

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
FORT WADSWORTH, STATEN ISLAND
BOROUGH OF RICHMOND
RICHMOND COUNTY, NEW YORK CITY
NEW YORK STATE

NORTH ATLANTIC REGIONAL OFFICE
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents

List of Figures and Tables

Acknowledgements

	Page
1. INTRODUCTION	1-1
A. Project Background and Scope-of-Work.....	1-1
B. Previous Archaeological Research and Principal Information Sources.....	1-2
2. GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING.....	2-1
3. PREHISTORIC OVERVIEW	3-1
4. HISTORICAL OVERVIEW	4-1
A. Pre-Military Period	4-1
i.Exploration and Dutch-American Settlement	4-1
ii.Anglo-American Settlement.....	4-4
B. Military Period	4-10
i.British Military Occupation	4-10
ii.American Military Occupation	4-17
5. ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL	5-1
6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	6-1
REFERENCES	R-1
APPENDIX A - RESUMES	A-1

LIST OF FIGURES AND TABLES

	Page
Figure 1.1 Location of Project Site	1-2
1.2 Detailed Location of Project Site.....	1-3
1.3 Site Plan	pocket
4.1 "The Manatus Map", First Survey of Manhattan Island in 1639	4-2
4.2 Map of the Town of Dover upon Staten Island Showing Ownership of Land in 1664-1695	4-6
4.3 Map of New York and Perth Amboy Harbors in 1733	4-7
4.4 Plan of the Narrows drawn between 1757 and 1759	4-8
4.5 Plan of the Narrows about Ten Miles from New York in 1763	4-9
4.6 Bellini Map of Bay & Port of New York in 1764	4-11
4.7 Chart of the Entrance of the Hudson River in 1776	4-12
4.8 Taylor and Skinner Map of New York, Staten Island and Part of Long Island in 1781	4-14
4.9 "Plan de New York et les Environs" circa 1781	4-15
4.10 "Plan du Camp Anglo-Hessois dans Staten Island" in 1783	4-16
4.11 A Map of the State Land at Staten Island surveyed by Charles Loss in 1809	4-19
4.12 Plan View and Profile of the Defenses at the Narrows, surveyed by Jonathan Williams in 1810	4-20
4.13 "State of New York, Fort Tompkins, Fort Richmond" drawn by Capt. W. Tell Poussin in 1819	4-21
4.14 Plan of the Grounds about Fort Tompkins and Richmond in 1850.....	4-24
4.15 Sketch of the U.S. Lands on Staten Island Showing the Tracts to be Purchased from Jacobson and offered by Wm. Aspinwall in 1854.....	4-26
4.16 U.S. Coast Survey of the Narrows, New York Harbor in 1856.....	4-27
4.17 Plan Showing the Relative Position of the Fortifications at the Narrows, drawn by John C. Palfrey in 1859.....	4-28
4.18 "Sketch of Proposed Site for a Post Cemetery, Fort Wadsworth" in 1869	4-29
4.19 Sketch of the Military Reservation on Staten Island at the Narrows in 1881	4-30
4.20 Description of the Defenses on Staten Island at the Narrows of New York Harbor in 1886	4-31
4.21 Map showing U.S. Reservation and Proposed Purchase in 1889	4-32
4.22 Map of the Vicinity of Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island in 1889	4-33
4.23 "Plan and Reservation, Fort Wadsworth, N.Y.H." in 1890	4-34
4.24 Sketch Showing Limits of Hudson Battery, Fort Wadsworth in 1899	4-35
5.1 Locations of Prehistoric and Pre-1850 Historic Resources	pocket
5.2 Assessment of Archaeological Potential	pocket
Table 5.1 Summary of Prehistoric and Pre-1850 Historic Resources	5-2

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Project Background and Scope-of-Work

The following technical report presents a preliminary archaeological assessment of Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island, Borough of Richmond, Richmond County, New York City, New York State (Figures 1.1-1.3). Fort Wadsworth is a federally-owned, former military facility currently in the process of being transferred to the National Park Service. The National Park Service will assume site management responsibilities and will interpret Fort Wadsworth as a key historic resource within the Gateway National Recreation Area. The archaeological assessment presented here forms part of a broader cultural resource management plan being prepared for Fort Wadsworth under the auspices of the North Atlantic Regional Office (NARO) of the National Park Service. Hunter Research, Inc. performed this study under subcontract to OZ Architecture, the latter firm being under contract to the National Park Service.

No formal scope-of-work was issued for this archaeological assessment, but discussions with NARO staff and representatives of OZ Architecture resulted in the specification of the following work tasks: background and documentary research; a brief one-day site inspection; analysis of background, documentary and field research data; and preparation of this report. In developing this archaeological assessment, a strong cartographic approach has been adopted, and the key products from the standpoint of cultural resource management planning are the prehistoric and historic resource location map and the archaeological sensitivity map presented in Chapter 5.

Since a detailed military history of Fort Wadsworth was completed just over a decade ago (Black 1983), the historical research emphasis of this study has been placed primarily on: 1). the prehistory of the project site and its immediate vicinity, and 2). the pre-military and civilian history of the Fort Wadsworth property. However, to provide a balanced view of the archaeological potential of Fort Wadsworth, the military era also requires consideration. Clearly, the archaeological potential of the Fort includes not only prehistoric and early historic resources, but also the possibility of military-era remains associated with Fort Wadsworth itself and its predecessor military installations. For this reason, the brief historical overview presented in Chapter 4 of this report is extended into the military period.

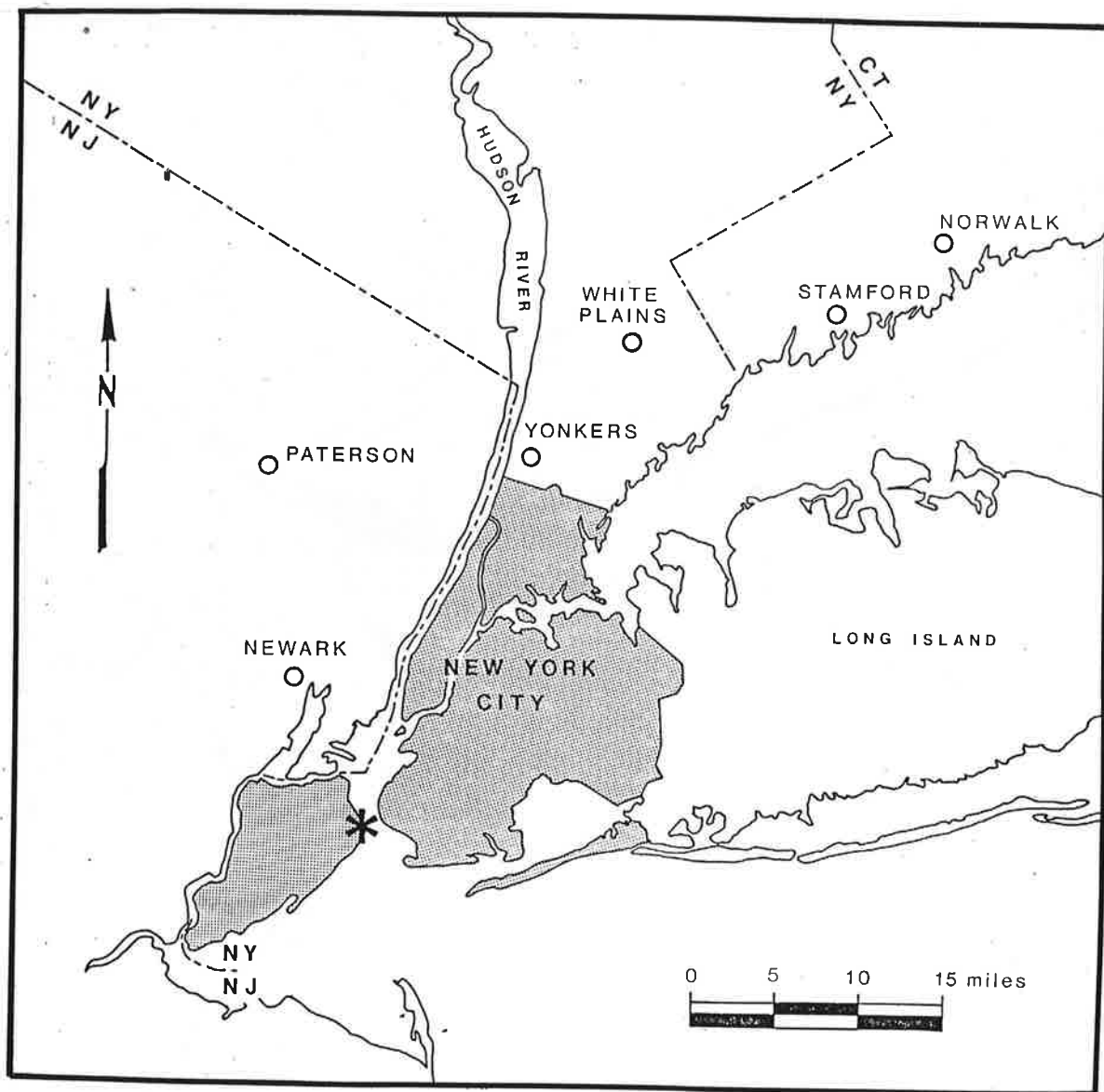


Figure 1.1. Location of Study Area (starred).

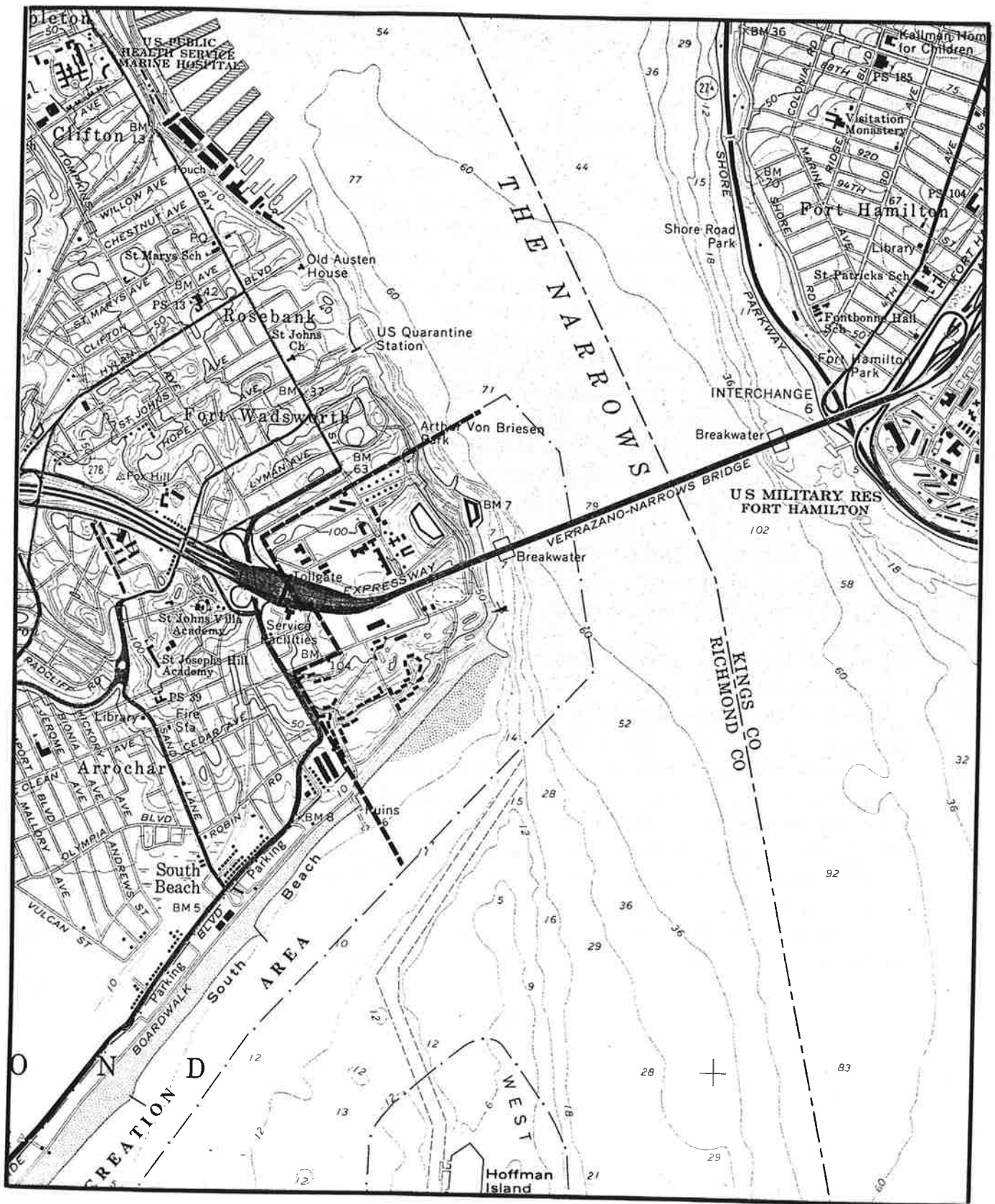


Figure 1.2. Detailed Location of Study Area (outlined). Source: USGS 7.5' Topographic Series, The Narrows, N.Y.-N.J. Quadrangle (1981).

B. Previous Archaeological Research and Principal Information Sources

Two earlier episodes of archaeological activity, one within and the other immediately adjacent to the Fort Wadsworth property, have provided useful background material for this assessment. In the mid-1960s, local avocational archaeologists conducted excavations on the site of the Walton-Stillwell House, just west of the current fort limits, close to the edge of the bluff overlooking Lower New York Bay. These investigations produced evidence of both prehistoric and early historic activity, the latter apparently reflecting both 17th-century Dutch-American and 17th and 18th-century Anglo-American occupation (Anderson and Sainz 1965). In the early 1980s, archaeological survey work was performed within the southwestern and northwestern portions of the Fort property in connection with the preparation of an environmental impact statement for the Surface Action Group Homeport, Stapleton-Fort Wadsworth Complex. These investigations also produced evidence of prehistoric and early historic occupation, although the latter was mostly of late 18th and 19th-century date (Salwen et al. 1984). Other archaeological finds have periodically been made on the Fort Wadsworth property, apparently during the course of military construction activity in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Some of the materials recovered in this manner were gathered up and deposited with the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences. These specimens were examined and briefly reported on as part of the archaeological survey performed in the early 1980s (Salwen et al. 1984:C-6).

Previous archaeological work in the immediate project vicinity obviously serves as one of the most important information sources for the current assessment. Also of value are wider ranging studies that have addressed the prehistory of Staten Island (e.g., Skinner 1903, 1909; Funk 1976; Historic Sites Research 1977; Ritchie 1980; Pagano 1985; Kraft 1986). Similarly, in assessing the historical archaeological potential of Fort Wadsworth, with reference to both the pre-military Dutch-American and Anglo-American civilian occupation and the British and American military fortifications and support facilities, there are a number of published secondary sources and reports that have been of value in unraveling patterns of earlier land use (e.g., Stokes 1916-1928; Tuttle 1921, 1923; Leng and Davis 1933; U.S. Army Center of Military History 1963; Lewis 1979; Williams 1972; Baugher-Perlin and Bluefield 1980; Roberts 1980; Black 1983). Examination of these materials has been supplemented with a careful analysis of historic maps and selective research into primary archival materials to produce the historical overview in Chapter 4.

CHAPTER 2

GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING

The 226-acre former U.S. Army facility, Fort Wadsworth, is located on the eastern tip of Staten Island overlooking the strait known as the Verrazano Narrows and the southwestern end of Long Island beyond. At this point, the Narrows provide a constricted passage between Staten Island and Long Island, linking by water the Upper (inner) and Lower (outer) Bays at the mouth of the Hudson River. The Narrows thus serve as a natural funnel and the principal means of access for shipping entering New York Harbor from the Atlantic Ocean.

For most of the historic period, and especially from the Revolutionary War era onwards, the Narrows have been a critical strategic location in the defense of both New York Harbor and the entire eastern seaboard. For more than two centuries, the promontory occupied by Fort Wadsworth and its companion headland across the Narrows on Long Island have been key components in the various defensive systems that have been devised to protect New York harbor and the island of Manhattan. The Fort Wadsworth promontory commands fine views out to sea to the south and southeast across the Lower Bay, and also supports key sight lines to the inner defenses that lay deep in the Upper Bay on Governor's Island, Liberty Island and Ellis Island.

Staten Island lies partly within the Piedmont and Atlantic Coastal Plain physiographic zones. The island is also bisected from northeast to southwest by the so-called Cameron's Line, the boundary between the African-European and North American tectonic plates (which lie to the southeast and northwest respectively). The northwest Piedmont portion of the island is formed on early Paleozoic Ordovician-Cambrian and Ordovician bedrock associated with the two tectonic plates, of which the Staten Island serpentinite of the African-European plate is the most characteristic rock type. In the westernmost portion of the island, these strata are overlaid by the mudstones and sandstones of the Brunswick Formation, which were laid down in the Jurassic-Triassic Period, and then intruded into by the Palisades diabase sill. The southeastern Atlantic Coastal Plain portion of Staten Island, including the Fort Wadsworth promontory, is formed on the continental sand, gravels and clays of the Raritan Formation, which are the result of sedimentary deposition during the Cretaceous Period. During the advance of the continental ice sheets in the Pleistocene Epoch, the furthest southward expansion of the Wisconsinan ice sheet covered most of Staten Island and resulted in the deposition of an east-west terminal moraine across the southeastern part of the island. Glacial moraine, till and outwash deposits therefore cover most of the island masking the bedrock beneath (Isachsen et al. 1991:139-183).

Today, the vast majority of Staten Island is further masked by urban and suburban development. The Fort Wadsworth property is mostly built-up and contains a variety of 19th- and 20th-century military, residential and recreational facilities with supporting infrastructure such as roads and utilities. The surviving military features of the fort continue as major landscape elements, with Fort Tompkins itself occupying a knoll that rises to more than 140 feet above sea level. By far the most dominant feature of the local cultural landscape, however, is the approaches and span of the Route I-278 suspension bridge crossing of the Verrazano Narrows. This immense structure, 7,200 feet long with 216 feet of clearance at the center of the channel, was designed by Ammann and Whitney and opened to automobile traffic in 1964 (Jackson 1988:138). On the Staten Island side of the bridge, the approaches with their toll booths and the colossal abutments form a giant swath cutting through the center of the Fort Wadsworth property.

CHAPTER 3

PREHISTORIC OVERVIEW

A human presence is detectable in the Mid-Atlantic region beginning approximately 12,000 to 13,000 years ago. The chronological sequence for the Lower Hudson Valley/New Jersey section of the region is generally divided into three major cultural periods: Paleo-Indian (circa 10,500-6,000 B.C.); Archaic (circa 6,000-1,000 B.C.); and Woodland (circa 1,000 B.C.-A.D. 1600). Overview of the prehistory and paleoenvironment of the New York/New Jersey metropolitan area and the Mid-Atlantic region have been presented elsewhere on many occasions (e.g., Funk 1976; Ritchie 1980; Kraft 1986) and will not be reiterated here.

