



NEW SMYRNA SUGAR MILL RUINS

U.S. 1, Fla. 90, New Smyrna Beach
Volusia County

Arched doors and window openings in thick coquina walls are all that remain of a sugar mill that represents the expansion of the plantation economy in Florida before the Seminole Wars.

The plantations in the area of New Smyrna were destroyed in late 1835, or during January of 1836, in the Indian hostilities, and it is probable that the sugar mill suffered the same fate.

The ruins and general layout are similar to those at the Bulow Plantation Ruins, and the mill is known to have been under construction at the time of a visit of John James Audubon in 1831. The small building which houses the steam machinery for sugar production was not in use before 1800.

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. Winstone
Keeper of The National Register

Date **JUL** _____

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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

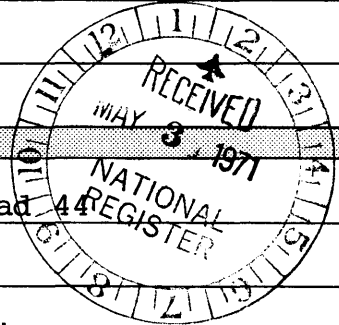
STATE: Florida	
COUNTY: Volusia	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.8.09.0004	DATE 8/12/70

1. NAME

COMMON:
New Smyrna Sugar Mill Ruins
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Cruger and DePeyster Sugar Mill

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
One mile west of New Smyrna, off State Road 44 ^{Beach}
CITY OR TOWN: **New Smyrna ^{Beach} Vic.**
STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12** COUNTY: **Volusia** CODE: **127**



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Historic Memorial

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: **Division of Recreation and Parks
Department of Natural Resources**
STREET AND NUMBER: **Larson Building**
CITY OR TOWN: **Tallahassee** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12**

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: **Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund**
STREET AND NUMBER: **Elliot Building**
CITY OR TOWN: **Tallahassee** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12**

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: **401 East Gaines Street**
CITY OR TOWN: **Tallahassee** STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: **Florida**
COUNTY: **Volusia**
ENTRY NUMBER: **70.8.09.0004**
DATE: **8/12/70**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

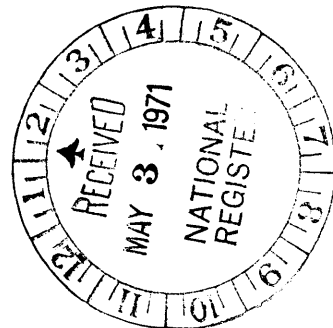
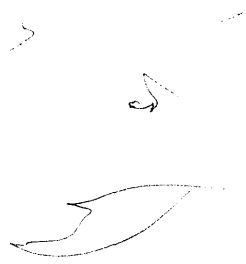
7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The terrain surrounding the New Smyrna Sugar Mill Ruins is flat and covered by a pine and live oak hammock. The ruins which remain are cut coquina block, a rock-like substance composed of tiny shells and sand which was quarried in the area. The layout of the mill and the adjacent engine room can be determined by standing walls, arched doorways and windows, or in their absence, the footing foundations of missing sections. The wells used to supply the steam boiler may be seen as well as the base of the tall chimney of the engine house. The ruins are open to the public year round and walkways and interpretive signs guide visitors.

An attached drawing, researched by Cash H. Coe, depicts the layout of the sugar mill at the time of its destruction in December of 1835.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

SIGNIFICANCE

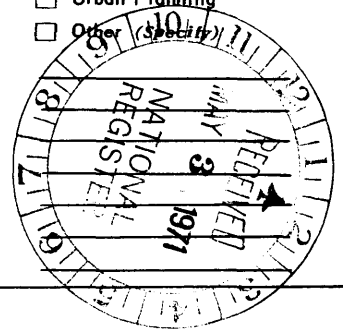
PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1835

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input checked="" 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

In December of 1835, the outbreak of the Second Seminole War brought the full wrath of a determined and resourceful foe down on the plantations lying along the St. Johns and Halifax Rivers. In a matter of days a young and flourishing sugar economy was dealt a blow from which it was never to recover.

The New Smyrna Sugar Mill Ruins are historically significant because the events which took place there and the resulting occurrence are typical of the whole region. Prior to the Territorial Period, in both Spanish Periods and the British tenure, grants had been relatively numerous in the coastal area between St. Augustine and New Smyrna due to the rich swamps and hammock lands and the availability of waterborne transportation. Boyd states that, "by the early thirties substantial steam-powered sugar mills, many housed in stout stone buildings, had been erected on several of the estates, so that the economic development of this short stretch of the upper east coast exceeded that of any other part of the territory, not excepting Middle Florida."

In 1830 William Kemble contracted to build a steam sugar and sawmill for William DePeyster and Eliza and Henry Cruger of New York. This mill, now known as the New Smyrna Sugar Mill Ruins, was constructed on land which Cruger had purchased from Ambrose Hull. Originally the land was granted to Hull during the Second Spanish Period and subsequently confirmed under territorial administration.

