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

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Florida	
COUNTY: Liberty	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 1	DATE 14 AUG 1972

**1. NAME**

COMMON:  
Torreya State Park

AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Gregory House

**2. LOCATION**

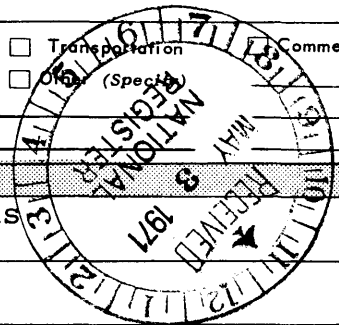
STREET AND NUMBER:  
13 miles northeast of Bristol on State Highway 12

CITY OR TOWN:  
Bristol

STATE Florida	CODE 12	COUNTY: Liberty	CODE 077
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**3. CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" 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	<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 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

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:  
Elliott 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:  
Department of State, The Capitol

CITY OR TOWN:  
Tallahassee

STATE:  
Florida

CODE:  
12

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Florida

COUNTY: Liberty

ENTRY NUMBER: 14 AUG 1972

FOR NPS USE ONLY

DATE

## 7. DESCRIPTION

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

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Torrey State Park, whose rugged topography resembles more northerly east coast terrain, is located on the east side of the Apalachicola River in north Liberty County. The focal point of the park is Neals Bluff, where stands the beautiful Gregory House of classic Greek Revival architecture. The house is a basic box with the exception of one out building attached by a covered columned walkway. A two-story portico is supported by four massive columns, and has simple paneled detail work. An attached second story porch within the portico breaks the vertical line of the supporting columns.

The house overlooks six gun pits dug by the Confederates during the Civil War, and a variety of wild flowers, shrubs and trees representative of both subtropic and temperate climates. Some of these trees and plants have not been found in natural growth anywhere else in the world.

Outdoor recreational facilities offered by the park include camp sites, picnic areas and boating facilities.

On a steep embankment overlooking the Apalachicola River are located six Confederate gun pits. The pits are situated on descending levels, in a terraced arrangement, northeast of the Gregory Mansion. The mansion sits high on the bluff and the pits are not visible even from the edge of the bluff. All of the pits are shallow recessions in the ground with gradually sloping sides and an earth formed parapet at the front facing down to the river. A few timbers remain that were originally used to hold back the earth, but otherwise no building materials remain. Pits number one and two are the largest, measuring approximately 30 ft. across at the widest point and about four feet in depth at the front embankment. Pits numbered three through six are progressively smaller and shallower. The pits are placed approximately fifty feet apart. Their positioning afforded a very good command of the river from a strategic point of view.

S E E I N S T R U C T I O N S

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |   |                                       |  |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" 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)

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric  | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <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 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

During the Second Spanish Period, through the Territorial Period, and into statehood, the Apalachicola River continued to grow as a transportation link with the interior. In the 1830's, Jason Gregory of North Carolina built his plantation manor at Ocheese Landing on the watery thoroughfare of the Apalachicola.

With the coming of the Civil War, the Gregorlys witnessed the placement of Confederate guns on the high bluffs across the river on the east bank to prevent Union gunboats using the Apalachicola. The violence of the war was little felt in this distant theater and the Gregorlys never knew the scourge of occupation. However, in 1873, they were forced to flee from yellow fever. When the last family member died in 1916, the house became a refuge for the riffraff of the river.

In 1935, the house was given to the Florida Board of Parks by the Neal Lumber Company of Blountstown. It was carefully dismantled, floated across the river in sections, and reassembled on Neals Bluff within Torreya State Park. Great effort was made to retain as much of the original wood as possible down to the wooden flooring pegs. Since that time, the Gregory House has been authentically furnished in the prevailing fashion of the 1850-60 period to reflect the plantation prosperity in the Old South.

The Confederate battery was located on a slightly lower elevation than the mansion. Six plainly traceable gun emplacements with connecting trenches and ammunition pits can be seen today.

Torreya State Park takes its name from a tree (*Torreya taxifolia*) discovered about 1835 by a young planter, Hardy Bryan Croom. Croom sent specimens to the noted botanist, Dr. John Torrey of Columbia College, for whom the tree is named. It is only native to a strip several miles wide and 20 miles long on the east bank of the Apalachicola River.

Continued.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Bevis, H. W. "Torreya State Park and the Old Gregory Mansion" The United Daughters of the Confederacy Magazine XXVI (Dec., 1963) 11, 37-38.  
 Davis, W. W. Civil War and Reconstruction. New York: Columbia University Press, 1913.  
 Florida Archaeological Survey. Sites Li 9, Li 10, Li 11. Manuscript on file. Division of Archives, History and Records Mgt., Tallahassee.  
 Newman, Virginia. "Floridas' Garden of Eden," Florida Wildlife. (October, 1970), 22-26.  
 Willey, Gordon R. Archaeology of the Florida Gulf Coast. Washington: Smithsonian Institution, 1949.

