

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 24 1984
DATE ENTERED 7-9-86

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

PASS MANCHAC LIGHT

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

WESTERN END LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Ponchatoula

VICINITY OF

SIXTH

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

LOUISIANA

22

TANGIPIHOA

105

2 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (if applicable)

U. S. COAST GUARD COMMANDER, EIGHTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT

STREET & NUMBER

HALE BOGGS FEDERAL BUILDING, 500 CAMP STREET

CITY, TOWN

STATE

NEW ORLEANS

VICINITY OF

LOUISIANA 70130

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Executive Order dated May 24, 1837

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

A masonry tower built in 1859. The light has a 250mm plastic lens mounted on the lantern gallery and powered by batteries. It has been unmanned for a number of years and upkeep has been minimal. It is still used as an automated aid to navigation.

1. Approximate Dimensions - Base 20 ft. to top, 40 ft. above sea level
2. Material construction - Brick
3. Form of Lighthouse - Brick cylindrical
4. Type of illuminate and lens - ESNA 250 mm
5. Color of Lighthouse - White
6. No special signaling devices
7. No additional structures
8. No alterations to existing lighthouse
9. No special features

PASS MANCHAC LIGHTHOUSE

State of Louisiana, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism, Office of Cultural Development comments:

It appears that the present Pass Manchac Lighthouse dates from just after the Civil War. Its circular brick tower design represents the earliest type of lighthouse which was built along the Gulf Coast. Most brick lighthouses have not survived; however, because the swampy soil common to the region would not support them. The Pass Manchac Light is one of only four which remain intact in Louisiana. Hence it is eligible for the National Register because it represents an early type which has largely disappeared.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1859

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

UNKNOWN

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

PASS MANCHAC (1857)

The Pass Manchac Lighthouse is significant because of its architecture. Its design embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and method of construction common to the 1850's. It is the only lighthouse of its design in the Gulf Coast region. Its level of significance is at the state level.

Pass Manchac, like the rigoles, is a narrow neck of water. It connects western Lake Pontchartrain to Lake Maurepas.

A lighthouse was authorized for \$5,000 in 1854 and was completed in 1857.

This tower was rebuilt in 1848 and stood 52 feet high, elevating the lens 34 feet above sea level. The steady red light with nine lamps was visible for 13 miles. The first three lighthouses were built on the same general site. The first two were apparently brick towers. The third was a dwelling with a light chamber on top.

The third lighthouse, begun in 1857, held its light 45 feet above sea level and was visible only 10 miles. The light was first exhibited in February 1859, with a fourth order lens. Built just prior to "the rebellion" the structure was heavily damaged by armies of both sides. The damage probably led to the building of the fourth and present Pass Manchac Lighthouse.

The keeper's dwelling, which was attached to the light was razed in 1902 and only the foundation remains.

The fourth tower is still active, although the original lens is no longer in use. A 250 mm plastic lens mounted on the lantern gallery and powered by batteries now guides shipping to the pass.

There are no other structures of its kind in the Eighth Coast Guard District.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lighthouses and Lightships of the Northern Gulf Coast
 Department of Transportation, U. S. Coast Guard

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA *Negligible, less than an acre*

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0 acres (The light is in water)

UTM REFERENCES

A	15	759900	3354570	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Latitude: 30-17-48 North
 Longitude: 90-17-54 West

The lighthouse lies in the western end of Lake Pontchartrain due east of Pass Manchac. Only the structure and lake bottom immediately beneath the structure is nominated.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

E. L. RICKS, CWO3, USCG *E. L. Ricks*

ORGANIZATION

Commander, Eighth Coast Guard District

DATE

11/14/83

STREET & NUMBER

Hale Boggs Federal Building, 500 Camp Street

TELEPHONE

504-589-2121

CITY OR TOWN

New Orleans,

STATE

Louisiana

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

Philip W. Barber
 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is National State Local .

