

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: New Jersey	
COUNTY: Salem	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	AUG 31 1978

1. NAME  
COMMON:  
Fort Mott and Finns Point National Cemetery, Historic District.  
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
Fort Mott Road NW of Salem on Fort Mott Rd.  
CITY OR TOWN:  
Pennsville Salem NJ  
STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34 COUNTY: Salem CODE: 033

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input 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 type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) Cemetery

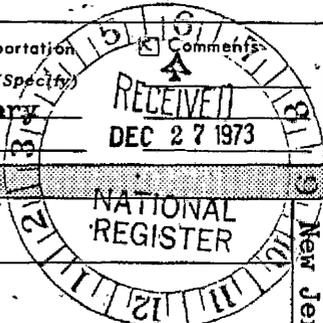
Comments: RECEIVED DEC 27 1973

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY  
OWNER'S NAME: Dept. of Environmental Protection, N.J. Est Mott  
United States Government Dept of Defense  
STREET AND NUMBER: Box 1420, Labor & Industry Bldg.  
CITY OR TOWN: Trenton Washington STATE: New Jersey D.C. CODE: 34

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION  
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Salem County Clerk's Office  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
-92 Market Street  
CITY OR TOWN: Salem STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS  
TITLE OF SURVEY:  
New Jersey Inventory of Historic Sites 1150.1  
DATE OF SURVEY:  Federal  State  County  Local  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Office of Historic Preservation  
STREET AND NUMBER:  
109 West State Street  
CITY OR TOWN: Trenton STATE: New Jersey CODE: 34

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: New Jersey  
COUNTY: Salem  
ENTRY NUMBER:  
DATE:

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7. Description

CONDITION	(Check One)				
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins
	(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

Fort Mott State Park occupies an area of 146 acres at Finns Point on the east bank of the Delaware River midway between Salem and Pennsville, Salem County. Finns Point National Cemetary adjoins the park on the north. The Fort was completed in 1896.

**Fort Mott:**

Gun mounts and underground fortifications are of particular interest. There are five separate batteries at the Fort. Battery Gregg is located to the left of the main battery and seperated from it by the road to the river. There are amunition magazines beneath the emplacement. On the stairwell there is a hoist for ammunition service. Above the amunition magazines there were two five inch rapid fire guns on Barbette pedestal mountings. Metal on the floor shows the location of one gun. The second site is under the gun-fire control building, which was built to work in correlation with the range finder tower for the ten inch battery. North of Battery Gregg is the main battery with continuous parapet for the emplacements of three-ten inch and three-twelve inch backloading rifles on disappearing carriages. The remainder of the batteries are closed to the public but are of similar construction and design. Especially interesting to note is that a dynamo and boiler room were located under the flat roof of one of these batteries. A ten foot wall of concrete seperated the boiler room and the dynamo from the amunition area. A gun fire control tower is located on the park grounds. It is constructed of wood and metal. The parade ground is preserved as is. The only remaining house on the park grounds used by the officers at Fort Mott has been converted to the Park Office. The other officers' houses have been removed to Fort Delaware.

REVISED SEE ATTACHED CONTINUATION SHEETS:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8 Description

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian       16th Century       18th Century       20th Century

15th Century       17th Century       19th Century

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SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

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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 type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry		<u>Local, State &amp; National History</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	_____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Music		_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Military:

Fort Mott, located on the Delaware River at Finns Point, six miles from Salem was acquired by the Federal Government from John C. Mason in 1838, and contained 104 acres. At the time it was known as Finns Point.

With a ten gun battery on the Delaware shore (Fort Dupont) and a gun battery on Pea Patch Island in the middle of the river, (Fort Delaware) it was planned to set up a battery on the Jersey shore (Finns Point) as an auxiliary to the Island Fort.

( THIS SECTION REVISED )

The project for permanent battery was submitted in July, 1870 on the recommendations of the Board of Engineers for Fortifications. Jurisdiction of the United States was perfected in May of 1872 and active operations began for the erection of a gun and mortar battery. The work progressed intermittently until six emplacements were erected and two eight inch rifles were mounted in 1878. No troops were stationed with them. Traces of the original emplacements are still visible in the main emplacements now standing.

Fort Mott of today dates back to 1896. For two years construction was rushed to put up the works on an effective defensive basis. In 1897 four workmen were killed on the construction. In 1926, twenty-nine years later an act of Congress appropriated \$19,000 for relief of their widows and heirs.

