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United States Senate,

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE.

FILE
R. E. D.

25 July 1924

Admiral F. C. Billard, Commandant,
The Coast Guard,
508 Fourteenth St. N.W.,
Washington, D. C.,

U. S. COAST GUARD
REC'D JUL 26 1924
(N. D.)

My dear Admiral :

I am in receipt of an inquiry concerning the status of Lots 4 and 5, Section 5, Township 41 South of Range 43 East, Tallahassee Meridian in Florida - located about 14 miles North of Palm Beach.

My correspondent is under the impression that the lots have been transferred by the Treasury Department to the Department of the Interior and that disposition is to be made of them in due course.

Please direct that I be informed what action, if any has been taken - or is contemplated by the Cost Guard Service in reference to the property, and be assured of my appreciation of you kindness in making full reply.

Very truly and sincerely,

Duncan U Fletcher

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO "A" CAO

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CAO

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

GENERAL LAND OFFICE

WASHINGTON August 20, 1924.

ADDRESS ONLY THE
COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

U. S. COAST GUARD
REC'D AUG 22 1924
ANS'D By

Admiral F. C. Billard,
Commandant, U. S. Coast Guard,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Admiral:

This office has received a letter from our local land officers at Gainesville, Florida, calling attention to Lots 4 and 5, Sec. 5, T. 41 S., R. 43 E., which are reserved for life saving purposes. They report that said tract apparently has been abandoned for some time for that purpose and request that the matter be taken up to determine whether, if the lands are abandoned, you would be willing to recommend that they be turned over to this Department for disposal.

A similar letter was addressed to you some time ago as to another tract on the east coast of Florida, to which you replied that your Service intended to use the same.

We will be pleased to have your advice as to the tract mentioned herein, in order that people interested therein may be informed as to what they may or may not expect in the future.

Very respectfully,

George Vickham

Acting Commissioner.

8-20-MLF

August 25, 1924.

The Commissioner,
General Land Office,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

Subject: Jupiter Inlet, site.

Sir:

This office is in receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, ("A" CAO), relative to Lots 4 and 5, Section 5, T. 41 S., R. 43 E., reserved for life-saving purposes. While this tract has not been actively used for Coast Guard purposes for sometime past, it has not been abandoned, nor is it contemplated abandoning this land and restoring it to the public domain at the present time. The exigencies of the service at this time preclude any such action.

Respectfully,

F. C. BILLARD,
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard,
Commandant.

August 27, 1934.

FILE
R. E. D.

Honorable Duncan U. Fletcher,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

I have your letter of the 25th ultimo, relative to Lots 4 and 5, Section 5, T. 41 S., R. 43 E., Tallahassee Meridian in Florida. The land mentioned is the site of the former Jupiter Inlet Coast Guard Station, relative to which you were advised under date of August 29, 1923, that the land had not been restored to the public domain, and at that time it was not contemplated so restoring it. No change in the status of this land has been made, nor is any contemplated; the exigencies of the service at this time precluding any such action.

Very truly yours,

F. C. BILLARD,
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard,
Commandant.

WESLEY L. JONES, WASH., CHAIRMAN
BERT M. FERNALD, ME.
CHARLES L. MC NARY, OREG.
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HUBERT D. STEPHENS, MISS.
WILLIAM J. HARRIS, GA.
ROYAL S. COPELAND, N. Y.
EDWIN F. LADD, N. DAK.

JAMES H. DAVIS, CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

131

FILE
P. G. H.

December 30, 1925.

U. S. COAST GUARD
REC'D DEC 31 1925 By
ANS'D

Admiral F.C. Billard, Commandant,
The Coast Guard,
Treasury Department.

My dear Admiral:

I understand that the Coast Guard has, or had, under its control - I assume under the provisions of an Executive Order,

Lots 4 and 5, Section 5, Township 41 South
of Range 43 East on the East Coast of Florida -
near Jupiter in Palm Beach County,

on which there was - up to some 20 odd years ago, a Life Saving Station.

