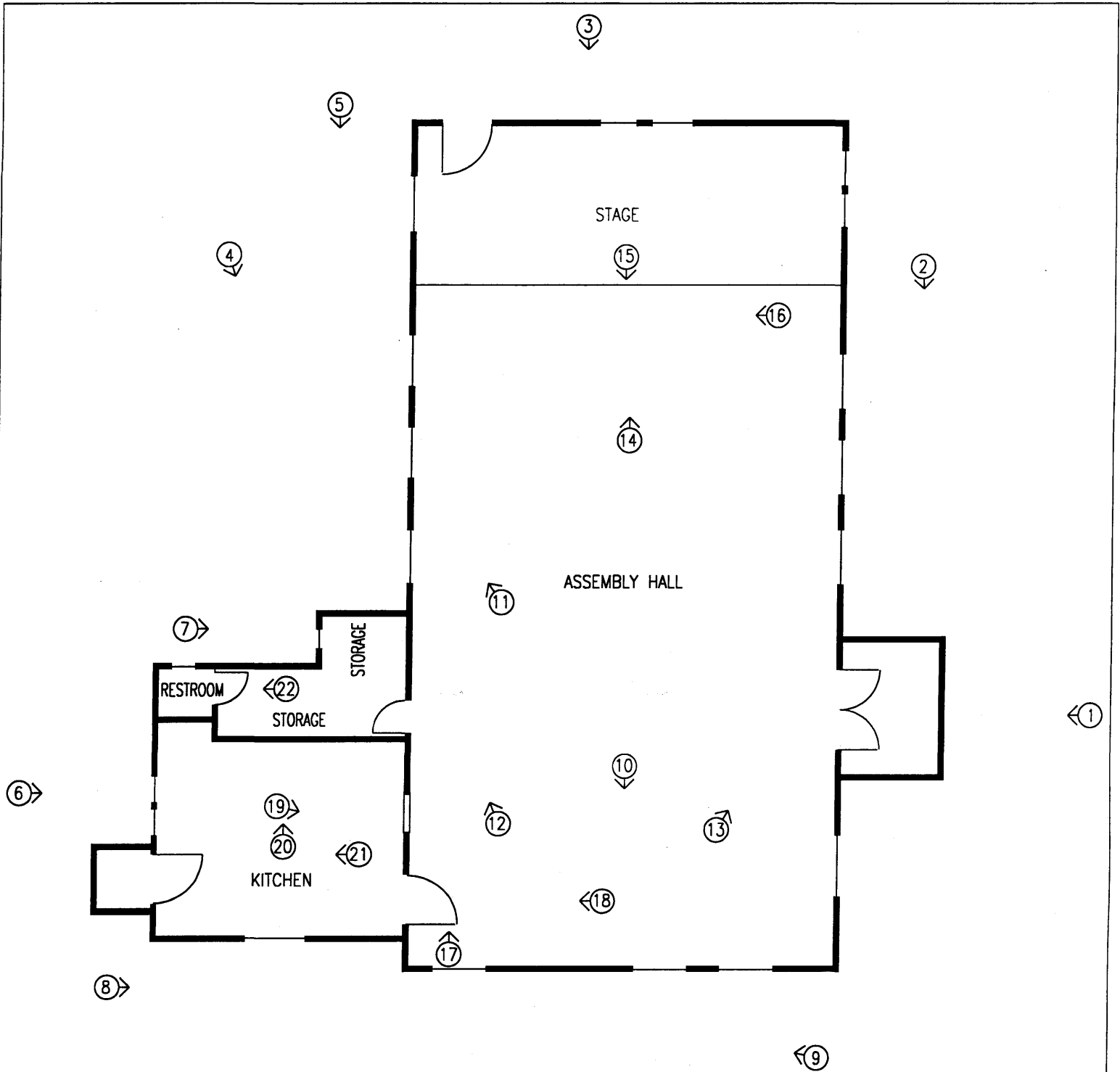
- 6. Interior, Kitchen, Looking West
- 7. Photo 21 of 22

- 6. Interior, Storage Area, Looking toward Restroom
- 7. Photo 22 of 22

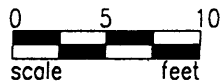


GLEN ST MARY NURSERIES COMPANY
Glen St Mary, Baker County, Florida
Scaled Boundary Map, USGS