War Department General Order dated December 16, 1897, designated the new fort in honor of Major General Gersham Mott. General Mott, a native of New Jersey, had a notable record in the Civil War and died November 29, 1884.

REVISED SEE ATTACHED CONTINUATION SHEETS:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

( SEE ATTACHED CONTINUATION SHEET )

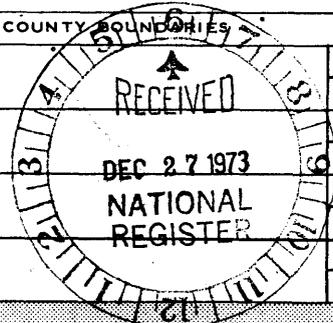
10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

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	39	36	43	75	33	26			
NE	39	36	43	75	32	44			
SE	39	36	02	75	32	44			
SW	39	36	02	75	33	26			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 115

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: **Revised: George A. Chidley IV, Research Historian** (609) 822-3113

ORGANIZATION: **Office of Historic Preservation** DATE: **12/6/77**  
**July 3, 1973**

STREET AND NUMBER: **109 West State Street**

CITY OR TOWN: **Trenton** STATE: **New Jersey** CODE: **08625**  
**31**

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: *Richard J. Sullivan*  
**Richard J. Sullivan**

Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

*[Signature]*  
~~Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation~~  
**KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

Date: *8/31/78*

ATTEST:

*[Signature]*  
~~Keeper of the National Register~~

Date: *8-29-78*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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A description of Fort Mott and the Finn's Point National Cemetery Historic District is as follows:

Fort Mott, Battery Gregg: *PHOTO #1*

Located to the southeast of the main battery, Gregg is a pill box observation stand, with loading platform and gun placement, surmounting an ammunition magazine. The battery is encompassed on three sides by a man-made earth mound. Entrance is made on the forth side by way of a pair of exterior, concrete, dog-leg, stairs with steel rails. Adjoining each stair is a crane for ammunition service. The gun placement contains one-~~Steel~~ pedestal mounting which formerly held two, five-inch rapid-fire guns. These guns were removed in 1913 and shipped to Benica Arsenal, California. (Map, Ref. #1.)

Fort Mott, Main Battery: *PHOTOS # 2, 3, 4 & 5*

The main battery Harker, Arnold, Edwards and Karyenbuhl all follow essentially the same floor plan. Exceptions to the above will be noted.

Each battery is entered through any of three doors, two of which are located directly below a pair of exterior stairs leading to the loading platform, while the third entrance is located below the auxiliary gunners station. These entries are closed off from the outside by a pair of doors; one is comprised of iron bars while the other is of a rivited panel, steel construction.

The first two entrances mentioned connect to a crescent shaped hall, the southern end of which contains an enclosed set of concrete steps leading to the loading platform above. This crescent shaped hall results from the massive rounded gun support. Located in the northern extremity of this hall are two small rooms facing front and rear (west to east) both are separated by an "L" shaped hall (running east to north) that terminates at the third exterior door. Contained in the front room is a rack or lift which once transported amunition from the ground floor through a shaft to the loading platform above. On the ceiling of this room and the "L" shaped hall is a track ("I" beam) for an overhead trolley which moved the 1,046 pound

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shells from the exterior to either two magazines, adjoining the hall on the north wall, or the lift previously mentioned. Connected to the wall in the northern end of the "L" shaped hall is a twenty foot long steel riveted trough (use unknown).

In the case of Arnold battery (2nd battery from Gregg) an additional room was placed behind the ammunition magazines. This room, separated from the magazines by a ten foot thick wall, services the forts boiler and dynamo.

Edwards battery (centrally located) was modified by means of a gun port in the front wall and an underground casement. This was placed in what was previously described as a gun support for the upper level.

The upper level is reached by either the interior stairway or a pair of exterior, curved, iron stairs. A crane, for lifting equipment, adjoins these stairs. Located centrally off the loading platform to the front is a gun placement, which now contains only the studs that once secured a gun to its support. These steel, threaded, studs form a semi-circular, staggered pattern. Situated to the northeast corner of the platform is an auxiliary gunner's station. There is also an opening in the northwest corner which leads to the ammunition lift. Rising from the loading platform is a twelve foot wall surmounted by a rampart. The purpose of this wall was to conceal and protect the retractable gun.

