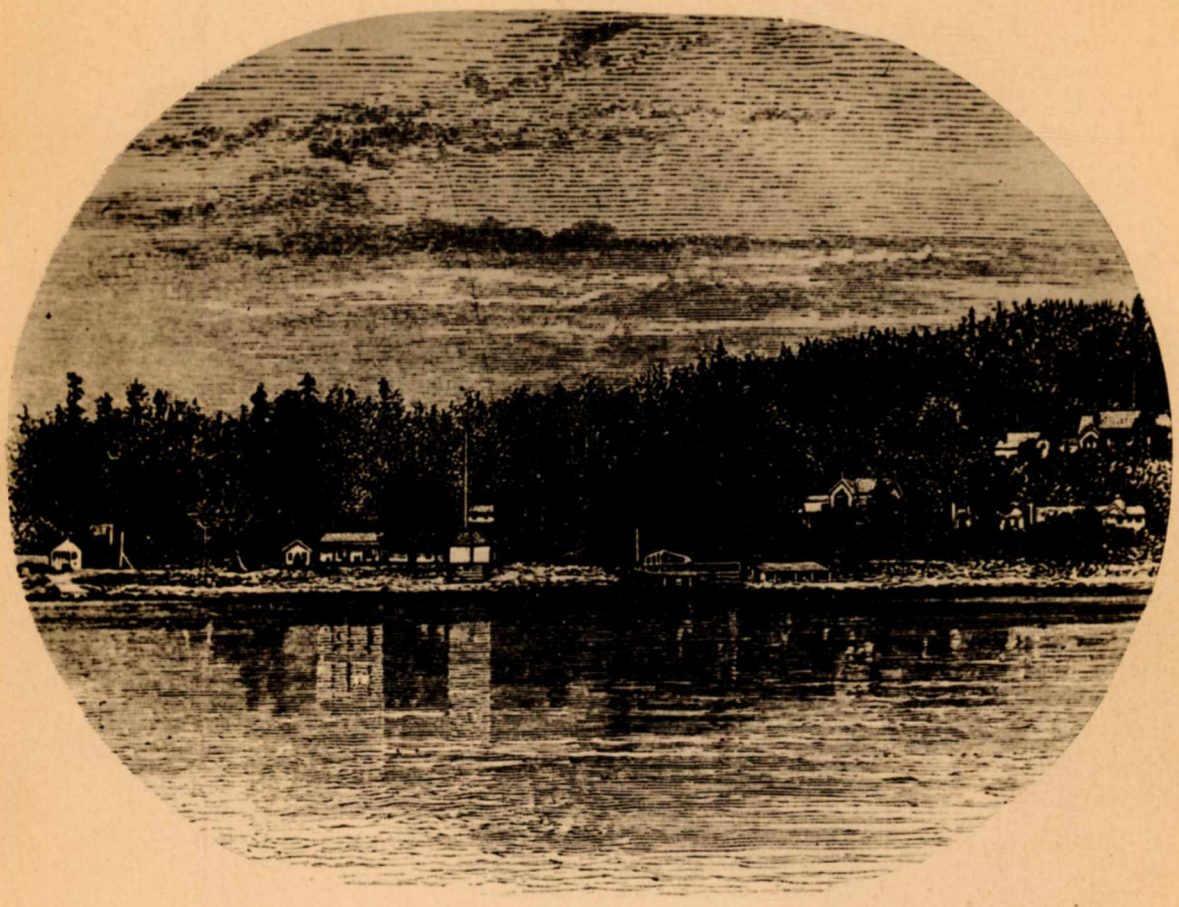
United States Department of the Interior - National Park Service
Western Region



ENGLISH CAMP

SAN JUAN ISLAND
NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
WASHINGTON
A PROPOSAL

ADDENDUM

Since compilation of this report in March 1964 suggestions have been made to change the name of the proposed San Juan Island National Historical Park to Pig War National Historical Park. Additionally, on January 15, 1965 Senator Jackson, for himself and Senator Magnuson, introduced S. 489 in the 89th Congress, 1st Session to establish a Pig War National Historical Park. Congressman Meeds introduced an identical bill, H.R. 2623 on January 13, 1965.

March 1965

SAN JUAN ISLAND NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

A PROPOSAL

(Pig War National Monument)

San Juan Island, Washington

Western Regional Office

National Park Service

United States Department of the Interior

San Francisco, California

Prepared By

Charles B. Browne, John E. Doerr, John A. Hussey,
Alfred C. Kuehl, and Ronald N. Mortimore

