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201-11-23 6780

Form 10-300
(Rev. 6-72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Florida
COUNTY:	St. Lucie
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	JAN 11 1973

1. NAME

COMMON:
Fort Pierce Site

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
South Indian River Drive

CITY OR TOWN:
Fort Pierce

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
Ninth District

STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12** COUNTY: **St. Lucie** CODE: **111**

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" 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
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"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>privately owned land in part</u>

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
St. Lucie County & Dr. Wm. R. Dannahower

STREET AND NUMBER:
P.O. Box 700 & 809 S. Indian Drive

CITY OR TOWN:
Fort Pierce

STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12**

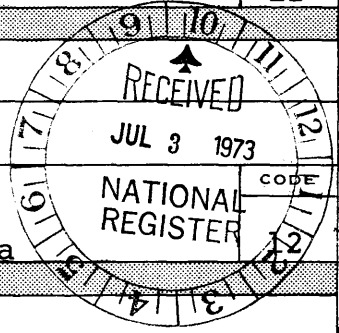
5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
St. Lucie County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
212 South Second Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Fort Pierce

STATE: **Florida** CODE: **12**



6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Florida Board of Parks and Historic Memorials Survey

DATE OF SURVEY: **1959** 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:	St. Lucie
ENTRY NUMBER:	PH0002470
DATE:	JAN 11 1973
FOR NPS USE ONLY	

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

 Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

 Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

There are no visible remains of Fort Pierce. A plan of Fort Pierce dated July 30, 1839, shows the complex of structures in existence at that time. A contemporary source indicates that the original blockhouse built in January, 1838, was constructed of palmetto logs. The notes accompanying the above plan describe some of the buildings as "log houses"; presumably these too were constructed of palmetto logs. In July, 1839, a blockhouse stood approximately twenty-five yards from the Indian River (west bank). A picket line connected it to a log house (company quarters) a few yards to the north. Another picket line connected that structure to another company quarters building on the west, and still another picket line on the other side of that building completed the south side of the fort complex. On the west side were two officers quarters; the southernmost was about half the size of the northern one. A narrow gap between the two structures was protected by a picket line on the west side of the buildings. The northern side of the complex was composed of three contiguous log houses which provided more company quarters. A picket line ran north, then east of this row of log houses until it joined a "picket fence" (stockade) which ran parallel to the river all along the front of the fort complex. At one point on the south end of the stockade, a short section of "picket fence" placed at right angles on the east side ran to the river bank. The only other structure in the complex was a hospital which stood as a free standing building several yards south of the blockhouse.

Today the Fort Pierce site lies in part on private property and in part forms a section of a park owned and maintained by St. Lucie County. A paved road, Indian River Drive, runs parallel to the Indian River not far from the edge of the bluff which rises sharply from the river's edge. The land west of the road is more or less flat with the exception of the mound discussed in the significance statement of this nomination. Trees, shrubbery, and other vegetation are present at the site; the mound, located in the park, is particularly well supplied with foliage.

The 1839 plan of the fort complex indicated the existence of a large, swampy pond some distance to the west of the fort. A body of water, now part of a golf course, exists at that spot today. The Florida East Coast Railway runs between the pond area and the park area. The proximity of this site to the city of Fort Pierce (see map) makes it necessary to take special steps to insure its preservation. To date, the Fort Pierce Site as a unit has not been excavated by professional archaeologists. The preservation of this site would ensure its protection from the activities of amateur artifact collectors and prevent further disturbance of the integrity of the site.

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

4. 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) **1838**

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 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 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

As part of the plan to defend Florida against the Seminole Indians during the Second Seminole War, a chain of forts extending across the peninsula from Tampa Bay to Indian River Inlet was built. The military campaign of the fall and winter of 1837-38 was aimed at destroying the villages and property of the Seminoles in order to force them to withdraw to the reservation west of the Mississippi according to the provisions of the Treaty of Payne's Landing (1832). A part of the operation was assigned to Lt. Col. Benjamin K. Pierce and the First Artillery Regiment, U.S. Army; they were to probe southward along the Indian River. By January 2, 1838, this force had reached a point on the west bank of that river about four miles south of the Indian River Inlet. According to the journal kept by Dr. Jacob Motte, the Regimental Assistant Surgeon, this was the highest point of land on the whole river, with a "bluff" rising ten or fifteen feet above the river just a few feet beyond the water's edge. The Regiment camped on the beach by the river and began construction of a palmetto log blockhouse on the heights above. The new post was named for the colonel of the regiment, Benjamin Pierce; Col. Pierce was the older brother of Franklin Pierce, 14th President of the United States. He was popular with both his men and with Florida civilians of the day.

