
National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory
2007



Park Headquarters
Fort Vancouver National Historic Site



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Pacific West
Regional Office
Seattle

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Seattle, WA 98104

Cultural Resource
Programs

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CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY (CLI) 2007

Park Headquarters Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site concurs with the findings of the CLI, including the management category and condition assessment as identified below:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: **C: May be preserved and maintained**

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: **Good**

Superintendent, Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

9/28/07

Date

Please return to:

Erica Owens
Historical Landscape Architect
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office - Seattle
909 First Avenue, Floor 5
Seattle, WA 98104-1060

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

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JUL 21 2004

FORT VANCOUVER
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITECOPY FOR YOUR
INFORMATION

STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
1063 S. Capitol Way, Suite 106 - Olympia, Washington 98501
(Mailing Address) PO Box 48343 - Olympia, Washington 98504-8343
(360) 586-3065 Fax Number (360) 586-3067

July 16, 2004

Tracy Fortmann
Fort Vancouver National Historic Site
612 E. Reserve Street
Vancouver Washington
98661

Dear Ms. Fortmann:

I am delighted to inform you that the **Vancouver National Historic Reserve** in **Vancouver** has been listed in the Washington Heritage Register, where it joins over 1,500 other historic and culturally significant properties which have been recognized for their unique contributions to Washington's heritage.

Additionally, I am pleased to report to you that the nomination, after a few technical corrections and adjustments, will also be sent to the Keeper of the National Register in Washington, D.C., with a request that the property be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Having a property listed in one or both of these registers is an honor. The benefits of State and National Register listing include potential tax credits, property tax deductions and code waivers to protect the integrity of the resource. Listing of a property does not impose federal or state restrictive covenants or easements nor will it result in a taking. However, listing in the National Register of Historic Places and/or the Washington Heritage Register does assure protective review of a property should a federal or state action have a potential adverse effect to the property's historic values.

We will inform you when official notification of National Register listing is received from the National Park Service. Please do not hesitate to contact our State and National Register Coordinator, Michael Houser, at (360) 586-3076 if you have any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Allyson Brooks, Ph.D.
State Historic Preservation Officer

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Large Format Site Plan: Park Headquarters

Inventory Unit Summary & Site Plan

Inventory Summary

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

CLI General Information:

Purpose and Goals of the CLI

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI), a comprehensive inventory of all cultural landscapes in the national park system, is one of the most ambitious initiatives of the National Park Service (NPS) Park Cultural Landscapes Program. The CLI is an evaluated inventory of all landscapes having historical significance that are listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, or are otherwise managed as cultural resources through a public planning process and in which the NPS has or plans to acquire any legal interest. The CLI identifies and documents each landscape's location, size, physical development, condition, landscape characteristics, character-defining features, as well as other valuable information useful to park management. Cultural landscapes become approved CLIs when concurrence with the findings is obtained from the park superintendent and all required data fields are entered into a national database. In addition, for landscapes that are not currently listed on the National Register and/or do not have adequate documentation, concurrence is required from the State Historic Preservation Officer or the Keeper of the National Register.

The CLI, like the List of Classified Structures, assists the NPS in its efforts to fulfill the identification and management requirements associated with Section 110(a) of the National Historic Preservation Act, National Park Service Management Policies (2006), and Director's Order #28: Cultural Resource Management. Since launching the CLI nationwide, the NPS, in response to the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA), is required to report information that respond to NPS strategic plan accomplishments. Two GPRA goals are associated with the CLI: bringing certified cultural landscapes into good condition (Goal 1a7) and increasing the number of CLI records that have complete, accurate, and reliable information (Goal 1b2B).

Scope of the CLI

The information contained within the CLI is gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries and archives and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance of the existing landscape. The baseline information collected provides a comprehensive look at the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in context of the site's overall significance. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features, and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's overall integrity and an assessment of the landscape's overall condition. The CLI also provides an illustrative site plan that indicates major features within the inventory unit. Unlike cultural landscape reports, the CLI does not provide management recommendations or

treatment guidelines for the cultural landscape.

Inventory Unit Description:

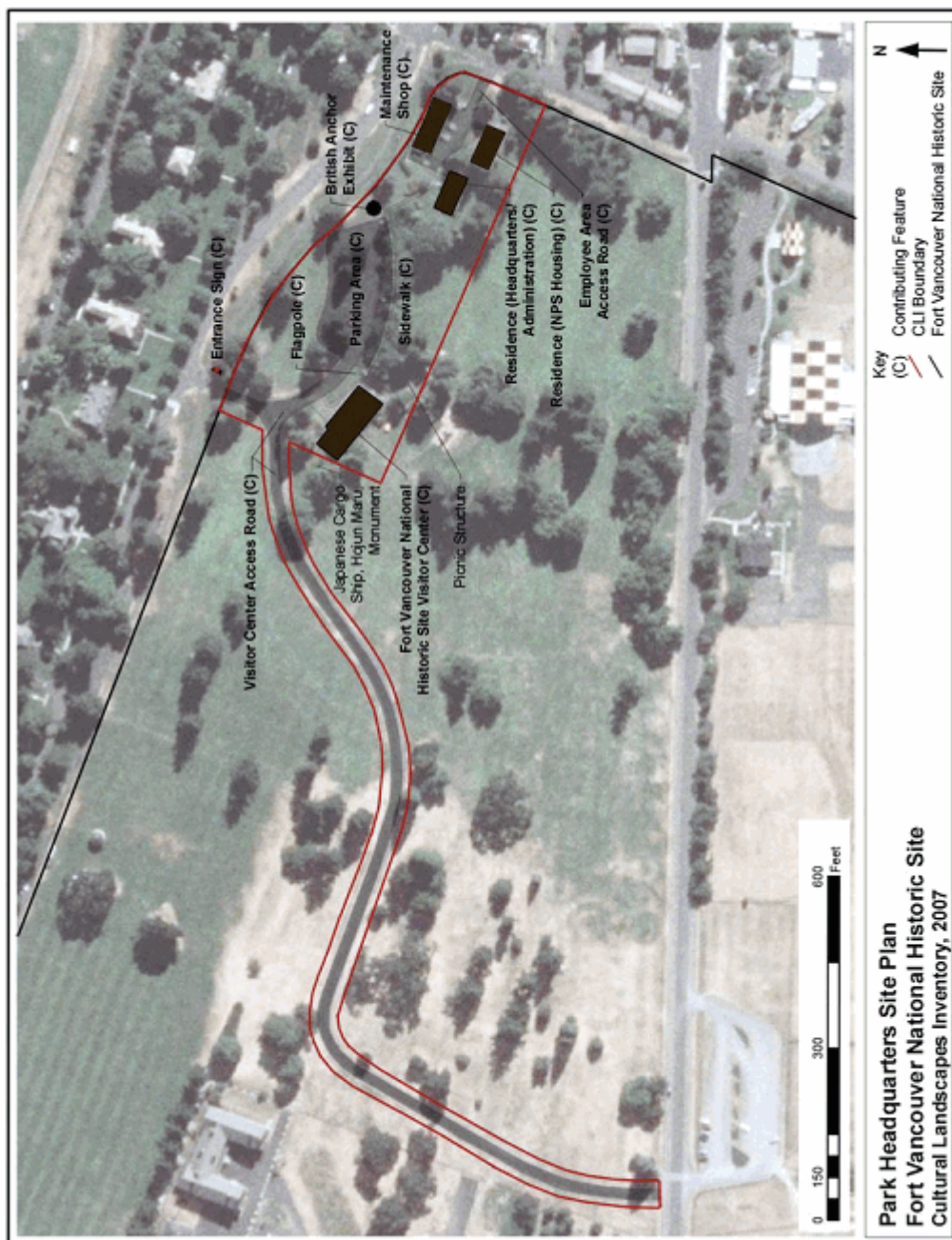
The Park Headquarters cultural landscape is located in the northeast quarter of the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. This landscape is comprised of features that were designed and constructed by the National Park Service during the Mission 66 era, between 1954 and 1966. The Park Headquarters site includes a Visitor Center and associated parking lot, park housing, a maintenance building, and access roads. In the spirit of Mission 66, planning and design efforts carefully addressed interpretation of the park resources and visitor experience through placement of buildings, roads, and parking. The policies that influenced Mission 66 design and planning are still evident at the park today and continue to influence the ways that visitors use the site.

The period of significance for the Park Headquarters extends from 1954 through 1966 reflecting Mission 66 development within Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. In the early 1950s, the National Park Service began to develop plans for facilities that would support the mission of the unit. By 1955, NPS efforts resulted in the completion of a park master plan. The 1955 document included plans for buildings, new roads, walkways, and parking lots with an emphasis placed on the visitor. Following Mission 66 Modern architecture and planning practices as well as the 1955 master plan, groundbreaking ceremonies took place in August 1960. By August 1961, construction had been completed; resulting in new roads, parking areas, utilities and buildings.

The Fort Vancouver Park Headquarters landscape is an intact example of a Mission 66 era national park development. The overall site plan, building exteriors, vehicular and pedestrian circulation routes, entrance sign, flagpole, parking lot, outdoor exhibit, and the spatial organization of these features and their design intent were all part of the master plan and remain completely intact. Embodying the principles of Mission 66 Modern architecture, all of the buildings and landscape features possess physical integrity through location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Furthermore, the Mission 66 style is still evident in the remaining landscape characteristics and features, which include: natural systems and features, spatial organization, cluster arrangement, land use, circulation, small-scale features, and buildings and structures.

The National Park Service Mission 66 era and development is included in the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Historic District, which was listed to the National Register of Historic Places in January 2007. In this nomination, the Mission 66 features are contributing to the Historic District. The Park Headquarters cultural landscape is significant at the state level under Criterion A for its association with park master planning during the Mission 66-era and Criterion C for its distinct Mission 66-era Modern style architecture and site design. It is also eligible under Special Criterion Consideration G as a property achieving significance within the past fifty years for the Mission 66 development built within the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site in the early 1960s.

Site Plan



For a larger version of the Site Plan, see Supplemental Information.

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Park Headquarters
Property Level:	Component Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	975379
Parent Landscape:	400015

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	Fort Vancouver National Historic Site -FOVA
Park Organization Code:	9430
Park Administrative Unit:	Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

CLI Hierarchy Description

Park Headquarters is a component landscape of the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site.

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	Yes
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	09/28/2007
National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- Keeper
Date of Concurrence Determination:	01/05/2007

Concurrence Graphic Information:

See front of CLI for concurrence pages signed by the Washington SHPO and Park Superintendent.

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

Boundary Justification

The boundary follows the Park Development Management Zone established in the Draft General Management Plan (2003), with the additions of the road corridor that connects the Park Headquarters area to the Fort Vancouver reconstruction and a discontinuous point for the park entrance sign. The park entrance sign is not located outside of the park boundary, but is managed by the NPS as part of the Cooperative Management Plan (2000) for the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Boundary. This boundary contains all the contributing features associated with the Mission 66 development.

