

FOR NPS USE ONLY
 RECEIVED
 DATE ENTERED

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
 TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC FORT ST. FREDERIC

AND/OR COMMON NAME
 Fort St. Frederic

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Crown Point Reservation, N.Y. 8 and U.S. 9N

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Crown Point

VICINITY OF

30

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

New York

CODE

36

COUNTY

Essex

CODE

31

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

New York State and Private Owners

STREET & NUMBER

Division of Parks, Conservation Department

CITY, TOWN

Albany

VICINITY OF

STATE

New York

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Essex County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Elizabethtown

STATE

New York

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
 SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fort St. Frederic was built on the east side of a point of land on the northern shore of Crown Point, New York. Crown Point is a peninsula, approximately two miles long and one mile wide, which projects north into Lake Champlain, Bullwagga Bay, roughly one mile wide and two long, is formed by the west shore of Crown Point and the main shore of Lake Champlain on the New York side. The lake itself passes between the east shore of Crown Point and the Vermont shore of Lake Champlain. The lake reaches its narrowest width, approximately one half mile, as it passes between Crown Point, at the site of Fort St. Frederic and Chimney Point on the Vermont shore. It was for the strategic value of Crown Point in controlling lake traffic that the French chose to erect their fort here.

Construction was begun in 1731 under the direction of the Sieur de la Fresniere. The fort was built on bedrock, upon the shore. The local rock, black lime slate, was quarried nearby for the construction. The fort's shape was that of a starwork, basically a pentagon with bastions at the angles. The ramparts were approximately twenty feet high and twenty feet thick and were enclosed in turn by a ditch walled with stone. On the northwestern corner of the fort, an octagonal watch tower, approximately three stories tall, was erected of the same black slate. The tower had vaulted, "bomb-proof" walls, and mounted cannon and smaller guns. Other structures within the fort included a small church and stone quarters for officers and troops. To the east of the fort, on a jutting promontory, a fortified windmill was erected to serve as a lookout.

While the French military was establishing its outpost, the French traders and farmers were taking advantage of this added protection and were establishing their own settlements on the eastern shore of the Point. While the full extent of this settlement is not known, archeological evidences and at least one historic map indicate that it stretched north from Hickock Point almost to Coffin Point, if not farther. It seems likely that these houses and farms were located adjacent to the military road which was constructed between Crown Point and Ticonderoga, which is approximately 15 miles south of the Point. This road, which was later used by the British, roughly paralleled the eastern shore at an average distance of 350 yards to the west.

In 1759, when the French garrison abandoned the fort and ignited the magazine, the neighboring village was abandoned as well. When Amherst occupied Crown Point, he decided the fort was beyond repair, and so leveled it and began construction of a larger fort, Fort Amherst, just to the south of the French works. An English redoubt was erected on the French lookout post.

With the cessation of hostilities after the War for Independence Crown Point reverted to farmland, which it remains to a large extent today. Both Crown Point forts were acquired by the State of New York around 1900, and circa 1910, a partial reconstruction of the ruins of Fort St. Frederic was made. This consisted of a masonry capping of the original ruins, which today comprises the bulk of the visible remains. Other reconstructions were effected, but without the benefit of

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1731-1759

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Control of Lake Champlain was a key objective in the French and English struggle for North America in the eighteenth century. To guard this crucial waterway, the French constructed a fort on the western shore of Lake Champlain, at its narrowest point, Crown Point. Fort St. Frederic, completed in 1731, served as a halfway station between Albany and Montreal and was the constant rendezvous of war parties launched into New York and the New England colonies. The star-shaped stone fort was abandoned and destroyed by the French in 1759 and was never rebuilt. The archeological remains of the fortification and the adjacent settlement are presently contained in the New York State Park, Crown Point Reservation, and contingent private land.

