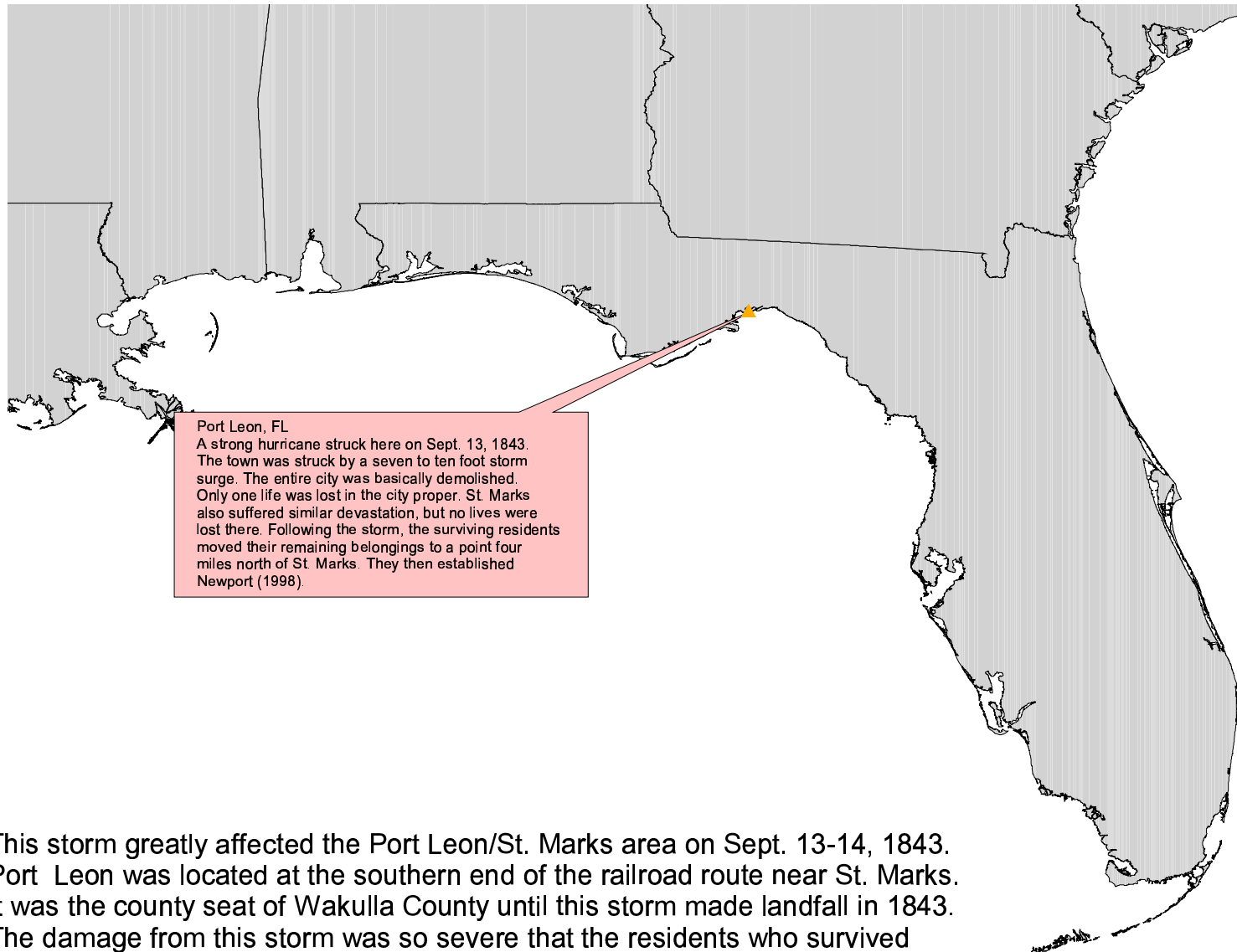


# Great Storm - Port Leon - 1843 - Sept. 13-14



Port Leon, FL  
A strong hurricane struck here on Sept. 13, 1843. The town was struck by a seven to ten foot storm surge. The entire city was basically demolished. Only one life was lost in the city proper. St. Marks also suffered similar devastation, but no lives were lost there. Following the storm, the surviving residents moved their remaining belongings to a point four miles north of St. Marks. They then established Newport (1998).

This storm greatly affected the Port Leon/St. Marks area on Sept. 13-14, 1843. Port Leon was located at the southern end of the railroad route near St. Marks. It was the county seat of Wakulla County until this storm made landfall in 1843. The damage from this storm was so severe that the residents who survived decided not to rebuild, and made a new settlement at a site three miles upstream and called it New Port. Today, this site is known as Newport.  
(Wakulla County History - [www.tfn.net/~wakullac/history.html](http://www.tfn.net/~wakullac/history.html))