Boundary Description

The cultural landscape boundary begins in the northeastern-most point of the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, 70 feet south of the corner of Evergreen Boulevard and East Reserve Street and set back 20 feet west of East Reserve Street. Following the Park Development Management Zone established in the Draft General Management Plan (2003), the boundary heads southwest 160 feet. It then turns at a 90 degree angle, heading northwest about 730 feet. The boundary makes another 90 degree angle and

Park Headquarters
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heads northeast until it reaches the Visitor Center access road. The boundary parallels the southern/eastern edge of the road, fifteen feet from the centerline, as it S-curves toward the Fort Vancouver reconstruction until it reaches East 5th Street. The boundary turns back toward the Park Headquarters paralleling the western/northern edge of the road, fifteen feet from the centerline, until it reaches the Park Headquarters developed area. The boundary turns northeast and it resumes its course along the Park Development Management Zone boundary. Once it reaches a point 70 feet south of Evergreen Boulevard, the boundary turns southeast and parallels the edge of the road to its point of origin. One discontinuous point marks the location of the park entrance sign at the corner of the East Reserve Street and the Visitor Center Access Road.

State and County:

State: WA

County: Clark County

Size (Acres): 5.75

Boundary UTMS:

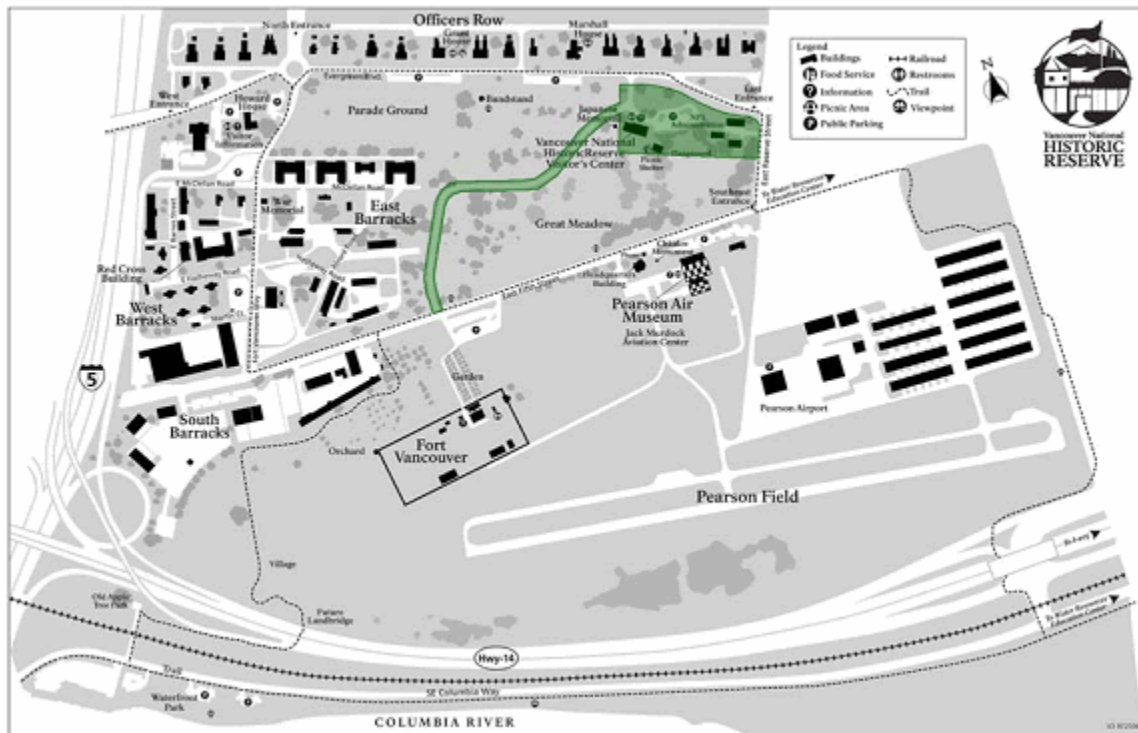
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	10
UTM Easting:	526,955
UTM Northing:	5,052,518
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	10
UTM Easting:	526,938
UTM Northing:	5,052,474
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	10
UTM Easting:	526,731
UTM Northing:	5,052,550
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	10
UTM Easting:	526,767
UTM Northing:	5,052,645
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000

Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	10
UTM Easting:	526,841
UTM Northing:	5,052,645
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	10
UTM Easting:	526,841
UTM Northing:	5,052,612
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Area
Datum:	NAD 83
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UTM Easting:	526,913
UTM Northing:	5,052,551
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UTM Northing:	5,052,535
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Line
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	10

UTM Easting:	526,756
UTM Northing:	5,052,614
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Line
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	10
UTM Easting:	526,705
UTM Northing:	5,052,605
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Line
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	10
UTM Easting:	526,593
UTM Northing:	5,052,543
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Line
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	10
UTM Easting:	526,437
UTM Northing:	5,052,575
Source:	USGS Map 1:24,000
Type of Point:	Line
Datum:	NAD 83
UTM Zone:	10
UTM Easting:	526,360
UTM Northing:	5,052,396

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Location Map:



The Mission 66 Park Headquarters site is located in the northeastern portion of the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site and the Vancouver National Historic Reserve.

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: May be Preserved or Maintained

Management Category Date: 09/28/2007

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The Management Category for the Mission 66 Park Headquarters is "May be Preserved and Maintained." This landscape does not qualify for Category B classification because the approved treatment documented in the 2003 General Management Plan includes the rehabilitation of the Visitor Center and removal other buildings and structures.

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? No

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

Entered Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

The National Park Service Mission 66 park headquarters (1954-1966) was described in the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Historic District. The District was determined eligible by the Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places and was listed on January 5, 2007.

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence: Eligible -- Keeper

Contributing/Individual: Contributing

National Register Classification: District

Significance Level: State

Significance Criteria: A - Associated with events significant to broad patterns of our history

Significance Criteria: C - Embodies distinctive construction, work of master, or high artistic values

Criteria Considerations: G -- A property less than 50 years of age

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Architecture

Area of Significance Subcategory: None

Statement of Significance:

The Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Park Headquarters is a landscape developed as part of the NPS Mission 66 movement. It is located within the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Historic District (VNHR). Listed in January 2007, the VNHR is a complex historic district that includes land owned and managed by the National Park Service, the City of Vancouver, and the U.S. Army and spans four historic development eras between 500 BC – 1966 BC. The Park Headquarters site is described in the nomination as the National Park Service Mission 66 character area and era that spans 1954 to 1966. The period of significance for the Park Headquarters cultural landscape covers the years during which the NPS designed and constructed the Mission 66 development.

The portion of the VNHR owned by the NPS is the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. The

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historic site was listed on the National Register in 1966 and found nationally significant under Criterion D for archeological sites that have revealed significant historic information and potential to yield further information regarding HBC activities. The archeological sites associated with the HBC era are contributing features to the VNHR and the Fort Vancouver cultural landscape.

In the 2007 nomination, the Park Headquarters development was found regionally significant at the state level under Criterion A for its association with park master planning during the Mission 66-era and Criterion C for its distinct Mission 66-era Modern style architecture and site design. It is also eligible under Special Criterion Consideration G as a property achieving significance within the past fifty years for the Mission 66 development built within the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site in the early 1960s.

A Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPD) for Pacific West Region Mission 66 Resources was developed in 2004 to help identify Mission 66 resources that may be eligible for listing on the National Register. Referencing the draft MPD registration requirements for guidance, the Mission 66 buildings and structures at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site are eligible under Criterion A because they were entirely planned and constructed during the Mission 66 era (1955-1966). Mission 66 was a high profile, ten-year development effort aimed at modernizing the Park Service and accommodating changing visitation patterns. It was so named because it would conclude in 1966 and commemorate the National Park Service's fiftieth anniversary year.

The years of neglect brought about by the economic climate of the war years left many of the Park Service facilities in substandard condition. After World War II, visitation within the National Parks increased dramatically. In addition, visitors were arriving in personal automobiles that the parks were generally ill-equipped to accommodate. Conrad Wirth, NPS Director during the Mission 66-era, believed that development would control public access and prevent deterioration of park resources and pursued a policy that some historians have called the "paradox of protection by development" (Sellars 1997, 181). The Visitor Center and associated development of buildings and structures at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site were designed and constructed as a part of this larger NPS initiative.

Mission 66 park developments were typically divided into two zones: the public services and park support. The development at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site is a prime example of such a layout. The original design and layout of this Mission 66 development has been minimally altered since its completion, resulting in a high level of physical integrity when compared with similar small park or historic site developments from the same era within the Pacific West Region. In addition, it remains the only intact example of such a Mission 66, small park development in Washington State (A similar small park development in Washington State at Whitman Mission National Historic Site, has been significantly altered since the Mission 66-era).

Referencing the draft MPD registration requirements for guidance, the Mission 66 buildings at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site are eligible under Criterion C by embodying the distinctive characteristics of Mission 66 architecture. In search of economical design and construction techniques, the NPS moved away from the earlier Rustic Style architecture that required intensive labor and

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expensive building materials (large timbers and stone), and adopted a more simple Modern Style of architecture that emphasized new materials (inexpensive steel, concrete, and glass) and machine production. Four buildings and associated roads and parking lots at Fort Vancouver reflect the values and the goals of the Mission 66 program. These resources have exceptional significance on a state level and contribute to our understanding of the historic land uses and evolution of the Historic District. All of the buildings and landscape features embody the principles of modern architecture, and possess physical integrity through location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

The Mission 66 development meets the National Register criteria for historic significance plus those for exceptional significance for properties less than 50 years old. Referencing the regional MPD registration requirements and Allaback's "Mission 66 Visitor Centers: The History of a Building Type" (2000) for guidance, the Mission 66 buildings at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site are significant under Special Criterion G by meeting the following:

- All buildings, structures, and small-scale features dating to the period of significance were originally planned and built as part of the Mission 66 program.
- The buildings possess substantial physical integrity from the period of significance (1954-1966) in terms of massing, spatial relationships, proportion, pattern of windows, texture of materials and ornamentation, and characteristics critical in defining the buildings' modern design and have not been altered.
- The buildings and structures are each an essential part of an overall Mission 66 park development plan that had extraordinary importance in the history and development of an individual park.

The 1955 master planning process and construction of the 1961 development at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site were executed as part of the Mission 66-program. The overall site plan, building exteriors, vehicular and pedestrian circulation routes, entrance sign, flagpole, parking lot, outdoor exhibit, and the spatial organization of these features and their design intent were all part of the master plan and remain completely intact. Minor changes have been made to the vegetation, a non-intrusive addition added to the maintenance building, and minor alterations made to the exterior of the Visitor Center and one residence. No other Mission 66 development within a small park or historic site retains such integrity within Washington State. The only comparable Mission 66-era, small, historic park in Washington State is the Whitman Mission National Historic Site, which has undergone significant changes since its development.