All armaments were removed prior to the State of New Jersey's appropriation of the property in 1947. (Map, Ref. #2)

Fort Mott, Calculating Rm. & Cheif's Battery Station: *PHOTO #6*

Located to the north of the main battery at ground level is a calculating room, which is entered, through a central door. There are industrial type steel sash windows to either side of the door. The battery chief's station is located directly above the calculating room. This station consists of a loading platform surmounted by an eight foot wall and, in the northern corner, a pill box with horizontal slit windows on three sides. Entrance to the loading platform is obtained through a tunnel leading to the calculating room. This tunnel is interrupted at center by two tunnels giving access to the exterior of the fort.

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Both the chief's station and main battery are encompassed on three sides by a man-made earth mound which serves to protect and conceal the fortifications. (Map, Ref. #3)

Fort Mott, Observation Stand:

An observation stand of pill box construction with horizontal slit windows, surmounts a man-made mound to the north of the chief's station. This stand is entered by way of two underground tunnels.

All structures previously described are constructed of concrete reinforced by brick and steel. (Map, Ref. #4)

Fort Mott, Gun Fire Control Towers: PHOTO #7

There are two gun fire control towers; one is situated behind Gregg Battery and the other, behind the observation stand. These towers consist of a central, iron, riveted, support surrounded by a square shaped network of iron skeletal supports. Surmounting this structure is a tin sided observation room with horizontal slit type windows facing out on four sides. This room is reached by an iron staircase with three landings. The stair is fastened to the outside of the skeletal supports on three sides. (Map, Ref. #5)

Fort Mott, Main Ammunition Magazine:

Situated between the parados and the moat, directly behind the battery chief's station, is the main ammunition magazine.

This 1 1/2 story structure is constructed of brick, surmounted by a copper, low hip roof, interrupted at center by a number of vented windows, which are in turn surmounted by a smaller hip roof. Extending across the front facade (facing the chief's station) is a wooden loading platform with stairs to either side. Entry to this structure is made through two pairs of wooden double barn doors. (Map, Ref. #6)

Fort Mott, Transport Tracks:

Running south to each battery through the parados, from the main magazine, by way of a tunnel, are railway tracks set into concrete. These tracks were used to transport ammunition from the main magazine to the smaller magazines located in each battery. (Map, Ref. #7)

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Fort Mott, Headquarters: *PHOTO # 8*

Located immediately behind the southern gun fire control tower is the Fort Mott headquarters building. Built c. 1890, in the Greek Revival Style, this two story, 3 bay by 2 bay, clapboard with corner board sided structure rests on a brick foundation. Surmounting the headquarters is a medium gable roof with box cornice, end returns and two interior end chimneys. A three bay one story porch extends across the front facade. A paladian window is located in each of the gable ends. All other windows are 6 over 6 double hung. Entrance is made through a pair of double doors (each has six beveled panels) with flush light mullion. (Map, Ref. #8)

Fort Mott, Ordnance Building:

There is a 1 story, 7 bay by 2 bay ordinance building situated east of the headquarters and southern gun fire control tower. This building rests upon concrete pilings and is surmounted by an asphalt shingled, low gable roof. A wooden loading dock, with steps to either side, extends across the front facade. Entrance is obtained through any of three double barn doors on the front facade. All windows are 6 over 6 double hung. (Map, Ref. #9)

Fort Mott, Officers Quarters:

The officers quarters are located to the west of the ordinance building. It is a square one story clapboard structure with central entry. Surmounting the dwelling is an asphalt covered gable roof. Extending across the front facade is a one story, three bay porch with tin roof. The dwelling rests upon interspersed concrete footings. (Map, Ref. #10)

Fort Mott, Outbuildings:

The following structures are of mid 20th century construction and are not to be considered as relative to the Fort Mott complex, in essence they are intrusions in the district.

A one story rectangular cinder block bath-house with flat, tin roof is located to the southwest of "Gregg" battery and 400 feet from the sea wall. (Map, Ref. #13)

A complex comprised of three, one story tin sided park equipment storage sheds lies 650 feet to the northeast of the main ammunition magazine. (Map, Ref. 14)

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Fort Mott, Parados: *PHOTO # 9*

Situated to the rear of the main gun emplacements is the parados. The parado is a man-made embankment of earth serving to protect the rear side of the gun emplacements from attack.

