

*Easement*

*SM-270*

*SM-1902700*

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

DATE ENTERED

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

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Piney Point Coast Guard Light Station

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

Hurry Road (MD 498)

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Piney Point

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

CODE  
24

COUNTY

St. Mary's

CODE

1205-037

**3 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 type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input checked="" 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	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC ACQUISITION	<input type="checkbox"/> 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
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

Department of Transportation, U. S. Coast Guard

STREET & NUMBER

Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District, 431 Crawford Street

CITY, TOWN

Portsmouth

VICINITY OF

Virginia 23705

STATE

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

St. Mary's County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Leonardtown

STATE

Maryland

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

SM-270

## 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

The complex as constructed in 1836 consisted of the Lighthouse structure, the Keeper's Quarters and an outhouse. The two (2) major structures remain; however, the original outhouse has long since passed into oblivion. Presumably, the specifications for the structures were developed by staff personnel of the Treasury Department.

The Lighthouse is a conical structure of brick painted white, 30 feet high. The focal plane of the light was 34 feet above the base. A cupola constructed of metal with rectangular glass panes surmounts the brick tower. Access to the cupola is gained by means of a circular wood stairway which occupies the entire core of the structure. Interesting early iron hardware remains on the heavy entrance door. Though the lens has been removed, the appearance of the structure is essentially as constructed in 1836.

The Keeper's Quarters is a brick constructed building, 34' x 20', with a 15' x 11' ell of stuccoed frame construction. Two stories over a full basement, the Keeper's Quarters has undergone radical interior alterations which have obliterated original conditions. Extensive architectural and documentary research would be required to determine its original appearance. The exterior is presently painted white with a red standing seam metal roof. A one-story porch extends across the northwest (entrance) facade.

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 type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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 1836/1897

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Constructed in 1836, Piney Point was the first lighthouse built on the Potomac River. John Donohoo, constructor of several lighthouses in the Chesapeake Bay area, erected this structure at a cost of about \$5,000. The property on which the lighthouse was constructed was acquired in fee simple from Henry Suter and Charlotte Suter, his wife, by warranty deed dated 24 December 1835 for \$300.

Piney Point Light continued as a manned station under the lighthouse service until the incorporation of that service into the Coast Guard in 1939. The Coast Guard discontinued the light in 1964. The Coast Guard retains the Piney Point site as a station. The Keeper's residence is maintained as a facility for housing personnel. The lighthouse presently serves no particular purpose.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Robert de Gast, The Lighthouses of the Chesapeake  
The John Hopkins University Press: 1973

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	3,6,6	0,1,0	4,2,2	7,2,0	B					
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING				ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		
C						D					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Station located at end of state road 498 on Piney Point adjacent to the  
Steuart Petroleum Company

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

W. M. Whittington, Realty Specialist

11-5-75

ORGANIZATION

Fifth Coast Guard District

804-393-9611, ext. 304

STREET & NUMBER

431 Crawford Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Portsmouth, Virginia 23705

STATE

**12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION**

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

*John N. Pearce*  
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

TITLE

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED
DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Piney Point Coast Guard Light Station

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

CITY, TOWN

Piney Point

\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

St. Mary's

STATE

Maryland

**3 PHOTO REFERENCE**

PHOTO CREDIT

Unknown

DATE OF PHOTO

1968

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Fifth Coast Guard District - Photo Lab

**4 IDENTIFICATION**

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

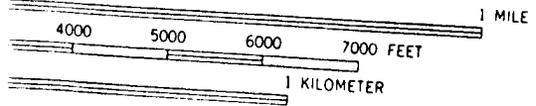
051768-06

Southern view of station looking from property owned by Steuart Petroleum Company.