Evidence of Paleo-Indian occupation is sparse throughout the region, partly because of the low population density and nomadic character of the aboriginal peoples in the area. When considering the Paleo-Indian archaeological record, it is also relevant that the post-glacial climate and environment were not especially conducive to human activity, while a large portion of the available land mass during this period has since been submerged owing to rising sea levels. Nevertheless, Staten Island has produced important evidence of Paleo-Indian occupation in the form of the Port Mobil prehistoric site. This site, located near the southern tip of the island on the terminal moraine left by the Wisconsin ice advance, produced characteristic lithic evidence of Paleo-Indian hunter-gatherer activity from soils disturbed by plowing and bulldozing (Kraft 1977, 1986:34-36).

Archaic period occupation is somewhat better represented throughout the region owing to an amelioration of the climate and gradually expanding population base. A number of camp sites and stations dating from this period are known in coastal New York, and a series of sites in the northwestern portion of Staten Island (notably, Bowman's Brook A, Old Place and Arlington Place A-1) has been instrumental in establishing a firm lithic typology and cultural sequence for the Early and Middle Archaic in the Mid-Atlantic (Ritchie and Funk 1971:45-60; Ritchie 1980:145-149). No major Archaic period sites have been identified in the immediate Fort Wadsworth vicinity, although some Archaic cultural materials have been recovered from later Woodland period contexts (see below).

Most of the prehistoric resources identified on Staten Island date from the Woodland period occupation, again a reflection of a growing, but also an increasingly sedentary, population. Numerous Woodland sites have been noted along creeks draining into the Arthur Kill and the Kill Van Kull in the western and northern parts of the island, including the Rossville site, which has given its name to a distinctive style of Early Woodland projectile point, and the previously-mentioned Bowman's Brook site near Mariners Harbor, where a Late Woodland component has supplied the basis for both the Bowman's Brook pottery type and the Bowman's Brook phase of the

so-called East River cultural tradition (Ritchie 1980:268-270; Kraft 1986:104-105). Other Woodland sites have been documented along the island's southeastern shore between Great Kills and Wards Island, but, except for clusters in the Silver Lake area and around the marshy headwaters of Simonson's Brook near Richmond, relatively few sites are known in the interior (Skinner 1903, 1909).

In the Fort Wadsworth vicinity, just southwest of the facility boundary on Richmond Avenue near Arrochar Station, one major Native American camp site was documented in the early years of this century. Known as the Arrochar site, this resource has produced "grooved axes, arrow points, etc. with an occasional bit of pottery ... and shell pits..." (Skinner 1909:16). Based on these materials, it would appear that the Arrochar site may represent an earlier Woodland manifestation than many others on Staten Island. Excavations in the 1960s at the site of the nearby Walton-Stillwell House, also just west of the current fort limits, encountered a Native American storage pit that contained more than 200 pottery sherds, triangular and side-notched projectile points, netsinkers, a full-grooved axe, and a bone fish hook (Anderson and Sainz 1965). This pit appears to have been mostly in use in the Late Woodland period, but also contains earlier Woodland items. It may well be related to -- if not a part of -- the Arrochar site, the precise location and limits of which remain uncertain.

That the Fort Wadsworth property itself was occupied by Native American seems without question. The views of the Upper and Lower Bays afforded by the headland were excellent, and it is inconceivable that Native American peoples did not maintain a presence there. This supposition is confirmed by the periodic recovery of prehistoric cultural materials from the grounds of the Fort. Salwen and others, in their 1984 review of artifacts gathered from the Fort over the past century or so and now stored at the Staten Island Institute of Arts and Sciences, observed that the SIIAA collection of 199 specimens "contains a wide variety of projectile point types assignable to cultural periods ranging from the Late Archaic to the Late Woodland." The associated program of field testing carried out at the Fort in 1984 also made sporadic finds of Native American cultural materials in mostly historic period contexts. A three-foot-square excavation unit in Area D, however, produced "both eighteenth century and Native American ceramics in apparent stratigraphic separation", which is suggestive not only of aboriginal activity, but also of the likely survival of pockets of intact prehistoric cultural strata (Salwen et al. 1984:C-6, C-13 thru C-15).

CHAPTER 4

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

A. Pre-Military Period (17th century-American Revolution)

i. Exploration and Dutch-American Settlement:

The first Europeans to sight the narrow strait between Staten Island and Long Island were most likely sailor-explorers in the employ of the French. In 1524, Giovanni Verrazano, a Florentine navigator in a French vessel, is believed to have anchored briefly off the Narrows on the Long Island side of the Lower Bay. His stay was cut short, however, when he was forced out to sea again by violent storms. The Narrows were not actually entered by Europeans for another 85 years when Henry Hudson, in 1609, searching for a westerly route to Asia on behalf of the Dutch East India Company, discovered the Upper Bay and explored the lower section of what later came to be known as the Hudson Valley. Hudson, in fact, was responsible for naming Staten Island, giving it the appellation "Island Staatan Eylandt" (Island of the States) in honor of the States-General, the governing body of the Netherlands. It is a reasonable assumption that the Native Americans who occupied Staten Island and other areas around the Upper and Lower Bays at the time saw Hudson and the many other explorers who came in his wake as a threat. In response to the newcomers, the native peoples are believed to have established signaling stations on Todt Hill in northeastern Staten Island (and at various other prominent positions) to warn neighboring groups each time European vessels entered the Upper Bay (U.S. Army Center of Military History 1963:1).

By the late 1620s and early 1630s, the recently incorporated Dutch West India Company was busy imposing the patroonship system in the new colony of New Netherland as a means of stimulating settlement. Under this system, three unsuccessful attempts were made at establishing permanent settlements on Staten Island. The first attempt was headed by David Peterse De Vries of Hoorne. The De Vries settlement, shown on "The Manatus Map" (Figure 4.1) as number 33, is believed to have been located at present-day Tompkinsville. This map was drafted in 1639 and represents the first detailed survey of the area surrounding the Upper Bay. De Vries kept a journal, the *Korte Historical*, which included detailed notes about his colonization efforts on Staten Island. He wrote that on "The 13th [of August 1636], I requested Wouter Van Twilliger to register Staten Island for me, as I wished to return and plant a colony upon it, which he consented to do." Two years later, De Vries left Holland, and arriving in the New World in late December of 1638 or early January of 1639, he reported: "so I brought the ship

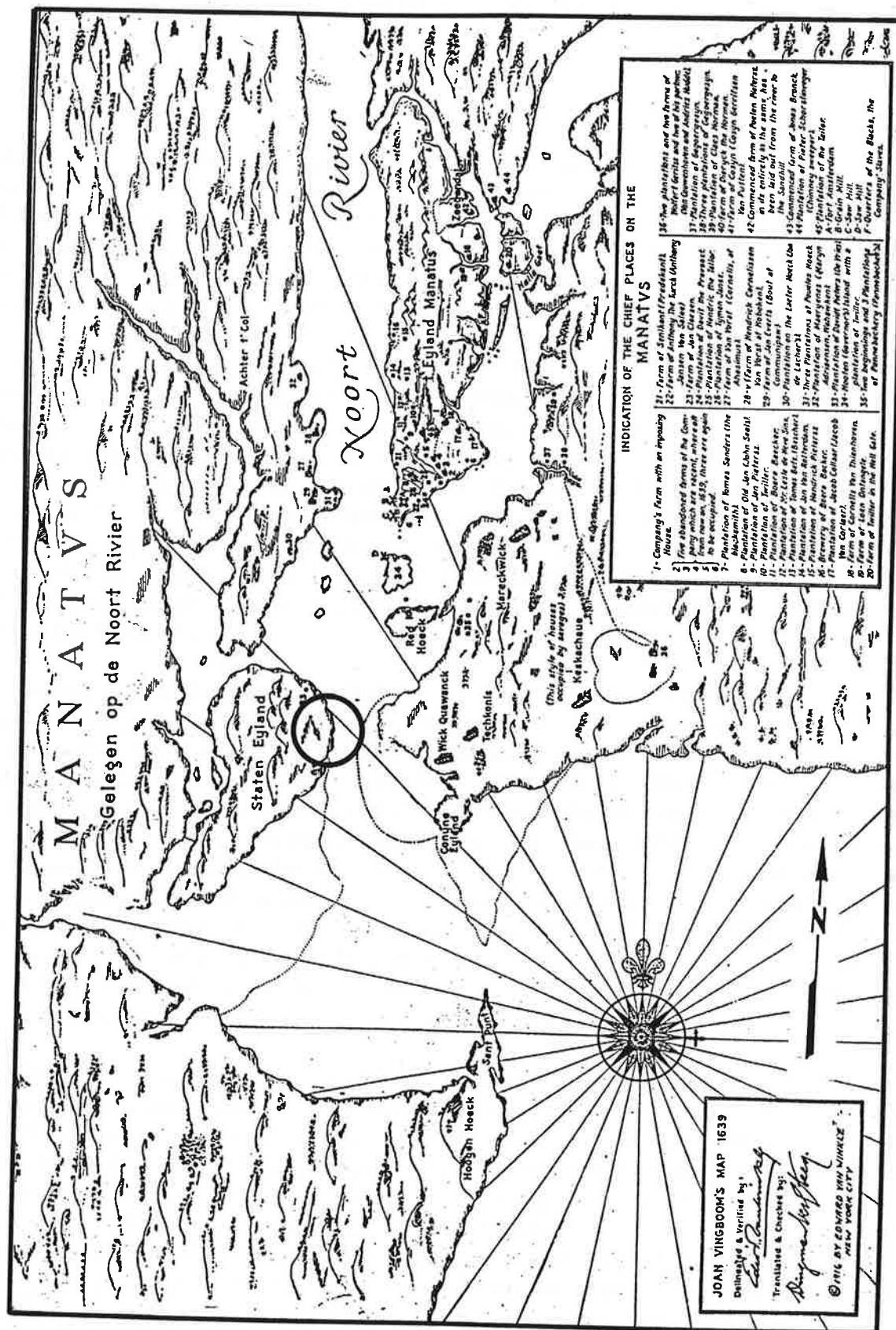


Figure 4.1. Vingboom, Joan. "The Manatus Map", First Survey of Manhattan Island in 1639. No scale given. Fort Wadsworth vicinity circled.

that same evening before Staten Island, which belonged to me, where I intended to settle my people. I sent my people to Staten Island to begin to plant a colony there and build." On February 10, he was forced to lease his plantation "as no people had been sent [to] me from Holland, as was promised in the contract which I made with Frederick De Vries, director of the West India Company." The settlement was short-lived, for in 1641, it was attacked and destroyed by Indians (Stokes 1915-1928; Anderson and Sainz 1965:83; Black 1983:9-10).

The second and third attempts to settle Staten Island were both headed by Cornelius Melyn. Shortly after the Indian assault on the first settlement, De Vries was asked by the governor of New Netherland, William Kieft, whether he would permit Melyn "... to go upon the point of Staten Island, where the maize-land lay, saying he wished to let him plant it, and that he would place soldiers there, who would make a signal by displaying a flag, to make known at the fort [at New Amsterdam] whenever ships were in the bay ..." Apparently De Vries agreed and Melyn was granted all of Staten Island, excepting a portion of land that had been previously settled by De Vries. Another Indian raid or the general state of tension between the Dutch and the Indians led to the abandonment of Cornelius Melyn's settlement in 1643 (Anderson and Sainz 1965:83; Black 1983:10).

According to Charles Leng and William Davis's History of Staten Island and its People, if Melyn truly did establish a settlement at the point of Staten Island where the maize lands lay, and where a signal to the fort on New Netherland would be useful, this location would most likely have been in the vicinity of the Native American settlement of Arrochar (see above, Chapter 3), just to the southwest of Fort Wadsworth. Excavations by Albert J. Anderson and Donald R. Sainz at the Walton-Stillwell House in the early 1960s supply possible supporting evidence for the Leng and Davis hypothesis. Their work at this 17th-century house site, which was located just west of the present Fort Wadsworth reservation, located artifacts that belonged to a period earlier than the construction of the house. Although it is possible that these materials were deposited during the late 17th-century Anglo-American occupation of the site, Anderson and Sainz preferred to link them to Melyn's first attempt at colonization in the early 1640s (Black 1983:10; Leng and Davis 1933; Anderson and Saintz 1965:83-96).

In 1650, acting under a contract with Baron Hendrick Van der Capellen, Melyn resolved to restock his ruined colony and "if possible, restore the same." According to his later testimony, 16 "handsome farms" were started. This new settlement lasted five years before it too was attacked and burned by Indians. A traveller in October 1655 wrote, "on the 21st we sailed to the North River, from Staten Island, by the watering place, and saw that all the houses there, and about Melyn's house, were burned by the Indians." This account appears to place Melyn's second settlement in the present-day Tompkinsville area, near the same location as the original De Vries plantation. Shortly after this third abortive attempt at permanently implanting a settlement, the Dutch system of patroonship was abandoned (Black 1983:12).

Despite the ongoing hostilities between the local Native American inhabitants and the incoming Europeans, and the failure of the three organized settlement implants, a few Dutch settlers did succeed in remaining on Staten Island during the 1640s and 1650s. In the mid-1650s a small garrison was stationed on the island to give protection to these inhabitants. However, the number of settlers was so small and widely dispersed, that by 1656, Governor Peter Stuyvesant was urging his council to remove the garrison and relocate the settlers across the Narrows at New Utrecht. It remains unclear whether these recommendations were acted upon (Black 1983:12-13).

Finally, in the early 1660s, the first truly permanent Dutch-American settlement was established on Staten Island. This comprised the small community known as Oude Dorp ("Old Town"), and was located approximately one mile southwest of the present Fort Wadsworth reservation and in the vicinity of the Native American locus known as Arrochar. The settlement took the form of a loose cluster of farms, somewhat ineffectively protected by a blockhouse manned by a detachment of soldiers supplied by the Dutch West India Company. This hamlet was still in existence in 1664 when the English take-over of New Netherland occurred (Anderson and Saintz 1965:84; Black 1983:14).

ii. Anglo-American Settlement:

In 1664, with Anglo-Dutch commercial and colonial rivalry at a high pitch in Asia, Africa and America, King Charles II of England bestowed a grant of all the territory lying between the Connecticut and Delaware Rivers (i.e., including virtually all of the province of New Netherland) upon his brother, the Duke of York. In August of the same year, the Duke of York dispatched four frigates, manned with 450 men, to New York harbor to claim his property. In September, Governor Stuyvesant of New Netherland surrendered the province to the English commander, Colonel Richard Nicolls, who assumed the position of new governor. Nicolls proceeded to parcel out land grants both to the original settlers and to the soldiers who served under him. Staten Island was subdivided in this manner, and Oude Dorp and the present-day Fort Wadsworth vicinity were placed within the newly created town of Dover. The area of the present Fort Wadsworth reservation was contained within three lots of land granted in 1668. Proceeding from southwest to northeast, these lots were assigned to: Henry Hedger and Thomas Walton; R. Doddman and John Kingdom; and Thomas Walton. At some point over the next quarter century, Hedger sold his share of the first lot to Walton (Figure 4.2). Thus, by 1690 or so, Thomas Walton owned two separate parcels, one each on either side of the parcel held by Doddman and Kingdom.

Thomas Walton died in 1691 and his property passed to his eldest son, Thomas Walton, Jr. The younger Thomas Walton, who married Mary Stillwell, sold two lots of land to Thomas Stillwell in 1698 (Richmond County Deeds B-300). The deed of conveyance indicates that the property being sold adjoined the land of Nathan Whittman [sic] and corresponded in whole or in part with the Hedger/Walton tract (i.e., the westerly Walton tract) that was originally laid out in 1668. This is the parcel that contained the Walton/Stillwell house site, which was excavated in the early 1960s and

demonstrated as being a late 17th-century domestic site, with a possible earlier mid-17th-century Dutch-American component (Anderson and Saintz 1965). As indicated on the map showing the reconstructed 17th-century land ownership in the town of Dover in northeast Staten Island, Nathan Whitman was granted property to the northwest of Walton's between 1668 and 1679 (Figure 4.2). It is not clear whether Walton retained the portion of his father's original land grant located to the east of New York Avenue, on the easternmost tip of Staten Island. Unfortunately, no records have been located which might indicate whether Doddman and Kingdom still retained tenure of their land in the final decade of the 17th century.

Thomas Stillwell died sometime after 1704, for his last will and testament, drafted on May 21, 1704, left his property to his grandson, Nicholas Stillwell. The property was described as "all that plantation or farm commonly called Wallbours [Walton's] farm, lying on the east side of the Old Town and also one half of the meadow belonging to it." It is not clear from this description, however, what the relationship of the Stillwell property was to the two lots lying further to the east on the eastern tip of the island. The Stillwell family maintained ownership of and continued to operate their farm until late in the 18th-century (Anderson and Saintz 1965:84).

In 1711, the Governor of New York approved plans to maintain beacons at several locations in the Upper Bay and on both sides of the Narrows. However, it appears that this warning system was not implemented until at least the late 1750s (Black 1983:21). A map of New York and Perth Amboy harbors prepared in 1733 shows the location of all of the towns that existed on Staten Island at the time. This map does not attempt to depict individual farmsteads, although a ferry with an associated house is shown in the general vicinity of the present-day Fort Wadsworth reservation (Figure 4.3).

The plans for erecting beacons at the Narrows were formalized by acts of the colonial government in both 1741 and 1755. In the latter year, authorization was granted "for carrying down two great guns and landing one on Staten Island and one on Long Island, and tar barrels and posts for beacons" (Black 1983:21). Two plans of the Narrows -- one drafted between 1757 and 1759 (Figure 4.4); the other in 1763 (Figure 4.5) -- show the proposed location of several batteries that were intended to fortify the Narrows. No indication is given as to whether any of these gun emplacements were already in existence, although it has been generally assumed that none of them were. However, both of these plans show alarm beacons on Staten Island (but not on Long Island), which can probably be taken as an indication that they had been erected by this time. To the northwest of the point of Staten Island, a wharf and a barn are shown in the tenure of the Symosen (Symoson) family. It is likely that the Symosons were responsible for the operation of the ferry, using their wharf as the Staten Island docking point. Also proposed for the Staten Island side of the Narrows, as indicated on the plan of 1763 (Figure 4.5), were three signal houses that were to receive signals from Sandy Hook and relay them on to the forts in New York's inner harbor. No further documentation has been found, however, to suggest that these were ever built.