Please advise me fully regarding the past and present status of this land - if it was ever under the jurisdiction of the service and what use you contemplate making of it.

Thanking you in advance, I am,

Very truly and sincerely,

Duncan U. Fletcher

Mr. Maxam

This is all the Correspondence I have on the subject -

You will note that Mrs. Fletcher has been advised concerning this land several times before.

May 19, 1923

Aug. 29, 1923

P.K.

JAN 2 - 1926

January 6, 1926.

Hon. Duncan U. Fletcher,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

This office is in receipt of your letter of December 30, 1925, with regard to Lots 4 and 5, Section 5, Township 41 South, Range 43 East, Florida, which was occupied by the Jupiter Inlet Coast Guard Station.

The land is occupied in pursuance of an Executive Order. The Treasury Department is without authority to dispose of the land. The only disposition thereof that can legally be made of the land is its restoration to the public domain. It is not contemplated taking any action at this time looking to the restoration of the land to the public domain.

Sincerely yours,

D. F. A. deOTTE,
Acting Commandant.

FILE

131

January 15, 1926.

Honorable Duncan U. Fletcher,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

This office is in receipt of your letter of January 9, 1926, concerning Bill H. R. 4517, 69th Congress, 1st Session, and asking whether the reservation of the Jupiter Inlet Coast Guard Station, comprising Lots 4 and 5, Section 5, Township 41, South, Range 43 East, Florida, is to be disposed of.

The above-mentioned bill has not been referred to the Coast Guard for report.

No action is contemplated at this time looking to the disposition of the reservation of the Jupiter Inlet Station or to its restoration to the public domain.

The Coast Guard does not anticipate disposing of any other of its reservations in Florida.

Sincerely yours,

F. C. BILLARD,
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard,
Commandant.

FILE
C. G. H.

151

, January 21, 1926.

Hon. Duncan U. Fletcher,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, in which you ask if the Coast Guard would be willing to lease or rent any portions of Lots 4 and 5, Section 5, Township 41 South, Range 43 East, Florida, being the reservation of the Jupiter Inlet Station.

You are advised, in reply, that the Coast Guard is without authority to lease or rent the premises.

Sincerely yours,

F. C. BILLARD,
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard,
Commandant.

W. H. Tanner.

Lava

The Jupiter Inlet Placer
was discontinued - and in
fact as I recollect was
abandoned - and my record
shows that the title was
returned to public domain
by act, approved 3 July 1926.
However you may be
able to verify this if you
have the act.
The property consisted of Lots
4 and 5, of Sec. 5, Town. 41 South
Range 43 East - J. M.

P. L.

69TH CONGRESS } HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES { REPORT
1st Session } { No. 403

DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN LANDS IN FLORIDA

FEBRUARY 27, 1926.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on the Public Lands, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 8903]

The Committee on the Public Lands, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 8903) to donate to the town, municipality, or city of Jupiter, Fla., for park purposes, the abandoned tract or tracts of land formerly used as a life-saving station, having considered the same, report it to the House with the recommendation that it do pass with the following amendments:

1. Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

That lots 4 and 5, section 5, township 41 south, range 43 east, Florida, containing 80.25 acres, formerly used as a life-saving station but having been abandoned for that purpose, are hereby placed under the control of the Secretary of the Interior for disposition as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of the Interior may cause the said lands to be subdivided into town lots, blocks, streets, and alleys of such dimensions as he may deem advisable, reserving not more than five acres for park, school, and other public purposes. Except as to the reservations mentioned he shall cause the said town lots so surveyed and subdivided, and each tract thereof, to be appraised by three competent and disinterested men to be appointed by him. When the appraisement has been approved by him he shall cause the said lots to be sold at public auction to the highest bidder on such terms as he may prescribe, at not less than the appraised value thereof, first having given not less than sixty days public notice of the time, place, and terms of sale immediately prior to such sale by publication in at least one newspaper having a general circulation in the section of the country in which the lands are situated and in such other newspapers as he may deem advisable; that any lots remaining unsold may be reoffered for sale at any subsequent time in the same manner at the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior; and if not sold at such second offering for want of bidders then the Secretary of the Interior shall sell the same at private sale for cash at not less than the appraised value.