Located in the southern end of the parado's is an underground privy. (Map, Ref. #11)

Fort Mott, Moat:

Situated behind the parado is a moat. This moat was built to further protect the rear of the gun emplacements from attack. Water is maintained in the moat by means of a channel connecting it to the Delaware River. (Map, Ref. #12)

Fort Mott, Sea Wall:

A four foot wide tapering reinforced concrete sea wall extends approximately 2,400 foot along the shore line, protecting it from erosion caused by the Delaware River. (Denoted on map as "SEA-WALL")

Fort Mott, Finn's Point ... Thoroughfare:

A paved thoroughfare extends from the Fort Mott gate, on Fort Mott Road, northward to the gate of the Finn's Point National Cemetery a distance of approximately one mile.

Finn's Point National Cemetery, Confederate Monument: *PHOTOS # 10 & 11*

Located in the northeast corner of the cemetery is the confederate monument to those soldiers who died while held prisoner on Pea Patch Island during the Civil War.

This monument is a granite obelisk, (approximately 50 feet high) surmounting a tapering two stage granite platform and base. There are commemorative bronze plaques located in each of the four sides of the above platform. The base of the monument rests upon an earthen mound bearing two large plaques on each of its four sides. These plaques or tablets individually name those men buried there and to what regiment they belonged.

Finn's Point National Cemetery, Union Monument: *PHOTO # 12*

Situated in the southwest corner of the cemetery is a monument to the Union dead who died while serving duty on Pea Patch Island.

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The monument consists of six columns with doric caps, supporting a round dome with entablature which in turn surmounts a round, two step, concrete base. The center of the base is occupied by a stone tableted pillar with base and ornamental pyramid commemorating the union, civil war dead. *URN*

Finn's Point National Cemetery, Individual Grave Markers:

There are numerous other graves in close proximity of both the Confederate and Union monuments. These grave markers are of plain stone each denoting the occupants name, rank and approximate date of death.

Finn's Point, Grounds Keeper Cottage: *PHOTO # 13*

The grounds keeper cottage, for Finn's Point National Cemetery, is a late 19th, early 20th century, stone, "L" shaped, two story dwelling. Surmounting the cottage is a slate and tin covered mansard roof with box cornice, soffit and intermittent gabled dormers.

A one story, one bay, enclosed porch with victorian scroll sawn brackets and chamfered coloumns, fills in the "L" making the cottage appear square.

Entry is made through a door located on the east facade. Also, contained on this facade is a tin covered pent hood and a four step concrete stoop with modern iron rail.

All windows in the cottage are 2 over 2 double hung.

Finn's Point, Barn:

Situated approximately 75 feet to the south of the above cottage is an early 20th century, frame, 6 bent barn with asphalt covered gable roof and asbestos siding. A modern overhead garage door has been installed in the front facade. The barn is presently used for machinery storage.

Finn's Point National Cemetery, Boundary Wall:

Denoting the exact boundaries of the cemetery is a four foot high, three foot wide gray stone wall (made of the same stone as that of the grounds keeper cottage). Located in the southern corner

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of the cemetery property is a gate comprised of two ten foot, stone pillars, which support a pair of ornate, iron, gates and are surmounted in turn by a crescent shaped, ornate, iron arch containing the cemetery name.

Finn's Point National Cemetery, Intrusion:

The only intrusion is a small sanitary facility, located approximately sixty feet from the entry gate in the southwest corner adjacent the boundary wall.

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The Fort Mott and Finn's Point National Cemetery Historic District will be discussed in two parts for purposes of clarification of areas of significance associated with each site.

Fort Mott is of National significance for the following reasons. Architecturally the fort is a fine surviving example of a period fort complex, few of which are still in existence. Furthermore, it is associated with forts Dupont and Delaware and, thus, the history of the State and the Nation.

Fort Mott, Architecture

Fort Mott is a good surviving example of an early coastal defense fortification complex of the period, few of which are still in existence in the United States. It exemplifies the way in which the military combined natural and man-made elements in the construction of a fortification to afford protection to a strategic military area. Notable architectural fortification features include, brick and reinforced concrete batteries and their elements, railway tracks, gunfire control towers, Greek Revival headquarters building, and main ammunition magazine.

Architectural landscape features incorporated into the fort complex include many artificial or man-made changes to the topography of this parcel of land. These changes include the earthen embankments, a parados and a moat. All were designed expressly for the purpose of disguising the fortifications and protecting them from attack.