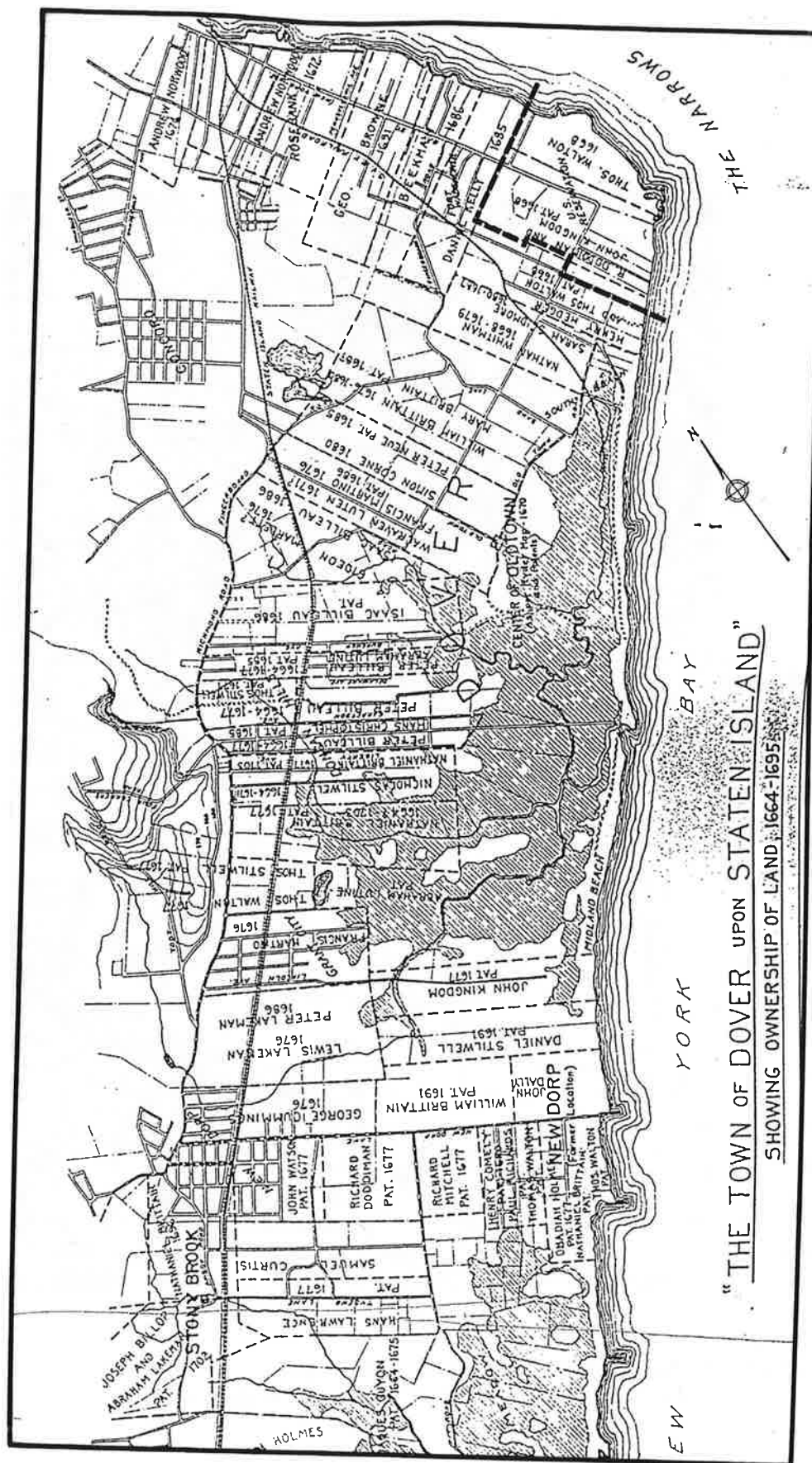


Figure 4.2. Tuttle, George W. Map of the Town of Dover upon Staten Island Showing Ownership of Land, 1664-1695. [1921]. No scale given. Limits of Fort Wadsworth Reservation shown with dashed line.



Figure 4.3. "Map of New York and Perth Amboy Harbors." 1733. Scale as indicated. Fort Wadsworth vicinity circled.

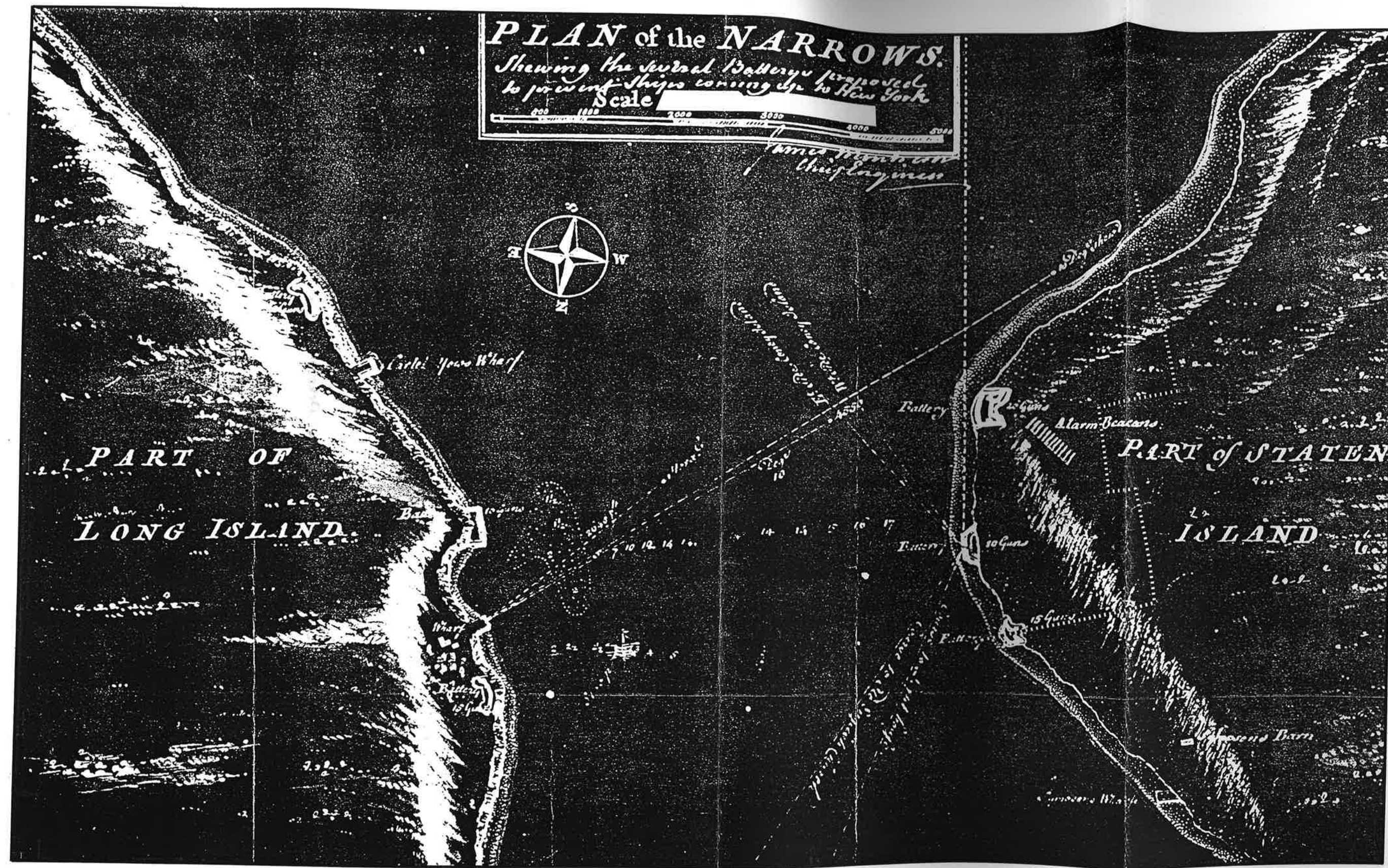


Figure 4.4. Montresor, James. "Plan of the Narrows Showing the several Batterys proposed to prevent ships coming up to New York." 1757-1759. Scale 1 inch:950 feet (approx.). Limits of Fort Wadsworth Reservation shown with dashed line.

A map published in the following year showing the bay and port of New York gives the first clear indication of the primary road network on Staten Island in the late colonial period (Figure 4.6). A major road is shown heading from southwest to northeast across the center of the island linking the ferry to Perth Amboy with the ferry to Long Island. A second, more easterly coastal route is also shown connecting the settlements of Dover, New Town and Old Town with the ferry to Long Island. Finally, a spur road also headed northwest along the shore from near the eastern tip of the island to Wels (present-day Tompkinsville). Significantly, on a map that depicts very few buildings on the island, a structure is shown close to the Staten Island terminus of the ferry to Long Island. The importance of the Fort Wadsworth vicinity as a transportation node and "break-in-bulk" point is amply demonstrated by this map. Cartographic evidence (Figures 4.3-4.5, 4.7 and 4.9) shows clearly that the colonial-era ferry (known as both the Narrows Ferry and Doyle's Ferry) and any related buildings lay outside the limits of the present-day reservation about 400 feet north of its northern boundary. As Black (1983:21) points out, the map of 1764 gives no indication of a fort being located at the Narrows, the only facility of this type being located on the southern tip of Manhattan.

By the mid-18th century, the eastern tip of Staten Island had come into the ownership of the Van Deventer family. John Van Deventer, who died in 1759, was reportedly the first member of this family to take up residence in the area, and a Revolutionary War era map (see below, Figure 4.10) depicts a Van Deventer dwelling apparently within the southwestern section of the Fort Wadsworth reservation. The bulk of the Fort Wadsworth property remained in Van Deventer ownership through the Revolutionary War era and into the 1790s when much of it was acquired by the federal government for military purposes (Black 1983:21). The Van Deventer presence in the area in the immediate pre-military period is further evidenced on a 1776 chart of the entrance to the Hudson River, which labels the area Staten Island side of the Narrows as Vandeventer's Point (Figure 4.7).

B. Military Period (American Revolution to circa 1850)

i. British Military Occupation:

At the outset of the Revolutionary War, apart from the beacons reportedly erected in the 1750s, there were no fortifications or military-related structures on either side of the strait leading from the Lower Bay to the Upper Bay. However, in the early months of the conflict, with the Lower Hudson Valley and New York Bay mostly under American control, the strategic importance of the Narrows in the defense of New York was immediately appreciated by both the New York Committee of Safety (the principal organ of New York's emerging revolutionary apparatus) and the commanders of the British forces.

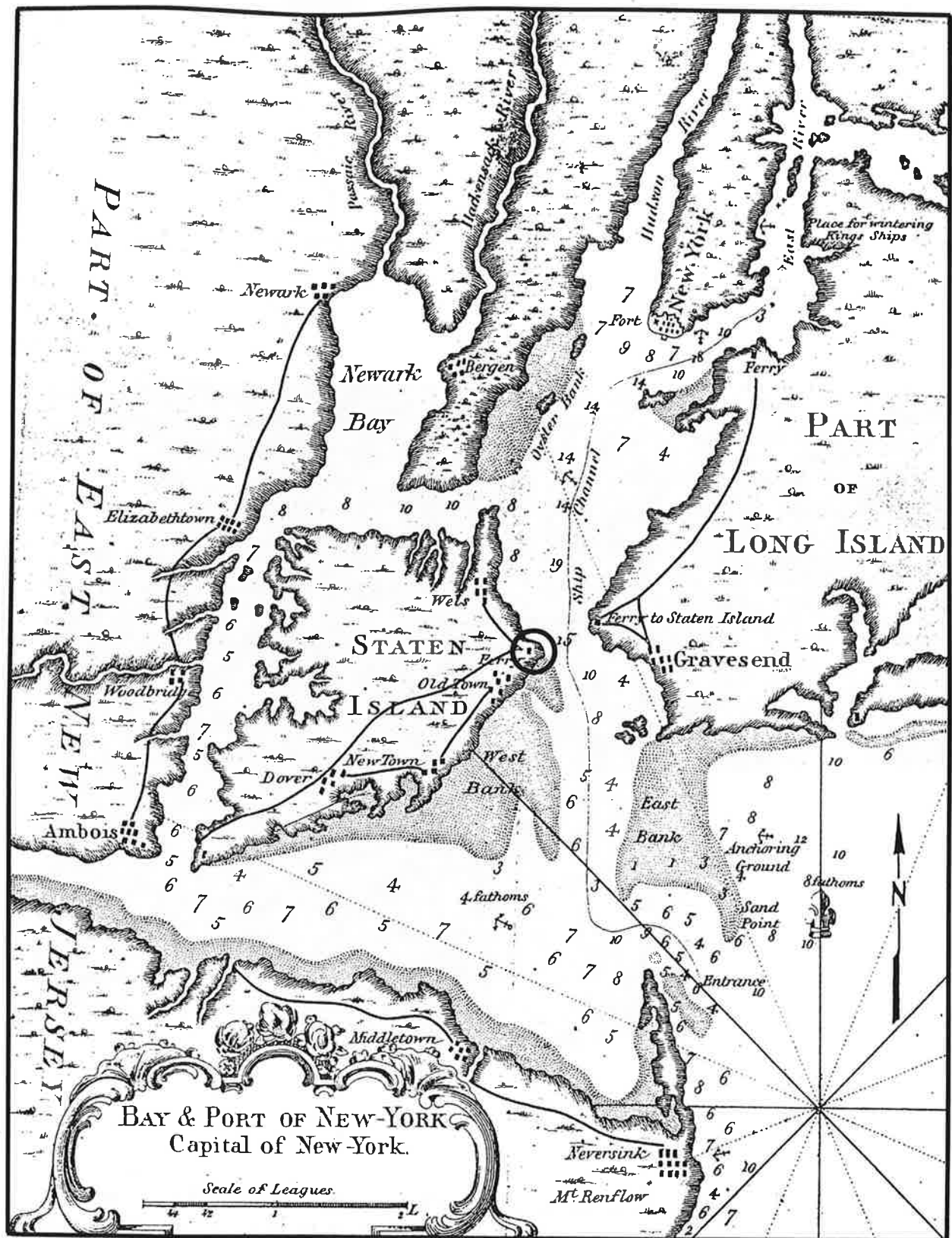


Figure 4.6. Bellini, S. "Bay & Port of New-York, Capital of New York." 1764. Scale 1 inch:3.5 miles (approx.). Fort Wadsworth vicinity circled.

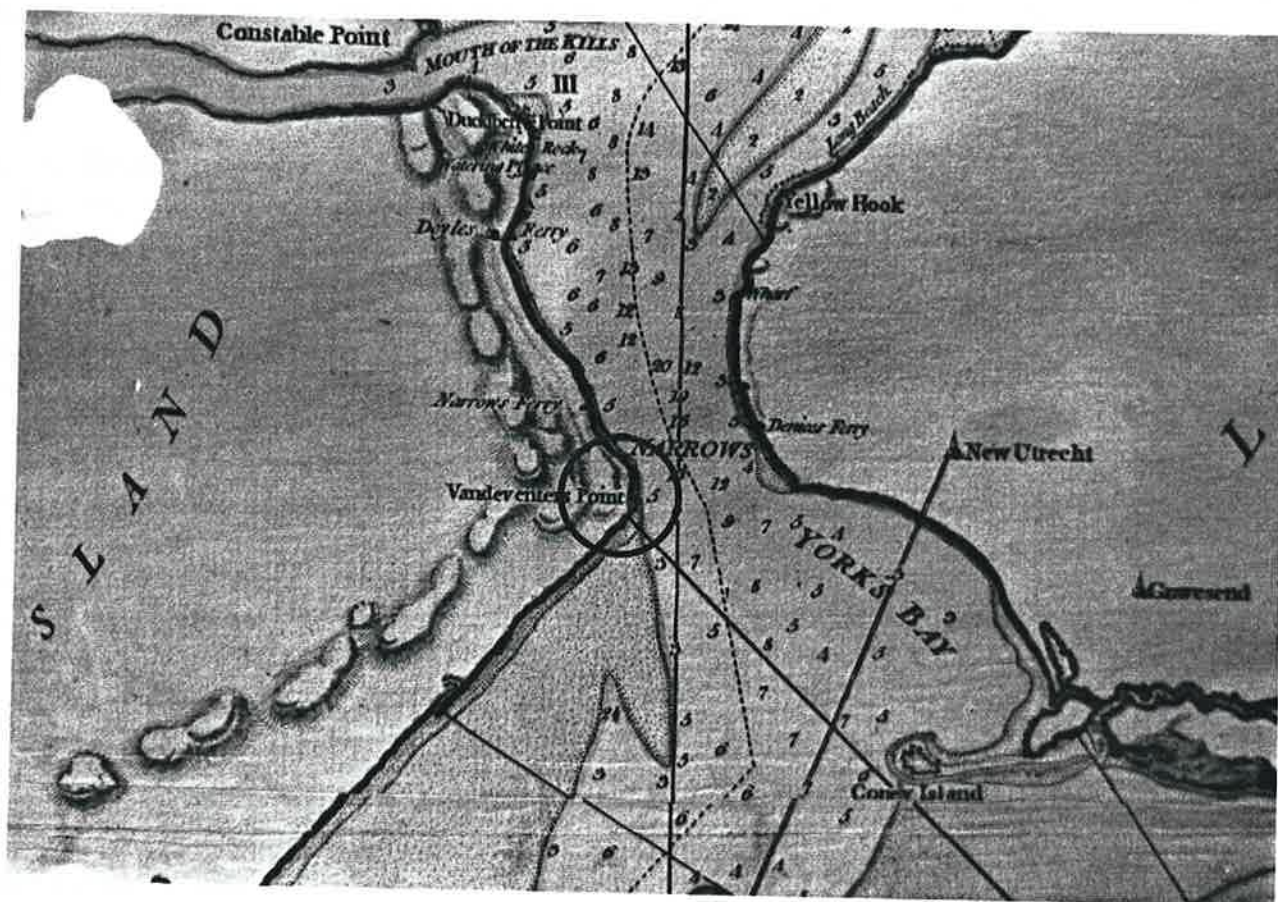


Figure 4.7. "Chart of the Entrance of the Hudson River, from Sandy Hook to New York, with the Banks, Depths of Water, and Sailing Marks." 1776. Scale 1 inch:1.65 miles (approx.). Fort Wadsworth vicinity circled.

Receiving information that the British had evacuated Boston in March 1776, the Committee placed Generals Charles Lee and George Washington in charge of preparing New York for a British attack. Their first priority was to concentrate on protecting the innermost portion of the Upper Bay. The emphasis was therefore placed on strengthening and erecting fortifications on the southern tip of Manhattan and nearby Brooklyn. The general consensus was that there was neither enough time or resources to adequately fortify the Narrows, although the importance of this location was clearly understood, since the committee did find "it necessary to have a proper person sent to the Narrows with a glass to look out for any fleet that may be approaching." On July 2, 1776, the British landed on Staten Island without meeting any resistance and used it as a staging area. They soon embarked on a campaign which resulted in their taking control not only of Staten Island, but also ultimately Manhattan, Long Island and New York Bay (Black 1983:21-22).