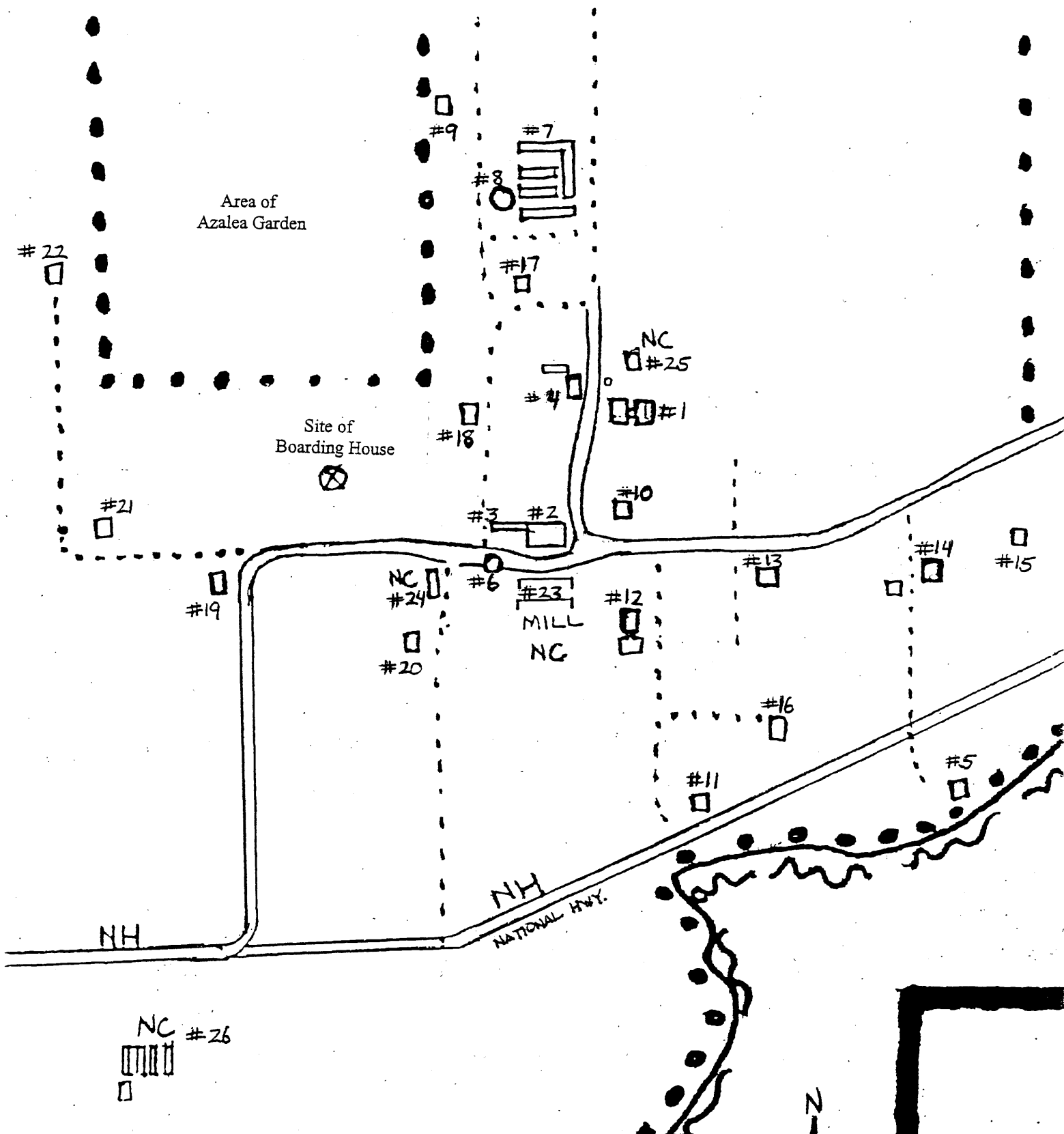




TERRA CEIA VILLIAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION HALL
 1505 CENTER ROAD
 TERRA CEIA (MANATEE COUNTY), FLORIDA