Fort Mott, Military

Fort Mott was the last of three coastal defenses built to protect the mouth of the Delaware River. A narrative history of the fort complex is as follows.

The Federal Government, in 1837, purchased from one John G. Mason the parcel of land now known as Fort Mott, expressly for the purposes of erecting a defense battery. Once erected the fort was to act as an auxiliary to Forts Dupont and Delaware.

In 1863, two acres of the property were set aside as a cemetery (to be discussed in the section denoted as Finn's Point National Cemetery).

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(Fort Mott, Military cont'd)

On the recommendation of the Board of Engineers for Fortifications the project plan for a permanent battery was submitted in July of 1870. In May of 1872 operations began for the erection of a gun and mortar battery. Construction of a battery containing six gun emplacements, upon which two eight inch rifles were installed, was completed in 1878. However, no troops as yet had been stationed with them.

The present fortifications date back to 1896, when on the eve of the Spanish-American War the early emplacements were redesigned (for purposes of strengthening the defense facility) to their present appearance. These new batteries were each named after notable military figures. Battery no. 1 was named after Brigadier General Charles C. Harker who was killed at the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain, Georgia, June 22, 1863. Battery no. 2 was named for Lieutenant Colonel Lewis G. Arnold who served in the Mexican and Florida Wars, and in the Civil War, and died on Sept. 22, 1871.

Other batteries at Fort Mott noted in the description were named as follows.

Battery Krayenbuhl, in 1901, after Captain Maurice G. Krayenbuhl, killed in action March 26, 1899, Meyconayan, Phillipine Islands.

Battery Edwards, in 1902, for Captain Robert Edwards who was killed in action near Frenchtown, Michigan on January 22, 1813.

Battery Gregg, in 1905, after John C. Gregg who was killed in action at Mariquana, Phillipine, March 31, 1899.

In 1897, the new fort complex was named in honor of Major General Gersham Mott, by general order of the U.S. War Department.

General Mott, of Burlington, New Jersey served with distinction as: Second Lieutenant in the Tenth Infantry during the Mexican War, Lieutenant Colonel in the 5th New Jersey Volunteers in 1861, Brigadier General in the 6th New Jersey Volunteers in 1862 and as Major General in 1865.

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(Fort Mott, Military cont'd)

The complex was increased by 42 acres, acquired by condemnation on March 11, 1901, to a total area of 146 acres.

The fort was first garrisoned by Battery I, 4th Artillery, arriving from Washington Barracks December 14, 1897. During the Spanish-American War the fort was garrisoned by the 14th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, with Col. J. T. Glenn commanding, and with Battery "L" 4th Artillery. On September 3, 1889, this regiment left for Camp Meade, Maryland. On June 28, 1899, Battery "H" arrived from Fort Monroe, Va., Captain Gilbert Cummings commanding. The Fort was regularly garrisoned thereafter, until 1922, after which a caretaking detachment remained in charge until October 1943, when it was to all extent and purposes abandoned.

Fort Mott was acquired by the State of New Jersey from the Federal Government in 1947. Work on restoration and development started in the late summer of 1949, and the area dedicated as a state park in June, 1951.

Finn's Point National Cemetery

Finn's Point National Cemetery is of National significance for the following reasons. Militarily, the property bares a close association to Fort Delaware on Pea Patch Island, and thus influences both regional and national histories (an explanatory narrative follows). Furthermore, it is the only known cemetery to retain a large number of Confederate, Civil War dead.

Military and Early History

The first prisoners to arrive were 200 of Stonewall Jackson's men captured at the Battle of Kearnstown, Va., on March 23, 1862. Eventually some 12,000 Confederates existed in shocking misery at the island prison, occupying space where not more than a fourth of them could be properly housed.

More than 2,700 Confederates died, from malnutrition, from disease and from neglect. The first few were buried on the island, but as deaths increased to a dozen or more each day, Union officials looked to the mainland.

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(Finn's Point National Cemetery, Military and Early History cont'd)

They chose Finn's Point for their burying ground. The fat bulge of land had been the spot where Swedes and Finns built Fort Elsborg in 1643 to bring Dutch ships under control. A dozen years later the fort lay in ruins; and was forgotten for more than two centuries. Then the government bought 104 acres at the point after the Civil War broke out, possibly to erect a fort.

But Finn's Point was not destined to be the scene of fortification. Rather, the 104 acres came to be the last earthly resting spot of Fort Delaware's imprisoned victims.