Once the British forces gained control of the harbor and its environs, they set about fortifying the Narrows. By 1779, the British defenses on the Staten Island side of the Narrows consisted of a redoubt, a shoreline battery of 26 gun platforms, six 24-pounders, four 18-pounders, and a hot shot furnace. By 1782, a fort and several barbette batteries had been added. The principal component in this defensive system was the fort, a star-shaped structure located on the site of the later Fort Tompkins, which has been variously depicted as having four, five or six bastions. During this period the general area where these fortifications were located was referred to as "Flagstaff Hill" or just "Flagstaff" (Roberts 1980:323-324; Black 1983:23-24).

The Taylor and Skinner map of New York, Staten Island and part of Long Island, prepared in 1781, shows the Staten Island fortifications as consisting of the "Fort", an irregular-plan structure with four bastions, and a redoubt, but no indication of the shoreline batteries. A third building, shown to the south of the redoubt, is possibly the dwelling of Cornelius Van Deventer, who by this time owned the Van Deventer estate (Figure 4.8).

A French plan of New York and its environs drawn around the same time shows the fort as a more stylized five-pointed star-shaped structure and also two linear features that represent the shoreline batteries *en barbette*. The key to the map notes that the fort consisted of five bastions made of earth, containing 900 men. At this time the Van Deventer family still technically owned the land occupied by the British fortifications; the point of land overlooking the Narrows is thus referenced as "Vandeventers" (Figure 4.9).

The "Plan du Camp Anglo-Hessois dans Staten Island" surveyed between 1780 and 1783, also shows a five-bastion fort as well as a bank of warning beacons to the north. Two dwellings are also depicted to the southwest of the fort, the one closest to the fort being labeled "C.V. Deventer" for Cornelius Van Deventer. The other dwelling is identified as being in the hands of "Stilwell", and is probably the same structure as the Walton/Stillwell House investigated in the 1960s (Figure 4.10).



Figure 4.8. Taylor, George and Andrew Skinner. "Map of New York and Staten Island Surveyed by Order of His Excellency General Sir Henry Clinton, K.B." 1781. Scale 1 inch:1.4 miles (approx.). Limits of Fort Wadsworth Reservation shown with dashed line.

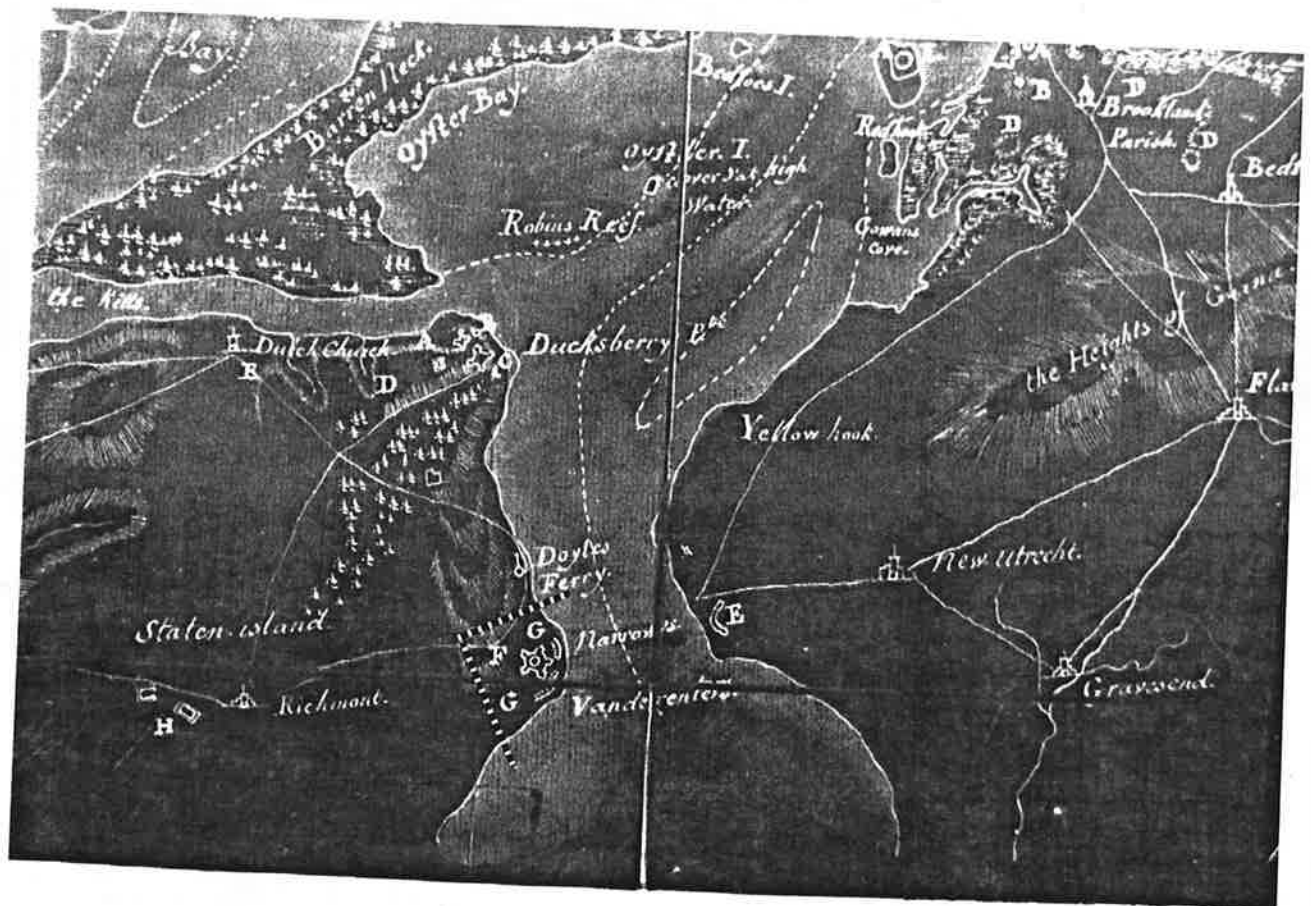


Figure 4.9. "Plan de New York et les Environs." Circa 1781. Scale 1 inch: 1.5 miles (approx.). Limits of Fort Wadsworth Reservation shown with dashed line.

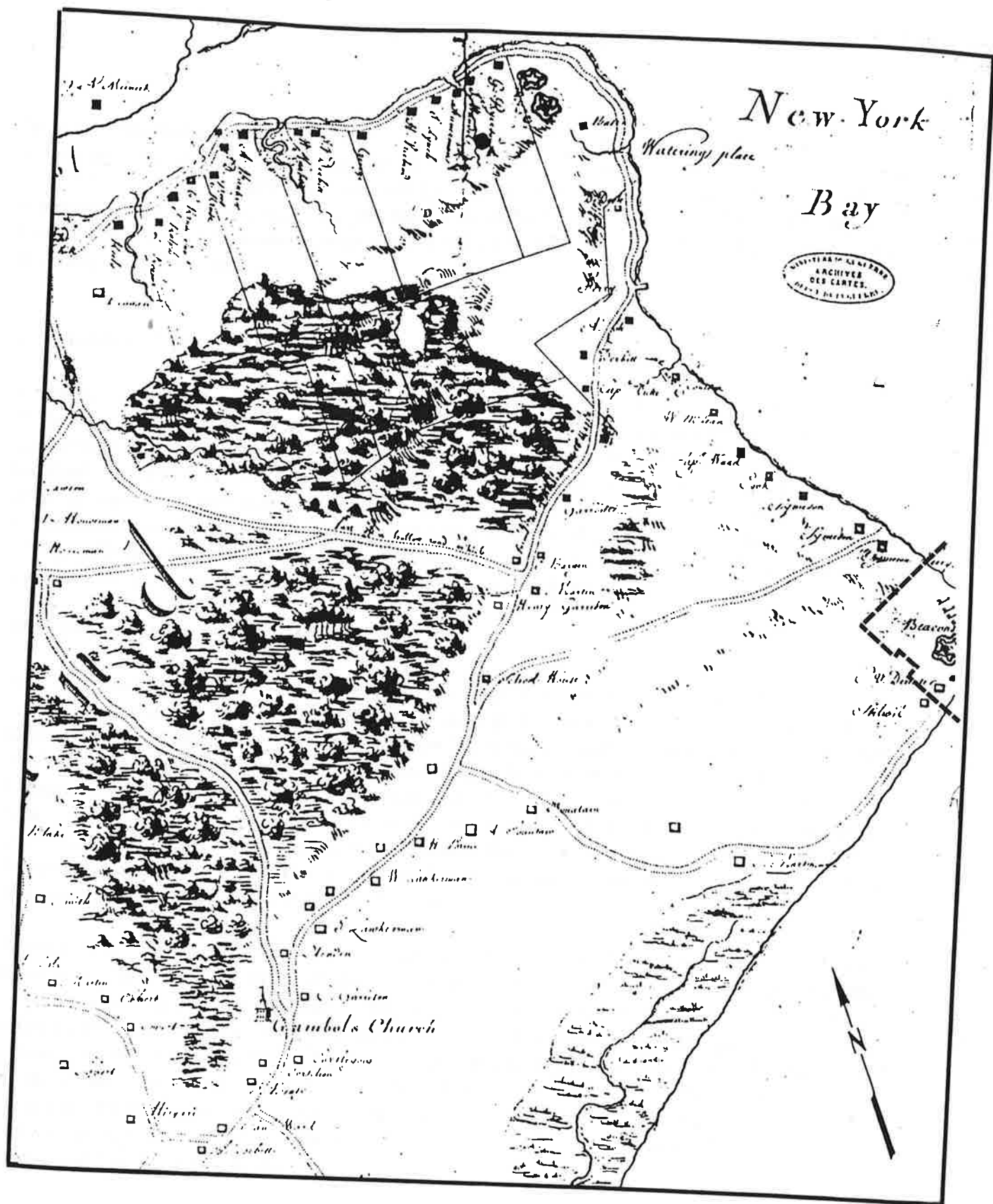


Figure 4.10. "Plan (No. 34) du Camp Anglo-Hessois dans Staten Island (Baie de New York) de 1780-1783." Scale 1 inch:5/8 miles. Limits of Fort Wadsworth Reservation shown with dashed line.

Despite being manned for much of the war, the British fortifications at the Narrows participated in no major military actions during the Revolutionary period and were taken out of service in 1783 when the New York area was finally evacuated by British troops. Black (1983:25) suggests that the defenses were "simple, hastily assembled works," which was probably the case, yet the abandoned fortifications were substantial enough to survive and be rehabilitated during the early federal period.

ii. American Military Occupation:

Throughout the period of the British military occupation and up into the mid-1790s, all of the property containing the present-day Fort Wadsworth Reservation remained in private hands. In the Revolutionary War era, the property was owned by Cornelius Van Deventer, but following his death, sometime between 1783 and 1794, it passed to his two sisters, Catherine and Ann, both of whom married into the Jacobson family. From this point on, the present-day Fort Wadsworth gradually began to take shape through a series of sales of private land to the State of New York and the United States of America (U.S. Army Center of Military History 1963:Annex C; Anderson and Saintz 1965:84; Black 1983:30).

First System Defenses, 1794-1807:

The first coordinated attempts by the fledgling United States at securing the defense of the eastern seaboard occurred in the early 1790s in response to a perceived military threat from Revolutionary France. The protection of New York harbor from naval attack was considered of vital national interest, and in 1794 the Secretary of War Henry Knox instructed an expatriate French engineer Charles Vincent to prepare plans for a harbor-wide system of fortifications. Vincent was directed to consult with the governor of New York during the course of his work, and ultimately, in part because of inadequate federal funding, New York State became the initial driving force behind the construction of the New York harbor defenses of the so-called First American System (Lewis 1979; Black 1983:26-28).

Beginning with Vincent's plans and continuing through into the later 19th century, there were three basic elements to most of the designs for defending New York harbor: an inner cluster of fortifications at the upstream end of the Upper Bay (at the southern tip of Manhattan and on present-day Governors, Liberty and Ellis Islands); a ring of fortifications around the Lower Bay (at the Narrows and on the tips of Sandy Hook and Rockaway Point); and a pair of fortifications at the southwestern end of Long Island Sound (near the present-day Throgs Neck bridge). Under the First System, the emphasis was placed mostly on the defense of the inner harbor and substantial works were begun in the mid- to late 1790s on Governors Island, Bledloe's (Liberty) Island and Oyster (Ellis) Island.

No new First System construction appears to have taken place at the Narrows, but attention was given to land purchases and refurbishment of the old British defenses on the Staten Island side of the strait. In 1794, Catherine and Ann Van Deventer sold a 24.45-acre tract, containing the core of the British fortifications (and the later sites of Fort Tompkins, Fort Richmond and Battery Hudson), to the People of the State of New York. Between late May and early September of the same year, a crew of up to 50 men was apparently deployed "to repair what was salvageable from the old fort and to build a blockhouse." Despite this activity, the fortifications were neither garrisoned nor equipped with artillery, and the site remained in this semi-fortified state for another 14 to 15 years (Black 1983:28-38).

Second System Defenses, 1807-1817:

Tensions with France eased in 1800, but growing friction with Britain over trade and economic matters caused the federal government to continue planning for the defense of New York harbor and other port cities of the United States throughout the first decade of the 19th century. These plans translated into an extensive building program, termed the Second American System, which took place for approximately a decade beginning in 1807, when American disputes with Britain began to escalate into what subsequently became the War of 1812.

The first chief of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Colonel Jonathan Williams, took a leading role in developing the plans for the defense of New York harbor in the first decade of the 19th century. Williams personally surveyed and reported back to Washington on most of the key locations that were to be fortified around the Upper and Lower Bays. While his schemes were in many cases too grandiose and expensive to be implemented, it was his network of scaled-down Second System defenses that began to provide New York harbor with properly integrated protection from transatlantic naval assault.

During this period, the sites of New York City's coastal fortifications began to be ceded to the federal government by the State of New York and, as the defensive system was expanded, further purchases of private land were made by the United States of America. The original 47-acre core site of the Staten Island fortifications, however, was slow in being passed into the hands of the federal government, this finally being accomplished in 1847 after decades of wrangling. Even so, expansionary land acquisitions were still undertaken by the federal government while the core of the site remained in State hands. For example, in 1809, John Jacobson sold a 22.5 acre tract to the west of the State-held lands to the people of the United States, thereby extending the military reservation to within roughly 400 feet of present-day New York Avenue (U.S. Army Center of Military History 1963:Annex C; Black 1983:39-61).

Second System fortifications on the Staten Island side of the Narrows were mostly erected in two phases, between 1808 and 1810, and between 1814 and 1817, with some minor building activity taking place in the hiatus (Figure 4.11-4.13). In the former phase, a water battery known as Fort Richmond was erected at the base of the bluff along the shoreline, and two other earthen

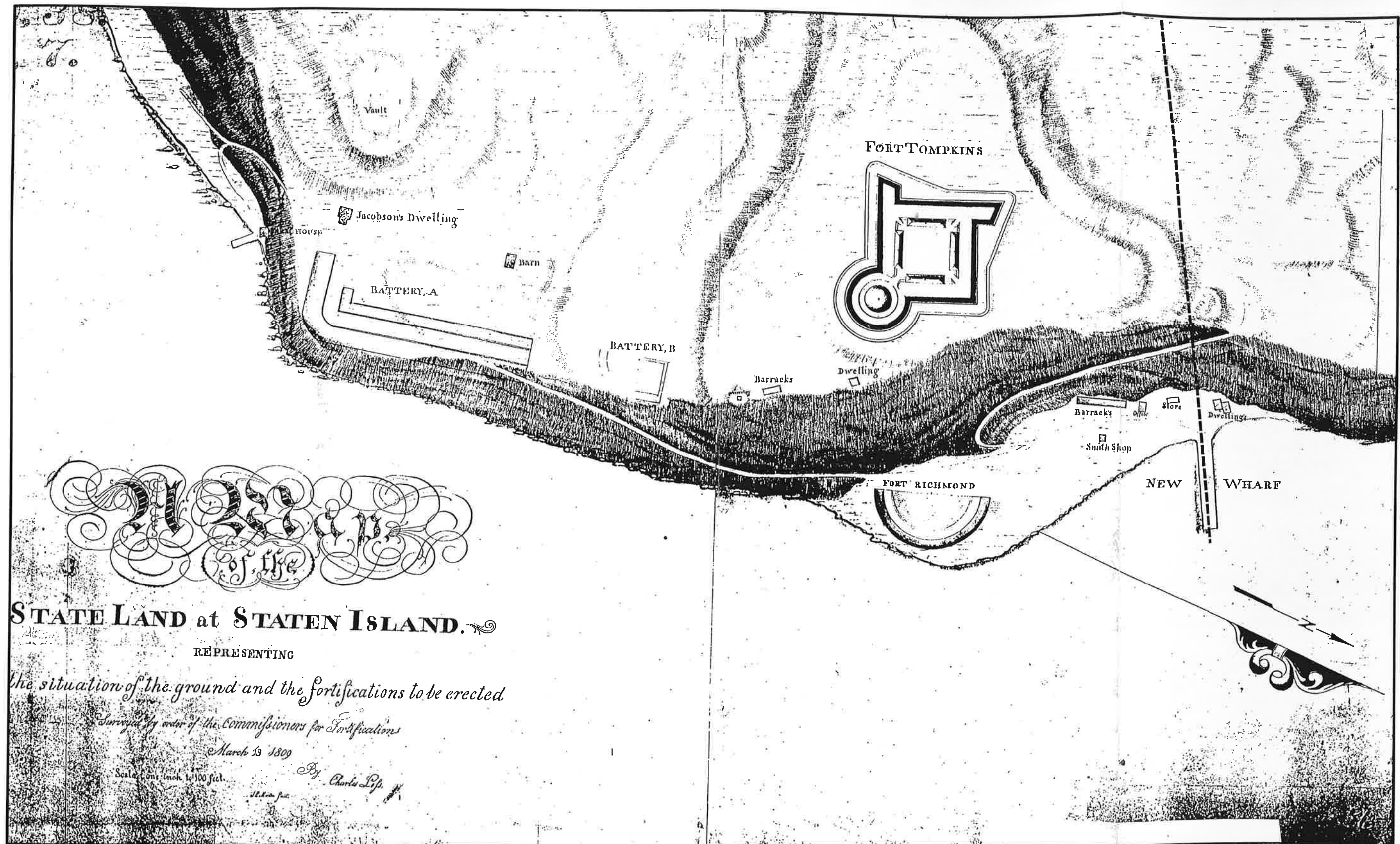


Figure 4.11. Loss, Charles. "Map of the State Land at Staten Island Representing the Situation of the Ground and the Fortifications to be Erected." 1809. Scale 1 inch:425 feet (approx.). Northern limit of Fort Wadsworth Reservation shown with dashed line. (National Archives, Record Group 77, Drawer 36, Sheet 17).