○➔ = PHOTO NUMBERS



GLEN ST. MARY NURSERIES COMPANY
 Glen St. Mary, Baker County, Florida

Locations of numbered resources in Section #7





FIGURE 1

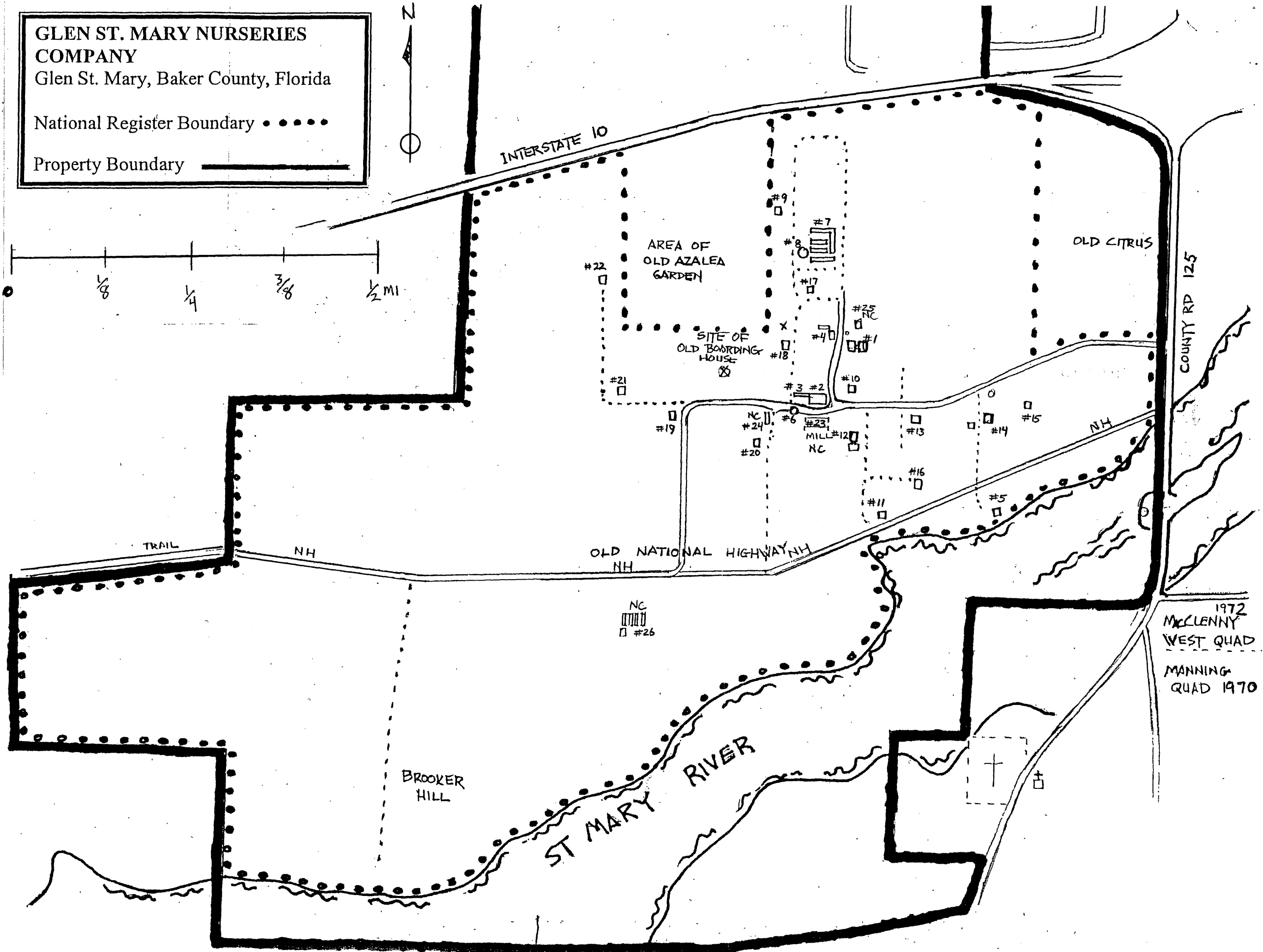
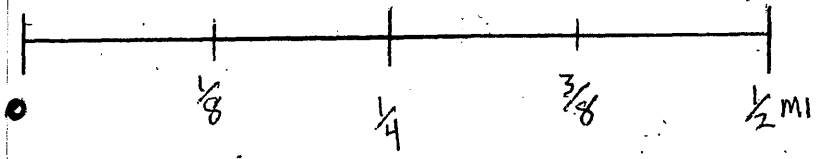
G.L. & MILDRED TABER 1908 IN TEST CITRUS GROVE
<http://fpc.dos.state.fl.us/general/n029018.jpg>



FIGURE 2

**GLEN ST. MARY NURSERIES
COMPANY**
 Glen St. Mary, Baker County, Florida

National Register Boundary
 Property Boundary _____



1972
 McLENNY
 WEST QUAD
 MANNING
 QUAD 1970

GLEN ST MARY NURSERIES COMPANY
Glen St Mary, Baker County, Florida

National Register Boundary

Photographic Diagram

