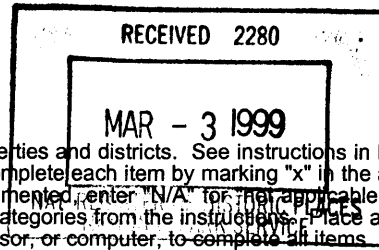


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



410

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 Anclote Key Lighthouse

other names/site number Anclote Key Light Station/PI8566

2. Location

street & number none N/A not for publication

city or town Anclote Key Island N/A vicinity

state FLORIDA code FL county Pinellas code 103 zip code none

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.)

Betsy W. Purdy 2/24/99
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

Florida State Historic Preservation Officer, Division of Historical Resources
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) _____

Edson T. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

4.1.99
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 | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------|
| 0 | 0 | buildings |
| 2 | 0 | sites |
| 3 | 0 | structures |
| 0 | 0 | objects |
| 5 | 0 | total |

Name of related multiple property listings

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

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

TRANSPORTATION/water-related

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

VACANT/not in use

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

OTHER/cast-iron skeletal structure

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation CONCRETE

walls CAST-IRON

BRICK

roof METAL

other COPPER

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

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

MARITIME HISTORY

TRANSPORTATION

ENGINEERING

Period of Significance

1887-1949

Significant Dates

1887

Significant Person

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

U. S. Lighthouse Service

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

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of Repository

#

10. Geographical DataAcreage of Property .166 acres**UTM References**

(Place additional references on a continuation sheet.)

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---------|---|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 8 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 0 |
| Zone | Easting | | Northing | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---------|--|----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Zone | Easting | | Northing | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

 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 Byname/title Janet and Scott Keeler, Counsultants; Gary V. Goodwin, Historic Preservation Plannerorganization Bureau of Historic Preservation date February, 1999street & number R.A. Gray Building, 500 S. Bronough Street telephone (850) 487-2333city or town Tallahassee state Florida 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 Florida Internal Improvement Trust Fund c/o Department of Environmental Protectionstreet & number 3900 Commonwealth Boulevard telephone _____city or town Tallahassee state Florida zip code 32399-6575**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.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 1

ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE
Anclote Key Island, Pinellas County, Florida

SUMMARY

The Anclote Key Lighthouse is a 110-foot abandoned cast iron skeletal sentinel that sits on the southern tip of Anclote Key in the Gulf of Mexico. This is an unincorporated island of Pinellas and Pasco counties, Florida, owned by the state of Florida and operated as a wildlife refuge and recreation area. The lighthouse's boundaries, corresponding with USGS map, are Section 6, Township 27 S, Range 15 E. The parcel No. is 062715000002200100, Government Lot No. 1, Anclote Key State Park, Florida. The property is a rectangle parcel measuring 173 x 125 feet. Other resources within the boundaries include the walls of a brick oil house, 10 partial foundation columns of two keepers' quarters, one concrete cistern and the concrete walkway.

SETTING

The mouth of the Anclote River offers one of the best natural harbors on the Florida Gulf Coast. It is protected by three small mangrove-covered islands, one of which is Anclote Key. The 188-acre island, home to nesting birds such as brown pelicans, white snowy egrets, terns and great blue herons, is a popular spot for boaters, campers and picnickers. The island's integrity has been preserved, because the island can only be accessed by boat. Florida long leaf pine and sable palms (photo #1) grow abundantly on the island. Besides the lighthouse complex, there are no other structures on the key, which is owned by the state of Florida, and is operated as a wildlife refuge and recreation area. It is overgrown with vegetation and infested with mosquitoes.

DESCRIPTION

Since its abandonment in 1985, the cast-iron lighthouse has fallen into disrepair. Today, all that remains of the complex is the rusted lighthouse (photos # 2 and 5), the walls of a brick oil house (photos # 14 and 15), 10 partial foundation columns of two keepers' quarters (photos # 3 and 4), one concrete cistern (photo # 13) and the concrete walkway (photos # 1 and 12).

