



U.S. Coast Guard History Program

Indian River Inlet House of Refuge

USLSS Station 1, Seventh District
Coast Guard Station #206

Location:	South side of Indian River Inlet; 27-29' 45"N x 80-17' 50"W
Date of Conveyance:	1885
Station Built:	1885
Fate:	House turned over to Department of Interior in 1948.

Remarks:

According to the 1879 "Annual Report of the Life Saving Service" these houses of refuge along the east coast of Florida "contemplate no other life saving operations than affording succor to shipwrecked persons who may be cast ashore, and who, in the absence of such means of relief, would be liable to perish from hunger and thirst in that desolate region. Crews of surfmen are not needed here, but the keepers and members of their families are required to go along the beach, in both directions, in search of castaways immediately after a storm."

Replaced Indian River House of Refuge in 1885. Station Fort Pierce is a descendent of this House of Refuge.

Keepers:

James S. Bell was appointed keeper on 24 MAY 1886 and resigned on 28 APR 1887.

Henry B. Archibald was appointed keeper on 3 JUN 1887 and transferred to Bethel Creek House of Refuge.

Harry H. Jenkins was appointed keeper on 16 MAY 1888 and he was discharged on 31 JUL 1890.

Benjamin W. Jerome was appointed keeper on 6 JUL 1892 and resigned on 30 JUN 1896.

Harry H. Harvey was appointed keeper on 23 MAY 1898 and resigned on 7 OCT 1911.

F. W. Church was appointed keeper on 8 OCT 1911 and left 8 NOV 1911 (Temporary keeper).

Byron Dawley was appointed keeper on 24 OCT 1911 and was still serving in 1915.

Sources:

Station History File, CG Historian's Office

Dennis L. Noble & Michael S. Raynes. "Register of the Stations and Keepers of the U.S. Life-Saving Service." Unpublished manuscript, compiled circa 1977, CG Historian's Office collection.

Ralph Shanks, Wick York & Lisa Woo Shanks. *The U.S. Life-Saving Service: Heroes, Rescues and Architecture of the Early Coast Guard*. Petaluma, CA: Costañó Books, 1996.

U.S. Treasury Department: Coast Guard. *Register of the Commissioned and Warrant Officers and Cadets and Ships and Stations of the United States Coast Guard, July 1, 1941*. Washington, DC: USGPO, 1941.

