

# DATA SHEET

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Utah
COUNTY: Washington
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE NOV 9 0 1975

### 1. NAME

COMMON:  
Old Fort Pearce  
AND/OR HISTORIC:  
Fort Pearce

### 2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:  
12 mi. SE of Washington, through the Gap into Warner Valley on Ft. Pearce Wash

CITY OR TOWN:  
Washington

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:  
02

STATE: Utah      CODE: 49      COUNTY: Washington      CODE: 053

### 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input 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) <u>Recreation</u>
		<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____	

### 4. AGENCY

Bureau of Land Management

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)  
Cedar City District Office

CITY OR TOWN:  
Cedar City

STREET AND NUMBER:  
P.O. Box 729

STATE: Utah      CODE: 49

### 5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:  
Bureau of Land Management

STREET AND NUMBER:  
Federal Building, 125 South State

CITY OR TOWN:  
Salt Lake City,

STATE: Utah      CODE: 49

### 6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:  
Utah State Register of Historic Sites

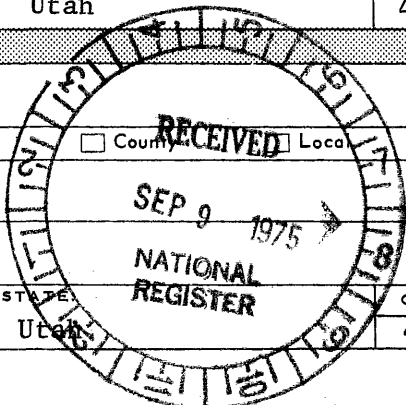
DATE OF SURVEY: July, 1970     Federal     State     County     Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:  
Utah State Historical Society

STREET AND NUMBER:  
603 East South Temple

CITY OR TOWN:  
Salt Lake City

STATE: Utah      CODE: 49



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Utah	ENTRY NUMBER: NOV 9 0 1975	DATE:
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## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

(Check One)

 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

 Altered Unaltered

(Check One)

 Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Fort Pearce, situated on the edge of Fort Pearce Wash, is a rock-walled structure that at present has walls standing approximately six feet high. The single story structure is over thirty feet long and the gunports are now a part of the irregular outline of the top of the walls. There are also the remains of a rock corral a short distance to the south of the fort. The walls of this corral are only a few feet high at one corner and usually consist of piles of rock rubble. Much of the corral's walls has eroded away due to its location in the wash. The fort itself is situated on exposed rock and is not in danger from soil erosion.

In Immortal Pioneers, Albert E. Miller states that originally the walls of the fort were about eight feet high. The structure was never roofed. This fort was fashioned in the shape of a cross with two portholes in the front of each of the four projecting ends, and one porthole in each side of each projection, making in all sixteen portholes. This arrangement gave the guards a crossfire from all directions. From looking at the present outline of the fort, it is doubtful whether the fort actually was in the shape of a cross as stated above.

Building of the fort started on December 4, 1866, as noted in the diary of Charles L. Walker of Washington, Utah. In 1869, the Washington Ward Tithing Ledger indicated that at least six men were given credit for work done on the repair of the fort and the building of corral. It is also noted in the diary of Charles L. Walker that he and other men of the area did repair work on the fort and built a corral in late 1869.

In Red Hills of November, A. K. Larson states that four days of hard labor (December 20-24, 1869) by nineteen men produced a corral with walls five and one-half feet high on a base two and one-half feet wide. This corral is just south of the fort and appears to have crossed the wash and included ground on both sides.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**8. SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |                                       |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century            | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century  | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century |                                       |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

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 type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic               | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____                                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture           | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Military    | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications         | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation           |   |  | _____                                    |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Fort Pearce was built during the Blackhawk War of 1865-1868, a period of conflict with the Ute Indians in central and southern Utah. This was Utah's last major Indian conflict. During this time the Navajo Indians also raided the settlements of southern Utah. The Navajos used Fort Pearce Wash as a means of gaining entry into these Mormon settlements. The fort was built in 1866 to keep out the Navajo raiding parties. No battle was ever fought with the Indians at the site.

Also during this period the farmers fields were not fenced and the fort with its large corral was used to hold cattle to keep them from destroying the crops in the fields. This holding of cattle at Fort Pearce was a common practice and continued long after the Indian unrest ceased.

The fort and the wash upon which it is situated is named for Captain John D. L. Pearce, noted military leader and Indian fighter from St. George, Utah, who took part in the Blackhawk War and other Indian conflicts in southern Utah.