In describing the terrain around the new fort, Fort Pierce, Dr. Motte noted in his journal that he could see "embankments and entrenchments" nearby. Although he did not specify the exact location of these mounds and trenches, it is clear that Dr. Motte was referring to a large mound lying about parallel with the blockhouse on the south side.

Fort Pierce was intended to serve as a support post for military personnel in the Indian River Inlet area and in the early months of 1838, it received heavy use in that capacity. General T. S. Jesup, who was in command of the entire campaign, arrived there in January with a large force and remained for a few days. During this time, Fort Pierce served as headquarters for the Army of the South. When General Jesup

(con't)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See attached sheet

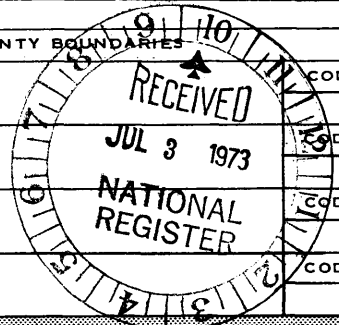
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	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	° ' "	° ' "		N27° 26' 10"	W80° 19' 14"	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 6.2

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Mildred L. Fryman, Graduate Assistant

ORGANIZATION: Division of Archives, History, & Records Mgt. DATE: April, 1973

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 Wilkin Title: State Liaison Officer Date: June 26, 1973

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

A. B. Weinstein
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

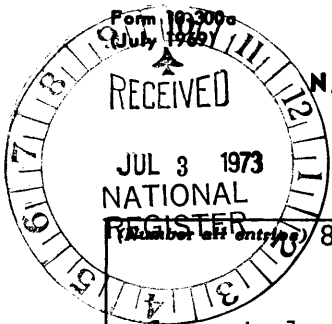
Date: 1/11/74

ATTEST:

Charles Abney
Keeper of The National Register

Date: 1-7-74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Florida	
COUNTY St. Lucie	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 11 1974

8. Significance

departed, however, Fort Pierce was again merely a supply and support post. It is possible that the post was even abandoned for a time. At any rate, during the next winter campaign (1838-39), Fort Pierce was again the scene of some activity. General Zachery Taylor, who had replaced Jesup by this time, ordered Col. David E. Twiggs to reconnoiter and strengthen the east coast of Florida for further hostilities. Col. Twiggs and the Fourth Artillery Regiment reinforced or rebuilt Fort Pierce sometime between the late fall of 1838 and the summer of 1839. The construction work was probably done in the cooler months. By July, 1839, General Taylor was able to report that Fort Pierce had been rebuilt and reoccupied. There exists a plan of Fort Pierce dated July 30, 1839, which shows a block-house to the north of which is a complex of structures labelled officers quarters and company quarters (see physical description section).

Possibly Fort Pierce underwent another interlude of abandonment in 1839 and 1840; there is no evidence for any positive statement on this matter. The next activity at Fort Pierce about which the extant records provide evidence occurred almost two years later, in late March, 1841. At that time, Major Thomas Childs and the Third Artillery Regiment occupied the Fort. Fort Pierce remained occupied throughout the remainder of 1841 and well into the next year. During this last period of military occupation, one incident of note occurred at Fort Pierce. Responding to an offer of money made by General W. K. Armistead, the commander in Florida in March, 1841, the Indian chief Coacoochee turned himself in to the army. He appeared at Fort Pierce early in May, 1841; Major Childs issued the chief a horse for the trip to Tampa for his final surrender. No other specific event of any importance occurred at Fort Pierce before its abandonment in August, 1842.

The various occupations of Fort Pierce by army troops resulted in the accumulation at the site of a number of articles such as buttons and bottles which have since been recovered and which provide a significant collection of artifacts for use in the study of the Second Seminole War period. This collection (known as the Neiman collection) is on display at the small museum maintained by the St. Lucie County Historical Society.