The lighthouse is a cast-iron skeletal tower, surmounted by a parapet and a lantern with exterior decks accessible from below by a central spiral stairway enclosed by a cast-iron cylinder. Upon these cement piers the central tubular stair cylinder and perimeter skeletal supports were attached. Prefabricated in a northern shipyard, the tower was bolted together quickly. Other resources: Two keeper's quarters were built at this station, one for the keeper and one for the assistant keeper, both nearly identical in plan. Each was a frame clapboard sided 1- 1/4 story structure with a chimney located in the center of a double hipped roof. A louvered stepped rise in the middle of the roof afforded ventilation. The roof had an exaggerated overhang for added protection from the sun. Begun in June 1887, the station was completed and ready for service by September of that year.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 7 Page 2

**ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE
Anclote Key Island, Pinellas County, Florida**

SITE LAYOUT AND OTHER FEATURES

The immediate lighthouse site is .166 acres (90 feet by 90 feet) bounded by the remains of an eight-foot high chain-link fence. Only portions of the fence remain; the rest has been torn down by vandals. Outside the fence to the west are the remains of the brick oil house. Only the walls are standing, the roof has collapsed and the remains are located within the walls. A portion of the west gable end wall has collapsed. To the north of the lighthouse are the remains of the brick piers that once supported the wood framed keepers' quarters. Located between the sites for the keepers' quarters are concrete bases that once supported two wood stave cisterns that provided fresh water for the on-site personnel. To the north of these structures are the remains of a third, partially buried concrete cistern.

In the 12 years since the lighthouse was deactivated, both keepers' quarters were burned to the ground by arsonists, the glass lantern panels were shattered by gunfire, and graffiti artists defaced the lighthouse (photos # 5, 6, 9 and 11). The untended lighthouse has been further ravaged by the elements; the cast-iron skeleton is badly rusted (photos # 2, 5, 6, 7 and 9). The roof of the brick oil house has collapsed and deteriorated, but the four walls remain (photos # 14 and 15). A concrete cistern remains intact along with the concrete walkway leading to the light tower (photos # 1 and 13). The entire site is overgrown by non-native vegetation, specifically Brazilian pepper plants (photos # 2, 3 and 12), whose seeds were deposited on the island by wind and birds.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number PHOTOS Page 1

**ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE
Anclote Key Island, Pinellas County, Florida**

PHOTOGRAPHIC INVENTORY

1. Anclote Key Lighthouse, Anclote Key Island
2. Pinellas County, Florida
3. Scott Keeler
4. September 6, 1996
5. 1138 14th Ave. N., St. Petersburg, Florida 33705
6. Exterior of lighthouse tower showing overgrowth of vegetation, camera facing north
7. Photo #1 of 15

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

6. Overall exterior of the cast-iron structure of the light tower, camera facing west
7. Photo #2 of 15

6. Partial foundation columns of keepers' quarters, camera facing southwest
7. Photo #3 of 15

6. Partial foundation columns of keepers' quarters with concrete cistern remains, camera facing southwest
7. Photo #4 of 15

6. Close-up of light tower's skeletal structure
7. Photo #5 of 15

6. Door opening to stairs in light tower, camera facing north
7. Photo #6 of 15

6. Interior stairs in light tower from below
7. Photo #7 of 15

6. Interior stairs and window opening in light tower from above
7. Photo #8 of 15

6. Interior watch room with ladder to lens room
7. Photo #9 of 15

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number PHOTOS Page 2

**ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE
Anclote Key Island, Pinellas County, Florida**

- 6. Close-up of lens room honey-combed floor from above
- 7. Photo #10 of 15

- 6. View of Gulf from lens room, camera facing northwest
- 7. Photo #11 of 15

- 6. View of site from above
- 7. Photo #12 of 15

- 6. Concrete cistern remains, camera facing southwest
- 7. Photo #13 of 15

- 6. Exterior remains of brick oil house, camera facing west
- 7. Photo #14 of 15

- 6. Interior remains of brick oil house, camera facing west
- 7. Photo #15 of 15

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 1

ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE
Anclote Key Island, Pinellas County, Florida

SUMMARY

The Anclote Key Lighthouse, a skeletal cast-iron plate sentinel constructed in 1887, is historically significant at the local level under Criterion A in the areas of Maritime History and Transportation for its pivotal role in providing safe passage on Florida's west coast, which contributed to the growth of the city of Tarpon Springs, Florida, and Florida's sponge diving industry. The Anclote Key Lighthouse was built in 1887 by order of President Grover Cleveland as one of a chain of sentinels built on the Gulf Coast in the 1880s. It was erected as part of a federal coastline defense program, serving as an important lighthouse and daymark for Tarpon Springs. This lighthouse, in association with the other aids to navigation built along the coast of the Gulf of Mexico, served the shipping needs for commercial and naval traffic from 1887 until 1985, when it was deactivated. The Anclote Key Lighthouse is significant for its association with federal governmental efforts to provide an integrated system of navigational aids and to provide for safe maritime transportation in the Gulf of Mexico. The lighthouse is also significant under Criterion C in the area of Engineering because it embodies a distinctive design and method of construction that typified lighthouse construction on the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic sides of the southeast coast during the second half of the 19th century.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