March 1964

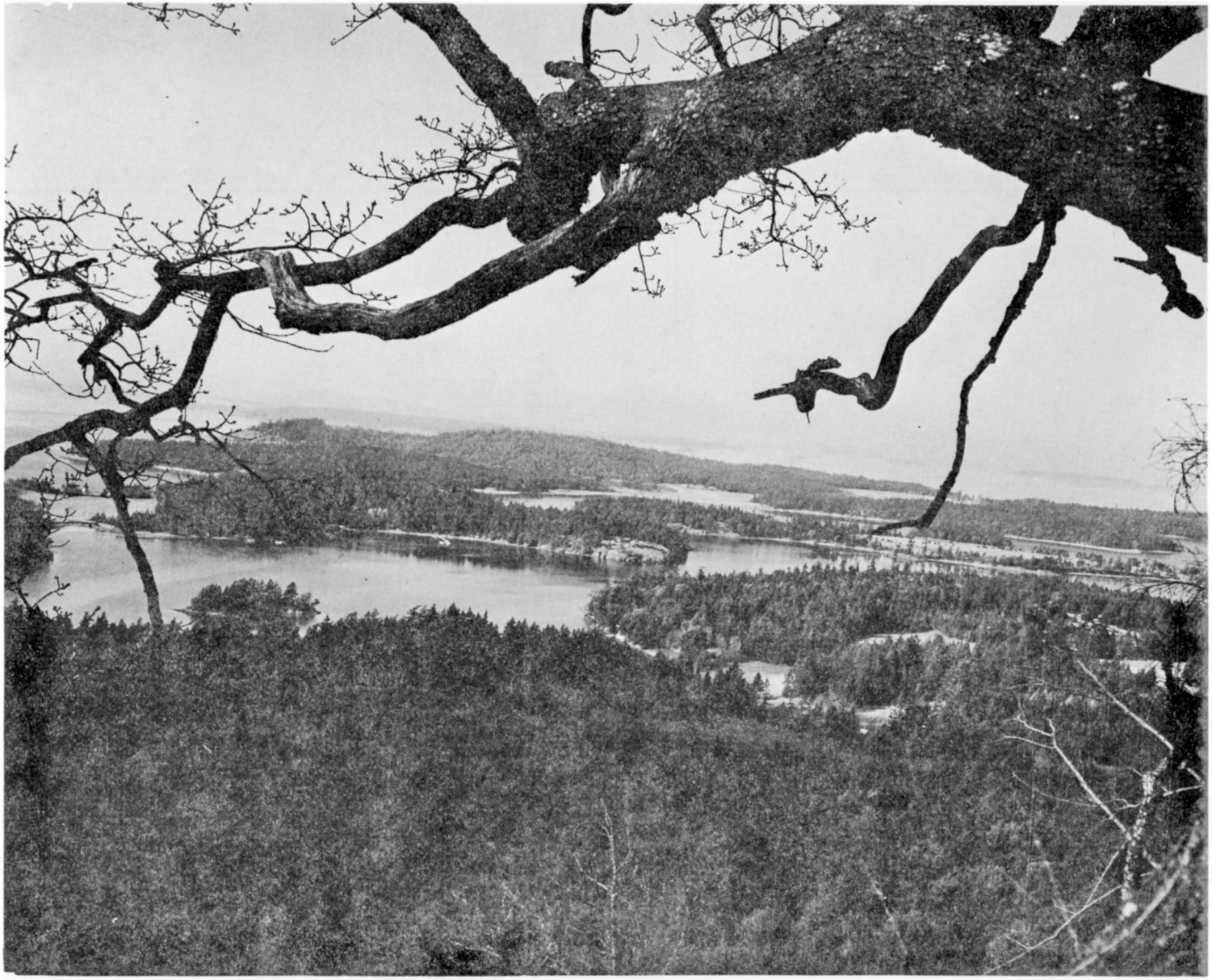
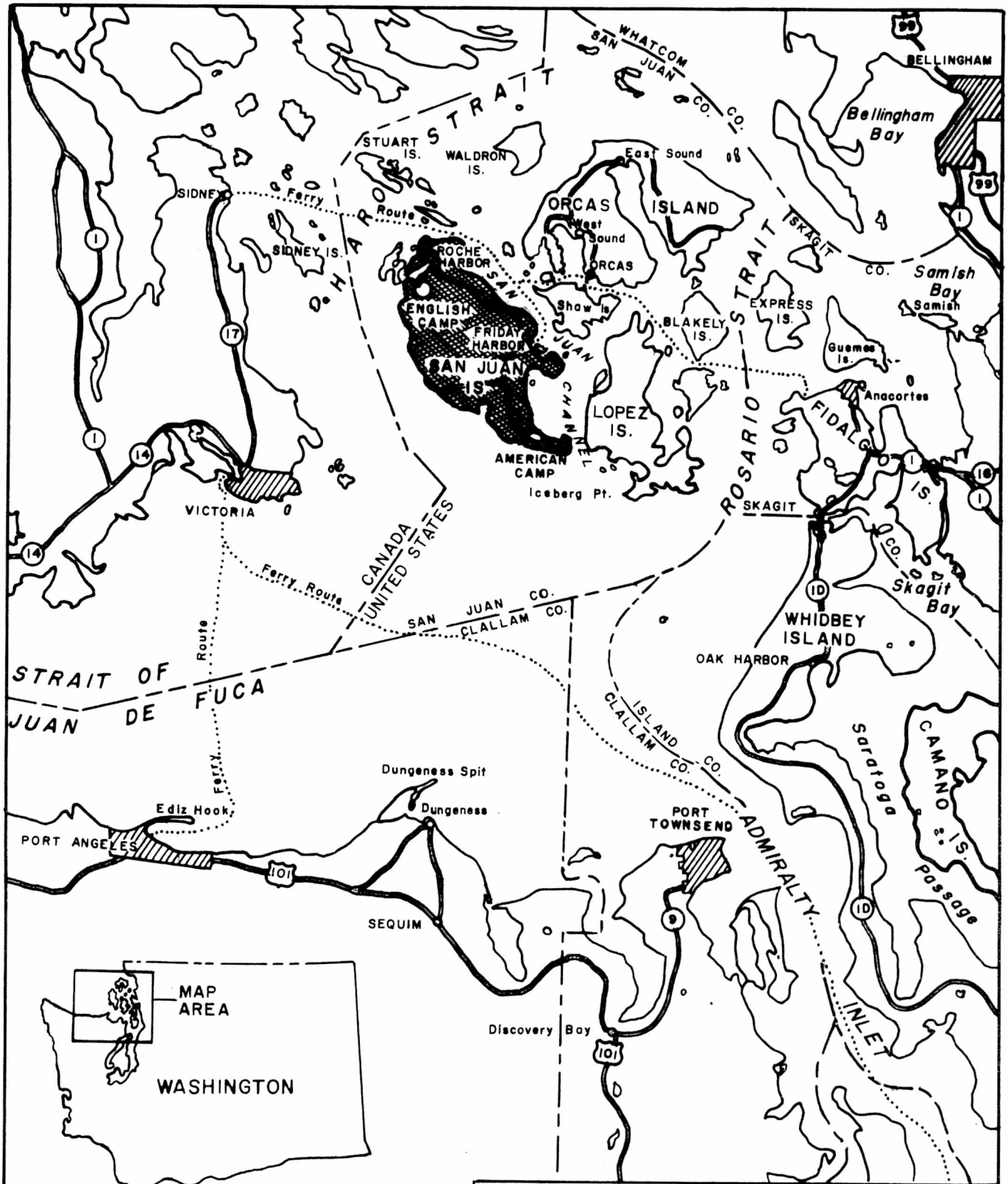


Plate No. 1 English Camp from Young Hill, view west. Campsite just left of clearing in lower center of picture, Guss Island center left, Vancouver Island on horizon.



