

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Oregon	
COUNTY: Clatsop	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 719410005	DATE 9/22/71

1. NAME

COMMON: Fort Stevens

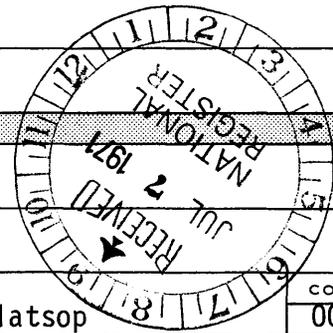
AND/OR HISTORIC: Fort Stevens Military Reservation

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Fort Stevens State Park

CITY OR TOWN: Route 1, Box 173, Hammond

STATE: Oregon 97121 CODE: 41 COUNTY: Clatsop CODE: 007



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural Government Park Transportation Comments
 Commercial Industrial Private Residence Other (Specify) U. S. Army Corps of Engineers station
 Educational Military Religious
 Entertainment Museum Scientific

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME: (major portion) State of Oregon, by and through Oregon State Highway Div.

STREET AND NUMBER: State Highway Building

CITY OR TOWN: Salem STATE: Oregon 97310 CODE: 41

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Clatsop County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Astoria STATE: Oregon 97103 CODE: 41

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Statewide Inventory of Historic Sites and Buildings

DATE OF SURVEY: 1970 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Parks and Recreation Section

STREET AND NUMBER: Oregon State Highway Division

CITY OR TOWN: Salem STATE: Oregon 97310 CODE: 41

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located at the entrance to the Columbia River, Fort Stevens represents the evolution of military architecture and engineering over a period of 80 years. Its gun emplacements complemented fire power of defense posts, Fort Canby and Fort Columbia, on the North shore of the Columbia in the State of Washington.

The natural setting is one of coastal marshes and dunes with a vegetative cover of beachgrass, salal and alder. The primary features of the site are Battery David Russell, Battery Lewis Clark, the several nearly contiguous emplacements known as the West Batteries (Battery 245, West Battery, Battery Pratt); Battery Elias Smur, Battery Constant Freeman, buildings of the Upper Fort and Soldiers' Cemetery. Of these primary sites, Battery Clark, the Upper Fort area, and Soldiers' Cemetery are not under jurisdiction of the State at the present time. There are in addition to emplacements and buildings of the post, integral structures and sites including base end stations used in triangulation, fire control stations, search light shelters and mine loading rooms.

All guns and most of the metal fittings of the concrete emplacements were taken for scrap after the post was released by the military in 1947. The emplacements have deteriorated in the intervening years of neglect, but they are capable of being cleaned up, stabilized and, where appropriate, restored. Battery Russell is currently in the process of rehabilitation. Guns and mounts of the models installed at Battery Russell are no longer available for the purposes of restoration.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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FORT STEVENS

2. Location

The original Fort Stevens Military Reservation encompassed all land on the south bank of the Columbia estuary within one and a half miles of the northernmost part of Point Adams. Today, the major portion of the original reserve is owned in fee by the State of Oregon or is leased by the State from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. The remainder falls within the Town limits of Hammond and is under a variety of public and private ownerships.

Property nominated to the National Register encompasses ca. 542 acres within secs. 5, 6, 7 and 8, T. 8 N., R. 10 W., of the Willamette Meridian, in Clatsop County, Oregon. The recommended boundary is described as follows:

Beginning at Point Adams on the south bank of the Columbia River in section 6, T. 8 N., R. 10 W., WM, thence southwesterly along the Fort Stevens Military Reservation boundary to the southwest corner of the reservation, thence southeasterly along the southerly reservation boundary to the Swash Lake outlet, thence southwesterly to a point on the south line of section 6 approximately 900 feet west of quarter corner 6/7, thence south 2640 feet to a point which is 900 feet west of the center of section 7, thence southeasterly parallel to the beach approximately 1000', thence east approximately 450' to a point approximately 900 feet south of the center of section 7, thence north to the north quarter corner of section 7, thence east along the section line to the northeast corner of section 7, thence south along the section line approximately 1900' to the town limits line of Hammond, thence east along said town limits line approximately 700', thence north to the section line between 5 and 8, thence east along said section line to its intersection with the northerly town limits line of Hammond, thence northeasterly along said town limits line to the south shore of the Columbia River, thence northwesterly along the river approximately 5750' to the point of beginning.

SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1863-1947

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Fort Steyens has the longest history as an active military post of any site within the present borders of Oregon. Named for General Isaac Ingalls Stevens, first governor of Washington Territory, the fort was established by the U. S. Army in 1863, during the War Between the States, as part of a system of defense points at the mouth of the Columbia River. It remained active until 1884. After a hiatus of 14 years, the post was reactivated and used as a training base through the Second World War. The post was briefly involved in action by the enemy on the night of June 21, 1942. Shells fired from a Japanese submarine landed in the vicinity of Battery David Russell. Fort Stevens is believed to be the only military base in the continental United States to have been fired upon by enemy during the Second World War.

