



OLUSTEE BATTLEFIELD

U.S. 90, 2 miles east of Olustee
~~Columbia~~ County
Baker

The major engagement of the Civil War in Florida was fought on the Battlefield of Olustee on Feb. 20, 1865.

Federal forces from Jacksonville were endeavoring to break up Confederate supply and communication lines between East and West Florida and to divert the supplies north for Union use. For 10 days, their march westward had met little opposition, and their cavalry had nearly reached Lake City. Then on Feb. 11, there was a sharp skirmish, and the invaders withdrew to Sanderson.

On Feb. 20, the Federals again made contact with Confederate cavalry about noon. The battle raged all afternoon, and at one point, there was almost no ammunition in the Confederate trenches. Staff officers, couriers, and orderlies rode at top speed between the front lines and an ammunition car on the railroad to the rear, carrying cartridges to the trenches in anything available.

The arrival of reinforcements and ammunition tipped the scales in favor of the Confederates, and the Federals hastily retreated, leaving dead and wounded on the field.

It was a costly battle for the Union. One Federal soldier who took part later wrote that "of four thousand and one hundred Federal soldiers who went under fire at noon, scarcely one half marched out at sunset unhurt." The figures may be incorrect, but the results are clear, and for the rest of the war, Union forces were confined to Jacksonville, Fernandina, St. Augustine, and Pensacola.

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest Allen Connolly
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

AUG 12 1970

Date _____

ATTEST:

William J. Montague
Keeper of The National Register

Date JUL

PH 000 2062

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

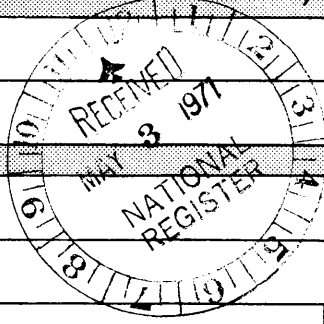
STATE:
Florida

COUNTY:
Baker

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
10.8.09.0002	8/12/70

No Map
H-Z



1. NAME

COMMON:
Olustee Battlefield

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Battle of Ocean Pond

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Two miles east of Olustee on U.S. 90

CITY OR TOWN:
Olustee

STATE	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Florida	12	Baker	003

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
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 checked="" 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) _____ _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

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

STREET AND NUMBER:
Larson Building (and U.S. Forest Service) 5/15/73 AML

CITY OR TOWN:
Tallahassee

STATE:
Florida

CODE:
12

STATE:
Florida

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

COUNTY:
Baker

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER
10.8.09.0002

DATE
8/12/70

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The battlefield at Olustee, as it appeared on February 20, 1864, was described as fairly level, free from underbrush and covered by an "open" pine forest. Less than a mile to the north lay a number of small ponds and thick swamps. To the south was the railroad-parallel with the line of march of the Union troops. Beyond the railroad were more stretches of swamp

Today, the site of the major engagement of the Civil War in Florida covers five acres on U.S. 90, two miles east of Olustee. The battlefield is well-marked for tours along the battle lines, and an interpretive museum offers displays and artifacts designed and installed by the Florida State Museum of Gainesville.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

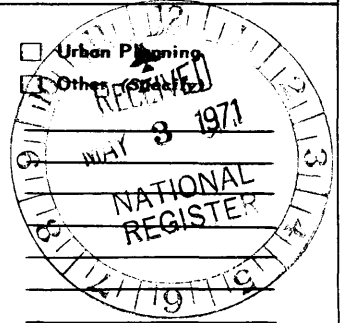
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 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"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy |
| <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 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

On the morning of February 7, 1864, a Federal force of between five and six thousand troops reoccupied Jacksonville. They were to take part in a planned invasion of the Florida interior to achieve three objectives: cut Confederate lines of communication which supplied desperately needed commissary goods to the Southern cause; recruit for Negro regiments in the service of the United States; bolster efforts on behalf of Union sympathizers to restore Florida to her former allegiance. For ten days, their march westward met little opposition, with Federal cavalry advancing nearly to Lake City. Then on February 11, there was a sharp skirmish, and the invaders withdrew to Sanderson.