According to an article which appeared in a contemporary regional newspaper in 1844, Fort Pierce was used after its abandonment by the army as a "general stopping place for everyone who travelled through that region of the country, and a favorite resort for all who had located on St. Lucie and

(con't)

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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	Florida
COUNTY	St. Lucie
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	JAN 11 1974

(Number all entries) 8. Significance

-3-

Indian Rivers." The same article reported that parts of the fort were used by settlers in that area to store sufficient supplies to last several years. On December 12, 1843, the buildings at Fort Pierce were destroyed by fire.

Little evidence is available to indicate what, if any, activities occurred at the site of Fort Pierce during the next thirty-five years. Settlement of the surrounding area advanced during that period. In 1879, a sea captain named Benjamin Hogg brought his family to the area and established a trading post at what a contemporary source has described as the location of old Fort Pierce. In later times, a house occupied the land in front of the earth mound near the fort site; that structure was removed sometime around the middle of the twentieth century.

In summary, Fort Pierce played a significant role in the events of the Second Seminole War. The site of the fort was the scene of activities related to the settlement of St. Lucie County.



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

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Florida	
COUNTY St. Lucie	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER JAN 11	DATE 1974

(Number all entries) 9. Bibliography

Bell, Emily Lagow. My Pioneer Days in Florida, 1876-1898.
n.p., 1928.

Clausen, Carl J. "The Fort Pierce Collection," Bulletin,
No. 1. Bureau of Historic Sites and Properties,
Division of Archives, History, and Records Management,
Department of State, 1970.

Historical Information Relating to Military Posts and Other
Installations, 1790-1900. s.v., "Fort Pierce". Micro-
film prepared by the National Archives.

Mahon, John K. History of the Second Seminole War, 1835-1842.
Gainesville, Florida: University of Florida Press, 1967.

Motte, Jacob Rhett. Journey into the Wilderness: An Army
Surgeon's Account of Life in Camp and Field During the
Creek and Seminole Wars, 1836-1838. James F. Sunderman,
ed. Gainesville, Florida: University of Florida Press,
1953.

Nichols, Roy Franklin. Franklin Pierce, Young Hickory of the
Granite Hills. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania
Press, 1969. (Second edition)

St. Augustine News. February 10, 1844.

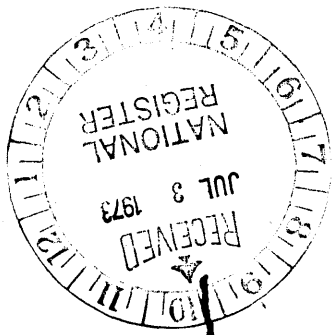
Sprague, John T. The Origin, Progress, and Conclusion of the
Florida War. New York, 1848; Floridiana Facsimile and
Reprint Series. Gainesville, Florida: University of
Florida Press, 1964.



others, either because a substantial number of specimens were present or because the collector reported that he retained all of the examples of a particular artifact encountered, both factors which to some extent help to offset the manner in which