The first fortification consisted of an earthwork with gun emplacements. The first permanent buildings were erected near the river, in the area known as Lower Fort, in 1865. None of the early structures remains today. The largest gun in the earthwork was fired for the first time in 1869. It was a 15-inch Rodman which fired a 315-pound shell with a 50-pound charge of mammoth powder. It had a range of 3,840 yards.

Battery David Russell, one of the later concrete emplacements, was completed in August, 1904. It was armed with two 10-inch rifles on disappearing mounts. Typically, the guns fired a 617-pound projectile 16,290 yards with a powder charge of 182 pounds. At the time of its deactivation on December 29, 1944, Battery Russell was believed to have been the last installation of its type active in the continental limits of the United States. The battery was named in honor of Brevet Major General David A. Russell, 8th U. S. Infantry, who had been killed in action at Opequon, Virginia, in 1864, during the War Between the States.

President of the United States Rutherford B. Hayes inspected the garrison at Fort Steyens in 1880. Between 1884 and 1898 the post was transferred to the U. S. Army Engineer Department, and it was during this period that construction of the Columbia River south jetty, one of the most extensive river and harbor improvement projects ever undertaken in Oregon, was started.

Return of the Artillery marked the beginning of major post enlargement, including construction of the concrete fortifications. In April, 1898, the first four emplacements of newly constructed West Battery, armed with 10-inch rifles on disappearing carriages, were turned over to the artillery unit. These emplacements were later named Battery Lewis and Battery Walker. Two other emplacements were built on the west end of West

(Continued)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1864
14
1798

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hussey, John A., "Interpretive Prospectus, Fort Stevens State Park, Oregon." Prepared for Parks and Recreation Division, Oregon State Highway Commission by U. S. Department of the Interior National Park Service, Western Region, San Francisco, 1969.
 Hanft, Marshall, "The Cape Forts: Guardians of the Columbia," Oregon Historical Quarterly, Vol. 65, No. 4 (December 1964), 325-361.
 Lewis, Emanuel Raymond, Seacoast Fortifications of the United States: An Introductory History (Washington, D. C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1970), 80-81, 135. Photographs of Battery Russell.

Maps, plans and specifications, Cartographic Branch, National Archives and Records Service, Washington, D. C.

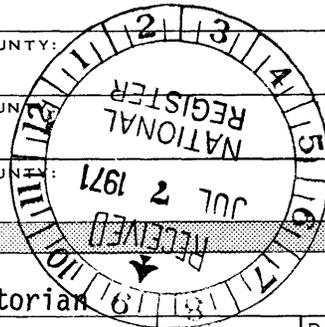
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE				
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	46°	12'	44"	123°	58'	38"	0		
NE	46°	12'	44"	123°	56'	58"	0		
SE	46°	11'	23"	123°	56'	58"	0		
SW	46°	11'	23"	123°	58'	38"	0		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 542 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



10/
 7742675
 511782
 SE 42672
 511532
 SW 42460
 SE 51153
 NW 42460
 511781
 INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Elisabeth Walton, Park Historian

ORGANIZATION: Oregon State Highway Division DATE: June 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: State Highway Building

CITY OR TOWN: Salem STATE: Oregon 97310 CODE: 41

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name R. P. [Signature]

Title State Highway Engineer

Date June 30, 1971

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connolly
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

SEP 22 1971

Date _____

ATTEST:
William [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date SEP 13 1971

