



Describe key west in 1830s

In the 1830s, Key West was a thriving and strategic settlement with a population of 517 by 1830. Its economy was dominated by the wrecking industry, salvaging goods from shipwrecks, which made it the richest U.S. city per capita at the time^{[1] [2] [3]}. The island also began salt production and hosted a growing immigrant population, primarily Bahamians known as "Conchs"^[4]. Despite its wealth, Key West faced challenges like lawlessness, disease, fires, and hurricanes^[2]. The U.S. Army established a presence in 1831, anticipating conflicts like the Second Seminole War^[1].

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1. <https://www.keyshistory.org/keywest.html>
2. https://repository.law.miami.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=2174&context=fac_articles
3. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Key_West
4. <https://www.conchtv.com/key-west-history>