General Joseph Finegan, Confederate commander, called for reinforcements from Georgia to supplement his meager force of 1,200. By February 18, a force of approximately 5,000 Confederates had gathered near Olustee at Ocean Pond. Defensive positions were prepared from Ocean Pond on the Confederate left across the railroad (the axis Federal advance) to a small pond south of the railroad on the Confederate right.

The Federal advance guard encountered the Confederate cavalry about midday three miles in advance of the prepared defenses. As the forces engaged, additional troops were sent forward by the Confederates. Within one hour, the entire Southern Army had been moved forward from the entrenchments. The battle raged all afternoon, and at one point, the Confederate forces almost ran out of ammunition. However, the arrival of reinforcements and ammunition tipped the scales in favor of the Confederates. The Federal forces retreated leaving supplies, equipment, dead and wounded on the field.

The Battle of Olustee (Ocean Pond) was the major engagement of the Civil War in Florida. It was a costly encounter for the Union with estimated casualties of 1,861. The Confederate losses totaled 946. Although it was a clear cut Confederate victory, it did not result in the withdrawal of Union troops from Florida, but rather merely confined the invaders to Jacksonville, Fernandina and St. Augustine.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Davis, William Watson. The Civil War and Reconstruction in Florida. Gainesville: University of Florida, 1964 (reprint).
 Dodd, Dorothy. Olustee Battlefield Memorial. Tallahassee: Florida Board of Parks Reprint, 1950.
 Jones, Charles C. The Evacuation of Battery Wagner and the Battle of Ocean Pond. Augusta: Chronicle Publishing Co., 1888.

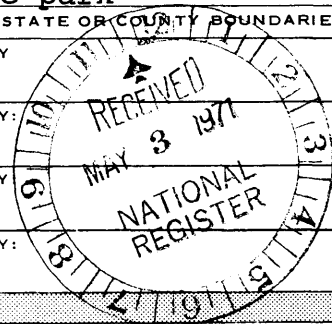
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	° ' "	° ' "		82° 23' 21"	30° 12' 46"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: **5 acre park**

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Randy F. Nimnicht, Historic Preservationist

ORGANIZATION: **Division of Archives, History and Records Mgt.** DATE: **3/18/71**

STREET AND NUMBER:
Department of State, The Capitol

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

12 STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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 William

Title State Liaison Officer

Date

April 29, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connally
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

8/12/70

Date

ATTEST:

William H. Pruitt
 Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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	Baker
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
10-8-09-0002	8/12/70

1. NAME

COMMON: Olustee Battlefield
 AND/OR HISTORIC: Battle of Ocean Pond

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Two miles east of Olustee on U.S. 90

CITY OR TOWN:
Olustee

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Florida	12	Baker	003

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE: United States Coast and Geodetic Survey,
Olustee Quadrangle, 7 1/2 minute series (topo)

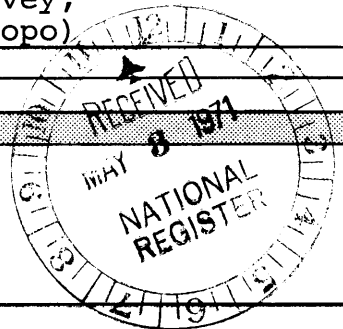
SCALE: 1:24,000

DATE: 1963

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- Property boundaries where required.
- North arrow.
- Latitude and longitude reference.