Lighthouses

Since humans first took vessels to the sea, they needed devices to guide themselves back home. A bonfire on a hillside was probably the world's first beacon, followed by a light hoisted on a pole or a tripod. Conical structures, that are more like the lighthouses we know today, first appeared in ancient times. When the Pilgrims landed in America, lighthouses were common in Europe but not in the New World. The first lighthouse in America was built in 1716 in Boston Harbor. The federal government established the U.S. Lighthouse Service with the Lighthouse Act of 1789. Since then, more than 1,000 lighthouses have been built along the U.S. coastline, in addition to the installation of hundreds of fog signals and the launching of 200 lightships. In 1939, the Lighthouse Service merged with the U.S. Coast Guard.

For most of the lives of America's lighthouses, people were needed to tend the lights. In most cases, a keeper was required to make the walk to the top of the lighthouse several times a day to ensure that the beacon was fueled adequately. By the time the Coast Guard took over the U.S. Light Service in 1939, the human factor was on its way out. Advances in technology rendered many old sentinels obsolete, and in the 1960s, a program called the Lighthouse Automation and Modernization Project eliminated the need for light keepers.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 2

**ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE
Anclote Key Island, Pinellas County, Florida**

Until the mid-1800s, most U.S. lighthouses were masonry structures. At that time, the skeletal, tubular, cast-iron plate lighthouse was born. In areas where shifting and eroding beaches were present, such as Anclote Key, the cast-iron plate towers were built so that they could be disassembled and re-erected where needed. An example of this is the Cape San Blas Lighthouse in the Florida Panhandle. Built in 1885, Cape San Blas was deconstructed and moved twice because of shifting sands. Other lighthouses of this type around the state include: Hillsboro Inlet, Sanibel Island, Boca Grande, Crooked River, and Cape San Blas. In the Florida Keys, the cast-iron plate lighthouses are anchored to massive iron pilings on the reefs. Another type of lighthouse, though not as common as the masonry and iron structures, is simply a wooden edifice with an illumination device affixed to the top. An example of this type in Florida is the Old Port Boca Grande Light on Gasparilla Island.

Altogether, the federal government built forty-one lighthouses in Florida, the majority were built in the nineteenth century. Of the thirty-four that remain, fourteen were lit between 1800 and 1849, nine between 1850 and 1899, and six between 1900 and 1949. Many of these had to be rebuilt because of storms and shifting sands. Much of the work occurred during the latter half of the nineteenth century. Florida lighthouses were automated in the twentieth century; seven were automated between 1900 and 1949 and eighteen since 1950.

Illuminants

The Fresnel lighting system was invented by French physicist Augustin Fresnel in 1822. The big prismatic glass lenses were designed to snatch every flicker of light from even the smallest lamp and concentrate it into a powerful beam that could be seen from dozens of miles away. Fresnel's elegant lenses did their job so well that they soon became standard equipment in lighthouses throughout the world. It was not until the Nazis destroyed the manufacturing formula during World War II that production was halted. Today, the world's existing Fresnel lenses are irreplaceable.

Fresnels come in a variety of sizes, referred to as orders. The huge first-order lenses, such as the one that once served at the Cape Canaveral (Florida) Lighthouse, are six feet in diameter and up to twelve feet tall. The smallest lenses, designated sixth-order, are only about one foot in diameter. The larger and more powerful first-, second-, and third-order Fresnel lenses were intended for use in coastal lighthouses.

Keeper James Gardner lit the Anclote Key light for the first time on September 15, 1887. Flashing every 30 seconds, the beacon could be distinguished easily from that of the fixed white light on Egmont Key, 30 miles south at the mouth of Tampa Bay. The third-order Fresnel lens was powered by kerosene from 1887 until the early 1940s when the U.S. Coast Guard took over operation of the lighthouse. In 1898, a fourth-order Fresnel, less powerful than the previous lens, replaced the original light. In the 1960s, the Coast Guard installed a 250-

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 3

**ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE
Anclote Key Island, Pinellas County, Florida**

watt electric light powered by 56 batteries attached to an electronic sun sensor. The electric light was removed when the Coast Guard deactivated the lighthouse and abandoned the island in 1985. Vandals later destroyed the Fresnel lens. Today the cost of manufacturing a Fresnel lens would be quite costly, possibly running into millions of dollars. There is currently no optic in the lighthouse.

