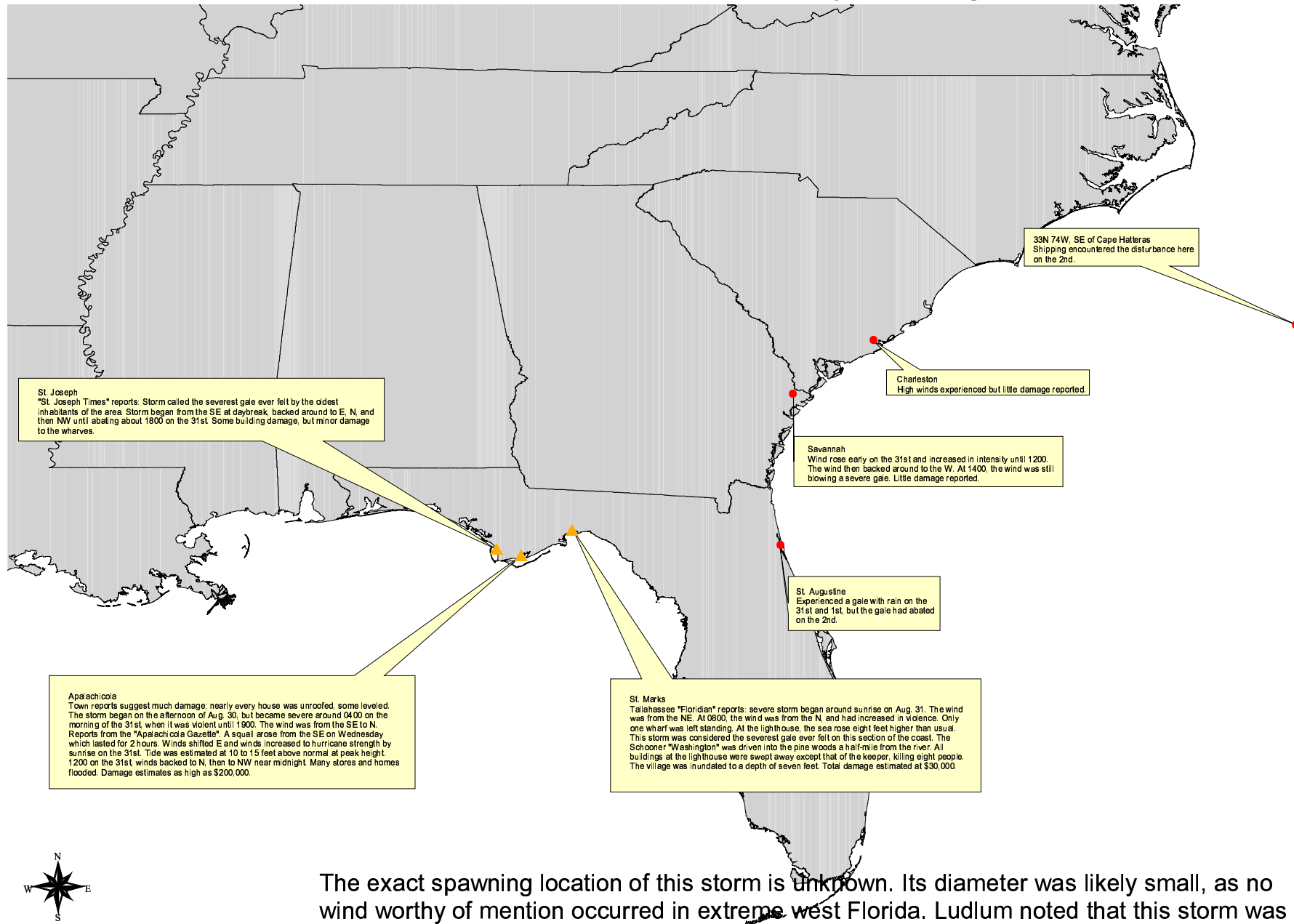


# 1837 - No. 6 - Apalachee Bay - Aug. 30-31



33N 74W, SE of Cape Hatteras  
Shipping encountered the disturbance here on the 2nd.

Charleston  
High winds experienced but little damage reported.

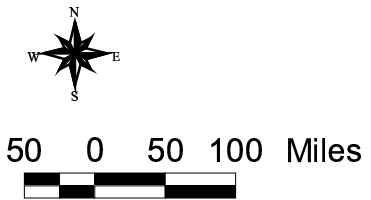
Savannah  
Wind rose early on the 31st and increased in intensity until 1200. The wind then backed around to the W. At 1400, the wind was still blowing a severe gale. Little damage reported.

St. Augustine  
Experienced a gale with rain on the 31st and 1st, but the gale had abated on the 2nd.

St. Joseph  
"St. Joseph Times" reports: Storm called the severest gale ever felt by the oldest inhabitants of the area. Storm began from the SE at daybreak, backed around to E, N, and then NW until abating about 1800 on the 31st. Some building damage, but minor damage to the wharves.

Apalachicola  
Town reports suggest much damage, nearly every house was unroofed, some leveled. The storm began on the afternoon of Aug. 30, but became severe around 0400 on the morning of the 31st when it was violent until 1900. The wind was from the SE to N. Reports from the "Apalachicola Gazette". A squall arose from the SE on Wednesday which lasted for 2 hours. Winds shifted E and winds increased to hurricane strength by sunrise on the 31st. Tide was estimated at 10 to 15 feet above normal at peak height. 1200 on the 31st winds backed to N, then to NW near midnight. Many stores and homes flooded. Damage estimates as high as \$200,000.

St. Marks  
Tallahassee "Floridian" reports: severe storm began around sunrise on Aug. 31. The wind was from the NE. At 0800, the wind was from the N, and had increased in violence. Only one wharf was left standing. At the lighthouse, the sea rose eight feet higher than usual. This storm was considered the severest gale ever felt on this section of the coast. The Schooner "Washington" was driven into the pine woods a half-mile from the river. All buildings at the lighthouse were swept away except that of the keeper, killing eight people. The village was inundated to a depth of seven feet. Total damage estimated at \$30,000.



The exact spawning location of this storm is unknown. Its diameter was likely small, as no wind worthy of mention occurred in extreme west Florida. Ludlum noted that this storm was one of a family of late August storm's that plagued the Florida and Middle Gulf coasts for the next 15 years. The exact landfall location cannot be determined, but was likely in the upper Florida west coast.