In 1835, A black servant of Mrs. Jane Sheldon, wife of the overseer of the Cruger and DePeyster property, attended a Christmas Eve dance on an adjacent plantation and saw Indians lurking about. These Seminoles (approximately 80 to 140 in strength belonging to Philip's band) wrecked havoc not only to the Mosquito Inlet area, but up and down the entire east coast. On Christmas day, they plundered the Cruger and DePeyster Plantation, among others, forcing the Sheldon's to

(Continued)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Boyd, Mark F. Florida Aflame: Background and Onset of the Seminole War, 1835. Tallahassee: Board of Parks and Recreation, 1951.
 Cleland, John C. The Superior Advantages to be Derived from the Culture of Sugar-Cane in East-Florida. Charleston: S.S. Miller, 1836.
 Coe, Chas. H. Debunking the So-Called Spanish Mission near New Smyrna Beach. Washington: private printing, 1941.
 Davidson, Liliane R. "New Smyrna Ruins Mission Myth Corrected" Daytona Beach Morning Journal, April 30, 1950.

(continued)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

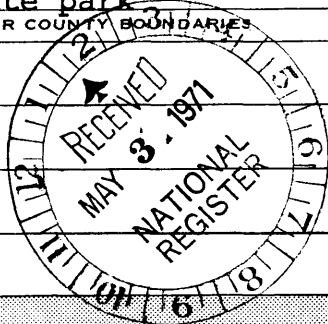
LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		29° 00' 31"	80° 56' 27"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

Ruins less than 10 acres within

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 17 acre state 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



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Randy F. Nimnicht, Historic Preservationist

ORGANIZATION: Division of Archives, History and Records Mgt. DATE: 2/19/71

STREET AND NUMBER:
Department of State, The Capitol

CITY OR TOWN: Tallahassee STATE: Florida CODE: 12

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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: *Randy F. Nimnicht*

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: April 29, 1971

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

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

Date: SEP 10 1971

ATTEST:

William J. ...
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: AUG 17 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Florida	
COUNTY Volusia	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.8.09.0004	DATE 8/12/70

(Number all entries)

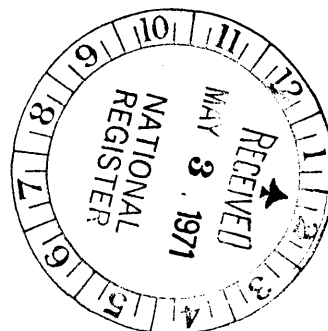
New Smyrna Sugar Mill Ruins - Significance - page 2

flee across the Halifax River to safety. The following night, the sugar mill and other buildings in the area were put to the torch. Sixty of the DePeyster Blacks were led away by the Seminoles.

That winter, a similar series of events took place on numerous other plantations. Subsequent occupation of ruins by troops in the course of the war resulted in their alteration for defensive reasons. This, in addition to vandalism, undoubtedly caused as extensive damage as originally caused by the Seminoles.

In the 20th Century, legends were to grow in the area around New Smyrna that the ruins were an old Spanish Mission, built in the 17th Century; research (documentative and architectural) disproved these rather romantic claims.

These ruins attest to an agricultural economy vigorous enough to warrant a significant architectural undertaking on a remote territorial frontier. Their continued preservation offers the public a visual link with the past, contributing to a fuller understanding of the Territorial Period of Florida history.



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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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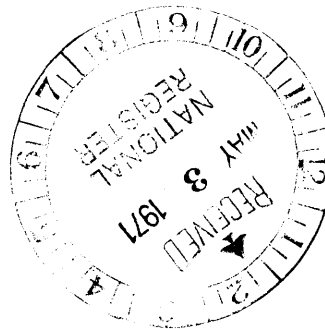
(Number all entries)

New Smyrna Sugar Mill Ruins - Bibliographical References - page 2

Gold, Pleasant Daniel. History of Volusia County, Florida.
Deland: E. P. Painter, 1927.

Niles' Register, January 30, 1836. Baltimore: 1811-1849.

Sheldon, Jane Murray. "Attack Near New Smyrna, 1835-1835"
Florida Historical Quarterly, VIII (April, 1930), 188-196.



Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

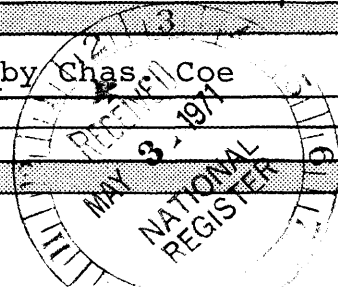
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