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE *John G. ...*

TITLE *DOT HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER*

DATE *2/14/84*

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

W. Schlayer

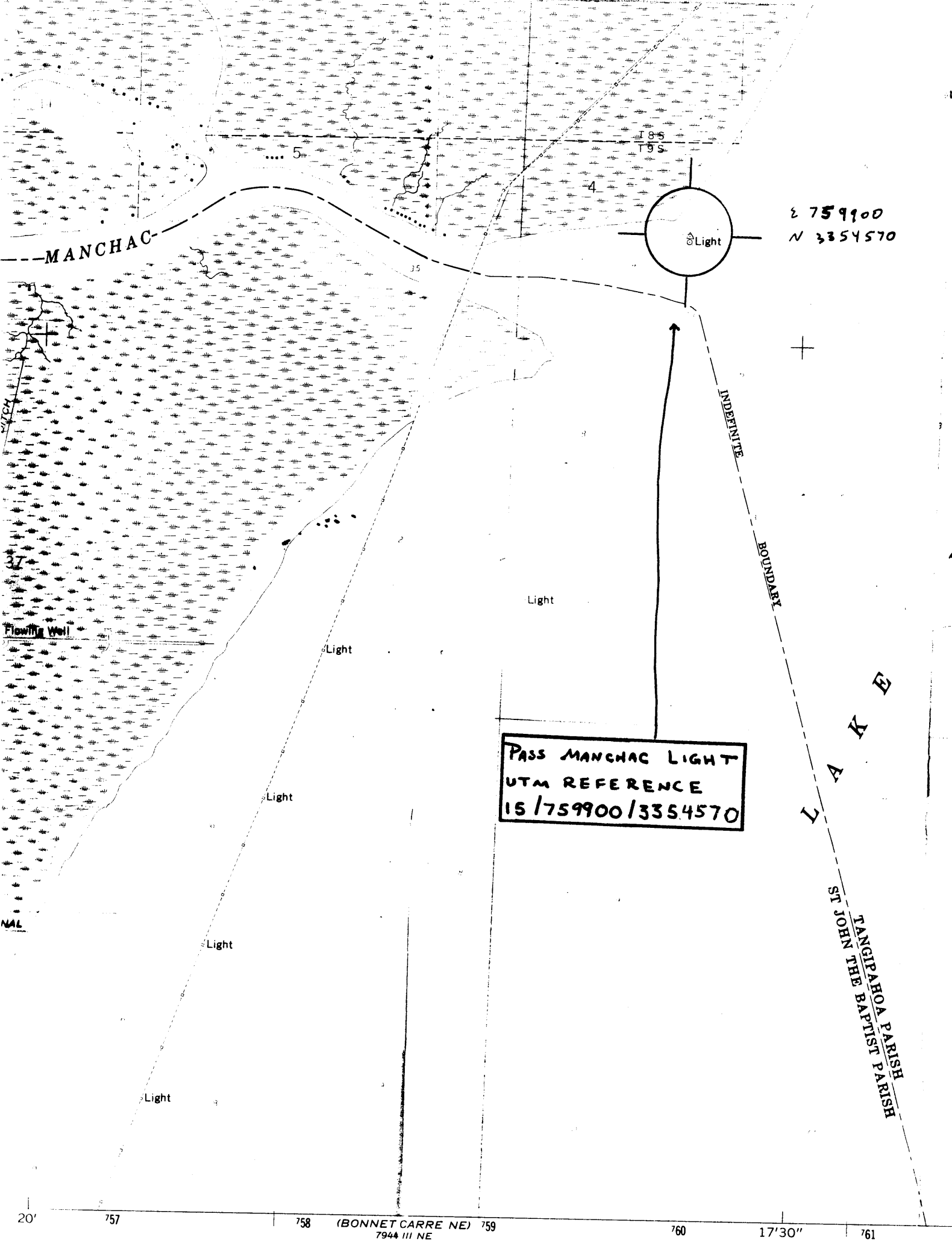
DATE *2/9/86*

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



E 759900
N 3354570

PASS MANCHAC LIGHT
UTM REFERENCE
15 759900 3354570

L A K E
TANGIPAHOA PARISH
ST JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH

20' 757 758 (BONNET CARRE NE) 759 760 17'30" 761
7944 III NE