SEC. 3. That when a town is organized as a municipality embracing the lands in question the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to issue patent to the said municipality for all reservations, for parks, schools, and other public purposes, to be maintained for such purposes only.

2. Amend the title of the bill to read as follows:

To authorize the sale and disposition of the abandoned tract or tracts of lands formerly used as a life-saving station in Florida, and for other purposes.

The Secretary of the Interior reports upon this bill as follows:

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, February 17, 1926.

Hon. N. J. SINNOTT,
Chairman Committee on the Public Lands,
House of Representatives.

MY DEAR MR. SINNOTT: I have your request for report on H. R. 8903.

The bill in question proposes to donate to the town, municipality, or city of Jupiter, Fla., lots 4 and 5, sec. 5, T. 41 S., R. 43 E., Florida, containing 80.25 acres (erroneously described in the bill, however, as lots 4 and 5, sec. 5 T. 43 E.).

The records of this department show that said lots were reserved for life-saving purposes by the President's order of April 1, 1885, and that the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury on May 29, 1913, advised the Secretary of the Interior that the land was no longer required for the purpose for which it was reserved. However, no action has been taken by this department looking to securing a revocation of the said order. The land is also affected by Executive order of July 3, 1925, which withdrew all lands in Florida within 3 miles of the coast pending classification and legislation.

The claim to the land in question by the State of Florida under the swamp grant of September 28, 1850 (9 Stat. 519), was finally rejected by the General Land Office, this department, on May 29, 1914, it having been determined that the said lots were high, dry, sandy land. Said action was also based on a waiver by the State of its claim on November 11, 1913, through its commissioner of agriculture.

The lots in question border on the Atlantic Ocean and are located about 15 miles north of Palm Beach. Because of their favored location, it is thought that they would have a sales value in excess of $10,000 per acre if subdivided into town lots and sold at public auction. It is thought that the land is entirely too valuable to be donated as proposed in the bill.

In lieu of the proposed bill it is recommended that a bill be enacted providing substantially as follows:

"That lots 4 and 5, sec. 5, T. 41 S., R. 43 E., Florida, containing 80.25 acres, formerly used as a life-saving station but having been abandoned for that purpose, are hereby placed under the control of the Secretary of the Interior for disposition as hereinafter provided.

"SEC. 2. That the Secretary of the Interior may cause the said lands to be subdivided into town lots, blocks, streets, and alleys of such dimensions as he may deem advisable, reserving not more than five acres for park, school, and other public purposes. Except as to the reservations mentioned he shall cause the said town lots so surveyed and subdivided, and each tract thereof, to be appraised by three competent and disinterested men to be appointed by him. When the appraisement has been approved by him he shall cause the said lots to be sold at public auction to the highest bidder on such terms as he may prescribe, at not less than the appraised value thereof, first having given not less than 60 days public notice of the time, place, and terms of sale immediately prior to such sale by publication in at least one newspaper having a general circulation in the section of the country in which the lands are situated and in such other newspapers as he may deem advisable; that any lots remaining unsold may be reoffered for sale at any subsequent time in the same manner at the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior; and if not sold at such second offering for want of bidders then the Secretary of the Interior shall sell the same at private sale for cash at not less than the appraised value.

"SEC. 3. That when a town is organized as a municipality embracing the lands in question the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to issue patent to the said municipality for all reservations, for parks, schools, and other public purposes, to be maintained for such purposes only."

Very truly yours,

HUBERT WORK.

○

Mrs Latham:

Do this ours?

and if so - do we

desire to do what

he desires us to

do?