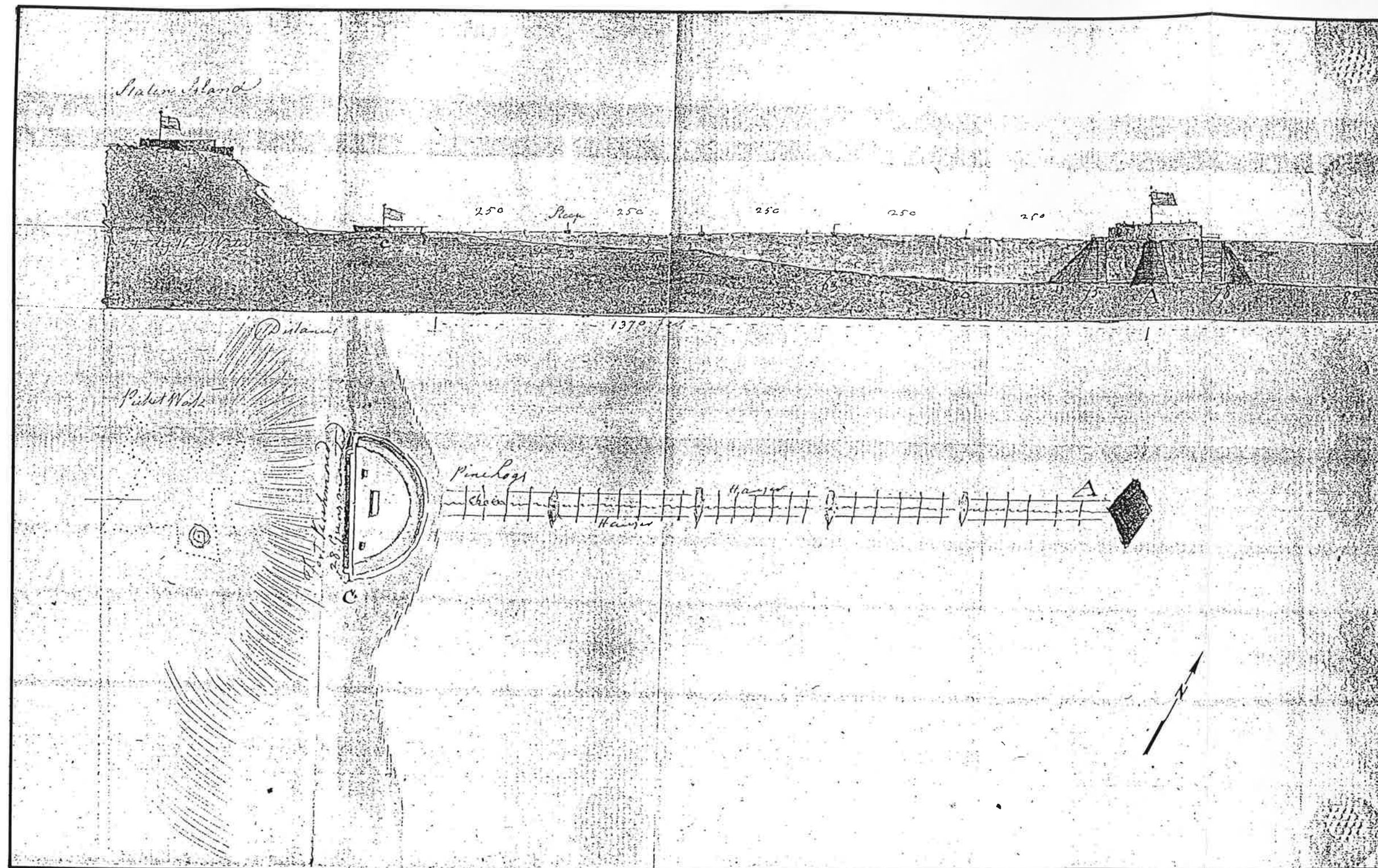


Figure 4.12. Williams, Jonathan. Plan View and Profile of the Defenses at the Narrows. 1810. Scale 1 inch:210 feet (approx.). In profile at top, the recently completed Fort Richmond is shown at the base of the bluff on the left and the proposed Fort Tompkins is shown at the top. In plan view at bottom, the outline of the "Picket Work" may depict the remains of the former British fort repaired by American forces in 1794, rather than the outline of the proposed Fort Tompkins. The structure in the Narrows and the barrier of hawsers and logs slung between anchored sloops were proposed but never built.

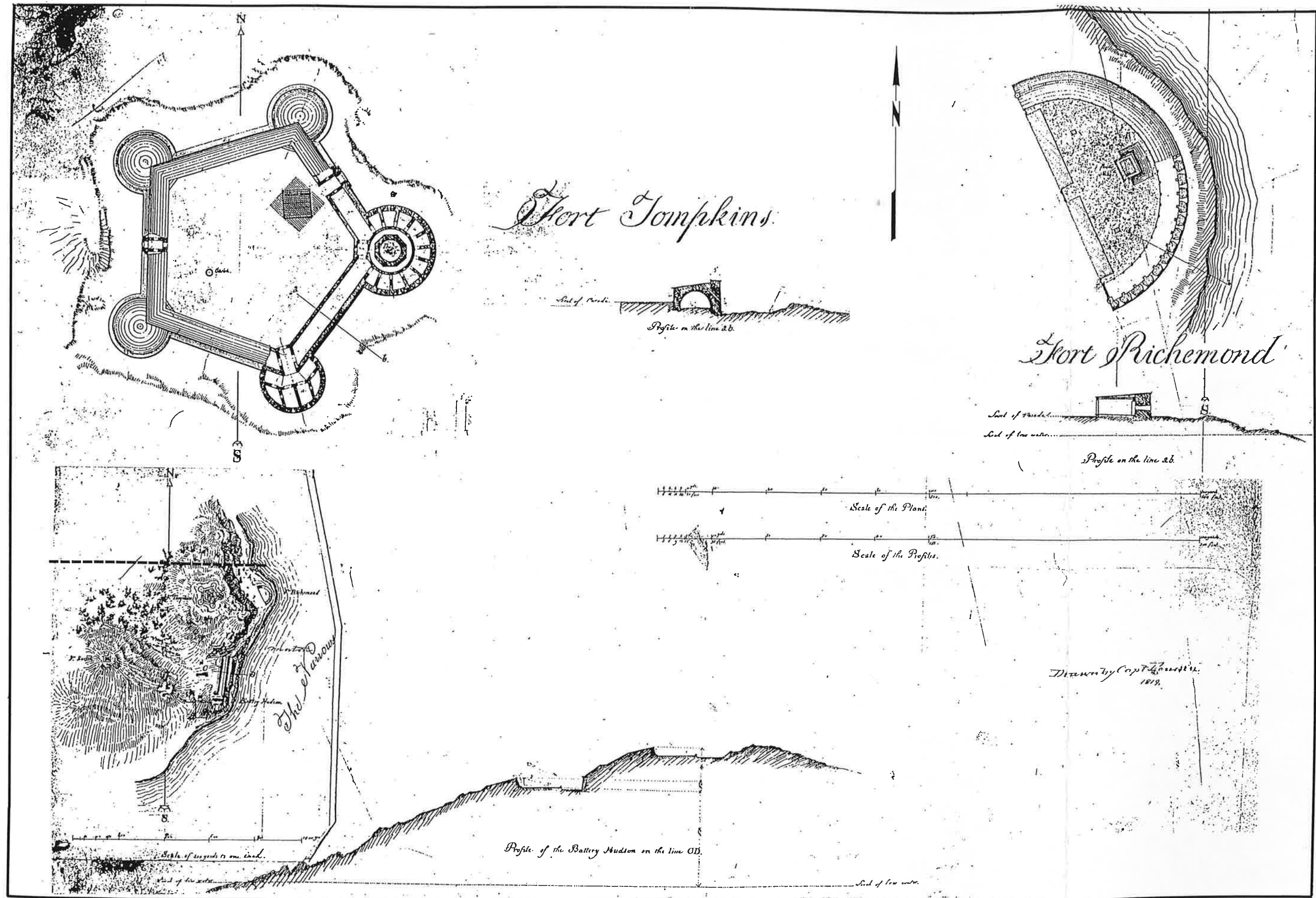


Figure 4.13. Poussin, Capt. W. Tell. "State of New York, Fort Tompkins, Fort Richmond." 1819. Scales as indicated. (National Archives, Record Group 77, Drawer 41, Sheet 3).

batteries, Forts Morton and Hudson, were constructed on the bluff rim to the south. Fort Richmond, the dominant work, was an earth and masonry structure, semi-circular in plan, that contained 27 or 28 iron 32-pounders mounted *en barbette*. This battery also contained two barrack buildings, two furnaces and one bomb-proof magazine. Williams had also proposed constructing a barrier across the Narrows consisting of a line of redoubts in the channel interspersed with a series of anchored sloops between which was to be slung a "chain" of hawsers and logs (Figure 4.12). This elaborate barricade was never built, however, probably being deemed too impractical and expensive.

From the earliest stages of planning, the principal facility of the Staten Island Second System defenses was always intended to be a large fort, the future Fort Tompkins, that was to be erected on a knoll on the headland immediately above Fort Richmond. Various designs were prepared for this structure, including a square-plan fort with a massive circular bastion in its southeast angle (Figure 4.11) and an earlier square-plan version with a large circular bastion in the southeast angle, half bastions in the other three corners, and a low east wall over which guns could be trained on to the Narrows below (Black 1983:43). By 1810, however, with Forts Richmond, Morton and Hudson complete, no work had taken place on the main fort apart from the digging of a well and a ditch on the hilltop and the final design of the structure was still not decided.

No further progress was made on the main fort for almost four years, although the push to reactivate plans for its construction occurred in June of 1812 when hostilities with the British were at their peak. Quite possibly, it was thought that the defenses already in place were sufficient, and the limited available funds were better expended elsewhere. It remains an open question just how intact the earlier refurbished British fort on the hill remained at this point. Its outline seems to have still been clearly visible as picket work in 1810, and what may have been a tower or bastion appears to be depicted in the southeast corner, evidently the critical spot of this defensive site (Figure 4.12).

DeWitt Clinton, one of the Commissioners of Fortifications, in gearing up for construction of the new fort in January, 1814, also noted:

"We intended to have commenced the last season with constructing the lower part of Fort Tompkins on Signal hill on Staten Island: but we found it could not be undertaken without throwing open the defences already erected there and losing the protection which they gave to Forts Hudson & Richmond. Under these circumstances it was recommended to us to cause a blockhouse to be erected within the picket work on the hill: this has been done and it is a work of great strength mounting fourteen (14) heavy cannon" (quoted in Black 1983:45).

It seems reasonable to suggest that the old fort may still have been considered sufficiently defensible prior to 1812 that the construction of Fort Tompkins was a low priority in the overall scheme of the harbor defenses.

In any event, as DeWitt Clinton indicates, a blockhouse was built as a temporary measure within the old fort in 1813, while the old fort was dismantled. This dismantling operation appears to have taken place in 1814, being followed immediately thereafter by the construction of the new fort, a task that was continued until 1817 by which time the threat of invasion from overseas had finally passed. The first Fort Tompkins occupied the prime defensive position on the Staten Island side of the Narrows and was by far the most substantial structure built up until that time. It was a casemated fort of masonry construction with an exterior of dressed stone. Three hundred feet in diameter and 1,700 feet in circumference, the fort had a pentagonal plan with bastions at each of its five corners, the one at the eastern angle being larger than the others and containing a bombproof magazine. The interior of the fort included four furnaces, a blockhouse and a well, while the ramparts and bastions were designed to carry 76 heavy guns and 26 howitzers. However, when construction ceased in 1817, the armament had still not been mounted and the fortifications thus never realized their full potential.

One other element in the Staten Island fortifications was added in 1814. This was the redoubt known as Fort Smith, apparently square in plan, that occupied another knoll-like landform a few hundred feet to the southwest of Fort Tompkins (Figure 4.13). Various other structures were also in existence in the vicinity of the fortifications in the first two decades of the 19th century, including pre-military period dwellings and farm buildings and barracks, dwellings, shops, stores and other support structures relating to the military occupation itself (Figure 4.11).

Third System Defenses, 1817-1865 and post-1850 History:

In the period extending from 1817, when the Fort Tompkins construction was halted, to the early 1840s, when plans began to be made for repairing and upgrading the fortifications on the Staten Island side of the Narrows, the site of Fort Wadsworth "constituted an abandoned defensive position, the state-built Second System masonry fortifications being left to deteriorate" (Black 1983:62). In the 1840s, the United States government finally acquired title to the entire military facility as it then was, and began to embark on a prolonged program of upgrading, new building and expansion at the site in what is termed the Third American System.

The federal government began by modernizing Batteries Richmond and Hudson, formerly referred to as Forts Morton and Hudson. Work then began in 1847 on the new Fort Richmond (Battery Weed), a task that was not completed until 1864. The new Fort Richmond was designed by Joseph Totten, Chief Engineer of the U.S. Army, as a replacement for the water battery on the shoreline. It consisted of a much larger trapezoidal-plan, 67-foot high, two-tiered structure capable of mounting 116 heavy channel bearing and 24 light flanking guns, and survives today as one of the most impressive examples of military engineering of its period (Figure 4.14).

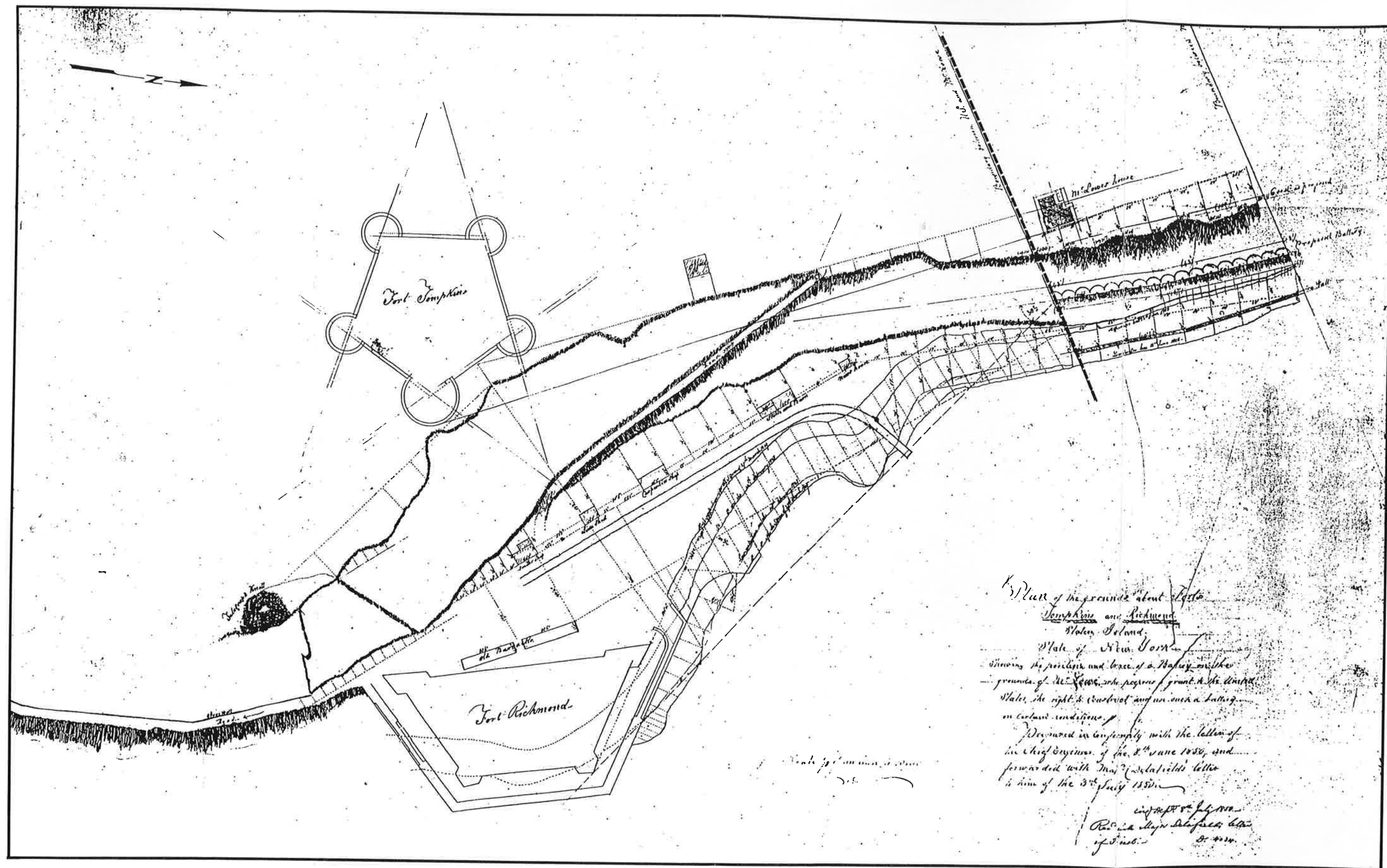


Figure 4.14. "Plan of the Grounds about Forts Tompkins and Richmond, Staten Island". 1850. Scale 1 inch:160 feet (approx.). Northern limit of Fort Wadsworth Reservation shown with dashed line. (National Archives, Record Group 77, Drawer 43, Sheet 29).

Since the focus of this study has been on the pre-1850 history of the Fort Wadsworth property, this historical overview is brought to a close at this point. For a detailed history of this period, the reader is referred to Frederick R. Black's "A History of Fort Wadsworth, New York Harbor" (1983:62-137). In brief, the succeeding century saw continuing construction of the Third System defenses, notably the replacement of the first Fort Tompkins between 1859 and 1875 with a second, more compact fort on the same site. Other Third System works included the construction during the Civil War era of the North Cliff and South Cliff Batteries and the beginnings of a new unfinished casemated battery located to the south of Battery Hudson. In the post-Civil War period, the area of the reservation was enlarged through a number of land acquisitions, many of which entailed the taking of properties already developed for residential purposes. On this land, most of which lay to the south and west of the core fortified area, the Army erected numerous new batteries, barracks and support facilities, culminating in the creation of the Endicott Batteries in the period 1890 through 1920. A selection of maps is included in the following pages in an effort to trace graphically the post-1850 site development.

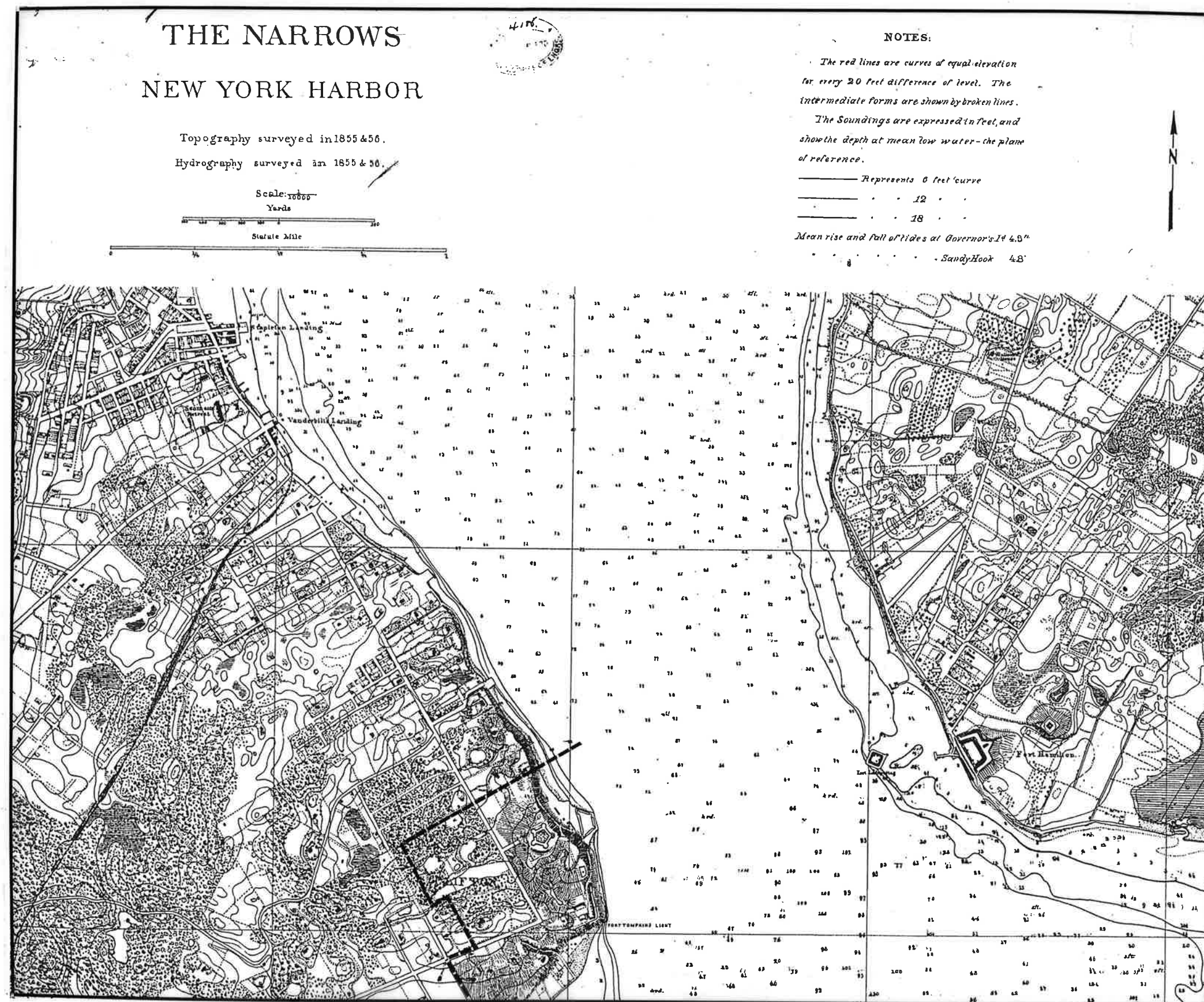


Figure 4.16. "U.S. Coast Survey of the Narrows, New York Harbor." 1856. Scale as indicated. Limits of Fort Wadsworth Reservation shown with dashed line. (National Archives, Record Group 77, Drawer 36, Sheet 67).

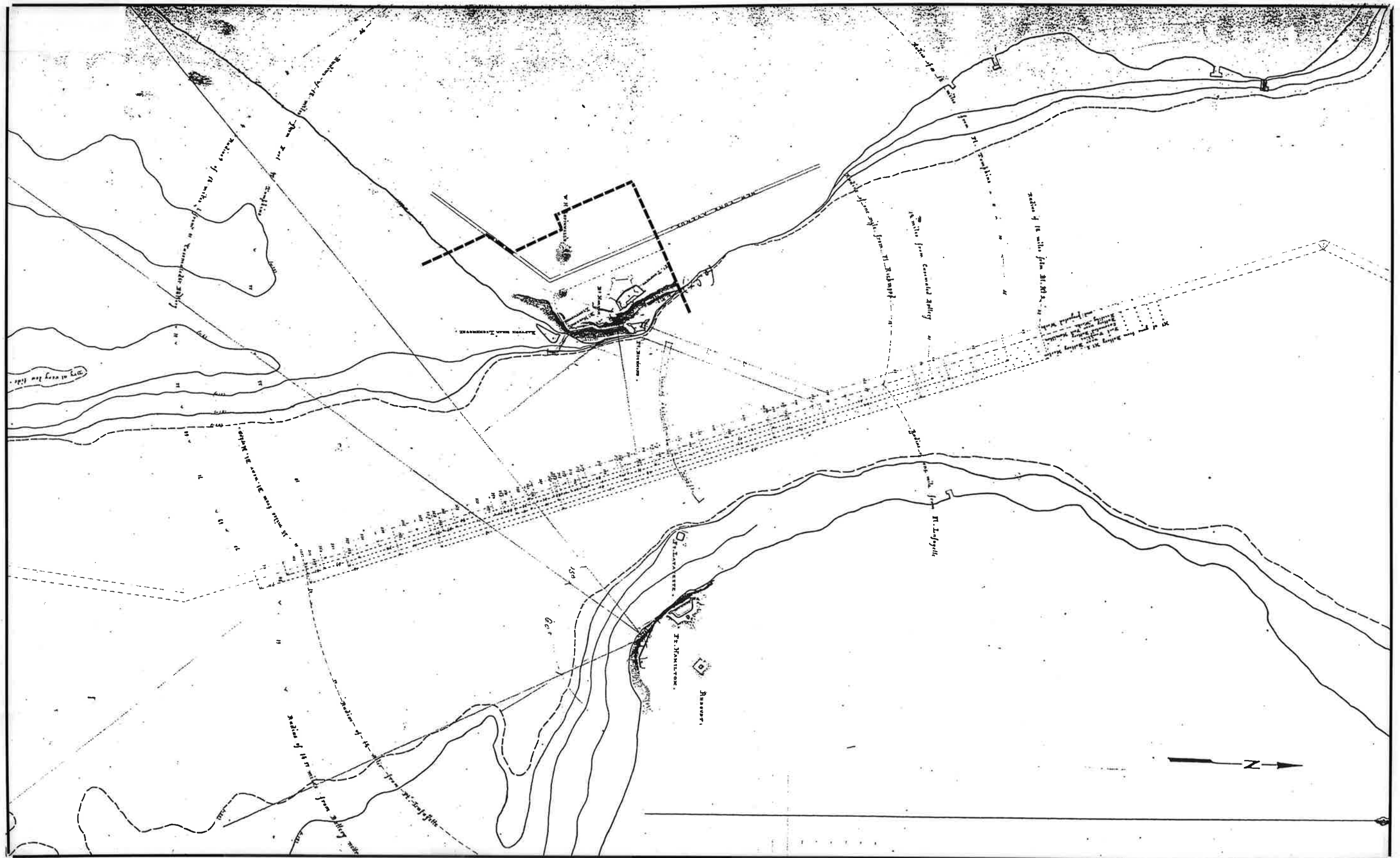


Figure 4.17. Palfrey, John C. "Plan Showing the Relative Position of the Fortifications at the Narrows, New York." 1859. Scale 1 inch:1,900 feet (approx.). Limits of Fort Wadsworth Reservation shown with dashed line. (National Archives, Record Group 77, Drawer 41, Sheet 28).

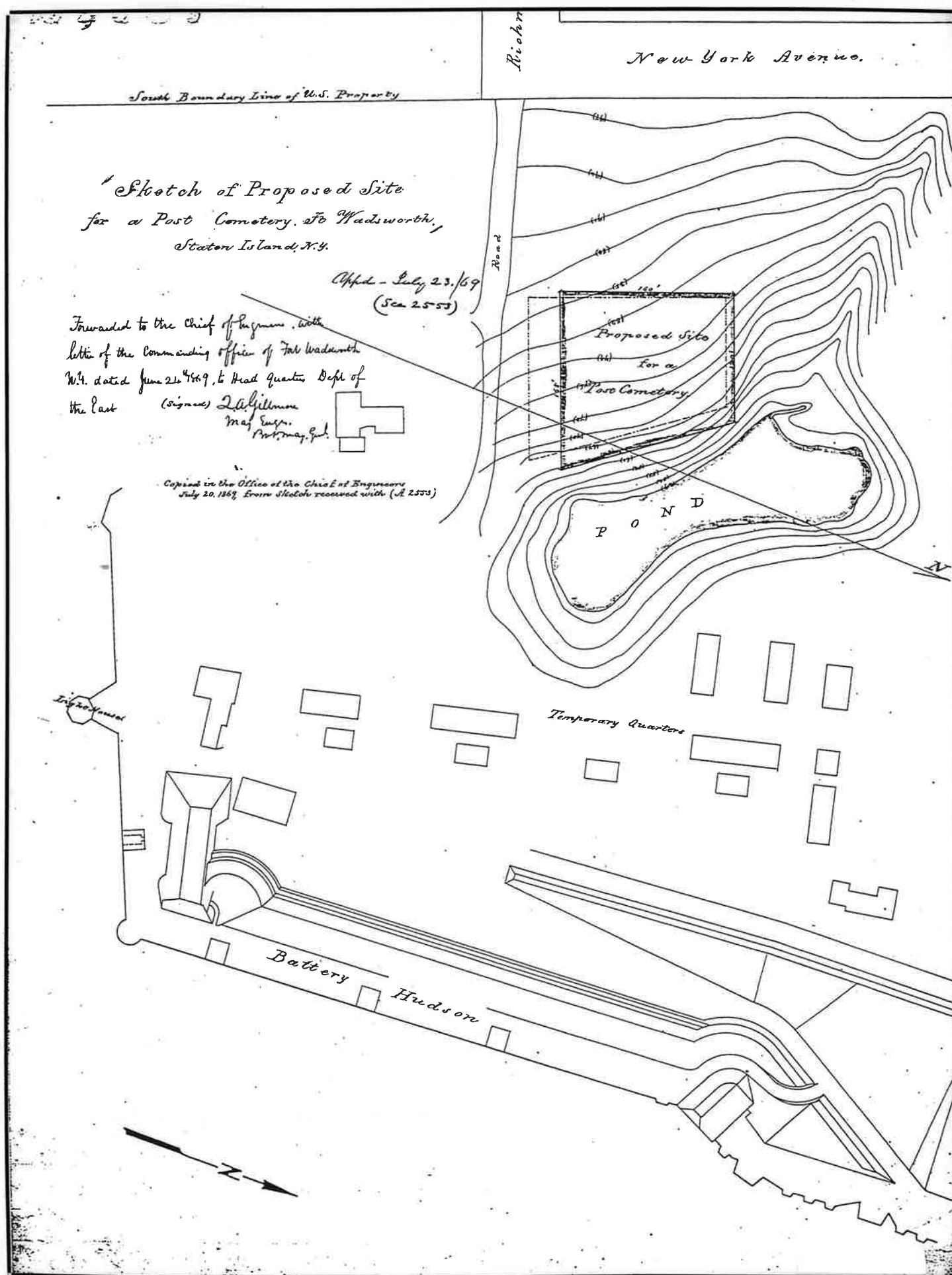


Figure 4.18. "Sketch of Proposed Site for a Post Cemetery, Ft. Wadsworth, Staten Island, N.Y." 1869. Scale 1 inch:60 feet (approx.). (National Archives, Record Group 77, Drawer 43, Sheet 58).

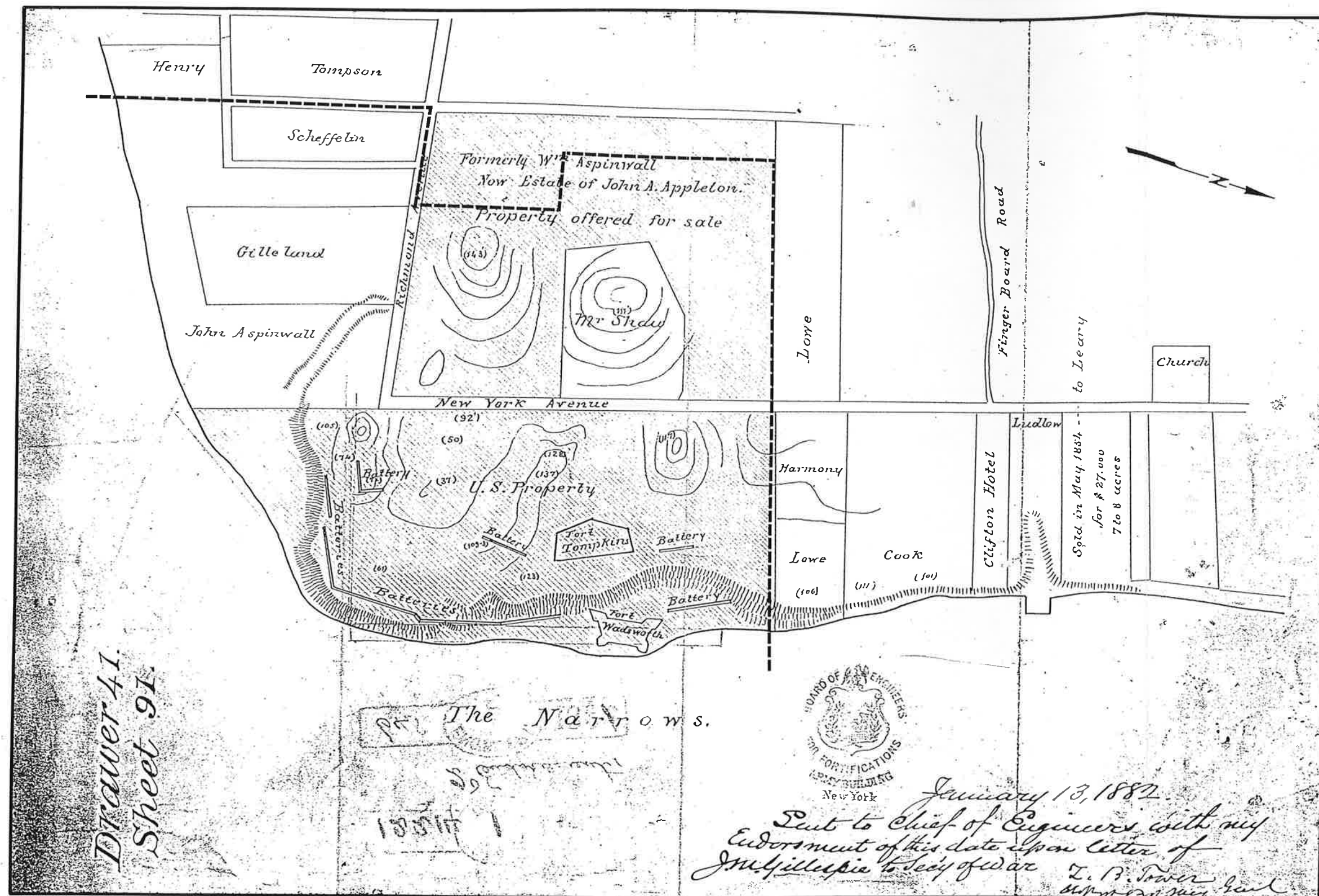


Figure 4.19. "Sketch of the Military Reservation on Staten Island at the Narrows." 1881. Scale 1 inch:880 feet (approx.). Limits of Fort Wadsworth Reservation shown with dashed line. (National Archives, Record Group 77, Drawer 41, Sheet 91).

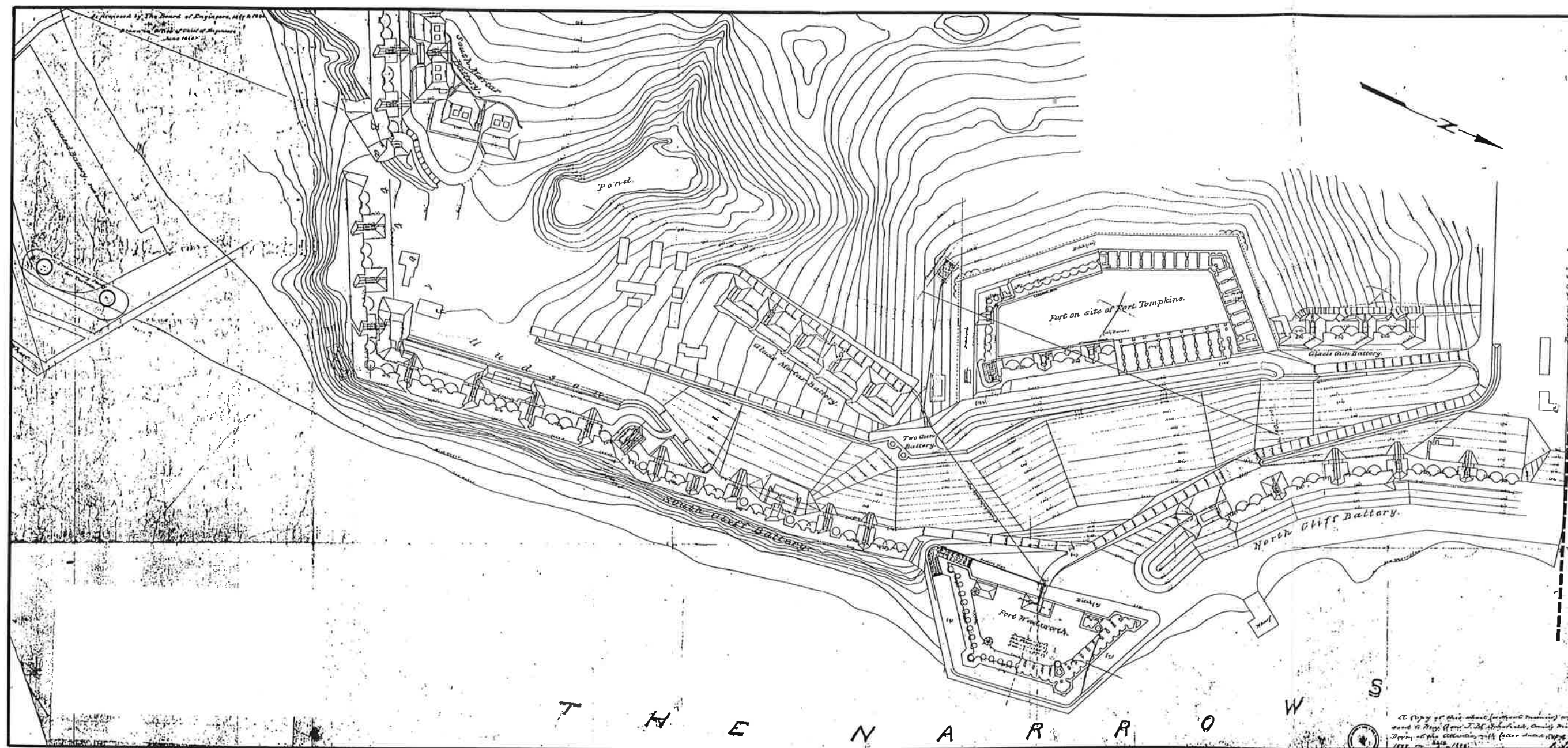
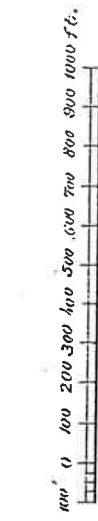


Figure 4.20. "Description of the Defenses on Staten Island at the Narrows of New York Harbor." 1886. Scale 1 inch:240 feet (approx.). Northern limit of Fort Wadsworth Reservation shown with dashed line. (National Archives, Record Group 77, Drawer 41, Sheet A).

VICINITY OF FORT WADSWORTH, STATEN ISLAND, N.Y.



Forwarded to the Engineer Department with a report of The Board of Engineers, dated Dec. 7, 1889.

Henry L. Child

Col. of Eng'rs, President.

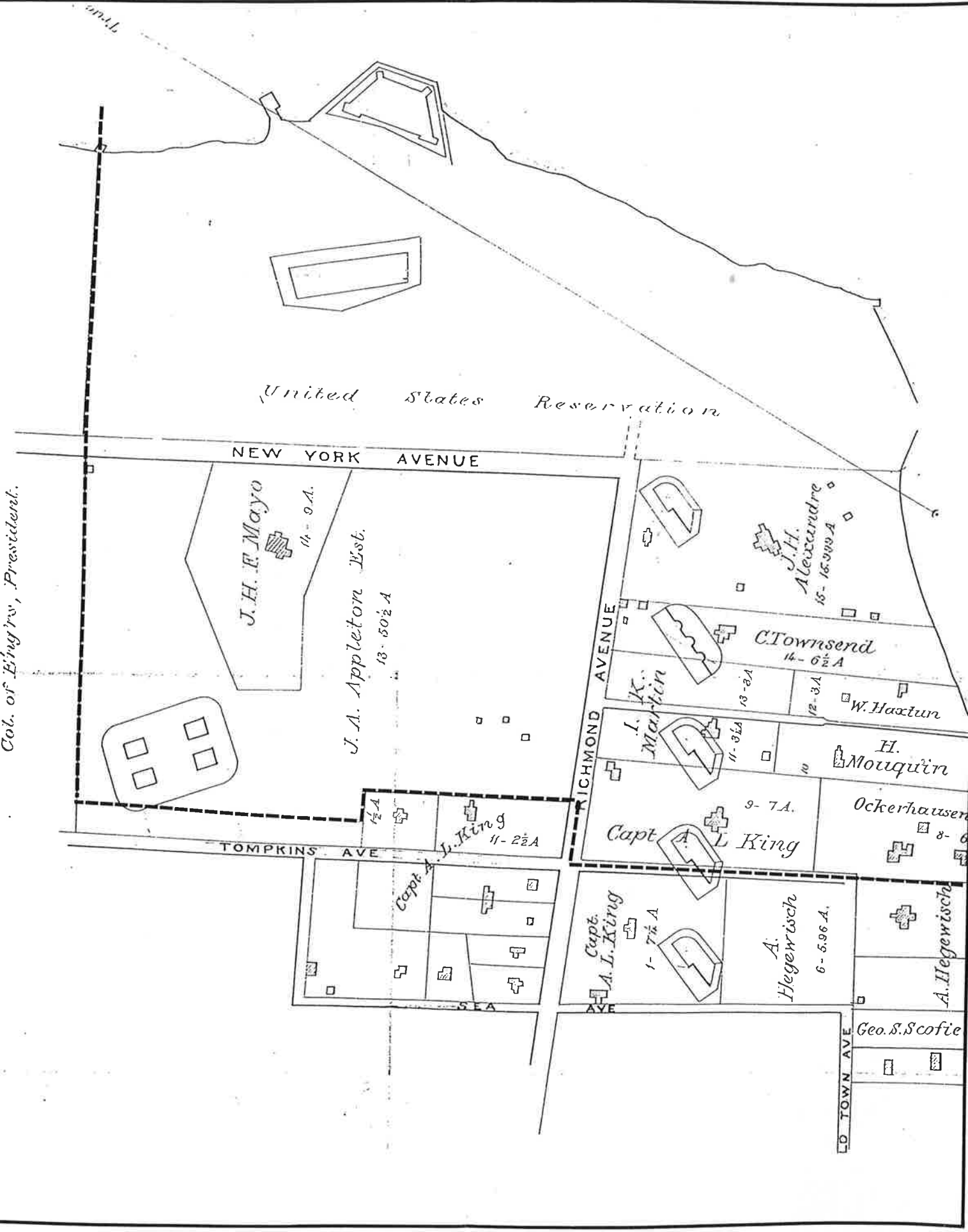


Figure 4.22. "Map of the Vicinity of Fort Wadsworth, Staten Island, N.Y." 1889. Scale as indicated. Limits of Fort Wadsworth Reservation shown with dashed line. (National Archives, Record Group 77, Drawer 43, Sheet 53).

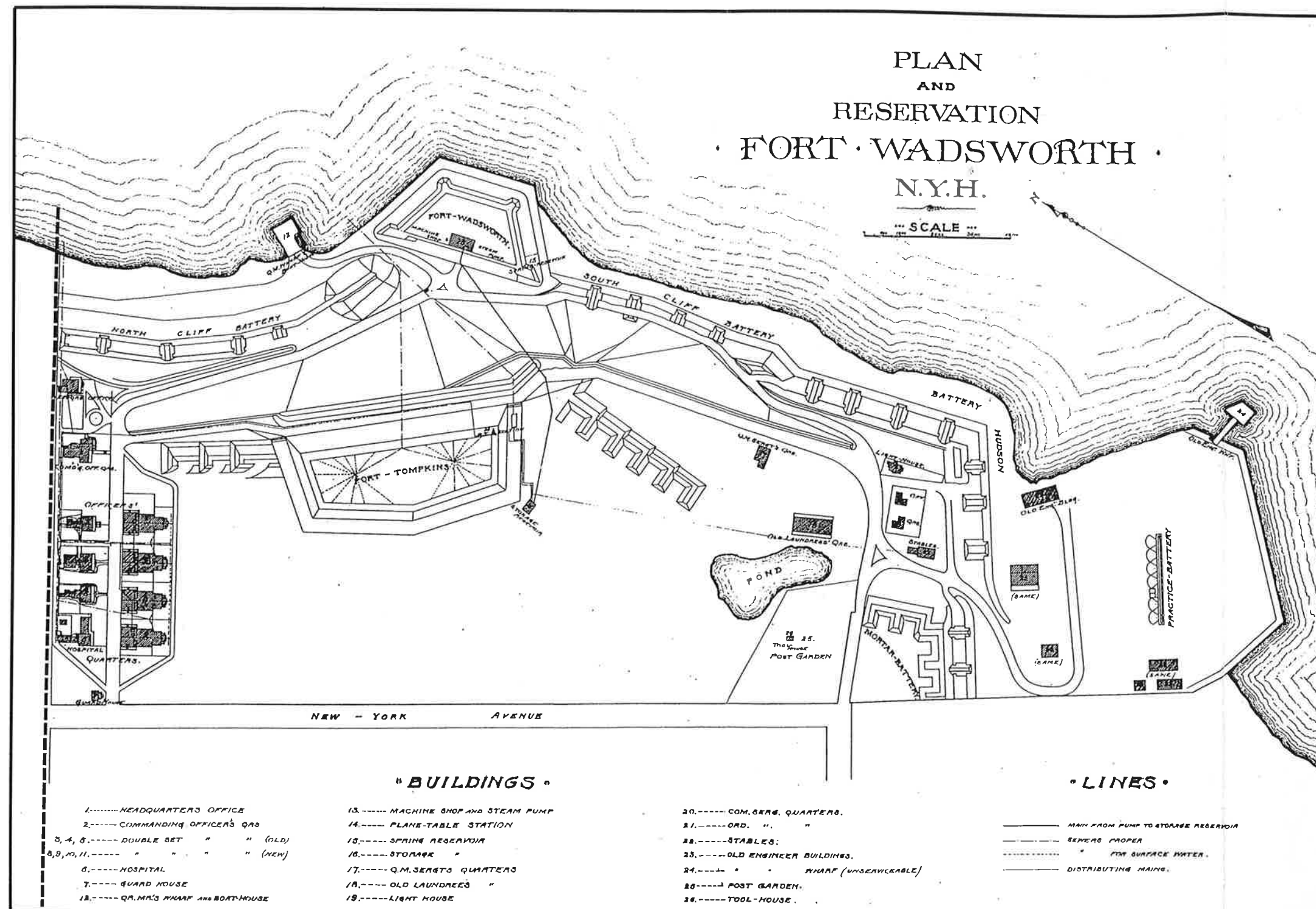


Figure 4.23. Dugan, L. "Plan and Reservation, Fort Wadsworth, N.Y.H.". 1890. Scale 1 inch: 325 feet (approx.). Northern limit of Fort Wadsworth Reservation shown with dashed line. (National Archives, Record Group 92).

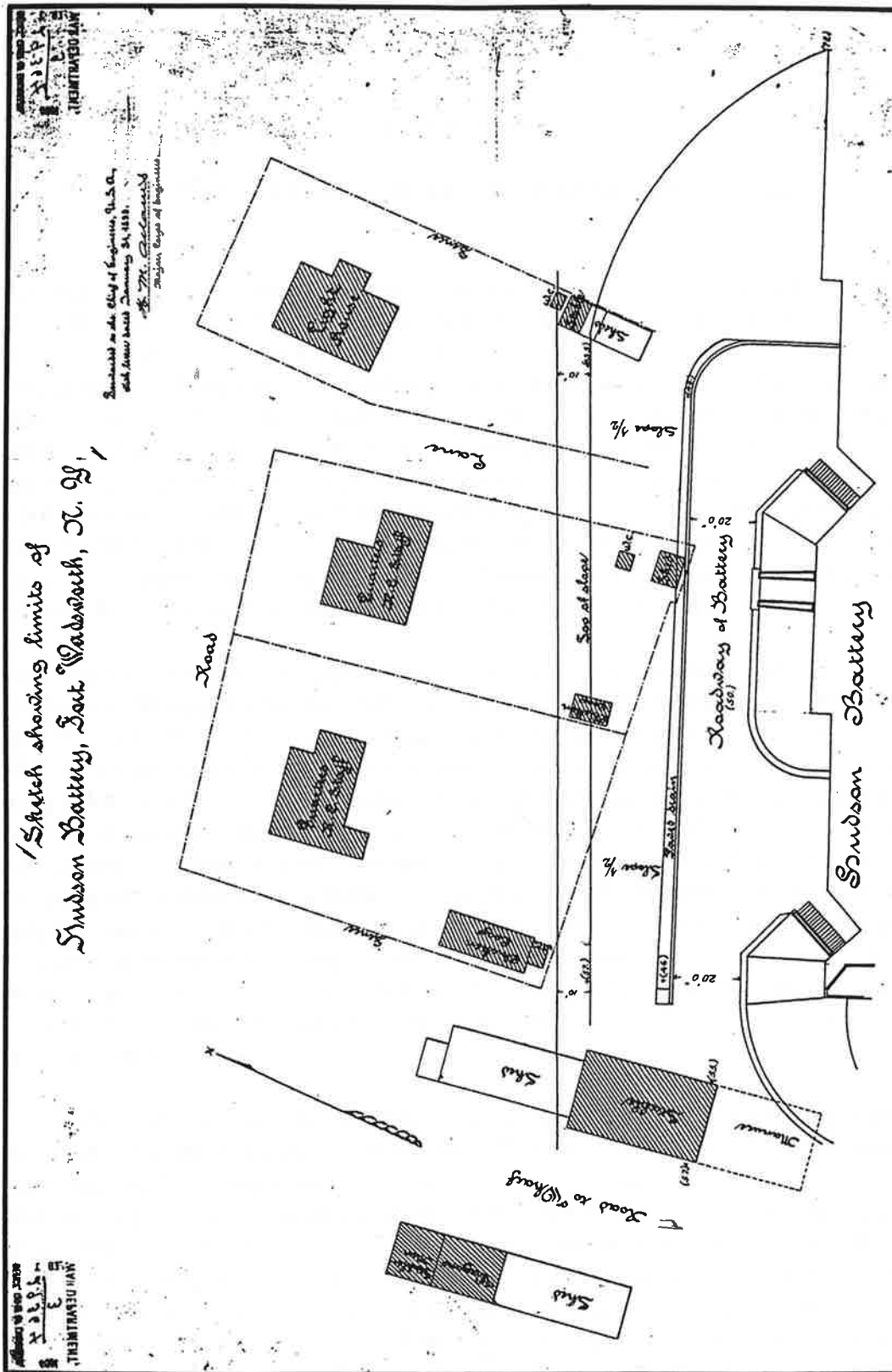


Figure 4.24. "Sketch Showing Limits of Hudson Battery, Fort Wadsworth, N.Y." 1899. Scale 1 inch: 25 feet (approx.). (National Archives, Record Group 77, Drawer 43, Sheet 99-3).

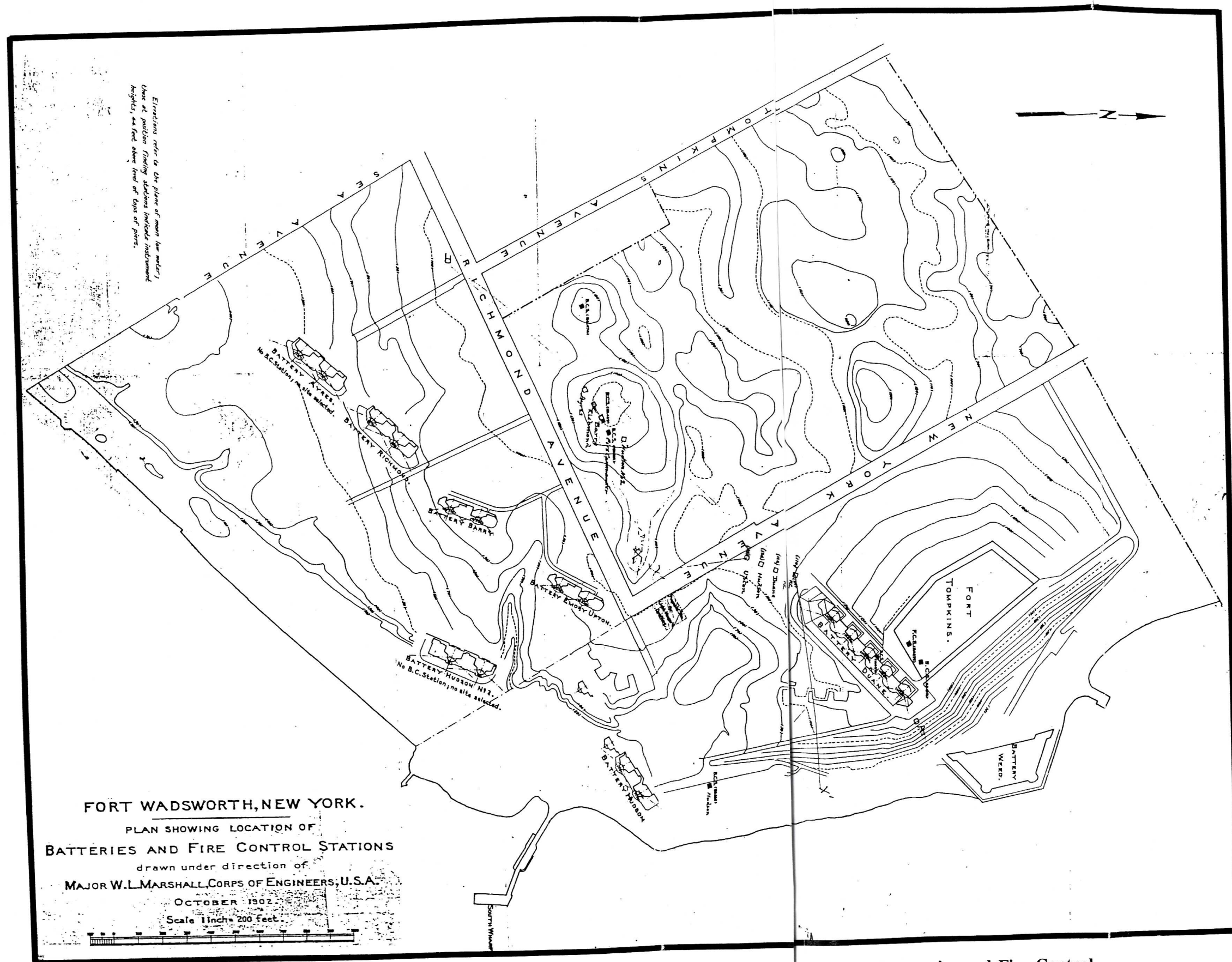


Figure 4.25. Marshall, Major W. L. "Fort Wadsworth, New York. Plan Showing Location of Batteries and Fire Control Stations." 1902. Scale 1 inch=410 feet (approx.). Battery Duane and the Endicott batteries facing the Lower Bay are shown. (National Archives, Record Group 77, Drawer 43, Sheet 87-15).

NEW YORK HARBOR—SOUTHERN ENTRANCE
 ADDITIONAL R.F. GUNS FOR TORPEDO DEFENSE
 EIGHT—6 INCH R.F.