The Mission 66 developed area within the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site was extraordinarily important to the development of the Vancouver National Historic Site because the Mission 66-era master plans provided guidance for all development on the upper terrace and for interpretation of the HBC Fort site. Due to the small size of the historic park and due to the lack of previous NPS development, the 1955 master plan was important in determining the entire layout of the park and design of all the buildings and structures on the upper terrace. The 1955 master plan was critical in determining how visitors would experience the historic resources within the park through the alignment of roads, placement of parking areas and the Visitor Center, and removal of U.S. Army buildings.

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Careful attention was given to creating the best views of and access to the HBC Fort site and to screen views of the maintenance and residential areas of the development. Today, the Mission 66 development retains a high degree of integrity. The policies that influenced Mission 66 design and planning are still evident at the park today and continue to influence the ways that visitors use the site.

State Register Information

Identification Number: CL058
Date Listed: 06/24/2004
Name: Vancouver National Historic Reserve Historic District

Explanatory Narrative:

The National Park Service Mission 66 park headquarters is a cultural landscape located within the boundaries of the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Historic District.

National Historic Landmark Information

National Historic Landmark Status: No

World Heritage Site Information

World Heritage Site Status: No

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Historic Site
Designed

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function: Recreation/Culture-Other

Primary Current Use: Recreation/Culture-Other

Other Use/Function

Visitor Contact (Visitor Center)

Maintenance Facility

Government Office-Other

Exhibit

Outdoor Recreation-Other

Other Type of Use or Function

Both Current And Historic

Both Current And Historic

Both Current And Historic

Both Current And Historic

Both Current And Historic

Current and Historic Names:

Name

Fort Vancouver

FOVA National Historic Site

Type of Name

Both Current And Historic

Both Current And Historic

Ethnographic Study Conducted:

No Survey Conducted

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
AD 1845	Developed	The height of HBC development had been reached at the Fort.
AD 1860	Abandoned	The HBC abandoned their Fort, leaving the U.S. Army to take possession of the entire site.
AD 1948	Established	Act of Congress authorized Fort Vancouver National Historic Monument.
AD 1955	Planned	The Fort Vancouver National Monument park master plan was completed.
AD 1955 - 1966	Established	Mission 66 era. Mission 66 was a ten-year development effort aimed at modernizing the Park Service and accomodating changing visitation patterns.
AD 1960 - 1961	Developed	Mission 66 developments at Fort Vancouver National Monument were undertaken.
	Built	The Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Visitor Center was constructed.
	Built	Two residences were constructed. Their design was consistent with the standard, three-bedroom house plan B developed for the Mission 66 program.
	Built	The Maintenance Shop was constructed.
AD 1961	Established	The Fort was redesignated as a National Historic Site.
AD 1961 - 1962	Planted	A planting plan was implemented within the vicinity of the Visitor Center and north of the Fort reconstruction.
AD 1979	Altered	An extension was added to the western end of the maintenace building.

Physical History:

Prehistoric/Contact Native American Era, 500 BC-1824 AD

The Portland/Vancouver basin contained one of the densest populations of American Indians north of Mexico in the eighteenth and early nineteenth century. The resident population of approximately 4-5,000 Chinookan people swelled to nearly 10,000 during the spring run of salmon (Boyd and Hayda 1987). The seasonal influx of people during the salmon runs and the presence of the major rivers brought distant people together. Both riverine and interior peoples, including Chinook, Cowlitz, Klickitat, Taidnapam, Shahala, Kalapuya and Molala congregated in the area during the spring. People had access to the abundant fish, game, bulbs, roots, and other resources of the basin through marriage and other kinship ties.

The Vancouver National Historic Reserve is located on a former area of prairie and wetlands that formed a highly productive location for native food resources. In the mid-nineteenth century, this place was called Fort Plain through its association with the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort Vancouver. Fort Plain was the terminus of the Klickitat Trail that linked the interior Klickitat and Taidnapam people to the riverine Chinook people, and linked the resources of the river (smelt, sturgeon, salmon, and wapato), with that of the prairies and mountains (camas, oak, berries, game animals) (Norton et al. 1983). Prehistoric features such as pits, hearths, midden-like deposits, and postholes found within the Vancouver National Historic Reserve confirm that Native Americans occupied Fort Plain prior to Euro-American contact.

The activities of Native Americans along the Columbia River prior to 1824 are reflected in the archeological sites within the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Historic District. Known archeological sites have the potential to convey information regarding the occupation of the Fort Plain by the Native Americans prior to its development by the HBC.

Since 1824, the HBC, U.S. Army, National Park Service, City of Vancouver, and other entities have heavily developed the Fort Plain and the north bank of the Columbia River. As a result, the landscape is not recognizable from its pre-1824 appearance. Remaining resources that have the potential to convey information regarding the era are limited to known archeological sites within the Historic District and the potential to discover new sites.

Hudson's Bay Company Fort Vancouver Era, 1824-1860

Establishment of the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort Vancouver

The published journal of Captain James Cook's voyages to the Pacific Northwest sparked a European and American race to the Pacific coast of North America to exploit the vast fur riches and the developing Chinese market for these furs. Among the earliest of these new adventurers were a former lieutenant in the British Navy, John Meares, and an English trader named William Douglas. Under the flags of England and Portugal, Meares and Douglas established a post at Nootka, Alaska in 1788, which was later challenged by Spanish naval forces. Later that year, Americans Robert Gray and John Kendrick, financed by a Boston syndicate interested in the fur trade, arrived in Northwest waters. In 1792, Gray passed through

the entrance to a great river, which he named for his vessel, the Columbia. During this same year, George Vancouver discovered and explored Puget Sound in what is now Washington State. Following Lewis and Clark's 1804-1806 overland expedition to the Pacific, American John Jacob Astor organized the Pacific Fur Company. In 1811, this firm established a fur trading post near the mouth of the Columbia River, Fort Astoria, later followed by other posts in the region. The Pacific Fur Company operated in competition with a Canadian firm, the North West Company, a powerful fur trading firm based in Montreal.

Thus began a long contest of ownership for the Oregon Country, bounded by the Spanish territories to the south, the Rocky Mountains to the east, the Pacific Ocean to the west, and extending indefinitely to the north. The United States rested its claim on the voyages and discoveries of Robert Gray. Great Britain's interests were based on rights ceded by Spain after the Nootka controversy, on the expeditions of Vancouver and Meares, and on a 1793 overland trip made to the coast of British Columbia from Montreal by Alexander Mackenzie of the North West Company. In principal, both countries accepted the idea of partition yet disagreed over the location of the southern boundary, leaving in doubt the future ownership of the lands between the Columbia River and what is now the Canadian border.

On the east side of the Rockies during this period, the North West Company was engaged in a battle with its powerful rival, the Hudson's Bay Company. The latter firm had been established by a charter granted in 1670 by Charles II to his cousin Prince Rupert and Rupert's associates. The contract included instructions to work for the discovery of the Northwest Passage and to find trade in furs and other commodities. It also conveyed ownership and a trade monopoly of a vast territory drained by the waters running into Hudson's Bay in North America. In March of 1821, the HBC and the North West Company merged. The charter and name of the HBC were retained, as was the organization of its London headquarters, which directed operations through a Governor and Committee. Under the union, North America was divided into two districts: the Northern Department of Rupert's Land, covering all country north of the boundary with the United States and west of the west shore of Hudson's Bay to the Pacific Ocean, including New Caledonia (now British Columbia); and the Southern Department of Rupert's Land, covering the territory east of the Northern Department's boundaries, including Lake Huron and Lake Superior. Each was to be managed by a governor appointed from London, and two councils, comprised of HBC partners, field agents, and chief factors, who were generally responsible for districts within each department and who managed the posts or fur brigades.

George Simpson, a Scot in service with the HBC in North America, was appointed Governor of the Northern Department. In 1826, he was also appointed head of the Southern Department and, from that time on, effectively administered all the HBC's activities in North America. Governor Simpson's first visit to the Columbia resulted in significant and far-reaching changes in the operations of the HBC's westernmost region. Most notably, he expanded HBC operations into the Snake Country, and south towards California, before a settlement of the boundary issue should close the rich fur-bearing region to the British; his intent was to strip the regions of their fur resources and thus discouraging American business there. In addition, Simpson instituted rigorous economies, including a reduced reliance on imported foods, and was determined to develop an agricultural program that would not only supply the needs of the posts,

but that would also become a profitable branch of the export trade.

In the fall of 1824, soon after his arrival at the mouth of the Columbia River, Simpson ordered the abandonment of Fort George, an HBC post on the southern banks of the Columbia River, and the construction of Fort Vancouver on the north side of the Columbia. Land north of the river was in territory that was still possible for the British to hold and to which supplies for interior posts could be delivered directly from the sea, rather than overland. Fort Vancouver would provide a means of retaining land north of the Columbia River under British dominion. In the summer of 1824, Great Britain and the United States suspended boundary negotiations, which, while leaving the ultimate settlement of the dispute in doubt, resulted in the HBC determination to exploit the trade potential in the Pacific Northwest and to reinforce Great Britain's claim to the territory in dispute, the area between the forty-ninth parallel and the lower Columbia River.

In addition to locating the post on the north bank, according to McLoughlin, Simpson directed his subordinates to find a place where "...we could cultivate the soil and raise our own provisions" (Waite 1881, 46). The site nearest the Columbia deemed suitable was a low-lying plain that projected into the Columbia River about six miles upriver from its confluence with the Willamette River. The site was known as the Jolie Prairie or Belle Vue Point. About sixty feet above the plain, which appeared to have rich agricultural potential, rose a second terrace of densely wooded land, which offered a commanding view and enough height to establish a defensive position against native tribes, initially believed by the HBC to be hostile.

Fort Vancouver was soon to become the HBC's administrative headquarters west of the Rocky Mountains and assured Great Britain's preeminence in the region for the next twenty years. From the post, a great network of fur trading posts in the Pacific Northwest Region was established, largely successful in beating back American competition for furs and trade. Ironically, it was also Fort Vancouver, under the aegis of its long-time administrator, Chief Factor John McLoughlin, that offered aid and assistance to an ever-increasing influx of American immigrants who would eventually overrun the region and lead to the establishment of the U.S.-Canadian boundary at the forty-ninth parallel.