Rowed ashore in open boats, the dead were taken by wagon to Finn's Point. Accounts differ as to the method of burial. Some say that long trenches were dug to receive bodies in bulk and without ceremony. Others report that each body was placed in a wooden box and laid reverently to rest.

Nevertheless, there was little individual identification. Burying more than 2,400 men in less than 18 months meant interring an average of more than 130 every month. Many of the dead were smallpox victims; haste, not sentiment, came to be the order of the day.

Peace brought floods of requests for information from Southern relatives concerning those known to have died at Fort Delaware. Limited records showed that bodies had been removed from the island cemetery and re-interred at Finn's Point and that even within the cemetery the dead had been moved about without notation.

Despite the evident difficulties, government searchers definitely traced 2,436 men and boys to burial at Finn's Point. The Confederates are still there, more or less, although three of the bodies are said to have been claimed and removed to Southern cemeteries.

The exact number is really not important, and in 1912, 50 years after the first Southerners arrived at Fort Delaware, the U.S. Government raised an 85-foot-tall obelisk above the cemetery. On its sides are the names and military units of the known dead, 2,436 of them.

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(Finn's Point National Cemetery, Military and Early History cont'd)

Finn's Point is not reserved for Confederate soldiers. Near the Southern graves lie the bodies of 135 Union soldiers, many of them also victims of the disease and squalor of Fort Delaware. Elsewhere on the grounds are the graves of another 127 soldiers from other times and other wars.

Present, too, is the "unknown soldier." In actuality, there are 30 unknown Union soldiers buried in the "federal section." Another "unknown" was added in December, 1944, when oystermen found a body in Delaware Bay. He could not be identified beyond his American Air Force uniform.

Finn's Point also contains the bodies of 13 Nazi prisoners who died at Fort Dix detention camp during World War II. Three Russians who committed suicide fearing repatriation, are buried with them.

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U.T.M References:

A.	18	452390	4384060
B.	18	452650 <del>4384</del> <del>4883</del> 200	
C.	18	453040	4383940
D.	18	452 <del>650</del> <del>680</del> 43834 <del>60</del> <del>360</del>	
E.	18	452440	4383470
F.	18	452 <del>250</del> <del>270</del>	4383930
G.	18	452200	4384630
H.	18	452460	4384530

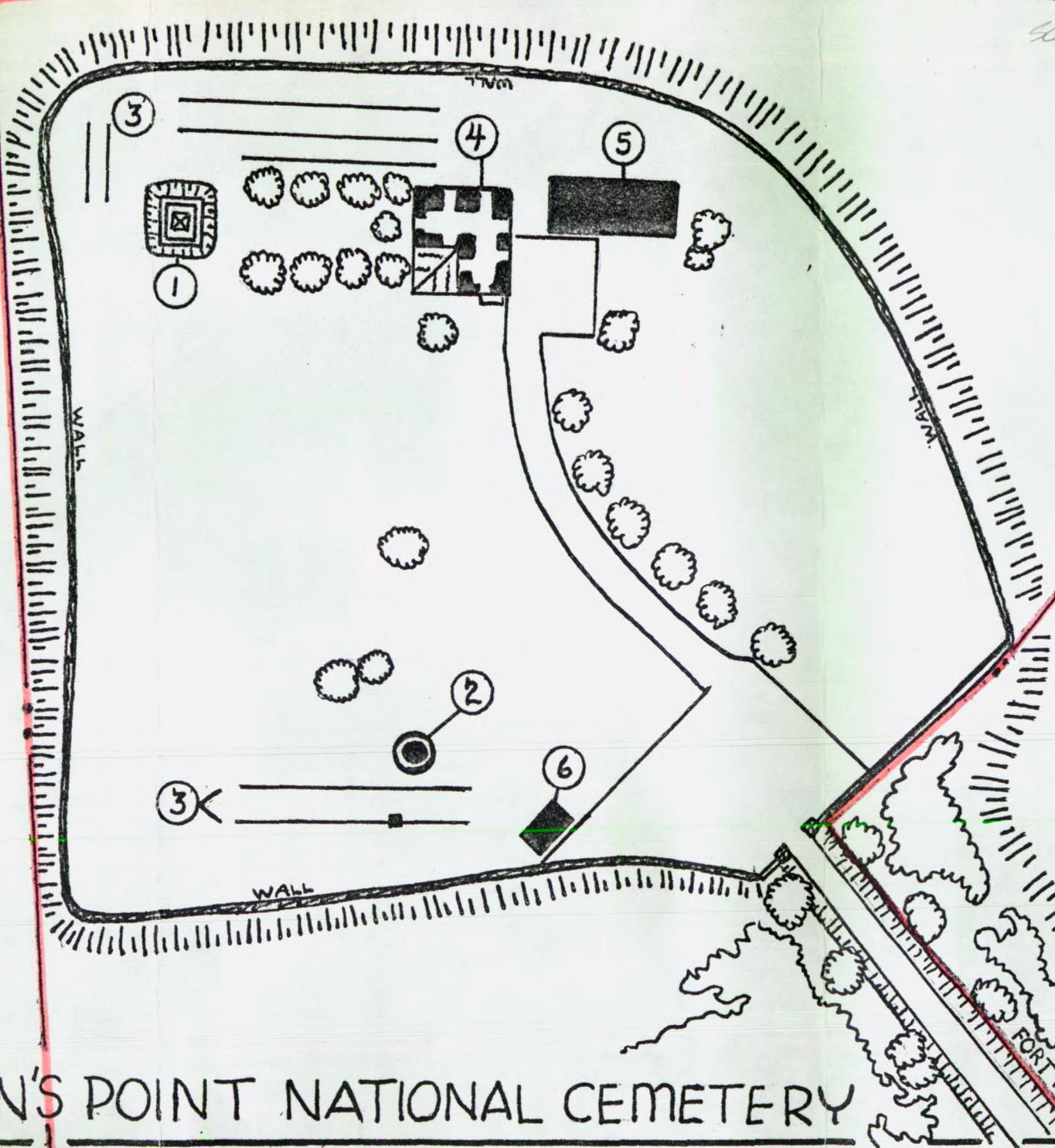
The nominated property occupies city lots 12, 12a and 15a in block 630, and is approximately 115 acres.

