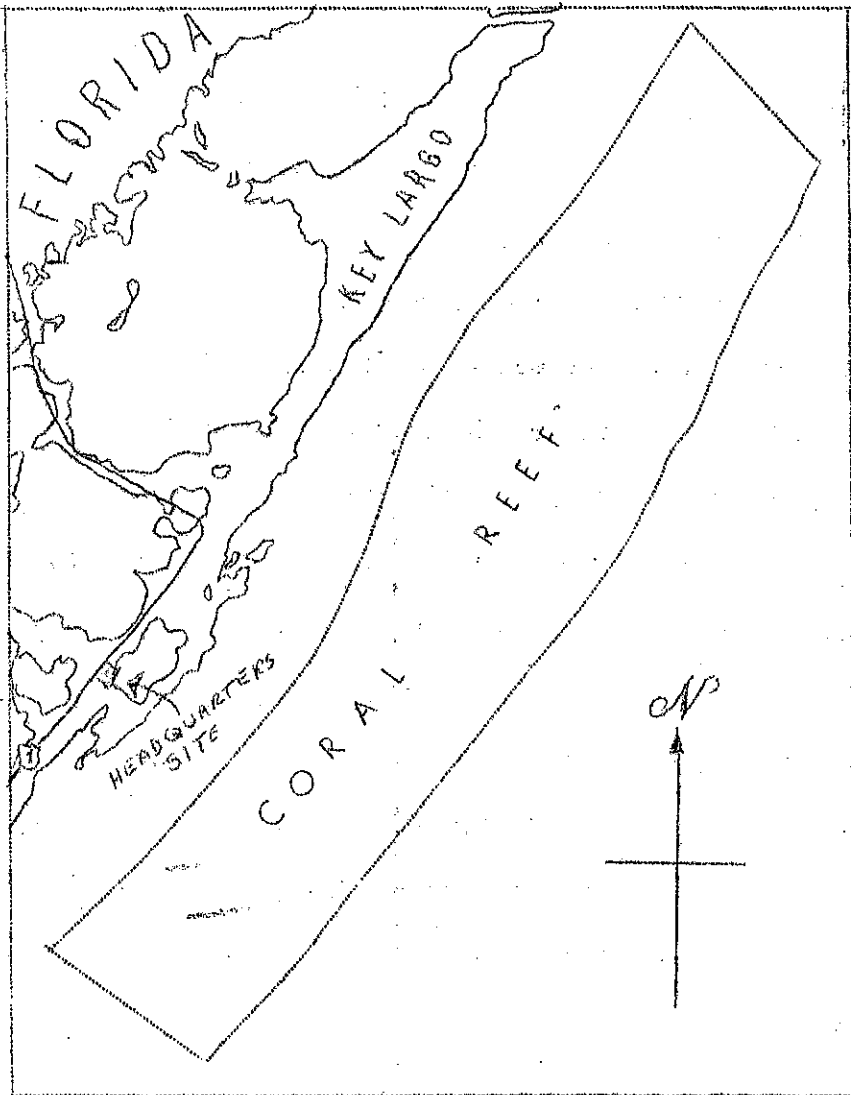


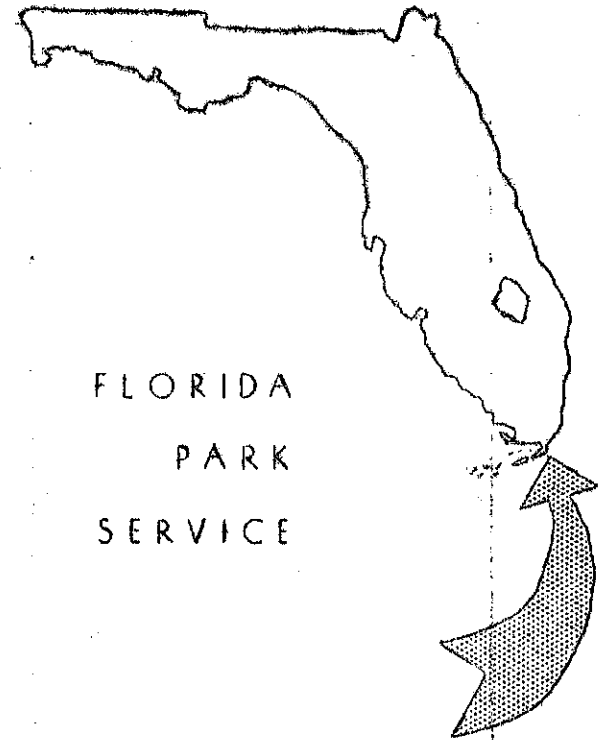
The John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park is situated on U. S. 1 just north of Key Largo and about 50 miles south of Miami.



JOHN PENNEKAMP CORAL REEF

state park

KEY LARGO



FLORIDA
PARK
SERVICE

Dedicated and officially named the John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park in December, 1960, this area is one of the most amazing and fascinating in the world. It is a fairy land of beauty, science and romance. The old wrecks lying on the bottom will no longer be molested, and they can be clearly seen. Their tenants, such as brilliantly colored tropical salt-water fish, logger-head turtle, barracuda and shark, will be observed swimming in and out of the shadows cast by these unfortunate vessels of many years ago. Forty of the 52 species of coral known for the Atlantic Reef System are found in this State Park. By visiting the Coral Reef by boat one can easily recognize such coral as: staghorn, moosehead, leaf, hat, star, starlet, finger, brain, rose, tube, ivory, flower and cactus. The former destruction caused by commercial shell, coral and gorgonia hunters, fish collectors who crowbar natural rock and growing coral to get at specimens and those who would use explosives now can be stopped. Commercial and sport fishing may progress unhindered within the law and the Rules and Regulations of the Park Service, but spear fishing or hunting or shooting

will be strictly prohibited. Recreational activities such as boating, skin diving, underwater photography, and similar sports will be encouraged. In this State Park scientists and students will continue their invaluable studies of geology and growth. Because this State Park will be protected as a breeding ground for fish, shell fish and turtles, the fishing industry will benefit economically. Through the generosity of several interested persons, a land base site for the Park's headquarters area was acquired early in 1961. An outstanding master plan for the construction of Park facilities has been developed by the Florida Park Service. Planned for this area are the following: headquarters building and marine museum; boat marina; boat launching facilities; picnic area; overnight camping area; ranger residences; parking for 600 cars; and nature trails. The Park Service will operate boats equipped with glass-bottom facilities which will take visitors out to the reef area. The Park is more than three miles wide and 21 miles long and contains over 75 square miles of reef area.

FLORIDA PARK SERVICE

Tallahassee, Florida

June, 1961