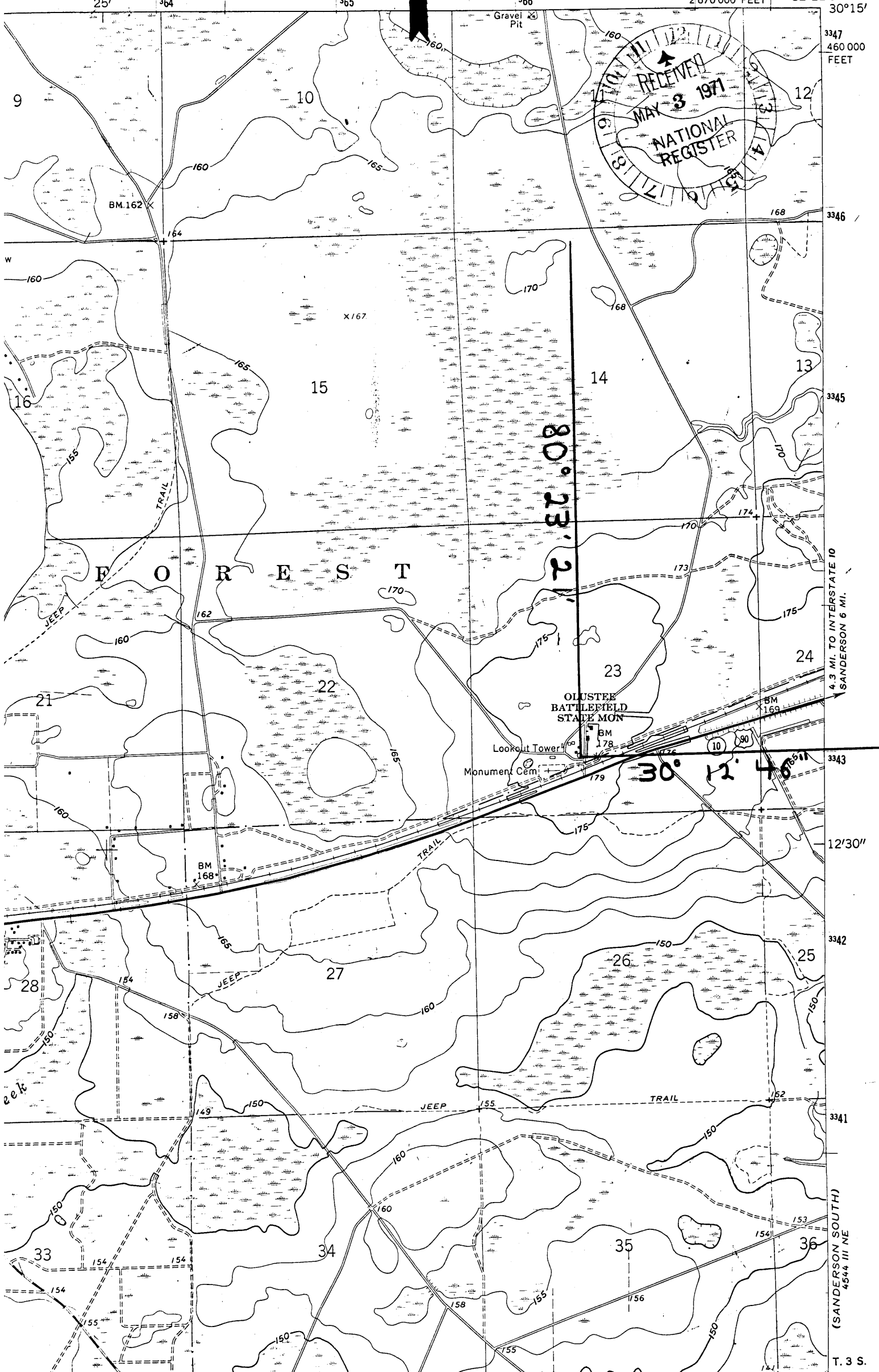


K-82-A

OLUSTEE QUADRANGLE
FLORIDA
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



25' 364 365 366 2670 000 FEET 82°22'30" 30°15'



4.3 MI. TO INTERSTATE 10
SANDERSON 6 MI.

(SANDERSON SOUTH)
4544 III NE

T. 3 S.