Jos

FROM MR. LOWMAN'S OFFICE TO--

Mr. Anslinger
Admiral Billard ✓
Mr. Birgfeld
Mr. Bond
Mr. Britt
Mr. Camp
Mr. Doran
Mr. Dow
Mr. Harper
Mr. Kieley
Mr. Martin
Mr. Mills
Mr. Oftedal
Mr. Schoeneman
Mr. Schuneman
Mr. Sheppard
Mr. Sixsmith
Mr. Thompson
Mr. Van Doren
Maj. White

Please have reply prepared

69TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 8903

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 19 (calendar day, APRIL 20), 1926

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys

AN ACT

To authorize the sale and disposition of the abandoned tract or tracts of lands formerly used as a life-saving station in Florida, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That lots 4 and 5, section 5, township 41 south, range 43 east, Florida, containing eighty and twenty-five one-hundredths acres, formerly used as a life-saving station but having been abandoned for that purpose, are hereby placed under the control of the Secretary of the Interior for disposition as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of the Interior may cause the said lands to be subdivided into town lots, blocks, streets,

and alleys of such dimensions as he may deem advisable, reserving not more than five acres on the ocean front for park, school, and other public purposes. Except as to the reservations mentioned he shall cause the said town lots so surveyed and subdivided, and each tract thereof, to be appraised by three competent and disinterested men to be appointed by him. When the appraisement has been approved by him he shall cause the said lots to be sold at public auction to the highest bidder on such terms as he may prescribe, at not less than the appraised value thereof, first having given not less than sixty days' public notice of the time, place, and terms of sale immediately prior to such sale by publication in at least one newspaper having a general circulation in the section of the country in which the lands are situated and in such other newspapers as he may deem advisable; that any lots remaining unsold may be reoffered for sale at any subsequent time in the same manner at the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior; and if not sold at such second offering for want of bidders then the Secretary of the Interior shall sell the same at private sale for cash at not less than the appraised value.

Passed the House of Representatives April 19, 1926.

Attest: WM. TYLER PAGE,

Clerk.

69TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 8903

AN ACT

To authorize the sale and disposition of the abandoned tract or tracts of lands formerly used as a life-saving station in Florida, and for other purposes.

APRIL 19 (calendar day, APRIL 20), 1926
Read twice and referred to the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys

FILE
J. P, T.

[PUBLIC—No. 521—69TH CONGRESS]

[H. R. 8903]

An Act To authorize the sale and disposition of the abandoned tract or tracts of lands formerly used as a life-saving station in Florida, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That lots 4 and 5, section 5, township 41 south, range 43 east, Florida, containing eighty and twenty-five one-hundredths acres, formerly used as a life-saving station but having been abandoned for that purpose, are hereby placed under the control of the Secretary of the Interior for disposition as hereinafter provided.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of the Interior may cause the said lands to be subdivided into town lots, blocks, streets, and alleys of such dimensions as he may deem advisable, reserving not less than five acres on the ocean front for park, aviation field, school, and other public purposes. Except as to the reservations mentioned he shall cause the said town lots so surveyed and subdivided, and each tract thereof, to be appraised by three competent and disinterested men to be appointed by him. When the appraisement has been approved by him he shall cause the said lots to be sold at public auction to the highest bidder on such terms as he may prescribe, at not less than the appraised value thereof, first having given not less than sixty days' public notice of the time, place, and terms of sale immediately prior to such sale by publication in at least one newspaper having a general circulation in the section of the country in which the lands are situated and in such other newspapers as he may deem advisable; that any lots remaining unsold may be reoffered for sale at any subsequent time in the same manner at the discretion of the Secretary of the Interior; and if not sold at such second offering for want of bidders then the Secretary of the Interior shall sell the same at private sale for cash at not less than the appraised value.

SEC. 3. That when a town organized as a municipality embraces the lands in question, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to issue patent to the said municipality, upon the payment of $1.25 per acre, for all reservations, for parks, aviation field, schools, and other public purposes, to be maintained for such purposes only.

Approved, July 3, 1926.

Jupiter Inlet site restored to public domain by Act of Congress approved July 3, 1926.

Public 521 – 69 Cong.