History

With the construction of Fort St. Frederic on Crown Point, the French strategically blocked Lake Champlain as an avenue of invasion into Canada, and gained a convenient base of operations from which they conducted their frequent raids with their Indian allies against the English settlements. For the colonists of New York, New Hampshire and Massachusetts, Crown Point was synonymous with the terror and outrage inspired by the savage and brutal attacks which left farms burning and farmers scalped. The geography of Crown Point had suggested its tactical value to both the English and the French early in the eighteenth century. The peninsula extends into Lake Champlain at its narrowest point. The distance from Crown Point, New York, to Chimney Point, Vermont, is approximately one quarter mile, and the channel could easily be commanded by a few cannon. Fearful that the English would occupy the area first, the French established themselves on the eastern shore at Chimney Point in 1726, but were then ousted by the Massachusetts colony. Moving across the lake to Crown Point, the French began the construction of Fort St. Frederic in 1731, under the direction of the Sieur de la Fresniere. Unlike Massachusetts, New York could not muster sufficient strength to remove the aliens from her territory.

Although the neighboring English and Dutch settlements were plagued by French and Indian marauders operating from Crown Point, internal dissension and political squabbling prevented the colonies from mounting a retaliatory attack. In 1746, however, Governor Clinton of New York and the energetic Governor Shirley of Massachusetts agreed to combine forces in an assault against their common enemy at Crown Point. By October, fifteen hundred Massachusetts troops were marching to New York to join with the New Yorkers when the sudden news of a suspected French invasion made it necessary to recall the Massachusetts troops. The

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Parkman, Francis. A Half-Century of Conflict, 2 vols. (Boston, 1933), vol. 2.
 ----- Montcalm and Wolfe, 2 vols. (Boston, 1931), vols. 1 and 2.
 Shedd, Charles. "Fort St. Frederic," National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, form 10-317, 6/12/58.
 Van De Water, Frederic. Lake Champlain and Lake George. (New York, 1946).

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 300 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1,8	5 2 8 0 0,0	4,8 7,7 0 0 0	B	1, 8	5 2 8 0 0,0	4,8 7,0 0 0 0
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	1,8	5 2 5 8 5,0	4,8 7,0 0 0 0	D	1,8	5 2 5 8 5,0	4,8 7,7 0 0 0

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See continuation sheet

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Richard Greenwood, Historian, Landmark Review Task Force

ORGANIZATION

Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service

DATE

2/20/76

STREET & NUMBER

1100 L Street, N.W.

TELEPHONE

202-523-5464

CITY OR TOWN

Washington, D.C. 20240

STATE

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

DATE

Landmark
 Designated according to the
 Designated: 10/9/60
 Boundary: C date
 Boundary: C date
 Feb 6, 1979

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

4/24/79

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET Fort St. Frederic ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

historical research. Recent archeological work was done by a private organization, but the findings have not been made public. Presently the State of New York is undertaking a recording of the extant ruins and will stabilize the ruins prior to any extensive efforts at interpretation.

The site of the fortified windmill has been built over extensively; first during the British occupation, and presently the Champlain lighthouse stands on that point. Remains of the French settlement have been tentatively identified at scattered locations along the eastern shore of the Point. They are generally located on private land and have not been extensively examined.

Fort St. Frederic is presently located within New York State's Crown Point Reservation. The Fort site itself is maintained by the State Parks and Recreation Commission along with Fort Amherst, but the windmill site and a portion of French village site are located on land controlled by the State Department of Environmental Conservation. Both lands are used as a park, but the fort is a historic site and the other property is a camping and picnic grounds. The bulk of the village site is on private land.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET Fort St. Frederic ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

invasion never materialised, but similar expedition was not mounted until 1755.

The major British offensive against France in 1755 consisted of a four-pronged attack to be launched at Fort Dusquesne, Fort Niagara, Fort Beausejour and Fort St. Frederic. An army consisting of men from Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island and New York, as well as Indians of the Mohawk and Five Nations, set out from Albany in July of 1755, under the command of William Johnson of New York, for Crown Point. The French however were aware of the invasion and were busily strengthening Fort St. Frederic, which was commanded by Baron Dieskau. Rather than wait for the English, Dieskau set out with his troops down Lake Champlain to Lake George where Johnson was momentarily halted. In the battle which ensued, the English troops gained a victory, but were so debilitated, that the actual attack on Crown Point was abandoned.