Plate No. 2 - American Camp from south shoulder of Mt. Finlayson, view west. Earthworks in the distance near trees directly above automobile, county road to Cattle Point in the foreground, and Vancouver Island on horizon.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA

LOCATION MAP
SAN JUAN ISLAND
NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK
(PROPOSED)
WASHINGTON

N.P.S. WESTERN REGION	
FOR: NAT. PARK SERVICE	
DATE: MARCH 1964	
DRAWN: R.A. PARTEE	
C'K'D: R.N. MORTIMORE	
DRAWING NO.	NHP SJI-7101

TABLE OF CONTENTS

		Page
SUMMARY		1
	Findings & Conclusions	1
	Recommendations	1
I.	INTRODUCTION	2
	A. Name of Area and Location	2
	B. Background Material	2
	C. National Park Service Study Participants	3
	D. Persons and Organizations Consulted	3
II.	HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE	4
	A. Identification	4
	B. Historical Narrative	12
	Bibliographical Essay	19
III.	DESCRIPTION	21
	A. Physical Features	21
	B. Accessibility	21
	C. Population	22
	D. Climate	22
	E. Land Ownership	22
	F. Existing Development and Use	22
IV.	SUITABILITY	24
	A. Integrity	24
	B. Adaptability	24
	C. Accessibility	24
V.	FEASIBILITY	25
	A. Availability	25
	B. Relationship to the Economy	25
	C. Public Interest and Support	25
	D. Timing	26
VI.	LOGICAL BALANCE AMONG THEMES IN HISTORICAL AREAS OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM	27

Page

VII. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AND USE 28

A. General Considerations 28
B. Visitor Facilities 28
C. Staff Facilities 29
D. Utilities 29

APPENDIX 30

SUMMARY

Findings and Conclusions

This report finds that a San Juan Island National Historical Park, a name which we believe is preferable to Pig War National Monument, as proposed in Senate Bill 1441, 88th Congress, 1st Session, would be both feasible and desirable.

Early action on establishment will insure protection of the historic values at English and American Camps which heretofore have not been seriously encroached upon by adverse uses. The land use pattern is currently undergoing a change from the traditional rural pattern to a concentration of vacation home sites.

The Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission has recently stated that they favor Federal ownership and administration of English and American Camps.

The State's recent purchase of land on San Juan Island and other recent private transactions indicates that the property needed for protection of the historic setting may be available for purchase, although land values are rising and are likely to continue to rise.

Recommendations

1. That the historic sites at American and English Camps on San Juan Island be established under National Park Service administration as San Juan Island National Historical Park. The area as recommended would consist of two units, the boundaries to be as described in this report (Appendix B) and shown on the boundary maps (Appendix A). The units would be designated as English Camp and American Camp.

2. That the development of this area for public use be focused on interpretation and preservation of the historic sites and their settings.

3. That authorization and appropriate land acquisition be accomplished as soon as possible to protect the area from potential incompatible uses which might make later acquisition more difficult and expensive.

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Name of Area and Location

San Juan Island on which the suggested San Juan Island National Historical Park lies is the largest in the San Juan Island group which occupies much of the northern half of Puget Sound. Friday Harbor, the Island's only town, lies on the Island's eastern shore about eight miles by road from English Camp and four and one-half miles from American Camp.

Airline distances to nearby points are as follows:

Anacortes	21 miles
Bellingham	30 miles
Seattle	70 miles
Sidney (British Columbia)	16 miles
Victoria (British Columbia)	14 miles

B. Background Material

In June 1958 Senator Magnuson introduced S. 3669 to establish "Pig War National Monument." Shortly after, in a report to the Assistant Secretary for Public Land Management, the then Director of the National Park Service recommended deferrment of a Departmental recommendation until a study of the area could be made. A study was conducted on English and American Camps as part of the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings in 1959.

Further study of the sites was made in 1961 by National Park Service Western Regional Office personnel and an oral report made to the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments at its September 15-19, 1961, meeting. At this meeting English and American Camps sites were approved as being eligible for Registered National Historic Landmark Status. Subject to the owners' approval, such sites may receive a bronze plaque identifying the area as being of national significance.

Several additional bills have been introduced in the Congress since 1958 to preserve American and English Camps under Federal administration. The most recent was S. 1441 introduced by Senator Jackson in May 1963.

Action by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission to preserve and commemorate this area pre-dates Federal action on

San Juan Island. The State's first action was to purchase in March 1951 a 5.3-acre parcel at American Camp. This purchase included the earthwork fortifications.

A parcel of land immediately south of English Camp was purchased by the State in October 1953 and included approximately 1,800 feet of frontage on Garrison Bay.

The most recent purchase, in September 1963, brought under State ownership the major historic buildings still remaining at English Camp, approximately 1,600 feet of additional shore frontage, and the English Camp cemetery on Young Hill. This brought to about 110 acres the amount of State-owned land in the English Camp area.

In addition to the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings, further field work was accomplished by Olympic National Park personnel in October 1963. A study team from the Western Regional Office visited San Juan Island in February 1964 to gather additional data and to finalize various aspects of the proposal. At this time, through assistance of a qualified appraiser, considerable information was obtained on land values and taxes on the properties suggested for inclusion in the proposed area.