Verbal Boundary Description:

All points referred to in the following verbal boundary description are indicated on the U.S. Department of Commerce, Coast and Geodetic Survey Map, Delaware City Quadrangle, photo revised 1970.

Beginning at the point marked A, located in the northern corner of Fort Mott property, proceed southeast turning, at the complex of three storage sheds, to the northeast along the property line a distance of 1500' to point B. Thence from point B, proceed 1700' to the southeast along the property line to point C. Thence from point C, proceed 2300' to the southwest along the property line, which borders Fort Mott Road, to point D. Thence from point D, proceed 1000' to the northwest along the property line bordering the Delaware River to point E. Thence from point E, proceed along the the property line to the north turning at the secondary park service road to the northeast <sup>WEST</sup> a distance of 2000' to point F. Thence from point F, proceed 2200' to the north along the Finns Point National Cemetery boundary line to point G. Thence from point G, proceed 1000' to the southeast along this same property line to point H. Thence from point H, proceed ~~1000~~ 1000' to the south along the boundary line bordering the road to the Finn's Point National Cemetery to the point of origin (point A).

SCALE APPROXIMATES  
1"=100'-0"



MAP, LEGEND :

Confederate Monument...	(1)
Union Monument.....	(2)
Ind. Grave Markers.....	(3)
Gr. Keeper Cottage.....	(4)
Barn.....	(5)
Sanitary Facility.....	(6)

INTRUSION



# FINN'S POINT NATIONAL CEMETERY

by G.A.C. 12/77

MAP, LEGEND:

- Gregg Battery:.....(1)
- Main Battery:.....(2)
- Chief's Battery Station:.....(3)
- Observation Stand:.....(4)
- Gun Fire Control Towers:.....(5)
- Main Ammunition Magazine:.....(6)
- Transport Tracks:.....(7)
- Headquarters Bldg:.....(8)
- Ordinance Bldg:.....(9)
- Officers Quarters:.....(10)
- Parados:.....(11)
- Moat:.....(12)
- Bath-house:.....(13)
- 3 Bldg. Complex (out-bldg's):.....(14)
- Parking Lots:.....(15)
- Parade Grounds:.....(16)

# FORT MOTT STATE PARK



TURNPIKE 5 MILES →  
SALEM 7 MILES →

INTRUSIONS

← FORT DELAWARE ON DEAPATCH ISLAND  
1.3 MI.

← CHESAPEAKE CANAL ENTRANCE  
3 MI.

DELAWARE  
RIVER

