NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

1. NAME

COMMON:
U. S. Coastguard Headquarters, Keywest Station
AND/OR HISTORIC:
U. S. Navy Coal Depot and Storehouse; also, Building #1

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
N.W. Corner Front Street and Whitehead Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Key West
STATE:
Florida
COUNTY:
Monroe

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)
☐ District ☒ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object

OWNERSHIP (Check One)
☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both

STATUS
☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Being Considered
☐ Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Preservation work in progress

ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☒ Yes: ☒ Restricted ☒ Unrestricted ☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)
☐ Agricultural ☒ Government ☐ Park ☐ Transportation ☐ Comments
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Private Residence ☐ Other (Specify)
☐ Educational ☐ Military ☐ Religious ☐ Scientific
☐ Entertainment ☐ Museum ☐ Scientific ☐ Transportation
☐ Other (Specify)

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
U. S. Coastguard
STREET AND NUMBER:
United States Government
CITY OR TOWN:
Washington
STATE:
D. C.

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Monroe County Courthouse
STREET AND NUMBER:
Whitehead Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Key West
STATE:
Florida

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
HABS
DATE OF SURVEY: 1967 ☒ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress
STREET AND NUMBER:
CITY OR TOWN:
Washington
STATE:
D. C.

FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER DATE
OCT 15 1979
The United States Navy Coal Depot and Storehouse is a building which has received minor modifications and is structurally sound. The foundation of the building is bearing limestone with brick above grade. The wall construction is brick masonry laid in common bond, stuccoed and painted in a yellow-brown color. Buttressed piers separate arched window recesses in the north and south elevations. There are two corbelled courses at the spring line of the arches. There are rectangular windows in each window recess. The cornice above consists of four courses of corbelled brick and three header courses corbelled to define the entablature. The east and west elevations are stuccoed and scored to simulate dressed ashlar stone. Irregular joints in the masonry suggest separate stages in the construction process. The building has no porches, stoops or chimneys.

The central doorways are similar in the east and west elevations; that is, they contain large recessed arched openings with masonry infill and two horizontal sliding doors of sheet metal. There is a decorative arch pattern in stucco over the rectangular opening into the first floor central passage. The window openings in the east elevation appear to have been doorways as there are operating metal louvers and out-swinging metal shutters between window sills and floor lines. All openings in the east and west elevations have large metal pintles at the jambs, indicating that out-swinging shutters or doors once served these openings.

The building has a gable roof covered with sheet metal tile in a corrugated texture and painted silver. There is a sheet metal finial at each end of the gable ridge and wood cornice at both gable ends. The roof has wire glass skylights and there is a cupola with a wood frame base and house. Over the cupola frame is covering of textured sheet metal painted a yellow-brown color. There is a stepped pendant decoration in the cupola cornice and above that a wood and pipe handrail.

The Navy Coal Depot is an excellent example of the architecture necessary to maintain the United States Navy during the late nineteenth century. Its architectural character is determined by buttressed brick piers, arched window recesses, gable roof and cupola with lookout.
### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On September 13, 1833, the United States Government purchased the irregularly shaped lot known as Square 4, from the four American proprietors of Key West, John W. Simonton, Mrs. John W.C. Fleming, Pardon C. Greene, and William Whitehead. By an Act of Congress approved July 21, 1852, a depot for Naval supplies was established at Key West. The site selected for the building was on the western point of the Island fronting on the harbor. From 1823 until 1826 this area had been used by the United States Navy Antipirate Squadron. In 1861, Key West became headquarters of the East Gulf Blockade Squadron. Upon completion of this building, the construction of which was supervised by Captian J.M. Scarritt of the U.S. Corps of Engineers, it became known as the "Number One Building" and served as the Naval Administration Building until 1923. On December 15, 1932, The Secretary of the Navy entered into an agreement with the Department of Commerce to exchange Building No. 1 for the old Post Office Building next to it. The 7th Lighthouse District took over the building as its headquarters. In 1939 the Lighthouse Service became part of the United States Coast Guard, which now uses it as the Key West Station Headquarters. This large brick building was the first permanent Naval building and the oldest brick building on the Island.
**Major Bibliographical References**

- Monroe County Records, Monroe County Courthouse, Key West, Florida. Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court. (Subgroup: Deeds).

**Geographical Data**

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<th>Corner</th>
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**Approximate Acreage of Nominated Property:** less than an acre

**List All States and Counties for Properties Overlapping State or County Boundaries**

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<thead>
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<th>State</th>
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**Form Prepared By**

- **Name and Title:** Diane Greer and Mary Evans, Historic Sites Specialists
- **Organization:** Division of Archives, History, & Records Mgt.
- **Date:** 3-20-72

**Street and Number:** Department of State, The Capitol

**City or Town:** Tallahassee

**State:** Florida

**State Liaison Officer Certification**

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 [x]

**Name:** Richard Williams

**Title:** State Liaison Officer

**Date:** June 26, 1973

**National Register Verification**

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

**Signature:**

**Date:** OCT 15 1973

**Attest:**

**Signature:**

**Date:** 10-9-73