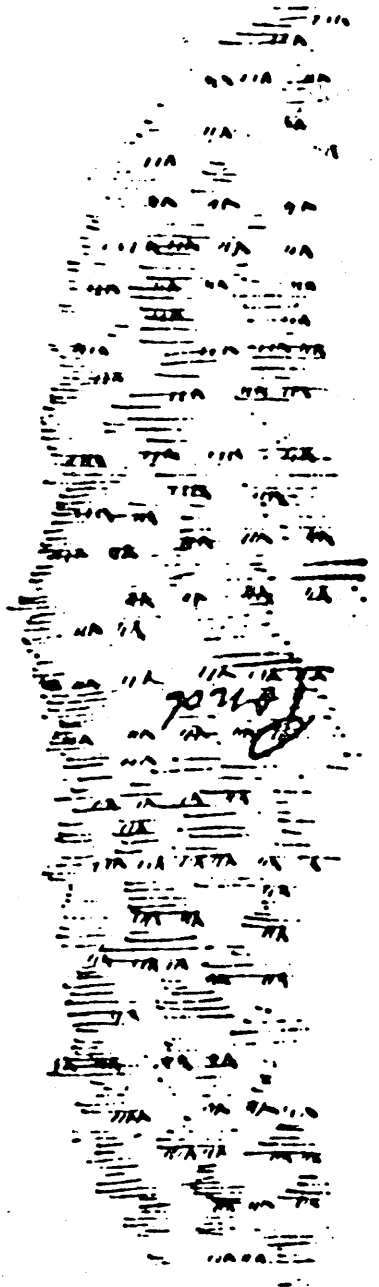
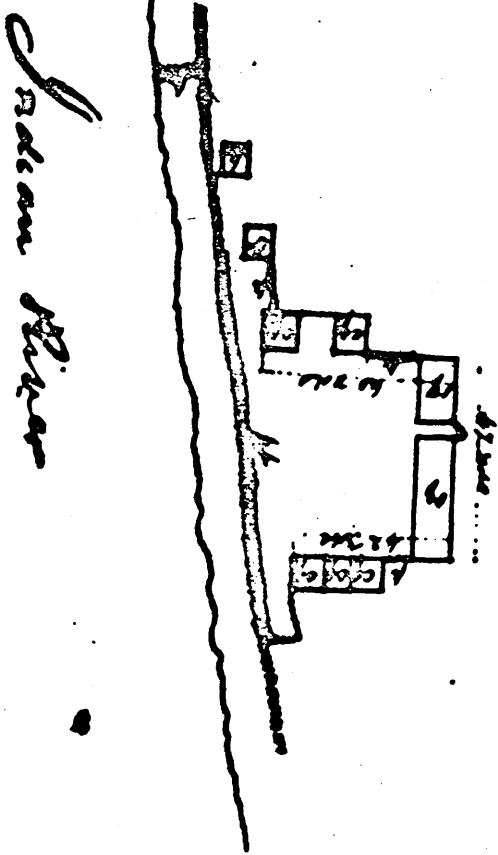
alphabetical order followed by a final grouping, "Miscellaneous and Unclassified," containing single items and groups of artifacts of secondary importance and a number of unidentified articles. Several categories receive more attention than

Source of Map: National Archives, T 247, Portfolio no. 25.



- g. Officer quarters - log houses
- g. Company quarters - log houses
- f. Blacksmith
- k. Workshop - log house
- h. Pickle
- h. Kitchen - log house

Fig. 2 Plan of Fort Pierce dated July 30, 1839.

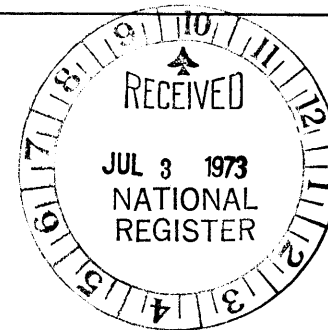


Form 10-301
(July 1968)

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)