At the present time, the area is visited by the local people, scouting groups and historical societies as a means of conveying an awareness and interest in the pioneer heritage of this part of southern Utah.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

1. The Red Hills of November; Larson, A. K.; pp. 140, 173, 177
2. I Was Called to Dixie; Larson, A. K.; p. 478
3. Immortal Pioneers; Miller, Albert E.; pp. 158, 195
4. Under Dixie Sun: A History of Washington County; Bradshaw, Hazel; p. 249
5. Utah: A Guide to the State; WPA for state of Utah; pp. 42, 43, 77

**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		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		37°	00'	28"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		113°	24'	41"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 10 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
Not applicable			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

**11. FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME AND TITLE: <b>David E. Vickstrom, Recreation Specialist</b>		DATE: <b>6/07/73</b>
BUSINESS ADDRESS: <b>Bureau of Land Management, P. O. Box 729</b>		
STREET AND NUMBER: <b>154 North Main</b>		PHONE: A.C. 801 <b>586-9443</b>
CITY OR TOWN: <b>Cedar City</b>	STATE: <b>Utah</b>	CODE: <b>49</b>

**12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION**

<p>State Liaison Officer recommendation:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> No  <input type="checkbox"/> None</p> <p><i>Milom J. Smith</i>          State Liaison Officer Signature</p> <p>In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance as <input type="checkbox"/> National <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> Local</p> <p><i>Robert A. Wheeler</i>          Federal Representative Signature          Deputy Assistant Secretary</p> <p>SEP 5 1975          Date</p> <p>Title</p>	<p><b>NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION</b></p> <p>I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.</p> <p><i>James P. Rogers</i>          Acting          Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation</p> <p>Date <u>11/20/75</u></p> <p>ATTEST:</p> <p><i>Charles W. Henry</i>          Acting          Keeper of The National Register</p> <p>Date <u>11.14.75</u></p>
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

*(Continuation Sheet)*

STATE Utah	
COUNTY Washington	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
40V-2-0	1975

*(Number all entries)*

8. Significance

Fort Pearce was built and occupied by Mormon settlers desirous of maintaining agricultural communities in that part of southern Utah. Although the direct purpose in building the fort was to keep Navajos from raiding settlements, its corral proved to be its most useful asset, in keeping livestock from destroying valuable crops.

9. Major Bibliographic References

Washington Ward Tithing Ledger (in St. George, Utah)



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(Continuation Sheet)