C. National Park Service Study Participants

John A. Hussey, Historian, Western Regional Office
Alfred C. Kuehl, Park Landscape Architect, Western Office
Division of Design and Construction
Ronald N. Mortimore, Park Planner, Western Regional Office
John E. Doerr, Superintendent, Olympic National Park
Charles B. Browne, Management Assistant, Olympic National Park

D. Persons and Organizations Consulted

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
County Assessor's Office, San Juan County, Washington
Hal G. Arnason, Jr., Certified Appraiser, Bellingham, Washington
James Crook, former owner of English Camp and present owner of
most lands adjacent to much of vicinity around English Camp
Rhoda Anderson, sister to James Crook
Walter R. Nichols, Superintendent of Schools, San Juan County
William Rosler, long time resident of San Juan Island

II. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

A. Identification

There is no serious historical problem concerning the identification of the sites of American Camp and English Camp, the two principal locations proposed for preservation and commemoration by the Pig War National Monument legislation. The physical remains of both military establishments, firmly identified by local tradition and by local residents whose parents were connected with the camps, by photographs and drawings made during the military occupation, and by maps of the period 1859 to 1874, clearly mark and identify the two locations. Both sites were marked by stone monuments erected by the University of Washington State Historical Society in 1904 after extensive research by Edmond S. Meany, dean of State of Washington historians, and by J. S. McMillin.[1]

American Camp. At American Camp the earthworks thrown up by the United States troops during the summer of 1859 are still well preserved and are depicted on the U. S. Geological Survey quadrangle covering the site.[2] The location of the nearby garrison or "camp" is indicated by the foundations of a building identified by Mr. William Rosler, island resident whose father was a soldier at American Camp, as the "captain's house."[3] A small barn nearby is identified by Mr. Rosler as a relic of the post commissary establishment. Several blackened posts, located roughly between these two structures, mark the location of a large barn which burned within the past two years. Local tradition, supported by Mr. Rosler, who remembers playing in the structure as a boy, states that this barn

---

[1] San Juan Islander (Friday Harbor, Washington), October 15, 22, 1904.

[2] U. S. Geological Survey, False Bay Quadrangle, Washington, 7.5 Minute Series, 1954.

[3] William Rosler, interview with J. A. Hussey, American Camp, February 26, 1964. Mr. Rosler says that the present "McRae house," adjacent to this foundation and often said by local people to be the remodeled commanding officer's residence, actually was not connected with American Camp but was, rather, originally the house of the last Hudson's Bay Company manager on San Juan Island.

was the old post hospital considerably altered and enlarged.[1] The parade ground, according to Mr. Rosler, was immediately north of the captain's house.

The American Camp, as first established on San Juan Island by Captain George Pickett during July, 1859, was rather peripatetic, as is shown by an analysis of the American and British military and naval correspondence of the period. The locations of the earthworks and the permanent camp (November, 1859, to 1874), as fixed by the physical remains and by local tradition, however, correspond well with such meager documentary evidence as has been thus far available to National Park Service historians in the very limited time permitted for this investigation.

On August 15, 1859, Captain G. P. Hornby, R. N., reported to his superior that the American forces had planted six heavy guns "on the ridge of the hill overlooking this harbor [Griffin Bay]."[2] A week later Lieut. Col. Silas Casey, in charge of the American forces, reported that he had taken up a position for a camp "near" the Hudson's Bay Company establishment and that he would place his heavy guns in position to bear both on the harbor and on the "other," or south, side of the island.[3] In other words, his fortification was to be on the crest of the ridge.

The camp where the troops were garrisoned, as described by Col. Casey, was on the south slope of the ridge and was exposed to winds. In November, this camp "near and within sight of the Hudson's Bay Company's buildings," was broken up and moved to "the little clearing in the wood and behind the hill"--the "American Camp" of today, which is situated on and just north of the crest of the ridge.[4]

---

[1]Lucile McDonald, "When British, U. S. Guns Faced Each Other at San Juan Island," in Seattle Times, November 9, 1958.

[2]Archibald W. Sheils, San Juan Islands, the Cronstadt of the Pacific (Juneau, Alaska, 1938), 59-60.

[3]40Cong., 2 Sess., Senate, Ex. Doc. 29 (Ser. 1316), 180. In November, Casey's camp "near and within sight of the Hudson's Bay Company's buildings" was broken up and moved to "the little clearing in the wood and behind the hill"--the "American Camp" site of today. Shiels, op. cit., 69-70.

[4]Lieut. Col. G. W. Lay to W. A. G. Young, Port Townsend, November, 9, 1859, in Shiels, op. cit., 69-70.

The American Camp, in what appears to be its present position, is shown on two contemporary navigation charts, one issued by the United States Coast Survey 1866 and the other by the British Admiralty.[1] Both maps are on such a small scale, however, that precise location is problematical.

And, it must be admitted, another map drawn by a British officer in 1860 appears to show the American Camp as being perhaps a half mile north of its presently accepted location.[2] Undoubtedly the Army records in the National Archives contain other maps showing the location of American Camp and depicting its extent. It is recommended that a search be made for such maps.

English Camp. The physical evidences of English Camp are more extensive and even more convincing than those at the United States garrison point. The remaining original structures--a blockhouse, a barracks, and the commissary building--and the ruins and foundations of several other buildings--a second barracks, the blacksmith shop, the hospital, the library, the "captain's house," and the "Lieutenant's house"--are well known by local tradition as dating from the British occupation; and they (together with the cemetery which is still maintained by the British Government) adequately define the location and extent of the English Camp.