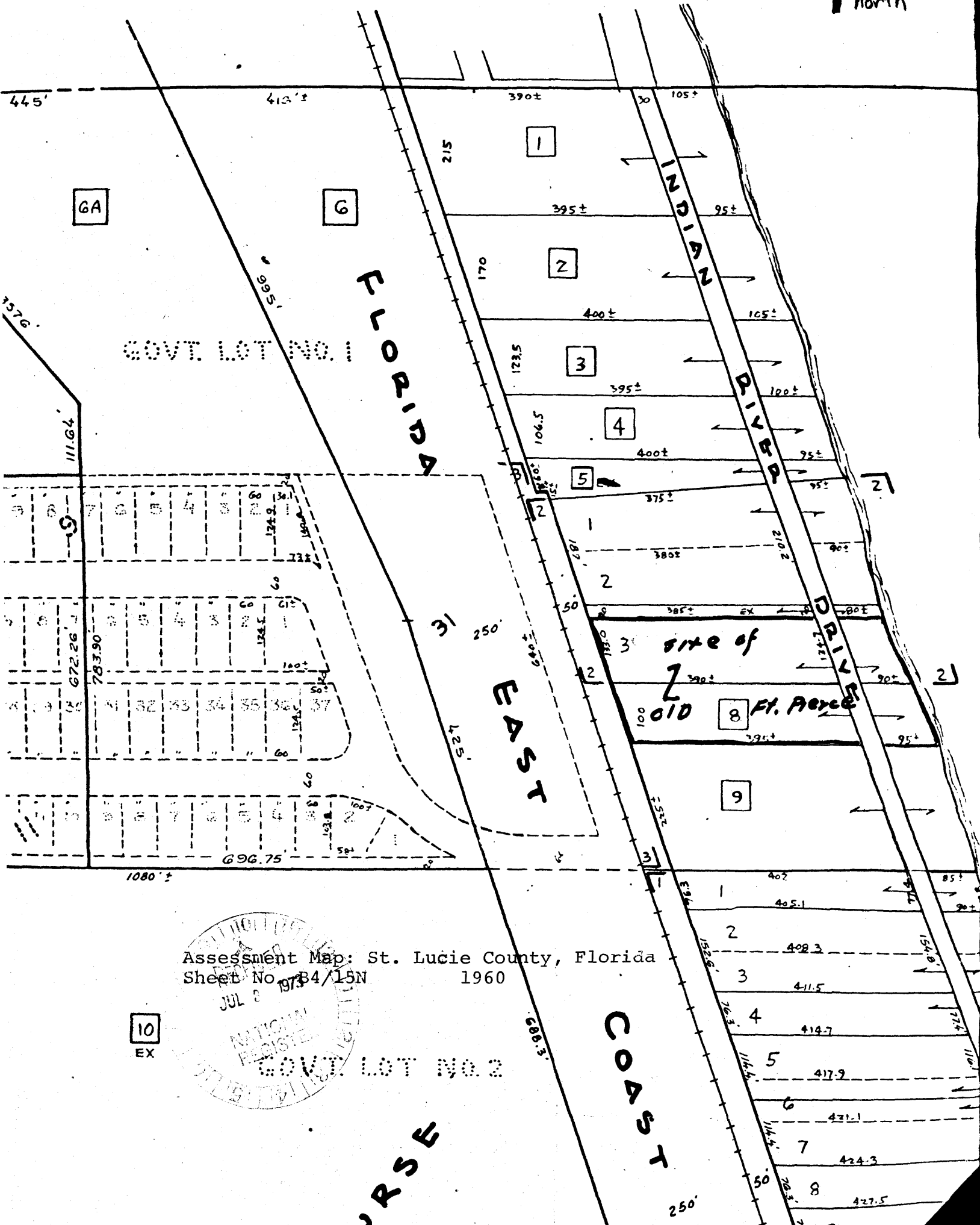
1. NAME		
<small>COMMON</small> Fort Pierce Site	<small>AND/OR HISTORIC</small>	<small>NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)</small> JAN 11 1974
2. LOCATION		
<small>STATE</small> Florida	<small>COUNTY</small> St. Lucie	<small>TOWN</small> Fort Pierce
<small>STREET AND NUMBER</small> South Indian River Drive		
3. MAP REFERENCE		
<small>SOURCE</small> National Archives, L 247, Portfolio # 25.	<small>DATE</small> 1839 copy	<small>SCALE</small>

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW;

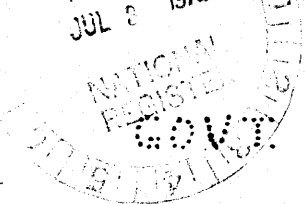


GPO 932-010

NPS Number 1-
 Title: Fort
 Loc. St. Lucie



Assessment Map: St. Lucie County, Florida
 Sheet No. B4/15N 1960



10
EX

CURSE

COAST

Form 10-301
(July 1968)

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)

Loc.

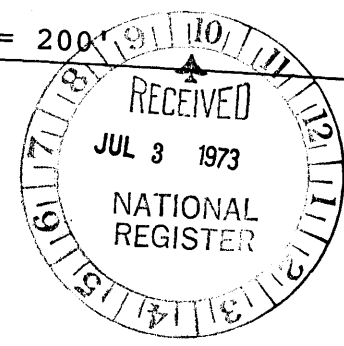
Title:

NPS Number

1-11-74

NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
Fort Pierce Site		
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Florida	St. Lucie	Fort Pierce
STREET AND NUMBER		
South Indian River Drive		
3. MAP REFERENCE		
SOURCE	DATE	SCALE
St. Lucie County Assessment Map; Sheet # D4/15N	1960	1" = 200'

JAN 11 1974



REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW.

GPO 932.010

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER