Form 10-300 (July 1969)

1. NAME COMMON:

2. LOCATION

STATE

Powder House Lot

AND/OR HISTORIC

CITY OR TOWN:

Florida

3. CLASSIFICATION

☐ District

Agricultural

Commercia!

■ Educational

Entertainment

DATE OF SURVEY:

CITY OR TOWN:

STREET AND NUMBER:

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

⊠ Site

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STREET AND NUMBER:

St. Augustine

CATEGORY

(Check One)

☐ Object

□ Building

Structure

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

JIAIC.
Florida

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Public Acquisition:

Private Residence

OWNERSHIP

🗶 Park

Religious

Scientific

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

300' south of intersection of Marine &

Public

□ Both

☐ Government

Industrial

☐ Military

Museum

Private

Maria Sanchez Powder House Site

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	COUNTY:										
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OWNER OF PROPERTY OWNER'S NAME: St. Johns County STREET AND NUMBER: County Court House CITY OR TOWN: Florida St. Augustine 12 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: St.Johns St. Johns County Court House STREET AND NUMBER: <u>King and Cordova</u> CITY OR TOWN: STATE CODE Florida 12 St. Augustine 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS TITLE OF SURVEY: ENTRY NUMBER APR 1 Not represented

Federal

☐ State

STATE:

County

☐ Local

NPS

SUSE.

ONLY

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CODE

. DESCRIPTION	1			(Check	One)			
COMPLETION	☐ Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deter	i orated	Ruins	☑ Unexposed	
CONDITION		(Check O	ne)		(Che	ck One)		
	Alte	red	☐ Unaltered	ı		☐ Moved	🙀 Original Site	
DESCRIBE THE P	RESENT AND OR	IGINAL (if kne	OWD) PHYSICA	1 APPEAR	ANCE		TX OLIG	•

The foundations of the Powder House were excavated in the summer of 1970 by the Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board adding archaeological data to a historical framework based on documentary evidence. The site is presently an open field. In recent time, it has also served as a county nursery and ball park.

Engineer Berry o planned the structure and saw it completed between 1797 and 1800. In his inventory of powder on hand, dated June 30, 1800, a detailed description of the structure is provided. A masonry wall surrounded the building and had stone sentry boxes at opposite corners. Entrance to the enclosure was through a two-leafed door/gate with iron hardware which pierced the north wall. The walls of the magazine were of coquina (shell-rock) with a tile roof. Its entrance was on the east side of the building through double doors of two leafs also fitted with iron hardware. Apparently there was a double shuttered window on the west side.

The overall dimensions were $56' \times 89.6'$ with the Powder House measuring $33.6' \times 67.2'$. A guard house outside the wall was $16.8' \times 22.4'$. The long axis of the major structure was oriented east and west.



SIGNIFICANCE			
PERIOD (Check One or More as	Appropriate)		
Pre-Columbian	☐ 16th Century	18th Century	20th Century
☐ 15th Century	☐ 17th Century	🔀 19th Century	y
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicat	ole and Known) 1797	-1860	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	
Abor iginal	Education	☐ Political	Urban Planning
☐ Prehistoric	Engineering	Religion/Phi-	Other (Specity)
☐ Historic	☐ Industry	losophy	
☐ Agriculture	Invention	Science	
Architecture	Landscape	☐ Sculpture	CENERAL
1 🔲 Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	RELIE
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☐ Conservation	Music	☐ Transportation	LINE GIR
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE	=		The state of the s

Under Spanish rule from its settlement in 1565, St.
Augustine was a garrison town strategically located on the edge of the Gulf Stream, the route of fleets passing through the Florida straits homeward bound for Spain. When the city of St. Augustine and the province of East Florida passed to British control in 1763, the aurora of a military town was to be accentuated by the revolutionary conflict which developed to the north. After a brief twenty years, Spain in 1783, returned to rule the Floridas again in the twilight years of her vast New World empire. After her return, Spain's continuing concern for the defense of the province was evidenced by the construction of a powder house south of the city on a sand spit jutting into the Matanzas River.