Main Depot of the Columbia Department

Immediately after Simpson's return to Fort George, a party was dispatched to start construction of Fort Vancouver. A stockade was built about a mile from the river bank on the bluff overlooking the river plain. On March 18, 1825 Simpson recorded in his journal: "The Fort is Well picketed covering a space of about 3/4ths of an acre and the buildings already completed are a Dwelling House, two good Stores an Indian Hall and temporary quarters for the people" (Merk 1931, 124). It appears that the quarters for employees consisted of tents and structures made of other non-permanent materials: Botanist David Douglas, who arrived at the new post on a collecting trip for the Horticultural Society of London in April of 1825, was housed in a tent and, later, a bark hut near the river. Fur trapper Jedediah Smith, who arrived at the post at the end of 1828, noted the Fort had "...a fine garden, some small apple trees and vines" (Rich 1947, 68-69).

On March 19, 1825, everyone at the new post gathered at sunrise to watch a flag raising ceremony at which Simpson proclaimed the name of the new post, Fort Vancouver. After the dedication Simpson departed for the east, leaving Chief Factor John McLoughlin in charge of the new establishment.

Between 1824 and 1827, the boundary issue still hung over the new post, as did Simpson's plans to establish a new depot at the Fraser River that would combine the entire New Caledonia and Columbia departments into one administrative unit. The new depot was to be built at the mouth of the Fraser River (located in today's British Columbia), a river that Simpson mistakenly believed would supply easy access to both districts and to the coast. McLoughlin therefore limited the development of Fort Vancouver—"I erected only such Buildings at this place as are immediately required" (Rich 1941, 32), he told London in a September 1826 letter--apparently anticipating a settlement in which the Columbia would become the boundary, and fur trading to the south would become impossible, making Fort Vancouver's location at the south edge of the British territory operationally inefficient. However, in August of 1827 the joint-occupation of the disputed territory was indefinitely extended, and it became clear Fort Vancouver could continue to act as a locus from which fur brigades could be sent south, as well as north and east.

Moreover, in the course of a fall 1828 trip to Fort Vancouver, George Simpson descended the Fraser River and determined the journey dangerous and untenable. Plans to establish the Columbia Department's main depot at its mouth were scrapped and Fort Vancouver became the permanent supply depot for all of the department's posts in Columbia and New Caledonia. The location of the original stockade, at least a mile from the Columbia River, was not practical for the increasing amounts of goods and material which would have to be moved in and out of the depot enroute to and from other posts, England, and (as the envisioned agricultural and industrial production plans materialized) Hawaii, California, and Russian outposts in Alaska. Hauling water to the stockade, with an increased complement of employees stationed there to perform depot duties, would be inefficient. Moreover, the high, naturally defensible site designed to repel Native American attacks had proven unnecessary. Thus, in the winter of 1828-29, or possibly in the early spring of 1829, construction began on a new stockade on the plain lying along the river, about four hundred yards from its bank.

The plain on which the new stockade was situated came to be called Fort Plain. It was the functional and approximate geographic center of Fort Vancouver's lands, which, at its greatest extent, fronted the Columbia River for about twenty-five miles, and stretched northward from it for distances varying from four to fifteen miles. All principal roads led to and from the 1828-29 stockade, connecting it to the post's other agricultural centers, referred to as farms, to the north, east and west; to its mills six miles to the east; to its employee and riverfront activities, west and south of the stockade; and to overland routes connecting the post with the outside world.

During the years after 1829, the posts maintained by the HBC through Fort Vancouver included Fort George (reoccupied in 1829), Chinook or Pillar Rock, Cape Disappointment, Fort Umpqua, Fort Nez Percés, Fort Boise, Fort Hall, Fort Okanagan, Fort Colville, Kootenai Post, Flathead

Post, Coweeman, and later, Champoege in the Willamette River valley. Under the HBC's later subsidiary, the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company, two additional posts were supervised from Fort Vancouver: Cowlitz Farm and Fort Nisqually. McLoughlin established trading relationships with regional native tribes. Important figures in the relationship between the local Chinookan tribes included Chief Casino and Chief Comcomly who were competing rivals for HBC's favor.

For many years Fort Vancouver served as the collection point for furs from these posts, and as the distribution center for supplies and trade goods from London, agricultural produce and equipment from Fort Vancouver, and items manufactured at Fort Vancouver. In addition, McLoughlin, as head of the Columbia Department at Fort Vancouver, presided over the establishment and operations of a general trading post in San Francisco between 1841 and 1845, and had jurisdiction over an agency established in the Hawaiian Islands in 1833.

By the 1840s, HBC had reached its maximum development. Large scale farming was an important activity at the Fort. Additionally, raising hogs and sheep were primary farm activities. The development of St. James Mission, a school and hospital also occurred on HBC grounds during this period of growth. By the late 1840s, the larger valley area began to experience settlement.

Fort Vancouver's Influence on Settlement

In 1848, Henry Williamson and others platted a town site on his claim west of the stockade at Fort Vancouver, naming it Vancouver City. By 1850, the Federal census listed 95 houses in the newly established Vancouver County, of which Vancouver City was the county seat. In the ensuing decade, town development included two schools, a ferry service, saloons, boarding houses, a courthouse, a livery stable, dance hall and theater, and other buildings. In 1857, the town was incorporated, and in 1859, it was a serious, although unsuccessful, contender for the Washington Territorial capital. With an increase in the number of American ships entering Oregon, the development of reliable money, the increase in merchants and manufacturers, and concomitant number of available goods in the territory, the HBC's monopoly was effectively broken.

In 1846, Chief Factor McLoughlin was forcibly retired from his duties with the HBC, and administration of the post was lodged in a board of management, which for several years included Chief Factors Peter Skene Ogden and James Douglas. In 1849, three years after the signing of the Treaty of Oregon, which established the boundary between Great Britain's territory and the United States at the forty-ninth parallel, the HBC moved its main depot to Fort Victoria in British Columbia. Despite this shift, the financial center of the HBC's operations west of the Rockies remained at Fort Vancouver. Its stores and mills were still operating at that time, shipping goods and materials south to supply the influx of miners responding to the discovery of gold at Sutter's Fort, and also making some sales to the U. S. Army, which arrived at the site in the spring of 1849.

The U.S. Army

The HBC and the U.S. Army were to exist amicably, side-by-side at Fort Vancouver for a few

years. The HBC saw the U.S. Army as a means to enforce their “possessory rights” to land and improvements guaranteed by the 1846 treaty. Gradually, however, the military began to expand beyond the sites it had occupied near the stockade. By 1856, when soldiers tore down part of a fence enclosing the HBC’s graveyard, the U.S. Army had generally ceased to ask permission from the HBC before engaging on building projects. Finally, in 1860, the U.S. Army razed all but a few houses in the employee HBC Village and most of the HBC’s structures at the river.

The departure of the HBC left the entire site to the control of U.S. interests. The U.S. Army quickly razed the HBC Fort and HBC Village for development of the Quartermasters Depot (primarily in the area of the HBC Village). Over time, the Quartermasters Depot was also dismantled, with the removal of deteriorating buildings and construction of Interstate 5 in the 1960s along the western boundary of the Reserve. Since the late 1940s, excavations within the HBC Fort site have helped to inform a partial reconstruction of the Fort. The HBC Village has markers indicating the corners of partially excavated buildings there.

Reconstruction of the Fort began in 1966, based on work by NPS archeologists, historians, and historical architects. The proposal to reconstruct the HBC Fort was initially supported by local organizations, but the NPS resisted the idea. They felt that such a reconstruction was not appropriate for a national park site. However, public pressure persisted and by 1966, Congressional monies were appropriated for reconstruction of the HBC Fort through Congresswoman Julia Butler Hansen’s continued support of the park. In the end, the adopted reconstruction plan modeled, as closely as possible, the historic character of the original Fort buildings. Construction of the stockade was completed in 1973. Eleven buildings have since been reconstructed. These buildings include: the Bastion (built in 1972), the Bake House (built in 1974), the Chief Factor’s House (built in 1976), the Kitchen (built in 1976), the Wash House (built in 1976), the Blacksmith Shop (built in 1981), the Indian Trade Shop (built in 1981), the Fur Warehouse (built in 1992-94), the Carpentry Shop (built 1844-45), the Jail (built in 2000), and the Counting House/New Office (built in 2003).

U.S. Army Vancouver Barracks Era, 1849-1946

Settling the Territory

Vancouver Barracks, first called Camp Vancouver, was the principal military establishment in the Pacific Northwest until World War I. Vancouver Barracks served as training grounds for military leaders of the Civil War, the Boxer Rebellion, the Philippine campaign, the Mexican War, the Modoc War, and World Wars I and II. Some seventy officers who later became generals were stationed at the Fort and served their apprenticeships at Vancouver Barracks. Among these were Ulysses S. Grant, George C. Marshall, Winfield S. Scott, George B. McClellan, Philip B. Sheridan, William T. Sherman, George E. Pickett, Benjamin L.E. Bonneville, Rufus Ingalls, W.S. Harney, Edward O.C. Ord, Nelson A. Miles, Oliver O. Howard, George W. Goethals, Frederick Funston, Thomas A. Anderson, Phillip Kearney, Joseph A. Hooker, Charles H. Martin, E.S. Otis, Omar Bradley, C.P. Gross, Arthur MacArthur, E. R. S. Canby, and Joseph K. Barnes.

During its early years, the Barracks' role was to protect American settlers from hostile natives and to support United States occupation of the Oregon Territory. With the increasing numbers of land-hungry immigrants from the United States, Native American tribes in the west began to take action to protect their lands. Settlers in the Oregon Country had formed a provisional government in the years between 1837 and 1843. At first the government dealt with issues relating to land claims and community security. Later, its members drafted a code of laws, elected community officers and, ultimately, petitioned the United States to extend its jurisdiction over the country. Marcus Whitman, a missionary who had been helped by the Hudson's Bay Company Chief Factor John McLoughlin in establishing his mission near the current town of Walla Walla, Washington, traveled to Washington D.C. in 1842 to lobby officials for Forts to protect settlers enroute to the Oregon Country. In 1846, Congress authorized President James Polk to create a regiment to establish military reservations along the Oregon Trail, but the regiment was diverted to participate in the war with Mexico and was not released from its duties there until 1848. In 1848, Congress passed a bill establishing the territory of Oregon, sparked in part by the news of the murder of Whitman, his wife, and twelve others at his mission at the hands of Native Americans in 1847. In 1849, U.S. Army troops were sent to the North Pacific Coast where they established "Camp Vancouver." The Department of the Pacific Division, headquartered in California and under the command of Brevet Major General Persifor Smith, administered the new post.

During the summer of 1849, the command camped in tents on the high ground behind the Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) Fort, and, under the direction of Assistant Quartermaster of the Pacific Division Captain Rufus Ingalls, began construction of log buildings to shelter them during the following winter. That summer, four log buildings were erected by soldiers north of the Hudson's Bay Company stockade: an eleven-room log building for the officers of the First Artillery, a kitchen/servants' quarters, a mess hall/kitchen, and a hospital kitchen/bakehouse. Officers and provisions were also housed in structures rented from the HBC at Fort Vancouver. In September of 1849, the garrison size was increased when six companies of Mounted Riflemen, A, D, G, H, I, and K, arrived at the post. Company F arrived in June of 1850 and Company B of the Mounted Riflemen arrived in November.