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE

The U.S. Lighthouse Board requested \$20,000 for a new lighthouse to be completed on the south end of Anclote Key in 1884. Congress appropriated \$17,500 on March 3, 1885. The Lighthouse Board wanted to build a tower similar to the Cape San Blas Lighthouse in the Florida Panhandle, an iron skeletal tower built on piles in 1885 and costing \$35,000. In order to meet its goal, the Lighthouse Board requested an additional \$17,500, which was approved by Congress on August 4, 1886.

Proposals for the metal work were received by the Board on October 4, 1886, and a contract awarded. Delivery of the metal work to the site was required by March 1, 1887; however, the metal work was not received until late June 1887. Proposals received for the two keeper's dwellings and outhouses were considered too expensive, so it was decided to build them using hired labor, with construction materials purchased by contract. The lighthouse was completed and first lit on September 15, 1887.

In 1888, a broken tension-rod in the fifth series was replaced with a new one. Slight repairs were also made to the illuminating apparatus at the lamp shop. An oil house was built in 1894 or shortly thereafter. In 1898, a wharf 209-feet long and 8-feet wide, with a T-head 15-feet long by 6-feet wide, was built on galvanized iron pipe piles. A ladder was placed on the outer end of the T-head. A step was built from the wharf to the T-head and another step from the wharf to a new 425-foot long brick walk which connected the wharf to the lighthouse. Other walks were also built: a 46-foot long brick walk from the lighthouse to the keeper's dwelling, a 46-foot long brick walk from the lighthouse to the assistant keeper's dwelling, a 33-foot long brick walk from the assistant keeper's dwelling to the keeper's dwelling, a 46-foot long brick walk from the lighthouse to the oil house, and a 90-foot long brick walk from the keeper's dwelling to the outhouse (nonextant). Brick drains were also laid under both keeper's houses. Various minor repairs were completed and all new work was either painted or whitewashed.

In 1899, the "hard-oil finish" on the insides of the keepers' quarters were scraped and two coats of white paint applied. The exteriors of both dwellings were given one coat of white paint. The latticework around the foundation of the dwellings were repaired and painted "lead color." The iron work on the tower was scaled, scraped and painted. The oil house was covered with galvanized iron and the entire structure painted one coat of "mineral brown." To reach deeper water, the wharf was extended another 200 feet by 8 feet, and T-head 20-

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 4

**ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE
Anclote Key Island, Pinellas County, Florida**

feet long by 5-feet wide was built on the other end. A ladder was placed on the outer side and steps built to the wharf on the inner side. The inner end of the wharf was also fitted with a 20-foot long by 8-foot wide incline, presumably to facilitate the station boat because a boathouse did not yet exist. The fence around the station was rebuilt of cypress and painted white. It was 5-feet tall and 400-feet long and fitted with four gates. The opening between the kitchen and main dwelling was enclosed, providing an additional room. It is presumed this work was performed on the keeper's dwelling.

In 1902, a 633-foot painted, picket fence with four gates was built around the station property. In 1904, 14 piles were driven under the wharf and three fender piles driven at the outer end of the wharf. Stringers and decking were also repaired. A boathouse was built, and a platform for hauling the station boat was also built. Mosquitoes were a problem on Anclote Key even after Work Progress Act (WPA) crews in the 1930s dug drainage ditches to reduce the insect population.

Originally two families lived on the island to tend the lighthouse. Because the island was so close to the mainland, the keeper or his assistant frequently went by boat to Tarpon Springs. Several times a week a keeper would cross the short stretch of water to attend church or get provisions, pick up mail or visit family. During the Spanish-American War in the late 1890s, keeper Robert E. Meyer procured a small cannon for self-defense, but the island remained free from attack. One keeper kept pigs on the island, letting them wander, which worked fine until a Cuban boat crew came ashore and stole them.

Construction of the lighthouse, however, had an impact on Tarpon Springs beyond the occasional comings and goings of the keepers and their families. After the \$35,000 was allocated by Congress and the lighthouse was constructed by the U.S. Lighthouse Service, Tarpon Springs began to build more hotels to accommodate the increased numbers of tourists brought to town by sea. Those additional tourists caused the population of Tarpon to grow from 200 in 1887, the year the city was incorporated, to more than 2,000 by 1920.

The lighthouse also facilitated the growth of the sponging industry, for which Tarpon Springs is still known. While the keepers were busy tending the light and recording the daily happenings on the grounds, a business deal was being forged on land that would lay the foundation for Tarpon Springs' reputation as the United States' sponge capital. Businessman John K. Cheyney and Greek sponge boat captain John Corcoris founded the Tarpon Springs Sponge Exchange, which spelled the end for the sponging industry in Key West. It was no longer necessary for sponges harvested just a few miles off Anclote Key to be hauled to Key West. The lighthouse and the sponge exchange made Tarpon Springs the center of the United States' sponge industry. The light was also useful for cedar shipments from Cedar Key to pencil companies and for fisherman based at Tarpon Springs and Bailey's Bluff in what is now Pasco County.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 8 Page 5

**ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE
Anclote Key Island, Pinellas County, Florida**

Today Anclote Key is a sleepy barrier island. But it was once an attraction to scores of dignitaries, tourists, mariners and townsfolk who gathered under the Florida long leaf pine and sable palms for family socials. While the island's beauty was a natural draw, the lighthouse made human life on the island possible. During the early days of the lighthouse, the island was a popular destination for local residents to picnic by day and for romantic sails by moonlight. Important visitors, including Greek premier Venizelos, former President Calvin Coolidge and former Vice President Spiro Agnew, were taken out to the island on sponge boats. Tourists from many states climbed the tower for a view of the island and surrounding water.

In 1939, the U.S. Lighthouse Service merged into the U.S. Coast Guard and for the next 45 years, the Anclote sentinel was tended by that branch of the military. Ultimately, modern navigational aids and the construction of a lighted smokestack at Florida Power's Anclote power plant rendered the lighthouse obsolete. Subsequently, the lighthouse was relinquished in 1985, decommissioned by the Coast Guard and abandoned. It now belongs to the state of Florida.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 9 Page 1

ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE
Anclote Key Island, Pinellas County, Florida

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_____, Southeastern Lighthouses: Outer Banks to Cape Florida, The Globe Pequot Press, 1998.

Williamsport Preservation Training Center in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management, "Anclote Key Light Station: Draft Condition Assessment Report," Oct. 1, 1995.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section number 10 Page 1

**ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE
Anclote Key Island, Pinellas County, Florida**

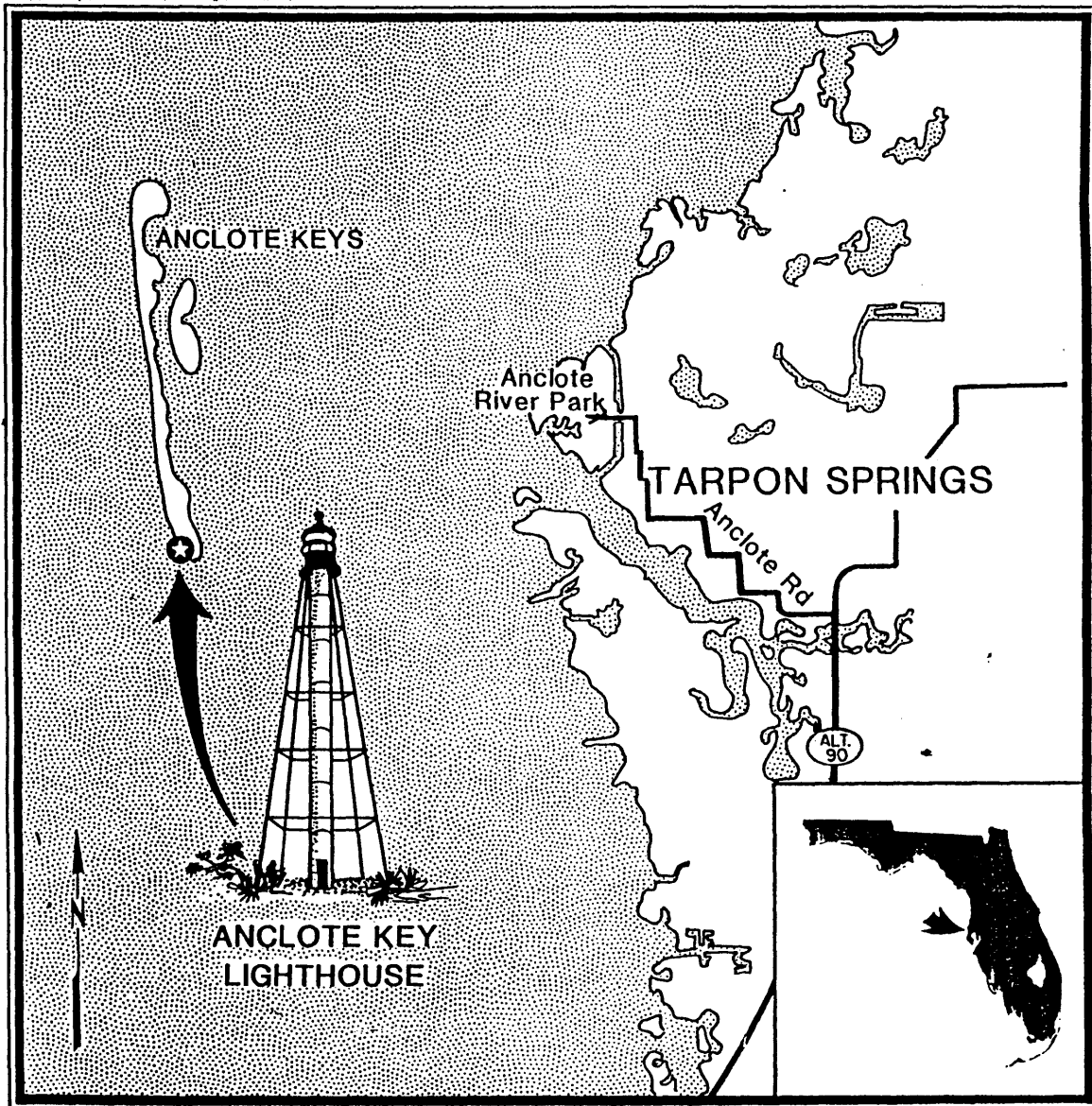
Verbal Boundary Description

Section 6, Township 27 S, Range 15 E. The property is a rectangular parcel measuring 173 x 125 feet.

Boundary Justification

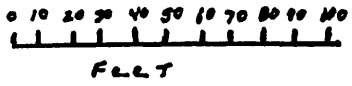
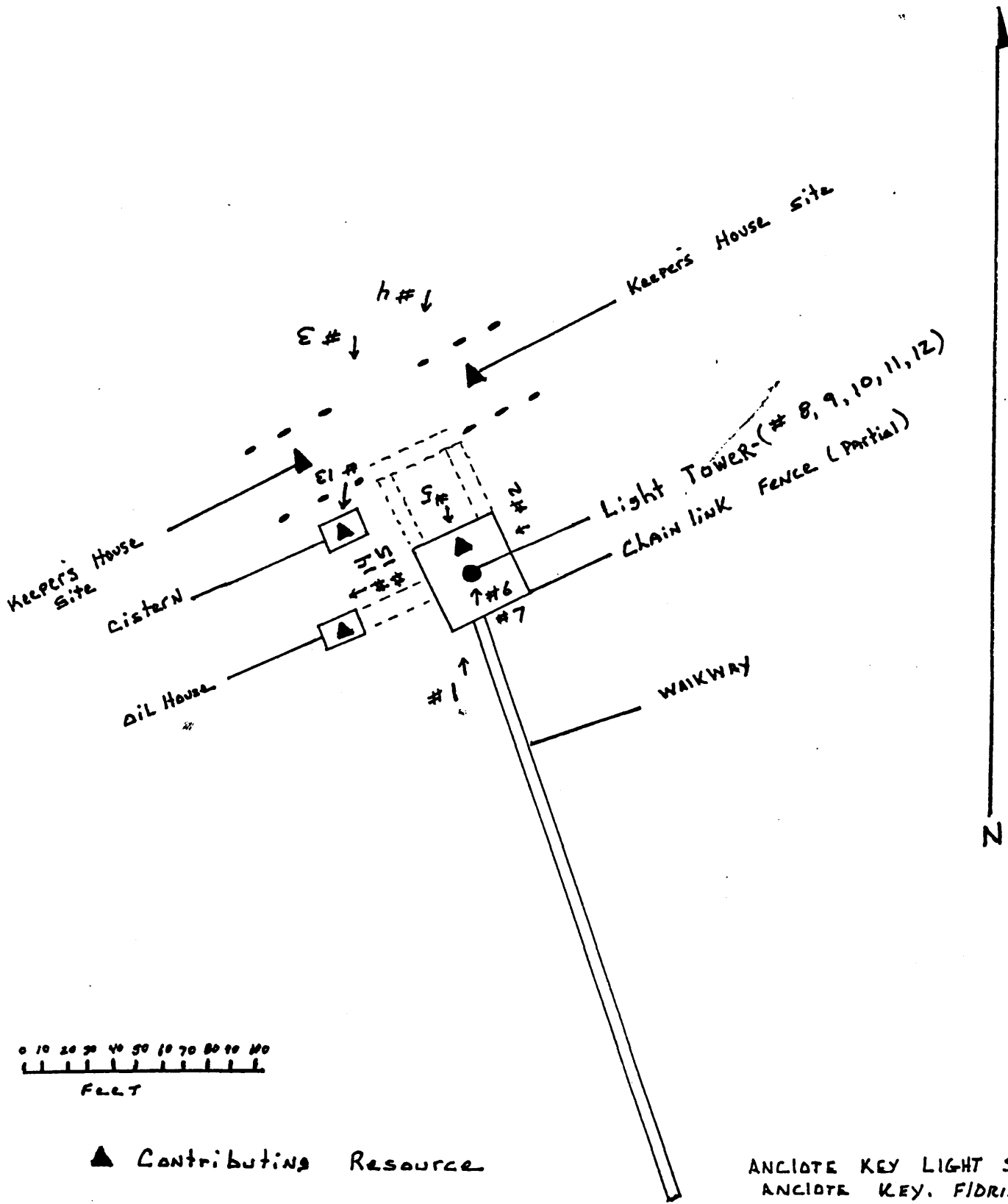
The nominated property includes the .166-acre parcel historically associated with the Anclote Key Light Station.

ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE
Anclote Key Island, Pinellas County, Florida



Anclote Key Light Station.
Anclote Key, Fla.
Gulf Islands GEOPark

ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE
Anclote Key Island, Pinellas County, Florida



▲ Contributing Resource

ANCLOTE KEY LIGHT STATION
ANCLOTE KEY, FLORIDA
Gulf Islands GEO Park

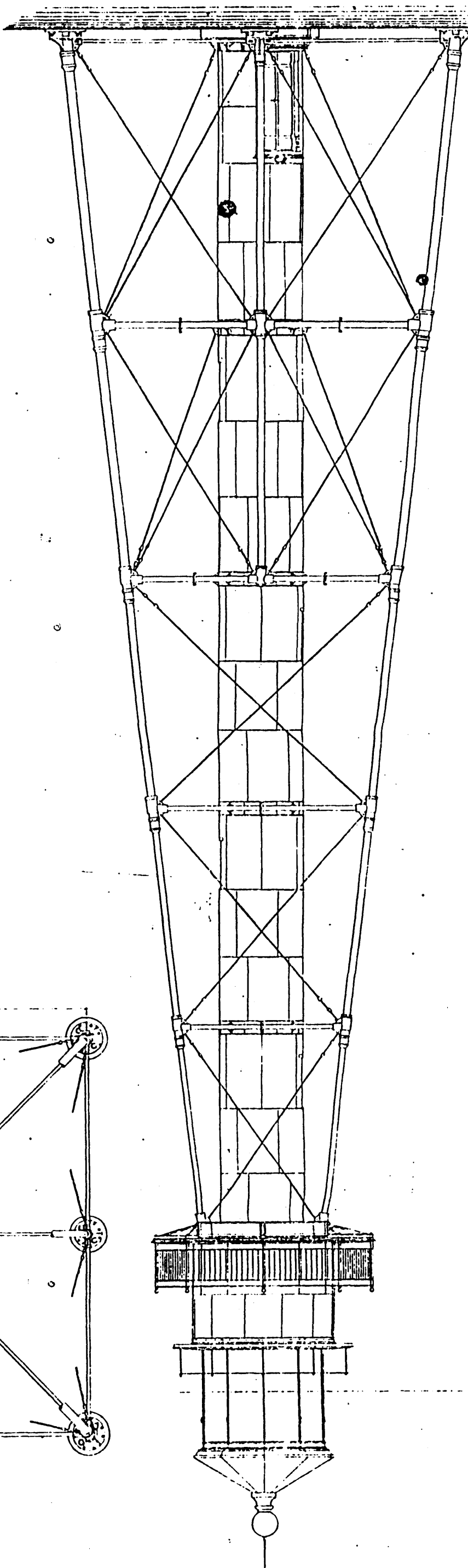
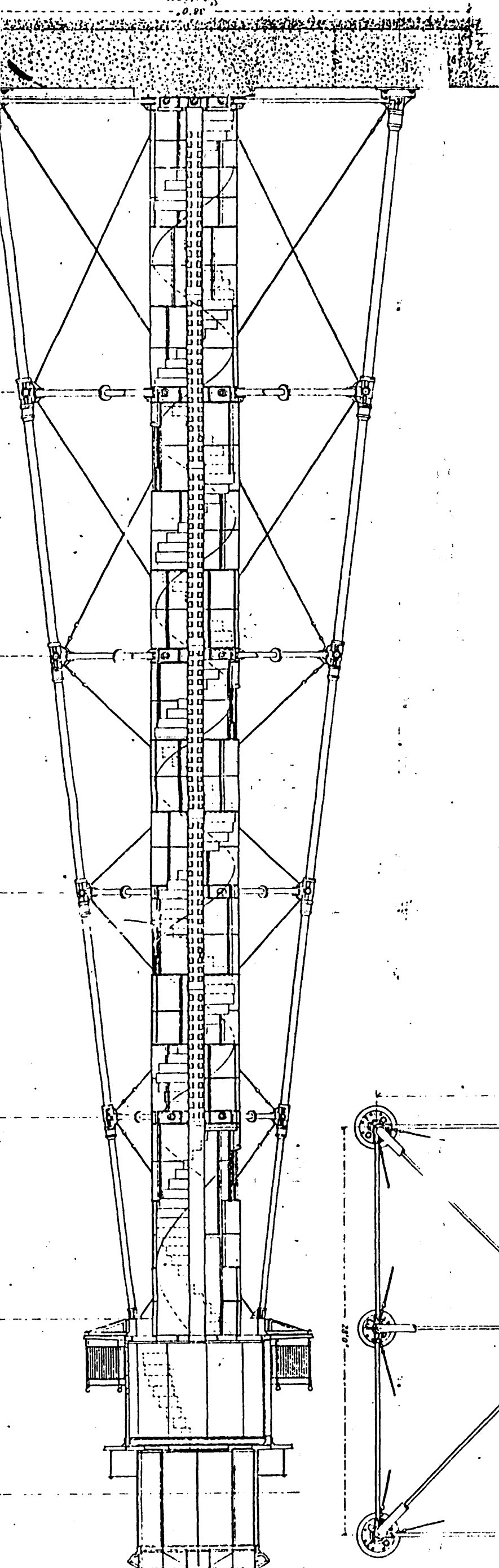
Approved by Light House Board