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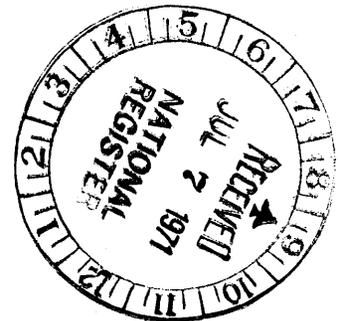
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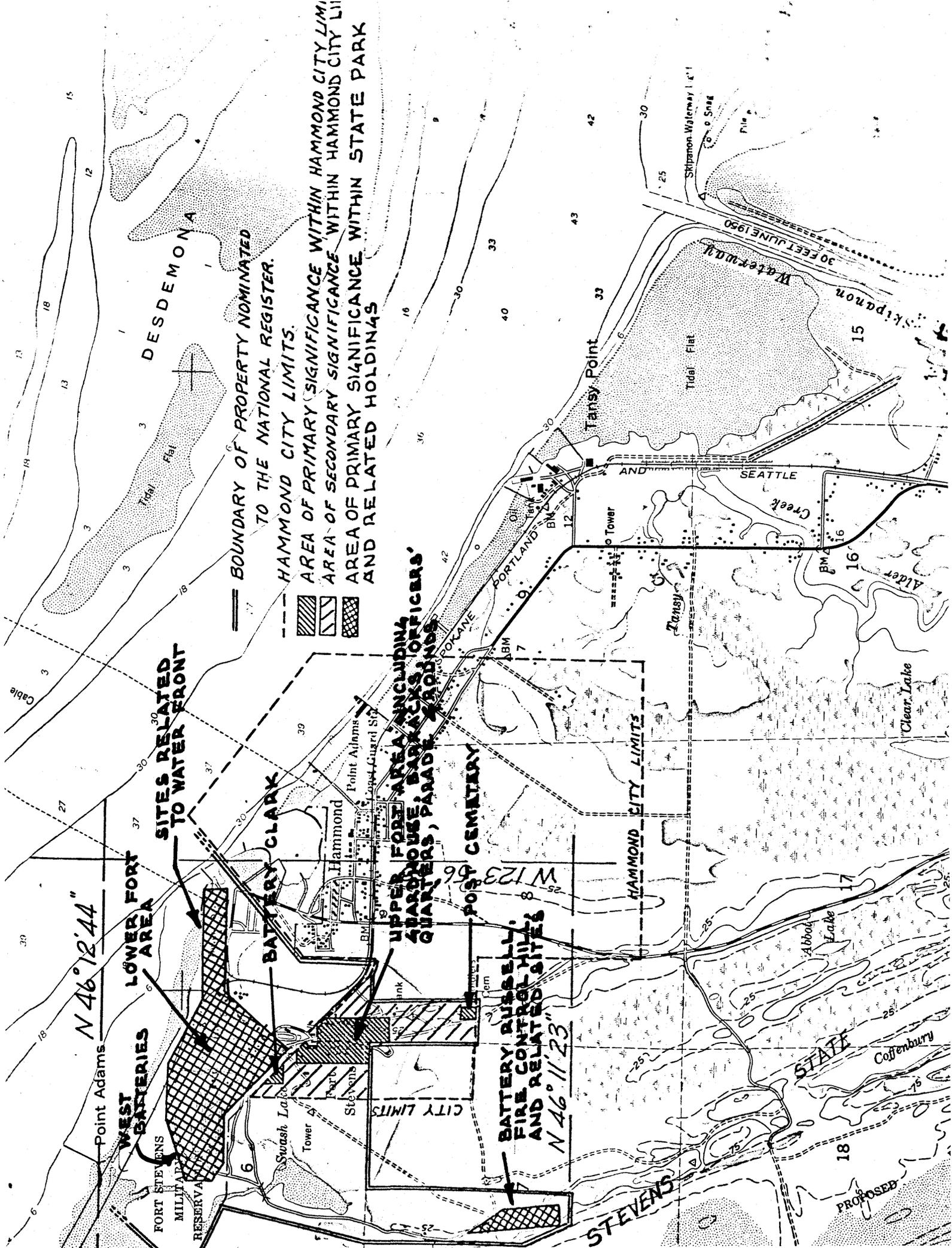
FORT STEVENS

8. Significance (Continued)

Battery. They were activated in June, 1900 and later named Battery Mishler. In 1899 Battery Lewis Clark was complete with 12-inch mortars. Two new batteries were built in June, 1900. These were Battery Pratt, with 6-inch rifles on disappearing carriages, and Battery Elias Smur, with two 15-pounder rapid-fire guns on balanced pillar mounts. Battery Constant Freeman was constructed late in 1900 on the site of the old earthwork. It was equipped with two 6-inch rapid-fire guns on pedestal mounts and one 15-pounder rapid-fire gun.

It was around 1900 and shortly thereafter that the buildings and the drill grounds of the Upper Fort area were laid out. Several large residences, the brick guardhouse, barracks and other structures remain today under mixed ownership.





N 46° 12' 44"

N 46° 11' 23"

SITES RELATED TO WATER FRONT

LOWER FORT AREA

WEST BATTERIES

BATTERY CLARK

UPPER FORT AREA INCLUDING
 QUARTERS, BARRACKS, OFFICERS'
 QUARTERS, PARADE GROUNDS

POST CEMETERY

BATTERY RUSSELL,
 FIRE CONTROL HILL,
 AND RELATED SITES

- BOUNDARY OF PROPERTY NOMINATED TO THE NATIONAL REGISTER.
- - - HAMMOND CITY LIMITS.
- ▨ AREA OF PRIMARY SIGNIFICANCE WITHIN HAMMOND CITY LIMITS.
- ▧ AREA OF SECONDARY SIGNIFICANCE WITHIN HAMMOND CITY LIMITS.
- ▩ AREA OF PRIMARY SIGNIFICANCE WITHIN STATE PARK AND RELATED HOLDINGS.

DESDEMONA

SEATTLE AND PORTLAND

STATE

STEVENS

PROPOSED

30 FEET JUNE 1950

Skipanon Waterway

Tansy Point

Tansy Tower

Point Adams

Hammond

Swash Lake

Abbot Lake

Tidal Flat

Creek

Clear Lake

Alder

Pokane

Point Adams

Hammond

Swash Lake

Tansy Tower

Clear Lake

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