In May of 1850, Ingalls entered into an agreement with Chief Factor Peter Skene Ogden on behalf of the U.S. government and the HBC for the use of an eight-acre field 1/4 mile north of the stockade. On this leased site, citizen carpenters constructed twenty-six buildings, including log structures for officers and two, two-story log barracks buildings. The placement of these buildings created the initial outlines of the parade grounds. Additional buildings were constructed in the vicinity of the HBC Village and near the Columbia River, to serve as the Quartermaster's Depot.

On October 31, 1850 the U.S. Army formally proclaimed the establishment of a military reservation of about four square miles. This claim included the HBC stockade and the land and improvements about two miles to the east and west of it. The announcement stated the reservation was "subject only to the lawful claims of the HBC," as guaranteed by the Treaty of 1846 (P.S. Ogden May 28, 1850, no pagination). That year the post was given the official title of "Columbia Barracks." The extent of the military reservation immediately raised political and

policy questions, prompting Washington D.C. to reconsider its size. In October of 1853, the Secretary of War was obliged by an act of Congress to reduce the reserve to 640 acres, subject to the claims by the HBC as guaranteed by the 1846 treaty. By the spring of 1860 the U.S. Army had leveled almost all of the HBC structures outside the stockade. In May, the HBC removed the last of their goods and left for their Victoria headquarters. By 1869, maps of the Vancouver Barracks showed no trace of the structures that had comprised the HBC's stockade: the stockade site was contained within a large fenced pasture.

Post Hudson's Bay Company

After the establishment of Vancouver Barracks, the U.S. Army became involved in numerous activities as well as conflicts in the region. From 1849 until 1881, Fort Vancouver served as the U.S. Army's staging area for various conflicts with surrounding native peoples, including major conflicts in the 1850s and the 1870s. Additionally, during this period, Vancouver Barracks played a role in several explorations and surveys of the Northwest. Furthermore, in the late 1800s, Vancouver Barracks became involved in providing protection and maintaining peace throughout the Northwest during labor strikes. It should also be noted that during the Spanish-American War, Vancouver Barracks was an important mobilization and training center for Oregon and Washington volunteers.

War Activities

Later, Vancouver Barracks became the principal site of a unique and often overlooked outgrowth of World War I: the Spruce Production Division of the U.S. Army Signal Corps, an unusual alliance between Pacific Northwest lumber investment companies and the military. The Spruce Mill helped the war cause by producing badly needed lumber for airplanes and also facilitated the expansion of the Pacific Northwest lumber industry.

After the war, the military was reorganized and the size of the standing army increased from pre-WWI standards. Vancouver Barracks was selected to house an infantry regiment and two batteries of artillery, and funds were authorized for a major construction program to upgrade the facilities. Army reserve units also increased enrollment and Vancouver Barracks served as a site for Civilian Military Training Camps and, in 1923, as an air-training field for the 321st Observation Squadron of the Ninety-sixth Division of the Organized Reserves. For the next eighteen years, Pearson Field operated as an intermediate field within the larger framework of Army Air Corps bases. On April 6, 1925, the airfield was named Pearson Field, in honor of an army flier who had attended high school in the town of Vancouver. The 321st remained at Pearson Field until 1941, when it was activated by the U.S. Army Air Corps for service in World War II.

World War II to the Present

Increasing military activity as a result of the outbreak of World War II in Europe led to plans to construct a new, 750-bed hospital on the north end of the military reserve at Vancouver Barracks. The facility was designed to serve military personnel throughout the Pacific

Northwest. It was completed in April of 1941. After December of 1941, Vancouver Barracks came under the control of the Ninth Service Command, with headquarters at Fort Douglas, Utah. The post then served as a staging area for the Portland Subport of Embarkation, and as a training center. In January 1943, the U.S. Army's first training center for Quartermaster units began at Vancouver Barracks.

As the war progressed, the garrison size increased. To accommodate new troops going to and from the Pacific Theater, temporary barracks were built late in the summer of 1942, near the north end of the reserve, named Camp Hathaway. Both Vancouver Barracks and Camp Hathaway were brought under the wing of the Portland Subport of Embarkation in 1944. The headquarters of the subport was moved to Vancouver Barracks on January 1, 1946. A few weeks later, Vancouver Barracks was declared excess to the needs of the Army Transportation Corps.

In December of 1946, eighty-four and a half acres were reactivated as a military post and designated to serve as headquarters for reserve training in the Pacific Northwest. By June of 1949, the post included headquarters of the Sixth Army's Northern Military District, embracing Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington.

Vancouver Barracks did not participate in the Korean War in any significant way. The Oregon Military District was phased out under a reorganization of the U.S. Army on February 1, 1958. That year, Vancouver Barracks became a satellite of Fort Lewis, Washington, maintained by a detachment of the garrison from that post. The Oregon Sector of the Tenth U.S. Army Corps became the post's primary tenant.

In 1986, the U.S. General Services Administration deeded Officers' Row to the City of Vancouver, to be preserved as a historic site. The buildings underwent a two-year rehabilitation and were dedicated on November 11, 1988. The houses were converted to commercial space (mainly offices and restaurants) and multi-family housing.

Vancouver Barracks is owned by the U.S. Army Reserve and is under command of the 70th Regional Readiness Command. The property, transferred from Fort Lewis in June of 2001, occupies fifty-two acres of the original military reserve. The post is home to the Washington Army National Guard and two Army Reserve Units: the 104th Division and the 396 Combat Support Hospital.

National Park Service, Mission 66 Era, 1954-1966

Mission 66 Program

Mission 66 was a high profile, ten-year nationwide initiative aimed at modernizing the Park Service and accommodating changing visitation patterns. The program was so named because it would conclude in 1966 and commemorate the Service's fiftieth anniversary year. The years of neglect brought about by the economic climate of the war years left many of the Park Service facilities in substandard condition. The Service not only had inadequate housing for its own staff, it was also completely unprepared to meet the demands of the new influx of visitors

introduced by a higher post-war standard of living and the automobile. The lack of adequate facilities in the parks was widely publicized. Popular magazines ran articles about the state of the parks, with some observers suggesting that a typical trip to a National Park would be an experiment in “discomfort, disappointment, even danger” (Stevenson 1955, 57). It was commonly felt that the public faced an “overuse of the deteriorating and outdated infrastructure in the parks, resulting in injuries, complaints, and damage to the parks, and a generally unfulfilling experience for tourists” (Madrid 1998, 16). Mission 66 was conceived as a billion-dollar program to improve park facilities, increase staffing, and plan for the future expansion of the system. When the NPS was established in 1916, it put forth two basic concepts to define development of land for public use. The first NPS Director Stephen Mather argued for tourism development to attract people to the parks and in turn generate public and congressional support to ensure the parks’ survival. NPS Director during the Mission 66-era, Conrad Wirth, argued in the same vein as Mather. He believed that development would control public access and prevent deterioration through what was termed the “paradox of protection by development” (Sellars 1997, 181). Wirth believed:

Development is based on the assumption that when facilities are adequate in number, and properly designed and located, large numbers of visitors can be handled readily and without damage to the areas. Good development saves the landscape from ruin, protecting it for its intended recreational and inspirational values. It is the purpose of Mission 66 to locate developed areas where they will not invade the wilderness, impair fragile areas or features, or encroach upon a well-thought-out plan for the protection and interpretation of the natural and historic features of the areas. (U.S. Department of Interior 1957, 308)

Wirth was an adept politician and first convinced President Eisenhower in a special White House presentation on the need for improved park facilities. He addressed the President, “The problem of today is simply that the parks are being loved to death. They are neither equipped nor staffed to protect their irreplaceable resources, nor to take care of their increasing millions of visitors” (Dilsaver 1994, 194). He illustrated his argument with slides of parks that he compared to slums, with campers and autos overcrowding park facilities, noting the growing number of visitors that were literally being turned away at the entrances. He then successfully lobbied Senate and House members for funding of his development plan.

Mission 66 Architecture

In an effort to meet tremendous park needs with a limited budget, Mission 66 planners sought ways to modernize or update park facilities and, at the same time, decrease the cost of development. The NPS adopted contemporary Modern architectural styles and methods of construction that were typically less expensive than traditional park styles and methods. Modern Style architecture emphasized machine production over craftsmanship and the use of new materials (inexpensive steel, concrete, and glass). Structural honesty, the use of simple, geometric forms, and restrained use of architectural details were important elements that characterized this style. The NPS adapted the style to visually blend the buildings into their surroundings through plainness, low massing, horizontal lines, and earth tone colors. To further increase efficiency, the NPS produced standardized architectural plans for park buildings that

that were repeated throughout the region and nation, with modifications allowed to address specific landscape constraints, such as sloping topography, as well as variations in climate.

A mainstay of today's parks, the Visitor Center was virtually unknown prior to Mission 66. The Visitor Centers designed and constructed under Mission 66 could accommodate visitor and staff facilities while enhancing the visitor experience. Devised by Park Service planners, architects, and landscape architects as a focal point for visitors entering the park, the structure would provide information and be the main locus of interpretation within the park. The Visitor Center incorporated visitor facilities, interpretive programs, and administrative offices into one building. The buildings were often prominently placed to attract visitors' attention as they entered the park and served as a clearinghouse of information.

The structures are emblematic of the Mission 66 undertakings in the park setting, immediately recognizable in their distinctive massing and the era that they represent. While acting as the focal point of activity, the design intent was often to visually blend into their surroundings through simplicity and plainness. The concept of highly flexible space has afforded many of the Visitor Centers continued use, fulfilling essentially the same function for which they were designed almost fifty years ago:

The Mission 66 visitor center remains today as the most complete and significant expression of the Park Service Modern style, and of the planning and design practices developed by the Park Service during the Mission 66 era. National park visitor centers symbolized new attitudes towards resource conservation, visitor responsibility, and Park Service stewardship. Cecil Doty alluded to such associations at a visitor center planning conference, noting that the "parking area, walks, terraces, and everything in and around the building are part of the Visitor Center ensemble, and are on exhibit as something constructed by the National Park Service. They can be more important than the exhibits themselves." In its form and its content, the visitor center was designed to represent the Park Service's modern image. (Allaback 2002)

Not only did the exterior of the Visitor Center make a visual statement, it was functionally innovative as well. The Visitor Center combined interpretative facilities, museums and exhibits alongside administrative offices and public rest areas. More ambitious projects included sales counters, concessionaire space and auditoriums. Most structures incorporated the new technology of audio/visual presentations. A larger base of public information was broadcast from the Visitor Center. Physical aids such as publications, recordings and dioramas, along with a well-trained staff, increased the personal service given and enabled a customized approach for each park. With Mission 66, Conrad Wirth had forecast the building of 100 new Visitor Centers across the National Park System. At the end of the program 114 innovative Mission 66 Visitor Centers had been built.