Scale 1/4" = 10'

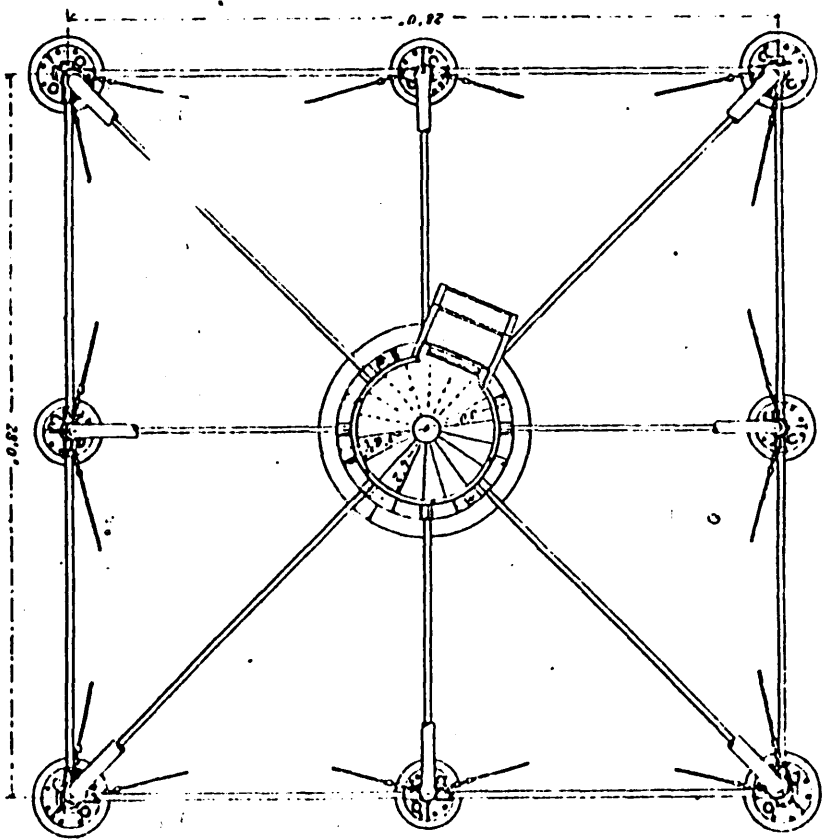


Section

Elevation



Plan



ANCLOTE KEY LIGHTHOUSE
Anclote Key Island, Pinellas County, Florida