SM-270

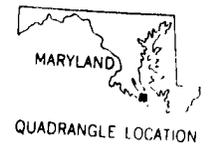
Coast Guard Piney Point  
 Light Station  
 UTM References  
 A - 18-366010  
 4221720

LE)  
 SE  
 4 000  
 364  
 32'30" 365  
 366



SCALE 10 FEET  
 5-FOOT CONTOURS  
 SEA LEVEL  
 DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER  
 LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER  
 APPROXIMATELY 1.4 FEET

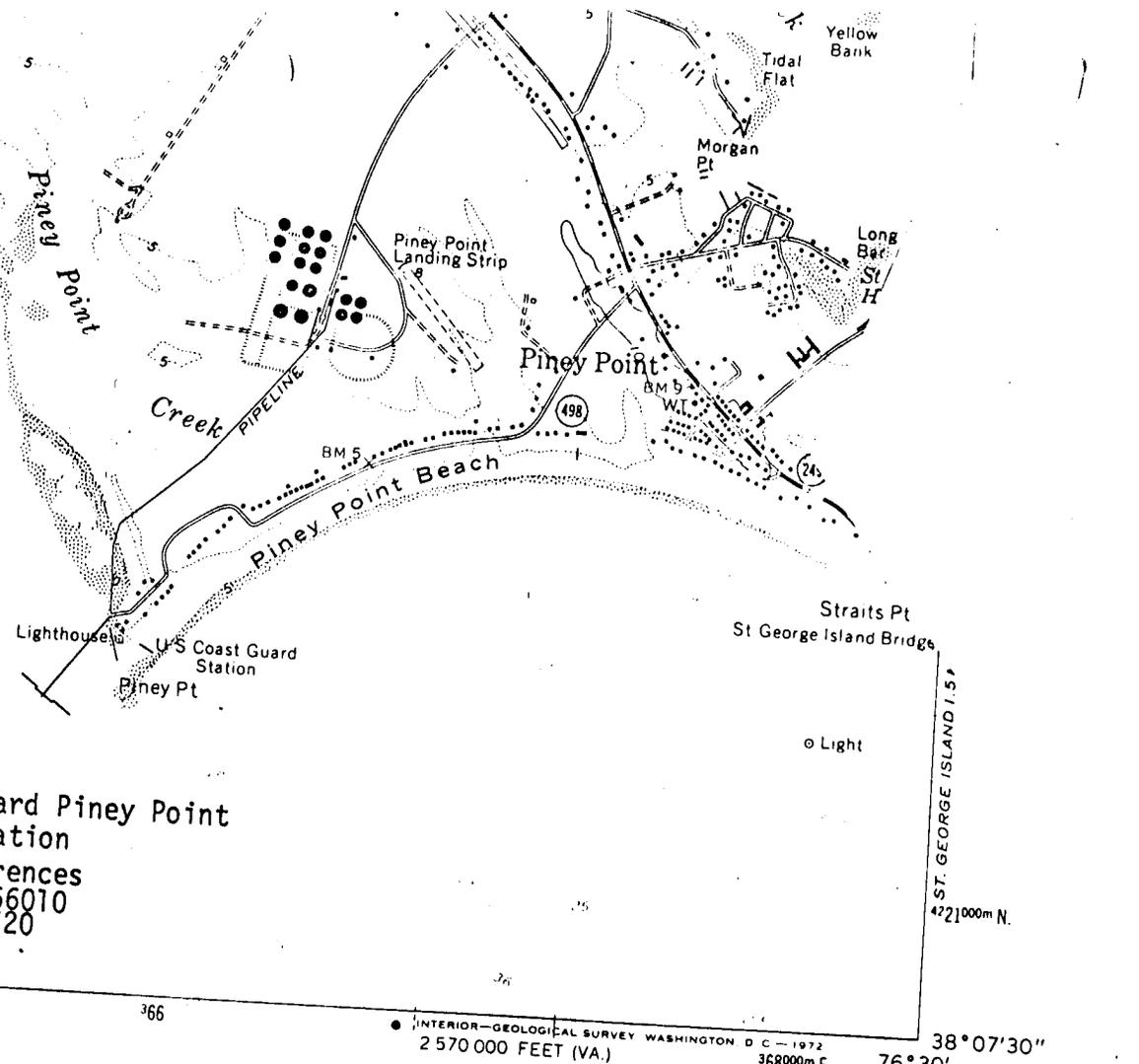
MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
 SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
 OFFICE, CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22903  
 ADDITIONAL SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