In addition to facilities for visitors, an important goal of the Mission 66 program was to provide standardized housing for NPS personnel. The Mission 66 program identified a critical need for employee housing in the parks, thus making construction of affordable and efficient housing a high priority. During Mission 66, the NPS constructed over 1,000 units of two bedroom duplexes and three bedroom houses at many of the parks around the nation. These buildings

were based on standard floor plans that facilitated efficient construction, and used the same design ethic and philosophy as employed in the Visitor Centers.

Development of Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

Before the Mission 66 program began to take form, Congress passed legislation on June 19, 1948 that established the Fort Vancouver National Monument. The Monument incorporated 90 acres of land associated with the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort. In 1961, the status of the Monument was elevated to a National Historic Site for significance of its archeological remains and their association with the HBC Fort Vancouver and Euro-American settlement of the Pacific Northwest. Later, in 1996, the National Historic Reserve was established that included U.S. Army lands. Many legislators contributed effort to the establishment of Fort Vancouver as a Park unit including Representatives Russell Mack, Julia Butler Hansen, Don Bonker, and Jolene Unsoeld. However, Julia Butler Hansen was an instrumental public figure during the Mission 66 era of the park.

Known as a political moderate, Hansen was able to build a strong working relationship with Senators Jackson and Magnuson as well as the NPS directors and had their full support. As a new Congresswoman, the first bill she introduced to the House concerned the development of Fort Vancouver. Using her background in transportation and development, Hansen saw the Fort as a stimulant to the local economy. The bill revised the boundaries of the park, increasing its acreage to 220 acres. Passed in 1961, it also changed the designation of the park from Monument to Historic Site. This new designation not only elevated the park's stature in the public eye, but Hansen felt it would facilitate congressional funding and encourage future development. Hansen was assigned to the House Appropriations Committee in 1963. This position on the Committee increased her influence on National Park Service activities as Appropriations controls the purse strings for the Interior Department as well as all of the departments of the Executive Branch. In 1967, Congresswoman Hansen became the first woman to ever chair the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and related Agencies.

Hansen's involvement with Fort Vancouver National Historic Site did not diminish over the years. She presided over the 1966 Fourth of July celebration at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. Her presentation topic was "The Fiftieth Anniversary of the NPS," which was an important date for the Mission 66 program. In the same year, she secured money for the reconstruction of a portion of the Fort and later presided over the bastion's formal dedication in 1974.

Fort Vancouver Mission 66 Master Plan

Up until 1955, little effort had been put into park facility development and interpretation at the Fort Vancouver Monument. Temporary headquarters were housed in an old Army fire station where the archeological collection was stored with little protection. There was no internal road system for easy public access and traffic congestion was a problem. Updated facilities were badly needed to improve the visitor experience.

In July 1955, a Mission 66 master plan was developed and included plans for buildings, new roads, walkways, and parking lots with an emphasis placed on the visitor. The narrative of the

plan explained the goals of the plan:

The justification for the operation and the development of Fort Vancouver National Monument is to help the visitor understand and appreciate, to the fullest degree possible, the history and significance of Fort Vancouver. To do this the visitor must have easy access to the monument. His trip to the area should follow an orderly and logical sequence. Through the use of carefully planned directional signs he should be routed over a good access road, which will lead him to the Visitor Center placed to provide the best possible orientation of the area. Most important of all, his examination of the Fort site must be given meaning through effective interpretation (U.S. DOI 1956, Mission 66 for Fort Vancouver, 3).

The old park headquarters was to be replaced with a Visitor Center that could hold three administrative offices, storage for artifacts and historical records, and a library. Because the actual Fort site was undeveloped in 1956, it was felt that public interest level was not adequate to direct all the visitors down to the Fort area. Instead, a proposed 900-foot covered terrace, which would overlook the Fort site, was to be placed as high as possible on top of the Visitor Center. Although the terrace was never realized, the Visitor Center still provided views from a large bay of windows. The view enabled the public to perceive the undeveloped Fort site in relationship to the waterfront and to associate it with other historic features through the aid of a diorama or model. The Mission 66 plan encouraged historical research that might contribute to authentic restoration and reconstruction of the Fort.

As the master plan was developed, alternative versions oscillated between the idea of one or two housing units for staff. Because of its urban setting it was argued that adequate housing for employees could be found in and around Vancouver and Portland. However, seen as a part of the protection plan for the park, it was considered essential for some park staff to live on site. In the end, the final plan included two houses, one for the Superintendent and one for the maintenance employee.

The plan also addressed needs for better circulation. The existing roads were thought to interrupt the historic scene and, moreover, allowed parking within the parade ground. The proposed Mission 66 roads eliminated these perceived faults by establishing a new access road to the proposed Visitor Center and placed parking at the Visitor Center and Fort site. The road systems and parking areas were designed to provide a smooth flow of traffic into the park, to the Visitor Center, to the Fort site, and back.

With a focus on interpretation and research, the Mission 66 plan intended to utilize a self-guided automobile tour through the park. After an orientation at the Visitor Center that covered settlement and fur trade of the early Northwest, visitors would travel by auto to audio-visual stations located at intervals along the main park road to obtain a high tech interpretation of the area. This interpretive program was never implemented, but was an example of the Mission 66 trend to incorporate new technologies into park facilities.

Groundbreaking ceremonies took place in August 1960. First, corridors for roads, parking, and utilities were established, then buildings completed. NPS Western Office of Design and

Construction had planned to push finishing touches for the roads and walkways into fiscal year 1961. However, the first Park Superintendent, Frank Hjort, and Director Wirth lobbied to complete construction within the 1960 fiscal year. In the end, construction was contained within a 12-month period, from August 1960 to August 1961. This is an example that illustrates Wirth's strong belief in the ideals of cost efficiency.

Today, the Mission 66 Master Plan, as developed and built in the early 1960s, remains almost entirely intact. Except for some minor alterations to the building exteriors and loss of historic vegetation, the development conveys the important concepts of the Mission 66 plan as they existed during the period of significance. The historic resources (Visitor Center, residences, maintenance shop, road system, flag pole, entrance sign, and outdoor exhibit) and their setting work together to support the integrity of Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. As a result, it remains as the best intact example of a Mission 66 development within a small park or historic site within the State of Washington.

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

The Park Headquarters cultural landscape is located in the northeast quarter of the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. This landscape is comprised of features that were designed and constructed by the National Park Service during the Mission 66 era, between 1954 and 1966. The Park Headquarters site includes a Visitor Center and associated parking lot, park housing, a maintenance building, and access roads. In the spirit of Mission 66, planning and design efforts carefully addressed interpretation of the park resources and visitor experience through placement of buildings, roads, and parking. The policies that influenced Mission 66 design and planning are still evident at the park today and continue to influence the ways that visitors use the site.

Park Headquarters continues to reflect the careful organization of the buildings and roads to create an orchestrated visitor experience, to provide visitors with an orientation of the park's resources, and to keep the impact of development on the landscape to a minimum. As a result, buildings were sited close to one another to minimize the area of disturbance, with careful consideration of the visitor experience. The Visitor Center was the key element of the Park Headquarters site that was designed to set the stage for the park visitor's experience by providing amenities, exhibits, and views to the HBC Fort site below. The Visitor Center remains a centralized facility that includes multiple visitor and administrative functions. Park operational buildings, although sited relatively close to the eastern side of the Visitor Center, were effectively separated from the visitor experience through the use of carefully planned circulation and vegetation patterns. Roads and parking lots were carefully situated to maintain important views as visitors approached the Visitor Center from the reconstructed Fort and from the Visitor Center toward the HBC Fort site on the lower river terrace below. These spatial relationships between the buildings and structures, circulation features, and the natural topography are still intact.

Buildings and structures associated with the Park Headquarters are emblematic of NPS philosophies in the 1950s. Following World War II, the NPS had to address a backlog of maintenance projects accumulated over the war years, and to undertake these physical improvements with a limited budget. In search of economical design and construction techniques, and drawing on contemporary architectural trends, the NPS moved away from the earlier Rustic Style architecture that required intensive labor and expensive building materials (timbers and stone), and adopted a more simple Modern Style architecture that emphasized new materials (inexpensive steel, concrete, and glass) and machine production. The Visitor Center, the two staff residences (one of which is now used for administrative offices), and a maintenance shop remain today as examples of Mission 66 design. Non-historic structures added since the period of significance include a picnic shelter and playground.

Between 1961 and 1962, a planting plan was implemented within the vicinity of the Visitor Center. The plan shows a plant palette that was predominantly composed of ornamental plant species that complemented the suburban setting of the park facilities. Hedges were strategically placed to screen undesirable views. Many of the planting beds have been altered, but a number of historic trees and hedges still remain that help to convey the historic character of the Park Headquarters. Contributing small-scale features include the metal flagpole, the British anchor exhibit, and the park entrance sign

located at the Visitor Center.

Integrity

All of the buildings and landscape features of the Park Headquarters embody the principles of modern architecture of Mission 66, and possess physical integrity through location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The 1955 master planning process and construction of the 1961 development at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site were executed as part of the Mission 66-program. The overall site plan, building exteriors, vehicular and pedestrian circulation routes, entrance sign, flagpole, parking lot, outdoor exhibit, and the spatial organization of these features and their design intent were all part of the master plan and remain completely intact. Minor changes have been made to the vegetation, a non-intrusive addition added to the maintenance building, and minor alterations made to the exterior of the Visitor Center and one residence. No other Mission 66 development within a small park or historic site retains such integrity within Washington State. The only comparable Mission 66-era, small, historic park in Washington State is the Whitman Mission National Historic Site, which has undergone significant changes since its development.

Landscape Characteristic:

Spatial Organization

Spatial organization refers to the design, composition and sequence of outdoor spaces within the landscape. The NPS Mission 66 master plan for the historic site called for a park development near the northeast corner of the park. This development included a small cluster of buildings related to park management and visitor amenities: the Visitor Center, two employee residences, and a maintenance building. The buildings and roads associated with the Park Headquarters were carefully organized to create an orchestrated visitor experience, to provide visitors with an orientation of the park's resources, and to keep the impact of development on the landscape to a minimum. As a result, buildings were sited close to one another to minimize the area of disturbance, with careful consideration of the visitor experience.

A Visitor Center was planned for interpretive programs and administrative offices. The maintenance building was used for equipment storage and a workshop (and continues to be used as such today). The residences housed the Superintendent (from 1962 through 1978) and park employees (a Park Historian in the 1960s, and the Chief of Interpretation from 1973 to 1986). These residences were located on the south side of a central utility yard; the maintenance building was sited on the north side of the utility yard.