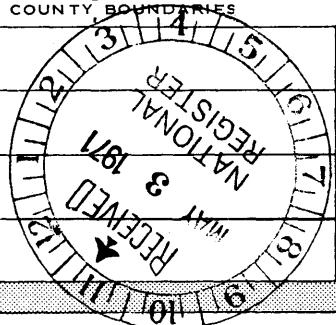
**10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

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	30° 34' 42"	84° 57' 17"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	30° 34' 48"	84° 56' 43"				
SE	30° 34' 04"	84° 56' 43"				
SW	30° 34' 05"	84° 57' 17"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: approx. 300 acres

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

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: 3/11/71

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: *Robert William*

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: April 29, 1971

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

*Robert M. Utley*  
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 8/14/72

ATTEST:  
*William M. ...*  
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Florida	
COUNTY Liberty	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
14-10-372	

(Number all entries)

Torrey State Park, Significance, page 2

Within the bounds of the nominated property are several archaeological sites. Willey noted a small sherd collection (Weeden Island Period) from Torrey which is housed in the Peabody Museum, Yale University. In addition, several sites have been documented in the Florida Archaeological Survey and await further study.

Form 10-301  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM

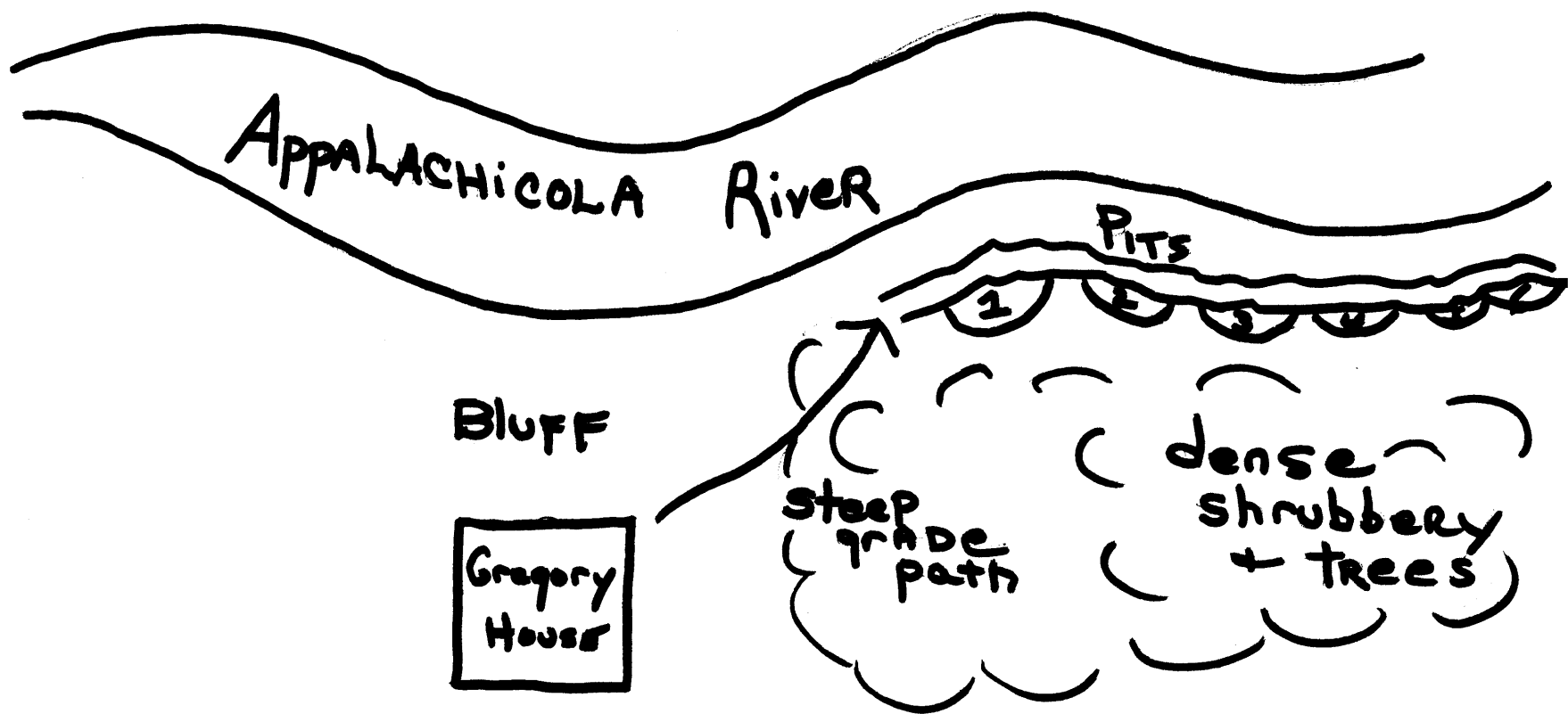
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	
Florida	
COUNTY	
Liberty	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
14 AUG 1971	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: <u>Torrey State Park</u>			
AND/OR HISTORIC: <u>Gregory House</u>			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
<u>13 miles northeast of Bristol on State Highway 12</u>			
CITY OR TOWN:			
<u>Bristol</u>			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
<u>Florida</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>Liberty</u>	<u>077</u>
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE: <u>Dept. of State -- Division of Archives, History and Records Management</u>			
SCALE: <u>None</u>			
DATE: <u>August, 1971</u>			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			

