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Form 10-300 (July 1969)		S DEPARTMENT OF		s	Florida			]
·			TORIC PLACES	1.	OUNTY: Wakulla	a		
	INVENTOR	RY - NOMINAT	ION FORM		FOR NPS US		TE	] ′
	(Type all entries	s – complete app	licable sections		JUL 3 1 19			
I. NAME			X	310	<u>E1</u>			<b>[</b> ] <
COMMON:	St. Marl	ks Lighthou		C.	T			i
AND/OR H	ISTORIC:	-	F YY	A GE	A			1
2. LOCATION				<u> </u>				
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3. CLASSIFIC	ATEGORY	1	•····•			ACCESSIE	BLE	1
(	Check One)		OWNERSHIP		STATUS	TO THE PU	BLIC	_
Distric	t 🔲 Building 🛣 Structure	X Public Private	Public Acquisition:		<ul> <li>Occupied</li> <li>Unoccupied</li> </ul>	Yes:	red	
	Object	Both	Being Cons	idered	Preservation work	📋 Unrestri	cted	
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	USE (Check One or M		¬ <b>R</b> I					4
Agricu		overnment [ ndustrial [	] Park ] Private Residence		] Transportation Other <i>(Specify)</i>	Comments	5	
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				<u>г</u>	10110a	12		Τ
S. REPRESE	TATION IN EXIST	TING SURVEYS						
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7.	DESCRIPTION								
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	CONDITION	Excellent	Good	🗶 Fair	🗋 Det	eriorated	🔲 Ruins	Unexposed	
	CONDITION		(Check Or	ne)	· .	1.1	(Che	ck One)	
		X Alter	ed	Unaltered			K Moved	Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

"The St. Marks Lighthouse is composed of a tower and an attached residence for lightkeepers. The structure is constructed of limestone and brick coated with cement and painted white. The tower itself is conical in shape extending to a height of eighty feet. It widens slightly at the top to accommodate a small polygonal superstructure housing the light and a catwalk on a round platform. At intervals on the side of the tower are small, shuttered windows spaced to coincide with a circular staircase within.

The most notable features of the rectangular keepers' residence are the slanting facades of the long sides. In the seaward side are seven windows, irregularly spaced which are cut high in the walls and are shuttered and barred. On the other side of the keeper's house is a high porch extending nearly its entire length. In the middle of this porch is another projection, a little wooden room, dividing it into two sections. In each of these sections is a door and a wooden stairway. The pitched roof supported by wooden posts extends over the porch. The gable end of the house opposite the tower has one central window, barred and shuttered. The wall extends above the roof line in a parapet which rises to a sharp point in the center and is stepped on each end. These stepped projections are repeated at the opposite end of the house where it connects to the tower. The light itself is now an automatic oscillating white 2000 CP light which stands 82 feet above the water and is visible for 15 miles.

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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 Applicat	le and Known)		
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Ch	eck One or More as Appropri	ate)	1.8.1.a.
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Agriculture.	Invention	Science	9
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Art	Architecture	Social/Human-	REGION
X Commerce	Literature	itarian	107
Communications	<b>K</b> Military	Theater	
Conservation	Music	Transportation	VEILISY

In response to initial steps taken in 1827 and 1828 requesting action on behalf of Congress, federal funds were appropriated for a lighthouse at St. Marks. The structure which was begun in 1829 and completed in 1821 was erected by Winslow Lewis, the official "lighthouse builder" for the national government. It is reported that the limestone blocks used for construction of the lighthouse were taken from the nearby ruins of the old Fort of San Marcos de Apalache for from a limestone quarry located near the site of that fort but across the Wakulla River.

/Like many other lighthouses constructed during that period, the St. Marks lighthouse was built too close to the sea. During the winter of 1841-42 it was, therefore, relocated a short distance inland in order to avoid further damage by the sea. In doing this the lighthouse was taken down and rebuilt, again by Winslow Lewis. Further modifications were made in 1860.

In November 1843, a contract was made with David Carey to construct a small keeper's dwelling at the lighthouse. Frances Gibbons was contracted to build the seawall the next year. A breakwater was constructed in 1853 as well as the more substantial keeper's house.

/ During the Civil War, the St. Marks Lighthouse played a role in military affairs primarily because of its strategic position on the coast. From the spring of 1862 to early in 1864, coastal raids comprised the great bulk of hostile action by federal troops against the Confederacy in Florida. Thus a raid at St. Marks in June, 1862 was typical of the military activities of the period. At that time, the woodwork on the lighthouse and the keeper's house adjoining was burned. In response to the danger of raids of this nature Confederate Army pickets were positioned in or near the lighthouse on a fairly regular basis, and skirmishes with Federal troops occurred from time to time. In March, 1865, one of the largest raiding efforts launched against the interior of West Florida began with a landing of one thousand Federal troops at the St. Marks Lighthouse on March 4. This was a prelude

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Form	10-300a
(July	1969)

#### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

# INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

### (Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
Florida	
COUNTY	
Wakulla	
FOR NPS USE ONL	Y
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
JUL 3 1 1972	

(Number all entries)

8.

to the Battle of Natural Bridge near Tallahassee on March 6, 1865.

After the Civil War, the lighthouse continued to serve the coastal area as a manned light until the nationwide transfer of all lighthouses to the supervision of the Coast Guard in 1939. The light is presently an automatic light, and the building itself is closed to the public. The lighthouse now occupied a 65.60 acre site within the St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge (the lighthouse property is still under the auspices of the U.S. Coast Guard) and as such is part of a tourist attraction of some importance to the West Florida area. Its picturesque qualities and its location on a main traffic thoroughfare would lend themselves to a public recreation or education facility of some sort, and its relation to the development of transportation and commerce in the area and to the military history of Florida give the lighthouse sufficient historical significance to warrant preservation.



Form	10-300a
(July	1969)

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Florida

COUNTY

# NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

## **INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

Wakulla

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