Mr. James Crook, now 90 years old, whose father established a preemption or homestead claim over the English Camp site about 1876, only about four years after the British left, has lived on the property ever since that time and knows the history of each of the structures intimately. At interviews on February 25, 26, and 27, 1964, he pointed out to members of a National Park Service team several of the existing structures and the locations of others. His sister, Mrs. Rhoda Anderson, who was born in the "lieutenant's house" at a time when it was occupied by her father's family, conducted the team over the entire campsite, pointing out the remains of the various buildings and describing them as they were during her childhood.[3]

---

[1]U.S. Coast Survey, /Chart of/ Washington Sound and Approaches, Washington Territory, scale 1/200,000,1866; /Chart of/ Haro and Rosario Straits, Surveyed by Captain G. H. Richards & the Officers of H. M. S. Plumper, 1858-9. These charts are reproduced in 42 Cong., 3 Sess., House, Ex. Doc. 1, Parts 1-2 (Ser. 1557).

[2]Hunter Miller (ed.), Treaties and Other International Acts of the United States of America, VIII (Washington, D. C., 1948), opp. p. 396. Probably, however, this map was intended to be a sketch and does not purport to give more than the general locations of the sites indicated.

[3]Mrs. Rhoda Anderson, interview with J. A. Hussey, A. Kuehl, and R. N. Mortimore, English Camp, February 27, 1964. See also Lucile McDonald, "Historic Acres to Be a State Park," in Seattle Times, December 15, 1963.

This location by tradition and physical evidence is amply confirmed by a splendid collection of historical photographs and drawings now deposited in the British Columbia Provincial Archives, Victoria, B. C. Copies of these photographs, and of one panoramic drawing of the camp made by a British sergeant in 1866, were available to the NPS study team. Beyond any doubt the English Camps as depicted in these photographs of the 1860's and the early 1870's and in the 1866 drawing is the same as that site now traditionally identified as the British garrison. Most of the surviving buildings and building sites are readily identifiable in these pictures, and they occupy the same locations in the pictures as they do on the ground today. The evidence is conclusive.[1]

If more proof of identity is needed, it may be noted that a map drawn by a British Officer in 1860 shows the garrison site to be in the locality known today as English Camp. The site is also identified on the U. S. Coast Survey chart of 1866 and is still noted in the same place on the current U. S. G. S. quadrangle.[2]

It will be noted that no title search has been made in connection with the identification of the two camp locations. A chain of title would be useless in both instances, because no "ownerships" were established by the camps. The British, of course, could not obtain title to land which was adjudged part of the United States; and if a military reservation was ever formally established at American Camp it had been abandoned by the time U. S. land surveys were introduced on San Juan Island during the 1870's. Thus no present ownerships are known to have descended from titles relating to either military post.[3]

---

[1]A selection of these pictures has been sent to the Washington Office. A number are reproduced in the Seattle Times, March 12, 1961.

[2]Miller, op. cit., VIII, map opp. p. 396; U. S. Coast Survey, /Chart of/ Washington Sound and Approaches...1866; U. S. Geological Survey, Roche Harbor Quadrangle, 7.5 Minute Series, 1954.

[3]Henry Webber established a Donation Land Claim which included most or all of the site of American Camp. Whether the boundaries of this claim were related to the boundaries of a military reservation or, as local tradition maintains, to the bounds of the Hudson's Bay Company station, has not yet been determined.

It should be noted, however, that a military reservation of about 640 acres was established on the southeast point of San Juan Island, in Township 34 North, Range 2 West, Willamette Meridian, by Executive Order dated July 2, 1875. It included Cattle Point, Rockey Peninsula, Neck Point, and Mount Finlayson. The reservation was created from the public domain; and it was altered by Executive Orders in 1899.[1] The relationship between this reservation of 1875 and the earlier American Camp, if any, has not yet been determined.

Related sites. The evidence concerning the locations of other sites on San Juan Island closely associated with the two military camps in the San Juan dispute is not always so definitive. Those additional locations which have been judged of importance in the presentation of the "Pig War" story and which, if they can be located, are recommended for inclusion in the proposed National Monument are as follows:

Lyman A. Cutler Preemption Claim. The site of the famed Cutler potato patch, at or near which that impetuous settler shot the Hudson's Bay Company's black boar and thus precipitated the crisis of 1859, would be an important aid to interpreting the events of the "Pig War." Unfortunately, there is no general agreement on the part of old San Juan Island residents as to the location.

On June 15, 1859, the very day on which Cutler killed the pig, the Hudson's Bay Company's manager on the island, Charles J. Griffin, reported the matter to his superiors in Victoria. Cutler, said Griffin, had recently established himself "on a prairie occupied by me and close to my establishment" and had planted about one third of an acre in potatoes.[3] Griffin's "establishment" was in actuality the H. B. C. station, the location of which, as will be seen, is reasonably well fixed as being about 800 feet south of the site of the "captain's house" at American Camp.

Cutler later made a deposition concerning the incident, and according to this statement the potato patch was "one and a half mile" from the "Hudson Bay Co." Also, said Cutler, the potato patch was in sight from the door of his house, and a road (evidently leading from

---

[1]U. S., Office of the Judge-Advocate-General, United States Military Reservations, National Cemeteries, and Military Parks... (Revised ed., Washington, 1907), 385. The fact that the reservation was created from public domain would seem to indicate that it had no relationship to the earlier American Camp, which was filed on by private claimants as early as about 1873.

[2]Seattle Times, November 2, 1958.

[3]Miller, op. cit., 334-335.

the H. B. C. station) ran "directly along side" the potato patch.[1]

Upon analysis, it will be seen that these statements tell little about the location of Cutler's 160-acre claim except that it was fairly near the Hudson's Bay Company station. No maps thus far available show the Cutler claim.