Schematic Map  
Showing Relationship of  
Gun PITS to the  
Gregory House



Form 10-301  
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

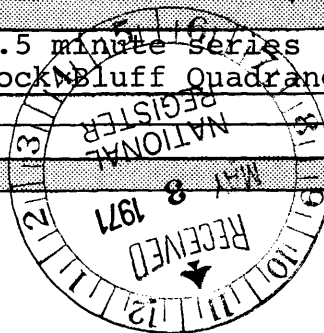
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM

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

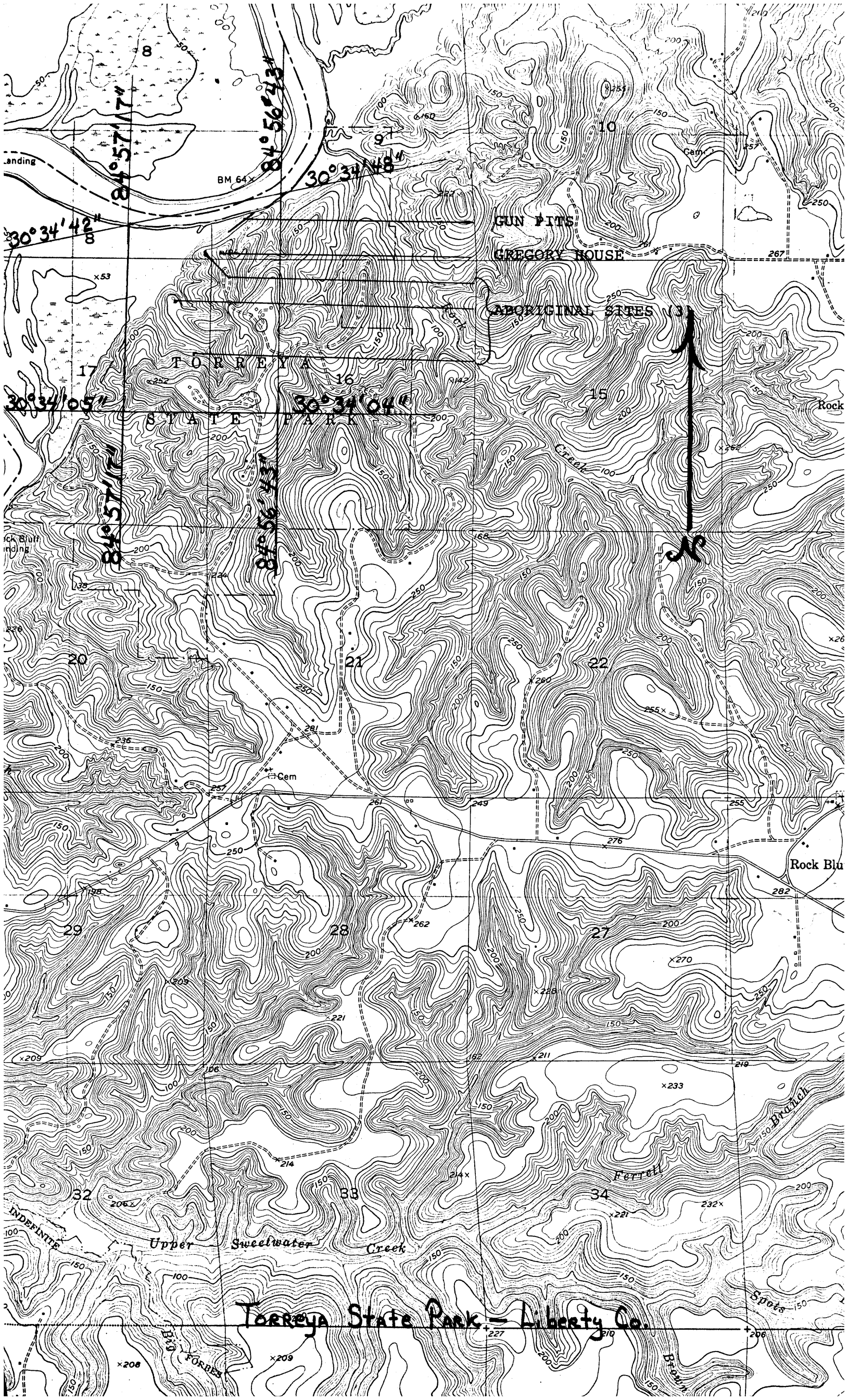
STATE Florida	
COUNTY Liberty	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

<b>1. NAME</b>			
COMMON: Torrey State Park			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Gregory House			
<b>2. LOCATION</b>			
STREET AND NUMBER: 13 miles northeast of Bristol on State Highway 12			
CITY OR TOWN: Bristol			
STATE: Florida	CODE 12	COUNTY: Liberty	CODE 077
<b>3. MAP REFERENCE</b>			
SOURCE: United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, Rock Bluff Quadrangle			
7.5 minute Series			
SCALE: 1:24,000			
DATE: 1955			
<b>4. REQUIREMENTS</b>			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			







Torrey State Park - Liberty Co.