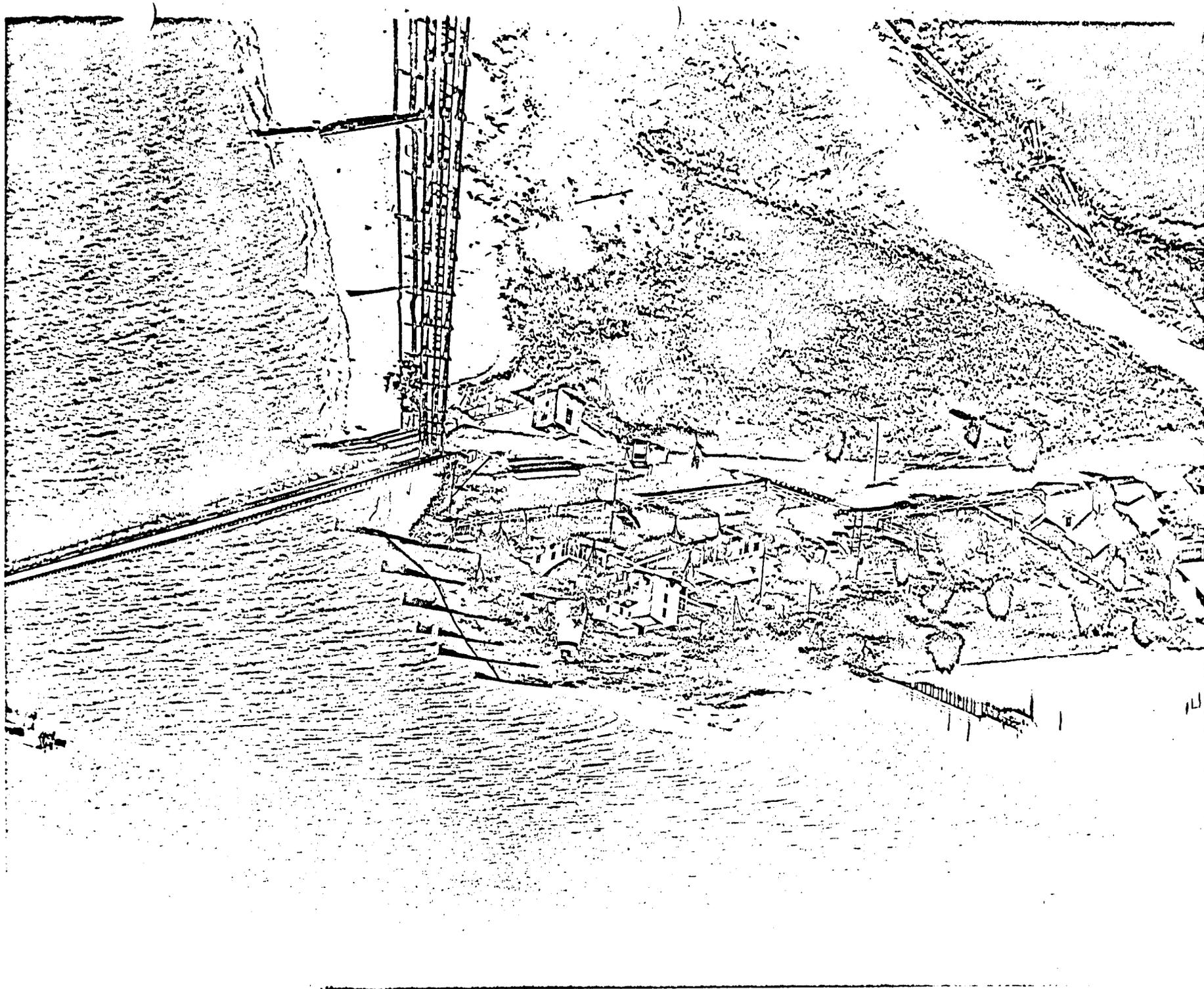
ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
 Secondary highway, all weather, Light-duty road, all weather,  
 hard surface improved surface  
 Unimproved road, fair or dry weather  
 State Route