Local tradition, however, throws additional light upon the matter. In November, 1859, Robert H. Frazer settled on San Juan Island. According to a firm family tradition, recorded in writing as early as 1938, Frazer bought Cutler's claim, including "that particular piece of ground which grew the fine potatoes whose destruction almost caused a war."[2] The date of this transaction is not yet apparent. The R. H. Frazer claim embraced the N. W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 2, T34N, R3W, W. M.[3]

The Robert Frazer house still stands on the west side of the Cattle Point Road almost exactly one airline mile northwesterly from the site of the Hudson's Bay Company station. It is still owned by the family, whose members "always understood" that the shooting of the pig occurred where the "old chicken house" stood to the southeast of the structure.[4] Many people on San Juan Island today firmly believe that the potato patch was on the Frazer farm, and several years ago a sign to that effect, marking the supposed site, was placed on the east side of the road about opposite the Frazer house.[5] The sign has since disappeared.

This tradition would appear to settle the matter of the potato patch were it not for a conflicting theory held by another group of island residents. These persons maintain that Cutler's field was situated about 1600 feet southeast of the Frazer house, rather close

---

[1]Deposition as quoted in Warren G. Magnuson, "One-shot War with England," in American Heritage, Vol. XI, No. 3 (April, 1960), 105.

[2]Mary Jane Fraser [sic], "San Juan Island," in Washington Pioneer Project, Told by the Pioneers, III (1938), 168.

[3]Untitled map, dated 1892, in Office of San Juan County Assessor. The Homestead Certificate was No. 2342.

[4]Lucile McDonald, "San Juan Island Heirloom," undated clipping from Seattle Times, NPS, Western Regional Office Files.

[5]Walter R. Nichols and William Rosler, interview with J. A. Hussey, Frazer farm, February 26, 1964. Mrs. Rhoda Anderson says the Crook family always understood that the Cutler field was on the Frazer place. Interivew with J. A. Hussey, February 27, 1964.

to the center of Section 2, T34N, R3W. The chief proponent of this theory seems to be Mr. William Rosler of Friday Harbor. Now about 84 years old, Mr. Rosler is the son of a soldier who served at American Camp. His father's farm was east of the Frazer property, and he says that when he was a boy a number of old settlers pointed out to him the site of the potato patch, which was close to a trail leading from his home to the residence of an early schoolteacher.

According to Mr. Rosler, the tradition associating the potato patch with the present Frazer farm results from a misunderstanding. Most people don't know, says Mr. Rosler, that Robert Frazer had an earlier house, or saloon, where he lived before he acquired his homestead. This earlier house was the one in which Cutler had lived at the time of the "affair of the pig," and it was the one from which he could see the potato patch. Mr. Rosler pointed out the site of this earlier house, which is just east of the half section line, about 300 feet south of the center of Section 2. The well used by Cutler and Frazer is still in evidence, according to Mr. Rosler, who pointed out the remains. The "Old Military Road" from the American Camp, said Mr. Rosler, passed very close to the Cutler-Frazer house. The potato patch was a short distance to the southwest, on land now covered by second-growth forest.[1]

The principal difficulty with this site stems from the fact that it is only about 3/4 mile from the site of the Hudson's Bay Company station instead of the $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles described by Cutler in his deposition. But the Frazer farm site likewise falls short of the distance estimated by Cutler. Probably both sites were close to the old road leading northward from the Company farm and American Camp.

Without a great deal more research into the early Federal survey and land records and into the records of San Juan County, there appears to be no firm foundation for giving preference to one site over another. It must be admitted by the present writer, however, that Mr. Rosler's very clear account, based on his own personal knowledge as passed on to him directly by old settlers, is impressive. In recommending boundaries for the proposed National Monument, the information supplied by Mr. Rosler was given much weight. Should, in the end, the Frazer family location prove to be the correct one, consideration will have to be given to expanding the recommended boundaries.

Hudson's Bay Company Station. The H. B. C. establishment on San Juan Island, consisting about the time of the pig killing incident of a "few old houses, and some small fields under enclosure," was a key feature in the events of the "Pig War," and its location would be highly important for the proposed National Monument interpretive program.[2]

---

[1] William Rosler, interview with J. A. Hussey, February 26, 1964.

[2] General W. S. Harney to Col. S. Cooper, Fort Vancouver, August 7, 1859, in 40 Cong., 2 Sess., Senate Ex. Doc. 29 (Ser. 1316), 150-151.

Fortunately, the site of this establishment seems quite firmly established. The ruins of an old stone chimney, situated a short distance south of the American Camp on the south slope of the ridge, are firmly identified by local tradition as being a remnant of the old Company buildings.[1] This location corresponds very well with the location in relation to American Camp given in the quotations from contemporary letters already cited. And the H. B. C. establishment is shown at this location on several early, though small-scale, maps of the 1850's and 1860's.[2]

Also, during the late 1850's Lieut. James Alden of the Coast Survey made a sketch of the cabins at Belleview Farm. The location is clearly identifiable as being on the south slope looking out across the Strait of Juan de Fuca to the Olympic Peninsula.[3]

San Juan Town and Hudson's Bay Company Wharf. The Hudson's Bay Company wharf on the shore of Griffin Bay played an important and somewhat exciting role in the "Pig War" story. Its position, at least within a few yards, seems firmly fixed by a map of 1858-1859 and by a painting of San Juan Town made by Lieut. Alden in or about 1860.[4] From this evidence, and from local tradition, the site is clearly fixed as at the southern end of the small tidal lagoon on the shore of Griffin Bay in Government Lot 6 in the SE¼ of Section 1, T34N, R3W.

---

[1]Lucile McDonald, "The San Juan Sheep War of 1853," in Seattle Times, December 6, 1953.

[2]See maps cited under the discussion of American Camp above.

[3]Reproduced in Seattle Times, November 2, 1958.

[4]/Chart of/ Haro and Rosario Straits, Surveyed by Captain G. H. Richards. . .1854-9. The view by Alden is reproduced in the Seattle Times, November 9, 1958. A colored reproduction of the painting is to be found in American Heritage, vol. XI, No. 3 (April, 1960), 62, but the picture is reversed.