Park operational buildings, although sited relatively close to the eastern side of the Visitor Center, were effectively separated from the visitor experience through the use of carefully planned circulation and vegetation patterns. A tree buffer planted along the southern and eastern edges of the parking lot visually separated the employee area from the visitor area. In addition, a separate road and entrance from East Reserve Street provided private access to the maintenance and employee housing area.

A gently rising, curvilinear access road provided a pleasant drive through lawn and clusters of trees from East 5th Street toward the Visitor Center located on an upper river terrace. Parking

was located north, behind the Visitor Center, to hide it from view as visitors approached the Visitor Center from the reconstructed Fort. The placement of the parking lot north of the Visitor Center was important to allow unhindered views southward toward the HBC Fort site on the lower river terrace below. The Visitor Center's placement at an elevation higher than the Fort site provided an opportunity for the park to interpret the relationship between the Columbia River and the HBC development.

Today, all elements of historic spatial organization are found within the Park Headquarters area. The buildings road system are in their original locations and continue to meet the Mission 66 goals for the visitor experience. As a result, spatial organization contributes to the historic character of the landscape and retains overall integrity in terms of pattern and relationship.

Natural Systems and Features

Natural systems and features refer mainly to the geological, hydrological, and topographical features and characteristics that either contribute directly to the landscape or helped shape and define other contributing resources. The natural features that most influenced the development of the Mission 66 era master plan are the river terraces that rise up from the banks of the Columbia River. The Visitor Center was placed at an elevation higher than the riverside to allow views from the Visitor Center toward the historic Fort site. This view became the primary focal point from which the park resources were interpreted.

Today, the Visitor Center's location on the upper river terrace continues to provide views of the Fort reconstruction and river and is a major focus of the park's interpretive program.

Circulation

Circulation refers to the means and patterns of both vehicular and pedestrian movement through the landscape. One goal of the Mission 66 master plan was to prepare for an increase in visitation and automobile traffic. Following World War II, the number of visitors arriving by personal vehicle rose and the park needed to devise a vehicular circulation system, including access roads and parking lots, to accommodate the traffic. The new road system and parking areas were meant to provide a smooth flow of traffic into the park unit, directing motorists to the Visitor Center from Evergreen Boulevard and then to the HBC Fort site (which the NPS did not begin reconstructing until 1966).

An important aspect of Mission 66 road development was careful consideration of its alignment to enhance the visitor experience and to showcase the park resources from the automobile. Reflecting this goal, the Visitor Center access road was aligned to wind from the Visitor Center (the starting point of the interpretive program) to East 5th Street through a pastoral setting of open lawn and mature trees, providing glimpses of the Fort through the trees. Although the main road through the site provided a leisurely auto tour of the grounds and showcased the setting, the construction of the Visitor Center and access road also involved the removal of historic roads in the parade ground associated with the U.S. Army Vancouver Barracks Era.

To accommodate vehicles once the visitors arrived at their destination, parking lots were established both at the Visitor Center and at the Fort site (although the NPS did not begin

reconstruction of the Fort until 1966). The parking lot at the Fort site was a looped road that was moved and reconfigured in the early 1990s with the addition of the interpretive garden (this parking lot is not located within the cultural landscape boundary). At the Visitor Center, the parking lot was placed north of the building so as not to interfere with views from the Visitor Center to the Fort site. A concrete sidewalk ran along the southern edge of the parking lot. The sidewalk extended from the Visitor Center to the park maintenance and employee housing area, thus functioning to provide visitors access from the parking lot to the Visitor Center. The sidewalk was also the formal path that connected the Visitor Center and the employee area at the east end of the parking lot. The sidewalk passed through a hedge that served to discourage the public from entering the area. A separate road was constructed to provide access to employee area from East Reserve Street. This road was accessed from a back road approach, to deter visitors from entering the employee area.

Today, circulation patterns continue to follow the same patterns as developed in the Mission 66 master plan and support the integrity of the Park Headquarters development.

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Mission 66 Circulation System
Feature Identification Number: 121584
Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Contemporary photo showing parking lot associated with the Mission 66 Visitor Center, looking southwest (PWRO, 2001).



Contemporary photo showing the parking island in the western end of the parking lot near the Visitor Center, looking northwest (PWRO, 2004).



Contemporary photo showing sidewalk associated with the Mission 66 Visitor Center (PWRO, 2001).



Contemporary photo showing the Mission 66 entry road (PWRO, 2001).

Buildings and Structures

“Buildings and structures” refers to buildings that have walls, a roof, and interior spaces used by people for various purposes, and structures that are constructed for purposes other than creating human shelter. Buildings and structures associated with the Park Headquarters are emblematic of NPS philosophies in the 1950s. Following World War II, the NPS had to address a backlog of maintenance projects accumulated over the war years, and to undertake these physical improvements with a limited budget. In search of economical design and construction techniques, and drawing on contemporary architectural trends, the NPS moved away from the earlier Rustic Style architecture that required intensive labor and expensive building materials (timbers and stone), and adopted a more simple Modern Style architecture that emphasized new materials (inexpensive steel, concrete, and glass) and machine production. Common aspects of modernistic architecture in the parks were the use of simple, geometric forms, and restrained use of architectural details. These modern buildings were generally characterized by low massing, horizontal lines, surfaces of earth tone colors, and minimal architectural ornamentation. To further increase affordability, the NPS produced standard architectural plans for employee housing and other park infrastructure that could be mass-produced service-wide.

Built between January and August of 1961, four buildings within the Mission 66 Character Area reflect the elements typical of modernistic architecture of the Mission 66 era. The Visitor Center, the two staff residences (one of which is now used for administrative offices), and a maintenance shop remain today with some alterations. These buildings and their subsequent modifications are described below:

Contributing Buildings:

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Visitor Center: Built in 1960-1961, the Visitor Center is a one-story plus, a partially exposed basement, rectangular-shaped, wood-frame building with a low-spreading gable roof. The foundation is concrete. The exterior is clad with Douglas fir board on board siding painted gray. The roof has composition shingles.

The front entrance on the north façade has a deep over-hanging eave supported by eight wood pillars that are evenly spaced over the eastern two-thirds of the building. A wedge-shaped concrete slab extends from the main entrance to create a small plaza. A concrete seating wall edges the plaza. The overhanging eave covers a walkway that connects the plaza to restrooms at the eastern end of the building. The southern façade has two great banks of windows.

Exterior changes to the building have been few. The original color of the building exterior was a dark wood stain that has since been painted gray. Cedar roof shakes were replaced with composition shingles in the 1980s. When utilities were converted from natural gas to electric in the early 1980s, a louvered aluminum chimney stack was removed from the roofline and two outside electric heat pumps added. Most change has occurred to the eastern façade where a security gate was added to the east entrance corner, a concrete slab was added with a pay phone and bench/planter unit, and a universally accessible ramp, set of stairs and low retaining wall were all added in the early 1990s. The entry doors on the north façade have been altered, as well.

Residences (one is now used as Park Headquarters/Administration and the other as a residence): Built in 1960-1961, the two residences, one of which currently functions as an administrative building, were constructed consistent with the standard, three-bedroom house plan B developed for the Mission 66 program. The design of the residences was slightly modified so as to better fit into the local topography. The houses are one-story, rectangular, wood-frame construction with gable roofs. The foundations are concrete. The exteriors are clad with Douglas fir wood lapped siding. The roofs are of wood truss with composition shingles. Primary fenestration is 1/1 double-hung metal sash windows. Doors are 1-light, 1-panel wood doors. Windows and doors have simple, metal surrounds.

Exterior changes to the residences have been few. To accommodate the 1987 conversion of one house to administrative offices, a universally accessible ramp was added in the late 1990s. Both houses underwent utility conversion from natural gas to electric in the 1980s resulting in the removal of natural gas furnaces and the replacement with electric heat pumps.

Maintenance Shop: Built in 1960-1961, this is a one-story, rectangular, wood-frame utility building with a gable roof. Built on a concrete slab, the exterior is clad with Douglas fir board on board siding and composition shingles. Primary fenestration is 1/1 double-hung metal sash windows. The building has five 4-light, 16-panel wooden garage doors.

Prior to 1978, the utility building was expanded to the east, adding an additional garage. In 1979, the maintenance shop was expanded again to nearly double the original size, adding a new 36'

garage bay at the west end of the building. The expansion was undertaken with sensitivity to the original building, which still retains its original simple, utilitarian character through careful design of the additions.

Since the period of significance, a picnic shelter and playground area have been constructed southeast of the Visitor Center, and are non-contributing structures.

Character-defining Features:

Feature:	Visitor Center
Feature Identification Number:	121586
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Maintenance Shop
Feature Identification Number:	121648
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Residence #1 (Park Headquarters/Admin.)
Feature Identification Number:	121646
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Residence #2
Feature Identification Number:	121644
Type of Feature Contribution:	Contributing
Feature:	Picnic Shelter
Feature Identification Number:	126909
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non Contributing
Feature:	Playground
Feature Identification Number:	126911
Type of Feature Contribution:	Non Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Contemporary photo showing the Mission 66 Maintenance Shop, looking northeast (PWRO, 2004).



Contemporary photo showing Mission 66 Residence No. 1, looking southwest (PWRO, 2004).



Contemporary photo showing Mission 66 Residence No. 2. Today, this building houses the Park Headquarters/Administration (PWRO, 2004).



Contemporary photo showing the Mission 66 Visitor Center (PWRO, 2001).

Vegetation

Vegetation refers to existing native and ornamental vegetation that has been introduced or manipulated for design purposes. Between 1961 and 1962, a planting plan was implemented within the vicinity of the Visitor Center. The plan shows a plant palette that was predominantly composed of ornamental plant species that complemented the suburban setting of the park facilities. Hedges were strategically placed to screen undesirable views. For example, a hedge was planted between the Visitor Center parking lot and employee area that extended to enclose the maintenance yard. Planting islands were created in the Visitor Center parking lot and planted with London planes (*Plantanus acerfolia*) to soften the visual impact of the paved parking lot surface.

The vegetation plan implemented between 1961 and 1962 has been significantly altered with the removal of some plant beds, the replacement of many shrubs, trees and hedges around the buildings, and the addition of new vegetation. All of the original foundation plantings around the residences have been replaced, except for the groundcover *pachysandra terminalis*. A planting bed between the two residences has been removed. A yew (*Taxus cuspidata expansa*) hedge behind the utility building has been replaced with arborvitae (*Thuja* sp.). Much of the original planting east of the utility building was removed during expansion of the maintenance building. Groupings of *Rhododendron* sp., *Pieris* sp. and Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum*) have been added at the Visitor Center entrance and around a monument dedicated in 1989 honoring crewmembers of the *Hojun Maru*, who were the first Japanese known to arrive on the North American continent.