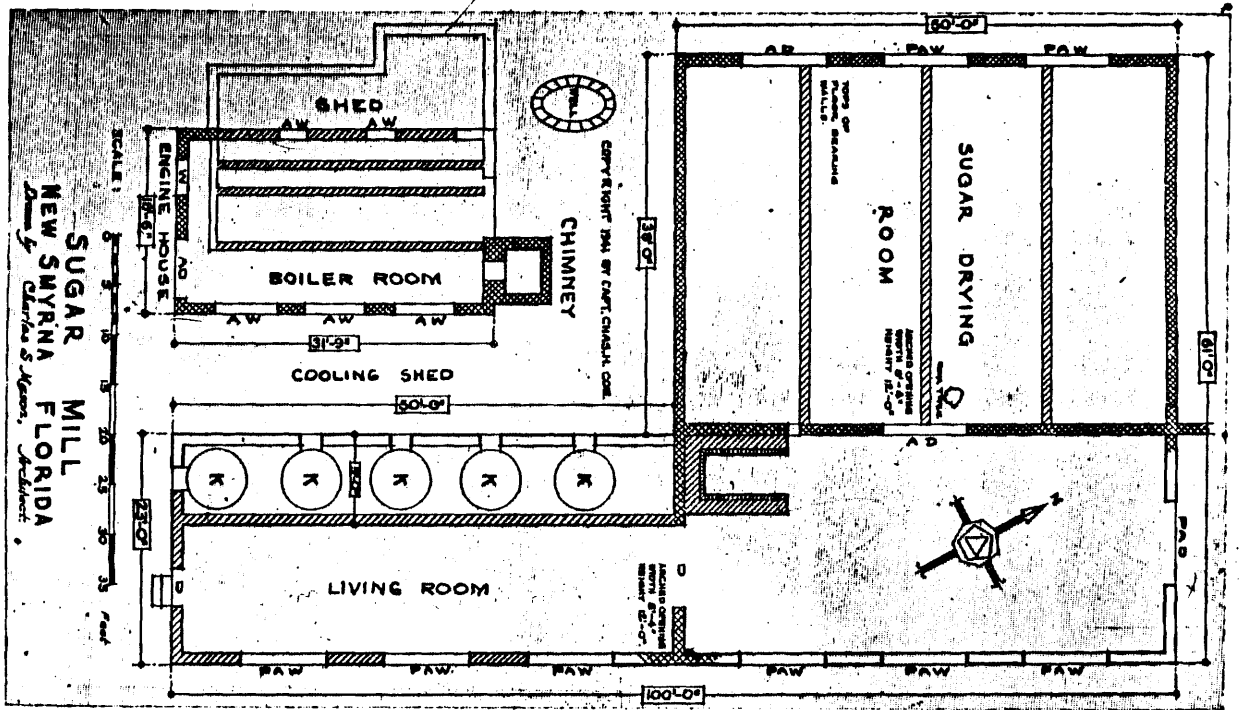
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Florida	
COUNTY Volusia	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.8.09.0004	DATE 8/12/70

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: New Smyrna Sugar Mill Ruins			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Cruger and DePeyster Sugar Mill			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: One mile west of New Smyrna off State Road 44			
CITY OR TOWN: New Smyrna			
STATE: Florida	CODE 12	COUNTY: Volusia	CODE 127
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: Debunking of the So-Called Spanish Mission by Chas. Coe			
SCALE: 1 inch = 20 feet			
DATE: 1941			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			





Explanation of Drawing:

- AW: Arched Windows.
- AD: Arched Doors.
- Foundations present but walls missing: Single mesh lines.
- Both walls and foundations missing: Blank lines.
- Foundations and walls present: Double-mesh lines.
- Joints in Sugar Drying Room: Low walls for floor.
- K: Kettles, called "Coolers."
- PAY: Probable Arched Windows.
- PDA: Probable Doors. Arched.



PH001 2530

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 Volusia	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 70.8.09.0004	DATE 8/12/70

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: New Smyrna Sugar Mill Ruins
AND/OR HISTORIC: Cruger and DePeyster Sugar Mill

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
One mile west of New Smyrna off State Road 44

CITY OR TOWN:
New Smyrna

STATE: Florida	CODE 12	COUNTY: Volusia	CODE 127
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3. MAP REFERENCE

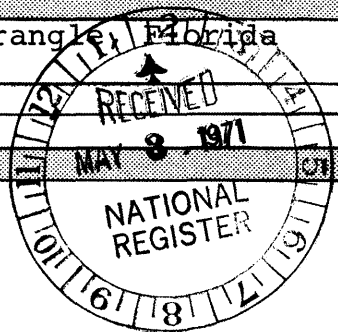
SOURCE: U.S.C.&G. Survey, New Smyrna Beach Quadrangle, Florida
Volusia County (7.5 minute series)

SCALE: 1:24,000

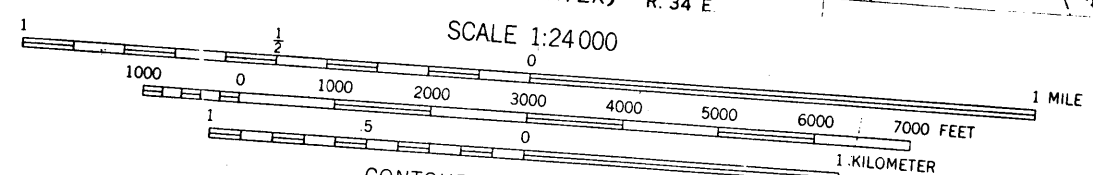
DATE: 1956

4. REQUIREMENTS

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 3. Latitude and longitude reference.



NEW SMYRNA SUGAR MILL RUINS



CONTOUR INTERVAL 5 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 3 FEET

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

QUA