B. Historical Narrative

For more than half a century after achieving its independence the United States was involved in a continuous series of disputes with Great Britain over the boundary line separating the new republic from Canada. It appeared that a permanent solution to the problem had been found when the Treaty of 1846 settled the bitter Oregon Question by extending the forty-ninth parallel boundary westward from the Rocky Mountains "to the middle of the channel which separates the continent from Vancouver's island; and thence southerly through the middle of the said channel, and of Fuca's straits to the Pacific Ocean."

The diplomats in London and Washington who negotiated this agreement seem to have had little accurate knowledge of the geography of the remote Northwest coast; and if they were aware that there was more than one channel--and a whole flock of islands--between the mainland and Vancouver Island they gave no evidence of the fact. Yet, on the United States side, there was a general impression that the deepest and westernmost channel, the Canal de Haro, was the one intended by the treaty. And the British seemed to understand that their objectives had been attained with the line which gave them all of Vancouver Island.

Yet, the language of the treaty was ambiguous, and each country soon began to interpret the agreement to favor its own interests. As early as 1847 the American Minister to Great Britain, George Bancroft, noted a disposition on the part of certain British subjects to assert that Rosario Strait, to the east of the San Juan Islands, was the channel meant by the treaty. Fearing future dispute, he took pains to announce the American position.

The Hudson's Bay Company, which at that time held a British trading monopoly in what is now western Canada, was the agency most interested in pushing the extreme British view. As early as 1845 it had posted a notice of possession on San Juan Island, the second largest in the San Juan group and the most promising for economic and strategic reasons. In 1850 the firm established an intermittent fishing station on the island; and in December, 1853, it strengthened its position by landing 1,300 sheep and founding a sheep farm under the management of Charles John Griffin.

Meanwhile, the territorial legislature of Oregon, assuming that the San Juan Islands had been awarded by the Treaty of 1846 to the United States, incorporated the group in Island County in January, 1853. In March of that year the islands were claimed as part of the newly formed Washington Territory; and subsequently San Juan Island was made a part of Whatcom County. During 1854 the U. S. Collector of Customs for the District of Puget Sound attempted unsuccessfully to levy duties on the livestock and goods imported to San Juan by the Hudson's Bay Company; but the next year the sheriff of Whatcom County assessed the firm's property and actually seized and sold more than 30 sheep when payment of taxes was refused.

These disputes brought the matter into diplomatic channels. During the summer of 1855 United States Secretary of State W. L. Marcy arranged an understanding with the British government by which it was agreed that neither side would use force to exclude the other nor attempt to exercise exclusive sovereignty over the disputed islands until the water boundary could be established. Commissioners were appointed by the two countries during 1856 to fix the line. But by that time each nation had decided the San Juan Islands were of major strategic importance. Hampered by restrictive instructions, the commissioners could not agree.

The rush for gold on Fraser River which reached its peak in 1858 drew many American citizens to British Columbia and Washington Territory. By 1859 at least 25 Americans had settled on San Juan, and some of them had laid out preemption claims under United States law on the property claimed by the Hudson's Bay Company. That firm's establishment had prospered, and the Company had about 5,000 sheep and other livestock and some 20 employees scattered over the island. Clashes between the new settlers and the established British agents were inevitable.

Matters came to a climax on June 15, 1859, when an American farmer named Lyman A. Cutler stepped out the door of his house and saw a pig--a black boar to be precise--from the nearby Hudson's Bay Company station rooting in his potato patch. Cutler shot the offending animal but then, regretting his hasty action, reported his deed to the Company's agent, Charles J. Griffin, and offered to make compensation. But the two men differed widely on the value of the pig, and heated words passed between them.

It so happened that on that same day Alexander Grant Dallas, a director of the Hudson's Bay Company, its chief representative in the Northwest, and son-in-law of Governor James Douglas of British Columbia, arrived at San Juan in the Company ship, Beaver. On that day or the next--accounts differ--Dallas, Griffin, and several other men visited Cutler, and another angry discussion followed. Accounts of what happened differ considerably, but evidently Dallas threatened to take legal proceedings against Cutler and to remove him forcibly to Victoria for trial. The American made it clear that he would resist by force, and no action was taken against him.

Aroused by the attitude of the British, the American settlers on San Juan Island petitioned Brigadier General William S. Harney, U. S. A., in command of the Department of Oregon with headquarters at Fort Vancouver on the Columbia River, for protection against the northern Indians and the oppressive interference of the authority of the Hudson's Bay Company. The "Affair of the Pig" thus rapidly developed into an international incident. Harney visited the island during a routine tour of inspection on July 9 and received the settlers' petition. The general was already well convinced that the San Juan Islands were important for strategic purposes, and he suspected that

the British intended to hold them. He was inclined to believe unconfirmed rumors that the English were encouraging the natives to attack the unwelcome American settlers.

Acting promptly, Harney on July 18 ordered Captain George F. Pickett, who was later to win fame leading the Confederate charge at Gettysburg, to transfer his Company D, Ninth Infantry, from its post at Bellingham to San Juan Island. The orders received by Pickett indicated that protecting the settlers from Indians was not his "more serious and important duty." His principal task, rather, was to protect the Americans in their civil rights "and to resist all attempts at interference by the British authorities. . . by intimidation or force." In selecting a position, the captain was to "take into consideration that future contingencies may require an establishment of from four to six companies retaining the command of San Juan harbor." Clearly Harney was thinking of more than Indians; a belligerent reaction on the part of the British was anticipated.

Pickett's small force arrived at San Juan on July 26 and landed the next day. The camp, guarded by a few light field guns, was established on the ridge at the southwestern edge of San Juan Harbor, or Griffin Bay. Pickett promptly issued a proclamation pronouncing the island to be United States territory. No laws or courts other than those of the United States would be recognized or allowed, he declared.