Individual historic plants and hedges that do remain include: a line of honey locusts (*Gleditsia triacanthos inermis*) along the southern edge of the Visitor Center parking lot, a boxwood (*Buxus sempervirens suffruticosa*) hedge in front of the Visitors Center, a portion of a firethorn (*Pyracantha crenato-cerrata*) hedge along the eastern side of the Visitor Center, the western-most portion of a yew (*Taxus cuspidata expansa*) hedge that separates the residences and utility building from the parking lot, a Norway spruce (*Picea abies*), an ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica lanceolata*), and two crabapples (*Malus scheideckeri*) behind the residences, and two Norway spruce east of the utility building. The orchard and garden still remain at the Fort reconstruction site.

Because so little remains from the original planting plan, the planting plan as a whole has lost integrity. However, the individual historic plants described help to convey the historic character of the Park Headquarters

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Contemporary photo showing the boxwood hedge and lawn at the entrance to the Visitor Center, looking southeast (PWRO, 2004).



Contemporary photo showing historic clipped hedges located at the eastern end of the Visitor Center, looking southwest (PWRO, 2004).



Contemporary photo showing the historic locust trees along sidewalk and historic trimmed hedge between the parking lot and service area, looking east (PWRO, 2004).

Land Use

Land use refers to historical and current patterns of use and associated activities. Land use within the Park Headquarters development included those activities typically associated with the establishment of a park unit. These uses included interpretive programs related to the HBC Fort reconstruction, visitor amenities (restrooms, parking, drinking fountains), administrative offices, maintenance facilities, and employee housing. The greatest concentration of these uses was located at the Visitor Center, which housed the interpretive programs, visitor amenities, and administrative offices. Some interpretation focused on the HBC Fort site, which until 1966 only included the northern wall of the stockade reconstruction. Employee housing and maintenance facilities were kept separate from the Visitor Center area.

Historic land uses described above continue to occur within the character area, with some modifications. Offices are still located in the Visitor Center, but accommodate the Chief Ranger and Special Events Coordinator instead of the administrative staff. Administration offices have been moved into one of the two Mission 66 residences. The interpretive program has been expanded by the increasingly developed Fort reconstruction augmented by additional archeological information regarding the HBC Village. As the Fort reconstruction has been

incrementally developed, the focus of the visitor interpretive experience has shifted toward the Fort reconstruction and away from the Visitor Center. However, important interpretive programs continue to occur within the Visitor Center. One of the two residences and the utility building are still used as originally intended.

Small Scale Features

Small-scale features refers to the elements that provide detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns. Contributing small-scale features include the metal flagpole, the British anchor exhibit, and the park entrance sign located at the Visitor Center. The flagpole was part of the original design for the Visitor Center and has remained in its original location since 1961. The British anchor was found in 1960 when the Army Corps of Engineers dredged the Columbia River along the shoreline of the current Reserve. The anchor was installed as an outdoor exhibit at the eastern end of the Visitor Center parking lot and still remains in the original location. The NPS sign located at the northern entrance to the Visitor Center parking lot resembles a miniature version of a stockade wall with pointed timbers about four feet tall set on a concrete base. A wooden plaque with the park's name and an NPS logo are attached to the front of the sign. (An identical park sign is also located at the Fort reconstruction site, but it was built in 2001).

Another park sign is located at the southeastern corner of the intersection of Evergreen Boulevard and McClelland Road. This sign is similar to the others, but has a mortared rock base rather than a concrete base. This sign was placed after the period of significance and is non-contributing. Another non-contributing feature is the small Japanese monument dedicated to commemorate the Japanese cargo ship, Hojun Maru that ran aground near Cape Flattery in 1832. The survivors were the first documented Japanese to arrive on the North American continent. This monument was placed by a local Boy Scouts troop in 1989 at the northwestern corner of the Visitor Center.

Character-defining Features:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Feature: | Visitor Center flagpole |
| Feature Identification Number: | 121588 |
| Type of Feature Contribution: | Contributing |
| Feature: | Park sign near Visitor Center |
| Feature Identification Number: | 121590 |
| Type of Feature Contribution: | Contributing |
| Feature: | British anchor exhibit |
| Feature Identification Number: | 121592 |
| Type of Feature Contribution: | Contributing |
| Feature: | Japanese cargo ship, Hojun Maru |

Park Headquarters
Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

Feature Identification Number: 121642

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Feature: Park sign near Evergreen and McClelland

Feature Identification Number: 121640

Type of Feature Contribution: Non Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Contemporary photo showing the park sign at the entrance to the Visitor Center, looking east (PWRO, 2004).



Contemporary photo showing the flagpole in front of the Visitor Center, looking southwest (PWRO, 2004).



Contemporary photo showing the British Anchor at the Visitor Center, looking norhteast (PWRO, 2004).

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good
Assessment Date: 09/28/2007

Treatment

Treatment

Approved Treatment: Rehabilitation

Approved Treatment Document: General Management Plan

Document Date: 10/01/2003

Approved Treatment Document Explanatory Narrative:

The GMP calls for the Visitor Center to be remodeled to become the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Visitor Center jointly managed by the Reserve Partners, and for the removal of several contributing buildings and features.

Approved Treatment Completed: No

Approved Treatment Costs

Cost Date: 10/01/2003

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

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Year of Publication:	2003
Citation Publisher:	Department of Interior, National Park Service
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Citation Title:	Mission 66 visitor centers: The history of a building type
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Citation Author:	Erigero, Patricia C., and Terri Taylor
Citation Title:	Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Cultural Landscape Report, Volumes I and II
Year of Publication:	1992
Citation Publisher:	Department of the Interior, National Park Service
Citation Type:	
Citation Location:	PWRO-Seattle, FOVA
Citation Author:	Madrid, Christine L.
Citation Title:	The Mission 66 visitor centers: Early modern architecture in the National Park Service, 1956-1976
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Citation Publisher:	Master's thesis, University of Virginia

Citation Author: Merk, Frederick
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Year of Publication: 1931
Citation Publisher: Cambridge: Harvard University Press

Citation Author: NPS staff
Citation Title: Vancouver National Historic Reserve Historic District
Year of Publication: 2007
Citation Publisher: Department of the Interior, National Park Service

Citation Author: P.S., Ogden
Citation Title: Letter/Correspondence: P.S. Ogden to Rufus Ingalls, May 28, 1850
Year of Publication: 1850
Citation Type:
Citation Location: RG 92, Box 1175, National Archives

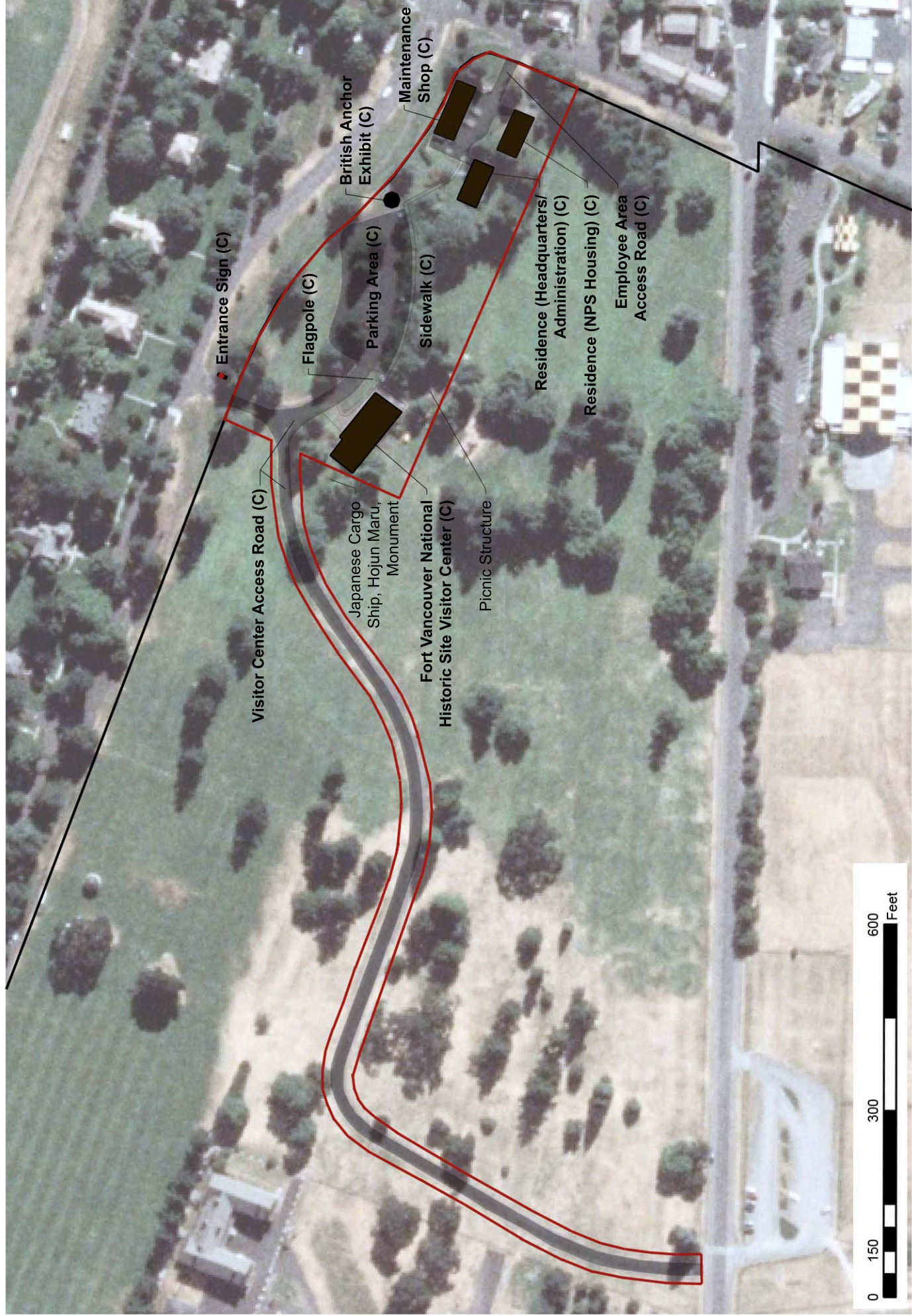
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Year of Publication: 1881
Citation Publisher: Transactions of the Eight Annual Re-Union of the Oregon Pioneer Association for

Supplemental Information

- Title:** Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, Park Headquarters, Site Plan 2007.
- Description:** For an 8.5x11 version of this map, contact the park's cultural resources manager or the regional CLI coordinator.



Park Headquarters Site Plan
Fort Vancouver National Historic Site
 Cultural Landscapes Inventory, 2007

Key
 (C) Contributing Feature
 — CLI Boundary
 — Fort Vancouver National Historic Site