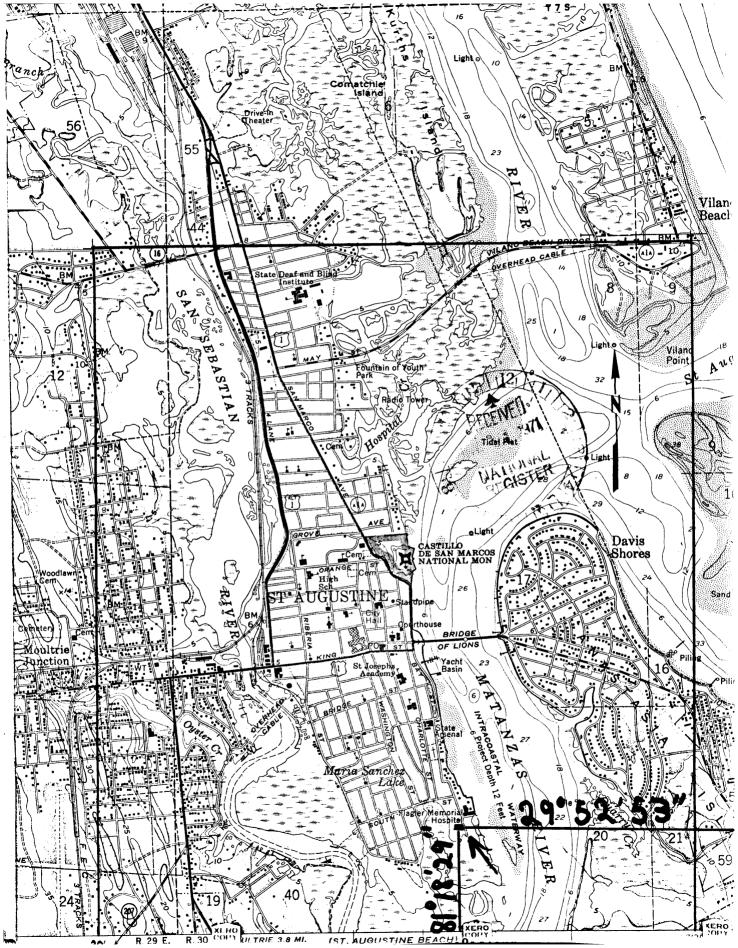
While there was storage space for munitions in the Castillo de San Marcos, evidently additional room was necessary. Construction of the powder house was started around January 1, 1797 and was completed prior to June, 1800. The building was apparently never entirely successful as a powder magazine, as Engineer de Hita in 1804 stated it was almost always damp.

In 1821 after the province became a territory of the United States, it was suggested that the structure be used as a prison and the associated guard house as a kitchen. One report indicated that the building was in ruins by 1833. Later it was evidently repaired and used by the United States Government as a powder magazine until 1860 when its contents were removed to a building in the city. Its repair and reutilization could have been brought about by the outbreak of the Second Seminole War in 1835 which turned St. Augustine into an armed camp and refugee center for the territory.

Archaeological evidence indicates that the entire structure was razed sometime after 1860 and all usable building material removed from the site. There is no documentary evidence to date that this was done either by the United States Government or by the local citizens. A survey in 1880 indicates the powder house as a site only. The powder house site contributes significantly to the total interpretation of Colonial and Territorial St. Augustine in its role as a military/garrison town.

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MAJOR	BIBLIOGE	RAPHIC	AL RE	EFERENCI	ES.								
East Florida Papers, Manuscripts Division, Library of Congress (To and from the Engineer Department, Serial 170-172) Manucy, Albert. The Houses of St. Augustine 1565-1821. St. Augustine: The St. Augustine Historical Society, 1962. Steinbach, Robert H. "The Maria Sanchez Powder House", St. Augustine: unpublished research report for the Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board, 1971. G. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA													
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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)

FLORIDA

COUNTY

ST. JOHNS

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

APR 1 4 1972

DATE

1. NAME Hewis Field COMMON: AND/OR HISTORIC: Powder House Lot, Marine & Hedricks 2. LOCATION STREET AND NUMBER: 300° south of intersection CITY OR TOWN: NATIONAL St. Augustine STATE: COUNTY: CODE Florida St. Vøhns ے، 3. MAP REFERENCE SOURCE: 7½" quadrangle, St. Augustine, Florida U.S.G.S. 1: 24,000 1956 DATE: 4. REQUIREMENTS TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS 1. Property broundaries where required. 2. North arrow. 3. Latitude and longitude reference.