In 1755-57, the French defenses on Lake Champlain were supplemented by the construction of Fort Carillon at Ticonderoga, roughly ten miles south of Crown Point. Thus when the English stepped up their hostilities in the Seven Years War, Fort Carillon bore the brunt of the expeditions launched up the New York waterways. An attack on Fort Carillon led by General Abercromby in 1758 was repulsed with heavy losses to the British. Nonetheless, in the following year the more astute Sir Jeffrey Amherst sailed up Lake George with Fort Carillon, Fort St. Frederic and Montreal as his objectives. In the face of this more able adversary, the French withdrew all but four hundred men from Ticonderoga, leaving that garrison to delay the English. On the evening of the twenty-sixth of July, the small garrison slipped away from Fort Carillon, leaving a match burning in the magazine, which eventually exploded. Amherst halted at Ticonderoga temporarily, to repair the damaged works, before moving on to Crown Point, but on the first of August he received word that Fort St. Frederic has likewise been abandoned and the magazine destroyed. At this news, Amherst proceeded to occupy Crown Point, but found the fort in such dilapidated condition that he set about constructing a new and larger fort on the higher ground southwest of Fort St. Frederic. The village outside the old fort was abandoned as well. With the fall of these two forts, the British held an undisputed claim to the Hudson Valley, yet Fort St. Frederic had never been fired upon by a hostile force.

Today the ruins of Fort St. Frederic and the subsequent Fort Amherst or Crown Point have been stabilised by the state of New York, and lie within the Crown Point Reservations.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