PINEY POINT, MD. - VA.  
 NE/4 PINEY POINT 15' QUADRANGLE  
 N3807.5 - W7630/7.5

1968  
 AMS 5660 II NE - SERIES V833



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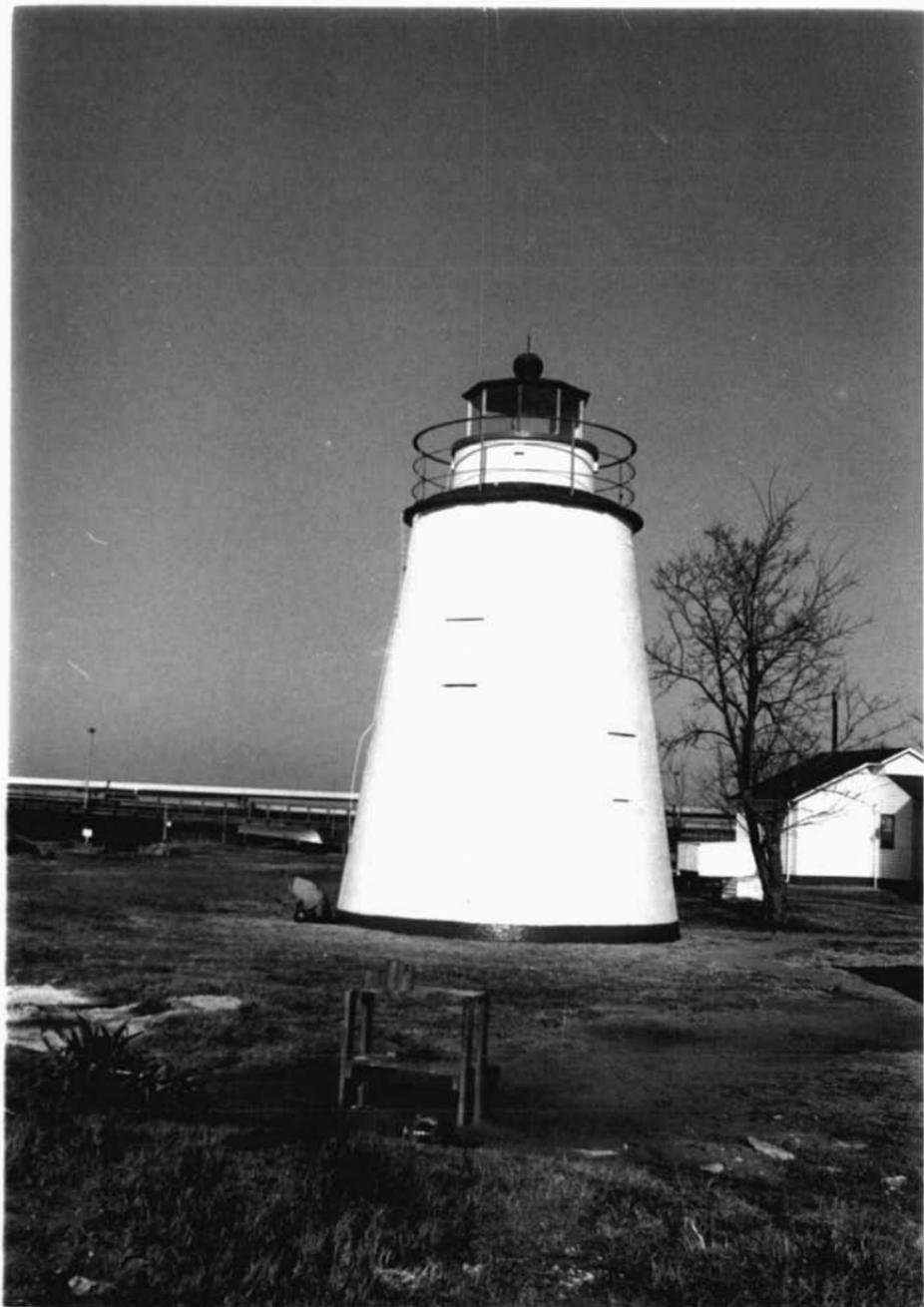
SM-270











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REPRODUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL

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SM-270

Piney Point Light Station

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzeffa

Md SHPO

Feb/00

Looking E

1 of 3



SM-270

Piney Point Light Station

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzetta

Md SHPO

Feb/00

Looking N

2 of 3



SM-270

Piney Point Light Station

St. Mary's County, Md

Kirk Ranzeffa

Md SHPO

Feb/08

Looking S

3 of 3

DATE:

ASSIGNMENT:

FILE NO:



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Piney Point Lighthouse