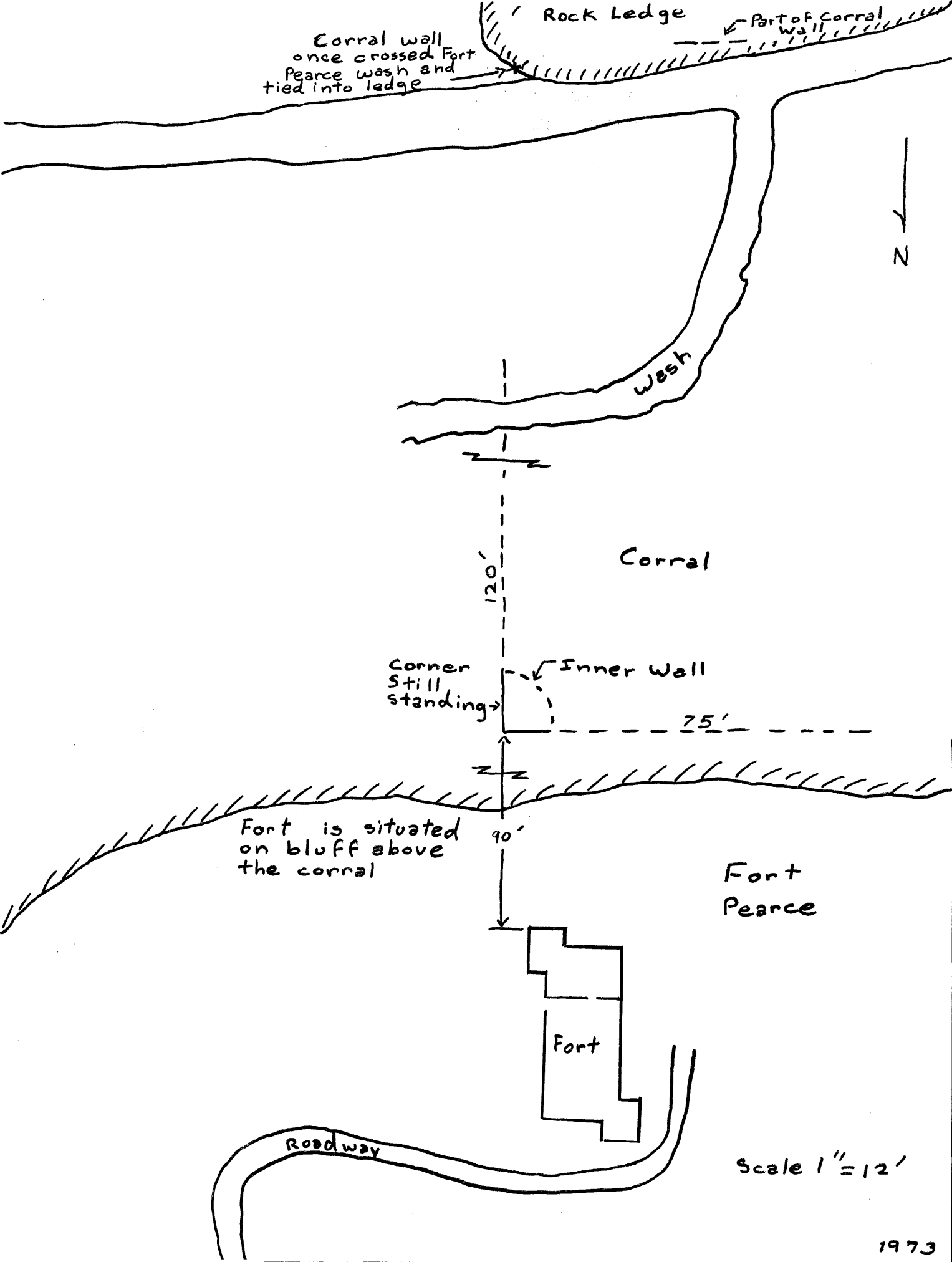
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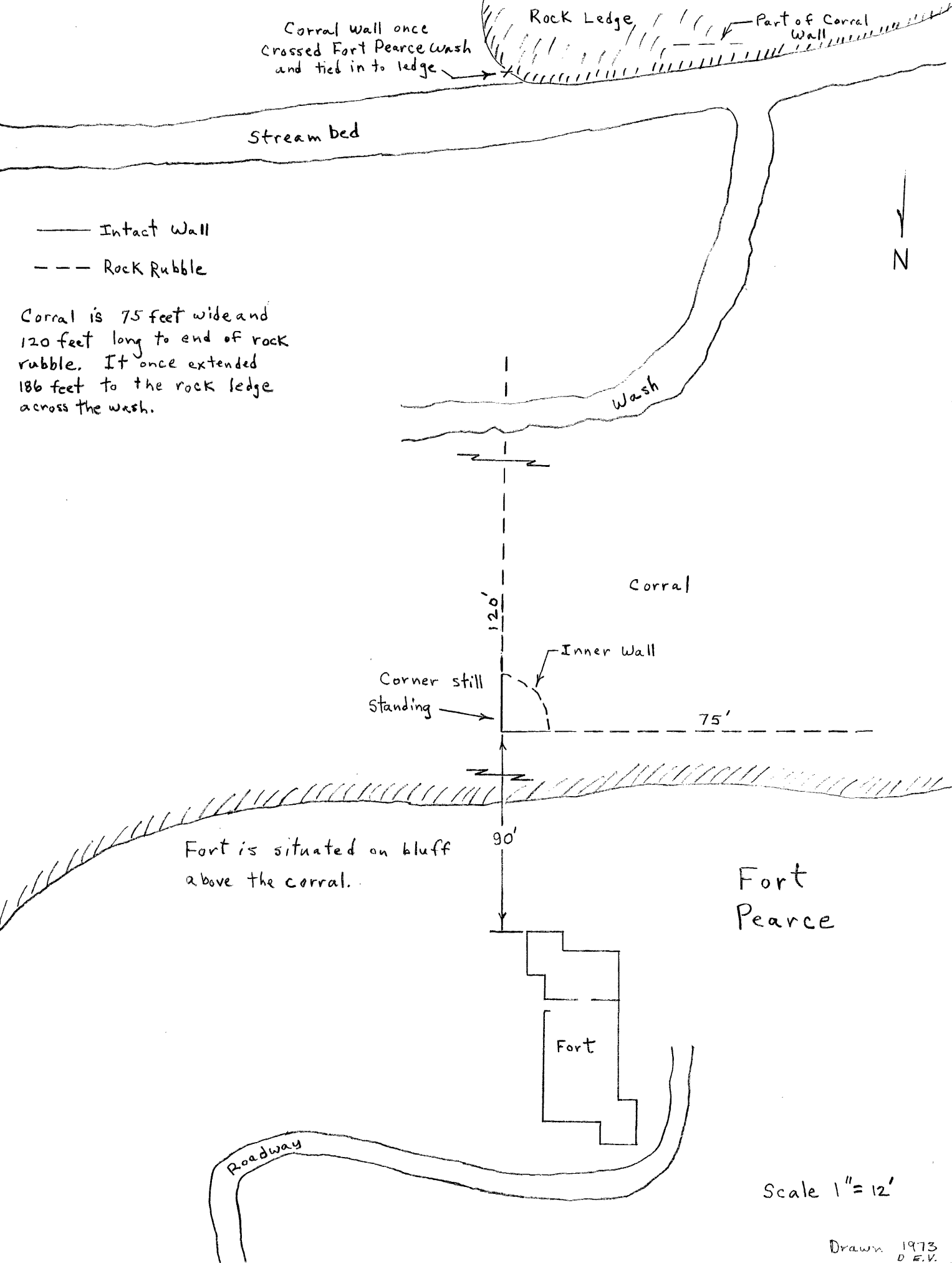
(Number all entries)

7. description

(see reverse side of sheet) sketch map showing position of Fort Pearce to corral and wash.







Corral wall once crossed Fort Pearce wash and tied in to ledge

Rock Ledge

Part of Corral Wall

Stream bed

Wash

Corral

Inner Wall

Corner still Standing

75'

120'

90'

Fort is situated on bluff above the corral.

Fort Pearce

Fort

Roadway

Scale 1" = 12'

Drawn 1973 D.E.V.

— Intact Wall

- - - Rock Rubble

Corral is 75 feet wide and 120 feet long to end of rock rubble. It once extended 186 feet to the rock ledge across the wash.

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