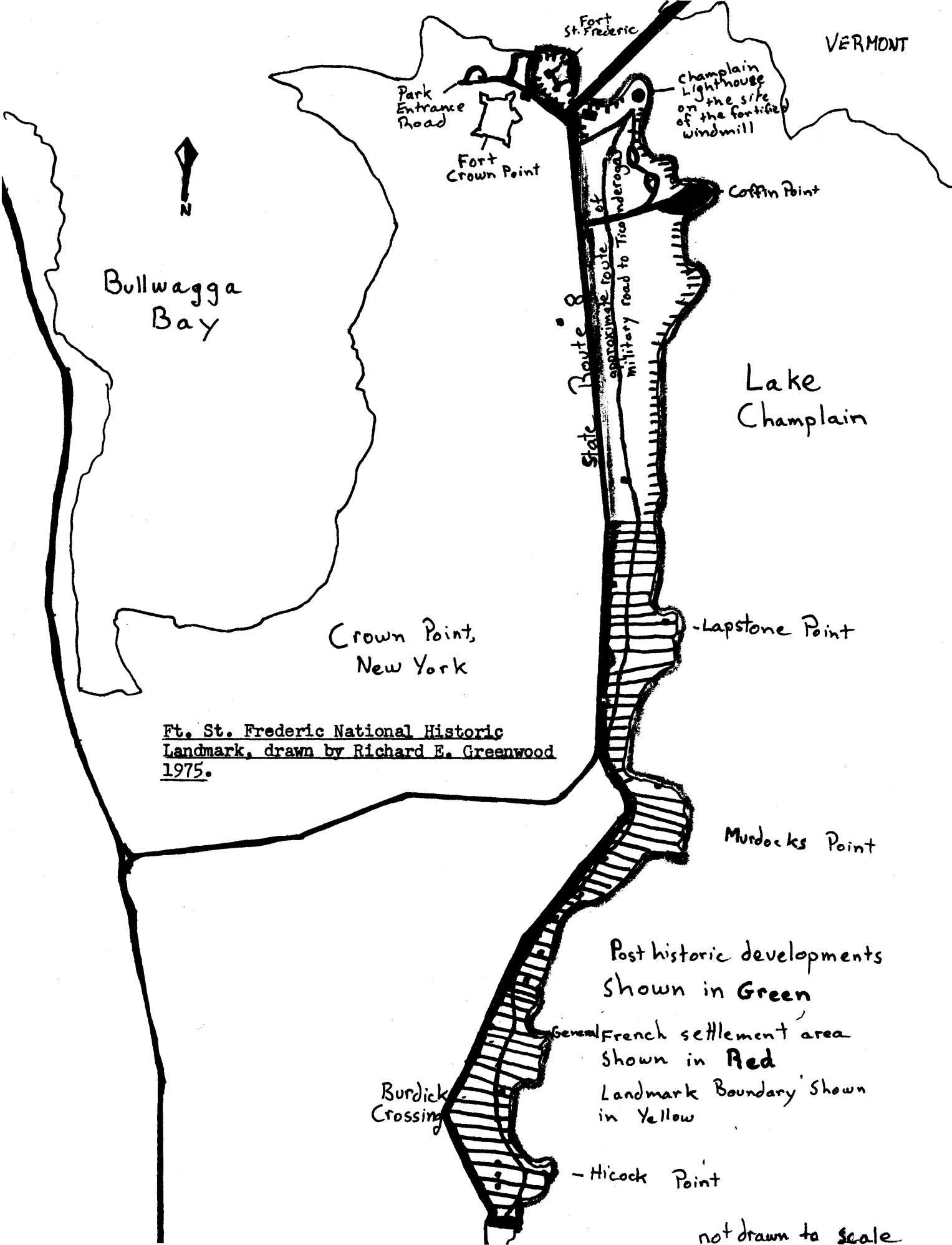
DATE ENTERED

CONTINUATION SHEET Fort St. Frederic ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 1

The Fort St. Frederic National Historic Landmark consists of a parcel of land situated on the north and east shores of Crown Point. Enclosed within these boundaries are the archeological remains of the major elements of this French outpost; the fort itself, the fortified windmill-lookout, and the French village. It must be noted that the nature of the nonmilitary French settlement was not completely that of a compact village, but pending further investigation, only a general determination of the full range of the French settlement can be made. These boundaries have therefore been drawn to include the relatively unintruded-upon area along the Eastern lakeshore within the general village area (refer to the enclosed sketch map entitled Ft. St. Frederic National Historic Landmark, drawn by Richard E. Greenwood, 1975).

Beginning at a point on the eastern shore of Lake Champlain 2000' south of the easternmost portion of Hickock Point, proceed west in a straight line to the eastern curb of the road running south from Burdick Crossing. From this point, the landmark boundary runs north along said curb, continuing northeast beyond Burdick Crossing and up to the curb's intersection with the eastern curb of State Route 8, just north of Murdocks Point. The boundary then follows the line of eastern curb of Route 8 to a point directly east of the northern curb of the northern park entrance road to Fort St. Frederic. The boundary thence proceeds due west to the northern curb of said park road, and follows said curb to its intersection with the easternmost curb of the auxiliary park road which runs in a loop to the west of Fort St. Frederic. The boundary runs north to the lakeshore line, following the line of said auxiliary road curb, and thence continues east, and south to the point of origin, following the shoreline.

The ~~later~~ developments within the landmark area, including the several farms and houses, the park facilities, the community located on Coffin Point, and the D & H Railroad, do not contribute to the national significance of the landmark.



VERMONT

Fort St. Frederic

Park Entrance Road

Fort Crown Point

Champlain Lighthouse on the site of the fortified windmill

Coffin Point

Bullwagga Bay



State Route 8

approximate route of military road to Ticonderoga

Lake Champlain

Crown Point, New York

Lapstone Point

Ft. St. Frederic National Historic Landmark, drawn by Richard E. Greenwood 1975.

Murdock's Point

Post historic developments shown in Green

General French settlement area shown in Red

Landmark Boundary shown in Yellow

Burdick Crossing

Hickock Point

not drawn to scale