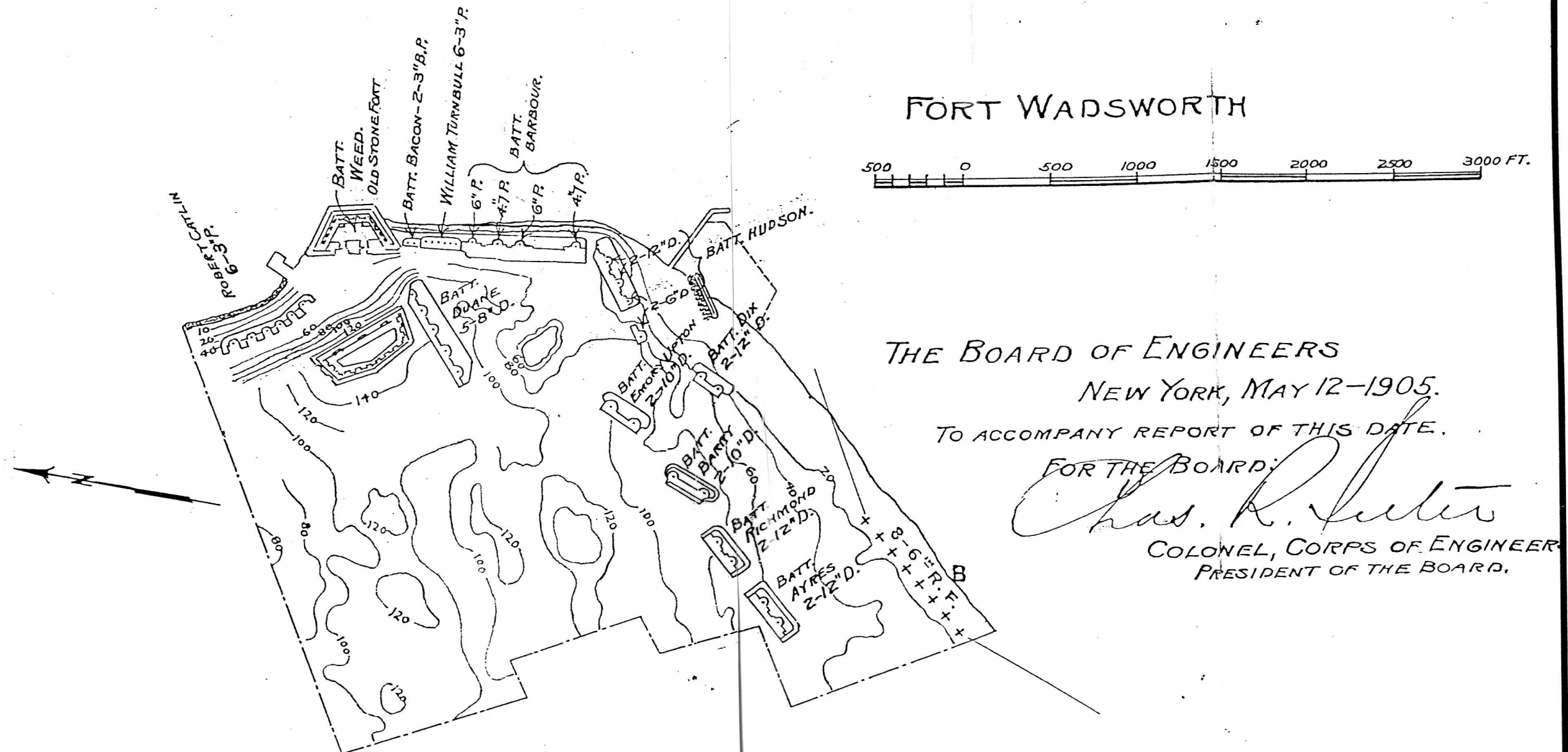


Figure 4.26. "Additional R.F. Guns for Torpedo Defense, Fort Wadsworth." 1905. Scale 1 inch=700 feet (approx.). All of the Endicott batteries are shown with armament notations; note that the western portion of Battery Hudson was later named Battery Mills. (National Archives, Record Group 77, Drawer 36, Sheet 120-24).

CHAPTER 6

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Despite the intensive redevelopment of the Fort Wadsworth reservation over the past century, much of which has entailed radical alteration of the landscape, the property still has the potential to yield archaeological information. Cultural deposits of prehistoric and historic interest are naturally most likely to survive in areas that have seen little activity during this century, but the potential for archaeological data within, beneath and immediately around currently standing structures should not be ignored, especially since much of the military construction has involved re-use of previously developed sites. Redevelopment of this sort is evident, for instance, in the vicinity of Fort Tompkins, Battery Weed and Battery Hudson.

Briefly summarized, Fort Wadsworth has been demonstrated as containing "pockets" of prehistoric cultural strata and materials, notably in the southwestern section of the reservation, and these may be anticipated elsewhere on the property, especially on minimally disturbed flat terrain within 1,000 feet or so of the southeast shoreline. There is no clear evidence for 17th-century Dutch-American settlement within the fort limits, but the possibility exists that one -- or possibly two -- late 17th-century Anglo-American farmsteads were established on, respectively, the Doddman/Kingdom and Walton land parcels as defined in the late 1660s. One later colonial farmstead, in the hands of the Van Deventer family in the mid- to late 18th century, was apparently focused in the southwest part of the fort and may coincide with the earlier Doddman/Kingdom and later Fountain/Mouquin properties. Archaeological evidence of this occupation may have been encountered in the cultural resources survey carried out in the early 1980s. Remains of a series of signaling beacons, reportedly installed in the mid-1750s, may survive inland from Battery Hudson.

Within the military period (for the purposes of this study, regarded as extending from just before the American Revolution to circa 1850), limited archaeological traces may survive of the fort, shoreline batteries, more beacons, a possible redoubt and other installations established by the British between 1780 and 1783. The integrity of such resources is likely to have been compromised by later military construction, but their total removal should not necessarily be assumed. No substantive new construction was conducted on Staten Island as part of the American "First System" seacoast fortification program and military archaeological data from this period are unlikely to be identifiable. "Second System" evidence, however, may survive in the form of buried remains of the fortifications of the first Forts Richmond and Tompkins, Fort Hudson, Fort Morton and Fort Smith, and other related support structures, all of which emerged through a building program that extended from 1808 to at least 1817. Later redevelopment of the site has resulted in the reconstruction or removal of these features (as for instance with the creation of Battery Weed on the site of Fort Richmond), but subsurface remains are still very likely to be found.

Numerous 19th-century residential properties were formerly in existence in the southwest and west sections of the present-day fort that were acquired by the U.S. Army during later expansions of the reservation. While some of these have certainly been entirely removed, others may be partially intact below ground. Finally, although outside the scope of the current study, it should be noted that post-1850 military and non-military archaeological resources are also likely to survive in various locations, including in direct association with currently standing structures.

At this preliminary stage of assessment, three recommendations are offered for future identification and management of archaeological resources on the Fort Wadsworth property:

Recommendation 1 - In the short term, until more specific information becomes available, it is suggested that the mapping data presented in this study be used as a guide for archaeological action in the event of ground-disturbing actions at the fort. It is suggested that land alteration in the area of low potential resources be reviewed in detail, and if necessary monitored, by a qualified archaeologist. Actions likely to affect moderate potential resources should be reviewed and, if necessary, a program of subsurface testing should be implemented to determine whether any further archaeological action or mitigation is required. Ideally, impacts on resources with high potential should be avoided, although it is recognized that the definition of such resources on the ground could bear considerable refinement. Consequently, programs of detailed documentary review, site inspection and subsurface testing could again be implemented until more precise archaeological data becomes available.

Recommendation 2 - Consideration should be given to expanding and refining this preliminary assessment as an initial step towards formulating an effective archaeological resource management plan for Fort Wadsworth. This consultant is conscious that further useful archival research into late 17th-century through late 19th-century land ownership could be undertaken in an effort to trace land use and pinpoint locations of likely archaeological survivals. Likewise, this study has not had the benefit of a detailed site inspection and cultural landscape assessment, which could help identify areas where archaeological potential has been entirely removed. Without doubt, a far more refined version of the map showing archaeological potential could be generated at a larger scale and with more precise definition of archaeologically sensitive areas, as has been recently accomplished for parts of Central Park and the African Burial Ground and Commons Historic District in Manhattan (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990, 1993). Such a product, however, would be contingent on the availability of suitable topographic base mapping.

Recommendation 3 - Fort Wadsworth has a complex history both in terms of its military and civilian land use, most of which is not currently visible. Positioned on one side of the Narrows, it also expresses a tremendous sense of place as one of a pair of prominent gateposts to America. With its system of narrow straits, adjoining headlands, immense bridge and military fortifications, the Narrows has the potential for becoming a larger, urban version of one of the best-interpreted and most cherished historic locations in the eastern United States, the Crown Point/Chimney Point National Landmark in the Champlain Valley. In this context, Fort Wadsworth itself holds great opportunities for a program of historic interpretation for the benefit of the visiting public (e.g., through tours, signage, publication of maps and brochures). The archaeology of the fort should form a significant component in future interpretive programs developed for the site.

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Council of Abandoned Military Posts 9 (5-6).

APPENDIX A
RESUMES

RICHARD W. HUNTER
President/Principal Archaeologist, MA, SOPA

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate, Geography, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey, 1984-present

M.A., Archaeological Science, University of Bradford, England, 1975

B.A., Archaeology and Geography, University of Birmingham, England, 1973

EXPERIENCE

1986- Principal Archaeologist, Hunter Research, Inc.,
Cultural Resource Consultants, Trenton, NJ

Founder and principal stockholder of firm providing archaeological and historical research, survey, excavation, evaluation, and report preparation services in the Northeastern United States. Specific expertise in historical and industrial archaeology (mills, iron and steel manufacture, pottery manufacture), historical geography, historic landscape analysis.

Participation in:

- Project management, budgeting and scheduling
- Proposal preparation and client negotiation
- Hiring and supervision of personnel
- Supervision of research, fieldwork, analysis and report preparation

1983-1986 Vice-President/Archaeologist, Heritage Studies, Inc., Princeton, NJ

Principal in charge of archaeological projects.

Responsibilities included:

- Survey, excavation, analysis, and reports
- Client solicitation, negotiation, and liaison
- Project planning, budgeting, and scheduling
- Recruitment and supervision of personnel

1981-1983 Principal Archaeologist
Cultural Resource Group, Louis Berger & Associates, Inc., East Orange, NJ

Directed historical and industrial archaeological work on major cultural resource surveys and mitigation projects in the Mid-Atlantic region. Primary responsibility for report preparation and editing.

1979-1981 Archaeological Consultant, Hopewell, NJ

1978-1981 Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Classics and
Archaeology, Douglass College, Rutgers University, NJ

- 1978-1979 Research Editor
Arete Publishing Company, Princeton, NJ
- Prepared and edited archaeological, anthropological, and geographical encyclopedia entries (*Academic American Encyclopedia*, 1980).
- 1974-1977 Archaeological Field Officer
Northampton Development Corporation, Northampton, England
- Supervised archaeological salvage projects executed prior to development of the medieval town of Northampton (pop. 230,000).
Experience included:
- Monitoring of construction activity
 - Supervision of large scale urban excavations
 - Processing of stratigraphic data and artifacts
 - Preparation of publication materials
- 1969-1970 Research Assistant
Department of Planning and Transportation, Greater London Council

SPECIAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- historic landscape analysis
- geographic information systems
- water powered mill sites
- iron and steel manufacture before the Industrial Revolution
- scientific methods in archaeology

PUBLICATIONS

Hopewell: A Historical Geography. Township of Hopewell. Richard L. Porter, co-author. 1991

"Contracting Archaeology? Cultural Resource Management in New Jersey, U.S.A" (with Ian Burrow). The Field Archaeologist (Journal of the Institute of Field Archaeologists) 12, March 1990, 194-200.

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PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society of Professional Archeologists (accredited 1979; certification in field research, collections research, theoretical or archival research)

New Jersey State Historic Sites Review Board (Member, 1983 - present)

Professional Archaeologists of New York City (PANYC)

Society for Historical Archaeology

Society for Industrial Archaeology

Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology

Council for Northeast Historical Archaeology

Archaeological Society of New Jersey

BROOKE S. BLADES
Principal Archaeologist, M.A.

Education

Ph. D. Candidate, Anthropology, New York University, New York, NY, 1988-present

M.A., American Civilization, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, 1978

B.A., History, College of William and Mary, 1973

Experience

1994-present Principal Investigator, Hunter Research, Inc., Trenton, N.J.

Technical and managerial responsibilities for selected research, field, laboratory and report preparation components of archaeological projects. Participation in:

- research, survey, excavation, analysis and reports
- project supervision and on-site management
- management of laboratory operations and graphics production
- supervision of field, laboratory and drafting personnel
- preparation of proposals
- personnel recruitment

1991-1993 Archaeologist, Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, National Park Service, Philadelphia,
1974-1988 PA

Responsibilities included:

- preparation of research designs
- preparation of requests for proposals
- consultant selection
- contract administration
- all aspects of project review, including research, fieldwork, analysis, and report

Also designed, executed and directed archaeological and historical research programs at numerous federally-owned managed historic sites, including:

- Fort McHenry National Monument, Baltimore, Maryland
- Valley Forge National Historical Park, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Independence National Historical Park, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, Pennsylvania
- George Washington Birthplace National Monument, Montross, Virginia
- Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, Virginia
- Petersburg National Battlefield, Virginia
- Shenandoah National Park, Virginia

- 1989-1990 Site Supervisor, SJS Archaeological Services, Inc., PA
- Directed excavations on prehistoric sites.
- Participation in:
- survey and excavation
 - supervision of personnel
 - field photography
 - field recording
- 1982 Consulting Archaeologist, Longmeadow Historical Society, MA
- 1979-1980 Survey Director, Magee University College, New University of Ulster, Northern Ireland
- Directed survey of 17th-century British village sites in County Londonderry, Ulster
- 1976,1978 Consulting Archaeologist, Historic Deerfield, MA
- 1973-1974 Supervisor and Field Excavator, Colonial Williamsburg, VA

Other Experience

- 1991 Teaching Assistant, Department of Geology and Earth Sciences, West Chester University, PA
- 1989-1990 Instructor/Graduate Assistant, Department of Anthropology, New York University, NY

Special Skills and Interests

- statistical analysis of survey and excavation data; statistical sampling; statistical analysis of anthropological data
- remote sensing: magnetometer and resistivity meter
- analysis of prehistoric lithics and historic ceramics
- computerization of survey, excavation and collections analysis data
- petrographic analysis of archaeological artifacts
- scanning electron microscopy and electron microprobe analysis
- photography of archaeological data related to electron microscopy and petrographic analysis, as well as of field and collection data

Publications

"English Villages in the Londonderry Plantation." Post-Medieval Archaeology 20: 257-269. 1986.

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"In the Manner of England': Tenant Housing in the Londonderry Plantation." Ulster Folklife 27:39-56. 1981.

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"Dr. Williams' Privy: Cultural Behavior as Reflected in Artifact Deposition at the Dr. Thomas Williams House, Deerfield, Massachusetts." In New England Historical Archaeology, pp. 56-63, Boston University, 1977.

Awards

National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant, 1993-94

Dean's Dissertation Fellowship, New York University, 1993-94

University Fellowship, New York University, 1988-90

Fulbright-Hayes Fellowship, Senior Research Scholar, New University of Ulster (Northern Ireland), 1979-80

MICHAEL TOMKINS
Senior Archaeologist/Historian, BA

EDUCATION

B.A. Anthropology/Geography, State University of New York at Albany, Albany, New York, 1990

EXPERIENCE

1993 - Senior Archaeologist/Historian
Hunter Research Inc., Trenton, New Jersey

1991 - Assistant Historian/Assistant Archaeologist
Hunter Research, Inc., Trenton, New Jersey

Technical and supervisory responsibilities for selected historical and archival research tasks, field and laboratory operations and report preparation.

Participation in:

- Archival and cartographic research
- Survey and excavation
- Supervision of field personnel
- Field photography
- Stratigraphic and artifact analysis
- Report preparation

1990 - 1991 Crew Chief, New York State Museum, Division of Historic and Anthropological Services, Albany, New York

Field archaeologist on cultural resource surveys on proposed construction projects of the New York State Department of Transportation and Department of Corrections.

1987 - 1989 Field Archaeologist, New York State Museum, Division of Historic and Anthropological Services, Albany, New York (June – September)

Field archaeologist on various cultural resource survey projects in upper New York State.

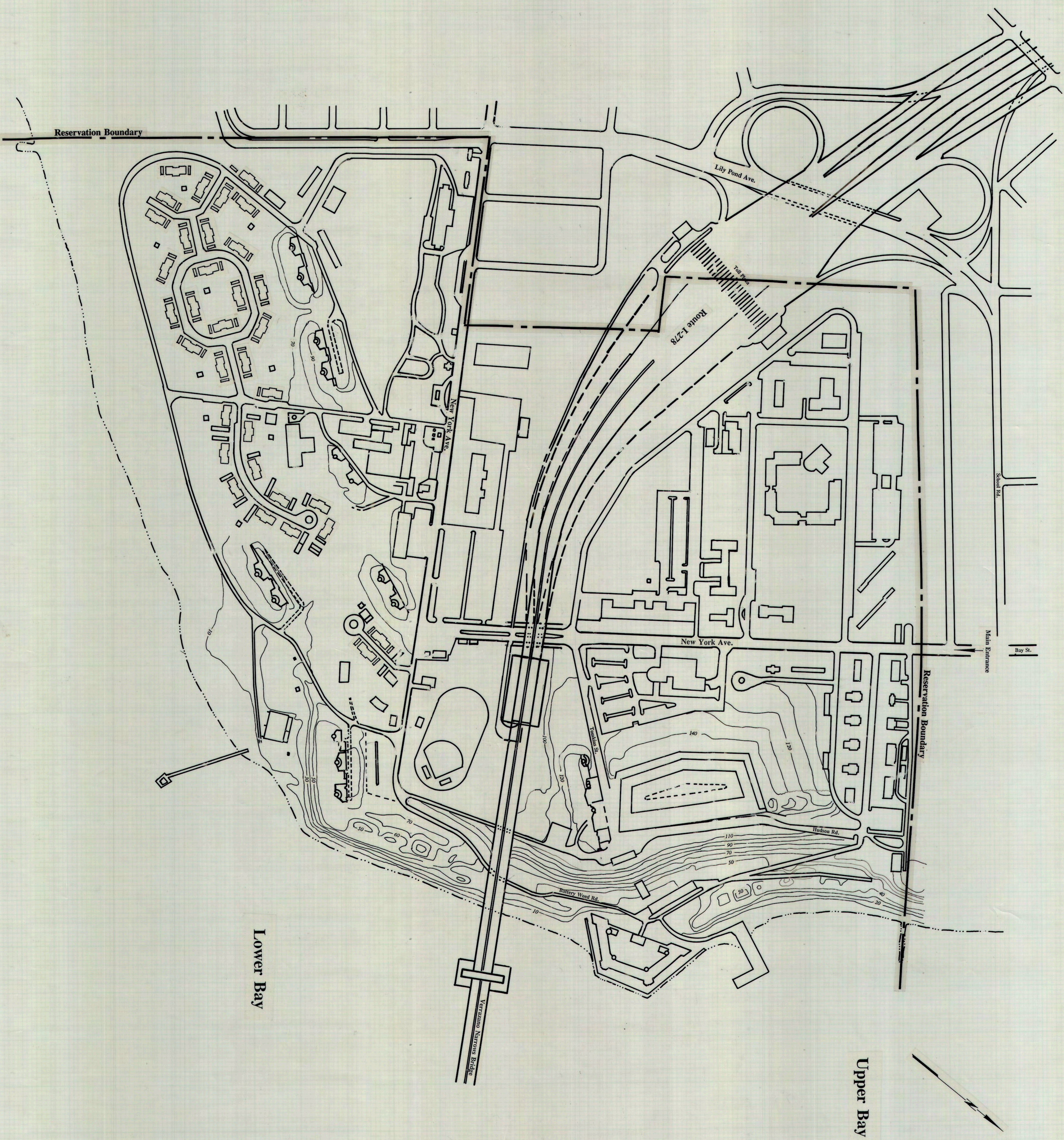
1988 Field Archaeologist, Public Archaeological Facility, SUNY at Binghamton, New York (summer months)

Field archaeologist participating in excavations of human burials from a late nineteenth century psychiatric hospital in upper New York State.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

1990 - 1993 New York State Emergency Medical Technician Certification

1984 - NAUI Basic Scuba Diver Certification



AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF FORT WADSWORTH, STATEN ISLAND

BOROUGH OF RICHMOND, RICHMOND COUNTY, NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK STATE