Meanwhile, on July 23, 1859, Governor Douglas had appointed John Fitzroy de Courcy a "Justice of the Peace and a Stipendiary Magistrate in and for the District of San Juan." De Courcy was sent to the island on the British warship, Satellite, where he arrived on the evening of July 27, the same day Pickett had landed on the island. His instructions from Douglas charged him to "warn off" all persons who should attempt to "assert any rights of occupation as against the British Dominion in the Island"; but he was also to avoid any action that might lead to violence.

Matters were now ripe for an explosion. Both sides had strained and disturbed the agreement of 1855 by asserting exclusive sovereignty over the island, although only General Harney had yet made a demonstration of force.

The Satellite returned at once to Victoria with news of the American landing. Governor Douglas, a retired longtime Hudson's Bay Company officer as well as chief British civil official, was outraged by Harney's action. He requested the British naval commander on Vancouver Island to "immediately despatch a powerful vessel of war to San Juan, and instruct the officer in command to prevent the landing of any further armed parties of United States soldiers . . . also the erection of fortifications."

On the evening of July 29 the H. M. S. Tribune, a 30-gun frigate under Captain Geoffrey Phipps Hornby, reached Griffin Bay under orders to assist her Majesty's civil authorities, by force if necessary, in dealing with the American troops already ashore. The next day agent Griffin requested Pickett to withdraw his forces from the island. When the American officer refused, he was ordered by Griffin to appear before the British magistrate. On August 2, the Plumper, an English surveying vessel of light armament, arrived at San Juan with 46 Marines and 15 Royal Engineers. The British naval force was further augmented on the third by the Satellite.

Pickett found the attitude of the British "menacing," and he recognized that he was faced by a vastly superior force. Nevertheless he declared his determination to resist any attempt to dislodge him. The three British captains then offered a joint military occupation of the island until the boundary could be settled by higher authority. Pickett referred the proffer to General Harney, who rejected it.

Despite the high state of public excitement in Victoria, the British officers remained calm and refused to be stampeded into obeying Douglas's orders to land marines. But the American military commanders in the field anticipated the worst. On August 6 General Harney ordered Lieutenant Colonel Silas Casey to reinforce Pickett with troops from nearby mainland posts.

Fully expecting to meet resistance from the British warships, Casey cautiously approached San Juan Island in the steamer Massachusetts on August 10. Under cover of fog he landed his troops and howitzers on the south shore and sent them to Pickett's nearby camp. Then he steamed boldly around to Griffin Bay and put his stores and ammunition ashore at the Hudson's Bay Company wharf under the heavy guns of the Tribune. The British made no attempt to prevent the landing of the freight.

By the last week in August the Americans had five companies of infantry, four of artillery, and a detachment of engineers, totalling 461 men, with eight 32-pound cannon and six smaller guns well established on San Juan. Casey's main camp was on the south slope near the Hudson's Bay Company's principal station; and by the end of the month an earthwork was well under construction on the top of the ridge where the heavy guns could command both Griffin Bay and the southern shoreline of the island. The total British naval force based at Esquimalt, on Vancouver Island, consisted of five vessels, the Ganges, Tribune, Pylades, Satellite, and Plumper, with 167 guns and some 2,140 men.

It was now evident to both sides that any attempt to exert exclusive jurisdiction would involve a major conflict. An informal truce thus prevailed. When Rear Admiral Robert Lambert Baynes, the bluff and hearty senior British naval officer in the Pacific, arrived on the scene, he refused to open hostilities over the shooting of a pig.

"Tut, tut, no, no! the damned fools," he is reported to have said when he learned of Douglas's order to land marines. He was firmly determined to avoid a clash, feeling that the ultimate question of sovereignty could be settled only by the two governments. "It is now my positive order," he told Captain Hornby on August 16, "that you do not on any account whatever take the initiative in commencing hostilities."

Meanwhile, news of events on San Juan Island reached Washington, where the boundary question was still under diplomatic negotiation. Harney's action in occupying San Juan and thus disturbing the status established in 1855 was a shock to the American Government. "The President was not prepared to learn that you had ordered military possession to be taken," Harney was informed by the Acting Secretary of War.

Lieutenant General Winfield Scott, commanding general of the U. S. Army and then 74 years old, was sent post-haste to investigate the situation on the spot. He was told that the United States would have no objection to a plan of joint military occupation such as had been proposed by the British naval officers at Griffin Bay.

Scott left New York on September 20, 1859, and arrived near Fort Vancouver on October 20. Negotiations were opened with Governor Douglas, and after some discussion it was agreed that the "menacing attitude" of the opposed forces should be reduced by the withdrawal of most of the American troops and the greater part of the British naval strength. By November 9, 1859, all work on the American redoubt had been stopped, and it was reported that the garrison, except for one company, was to be broken up. The British authorities agreed to accept Scott's "project of a temporary settlement," and arrangements were made for one company of not to exceed 100 men from each nation to occupy the island until the boundary question should be resolved.

Scott left for the East on November 11. He purposely did not leave the positive Captain Pickett in charge of the reduced American garrison; and later, when General Harney placed Pickett back on the island, Scott saw to it that the commander of the Department of Oregon was recalled to Washington.

On March 21, 1860, a detachment of British Royal Marines was landed from the Satellite at the north end of San Juan Island and, under terms of the agreement, occupied the position now known as "English Camp." Scott's arrangement was confirmed by the British and American governments on August 17 and 18, 1860.

The outbreak of the Civil War during 1861 caused the San Juan negotiations to be pushed into the background for several years, and at one point the American garrison was almost withdrawn entirely.

But from 1860 to 1872 the two military forces occupied San Juan Island in harmony and maintained law and order. As the years went by, however, the population of the island continued to grow, and there was increasing friction between American military and civil authorities as to who had primary jurisdiction. The trouble stemmed chiefly from the attempts of the American commander to end the profitable business, conducted by American soldiers and others, of selling liquor to the Indians and troops.

These difficulties were partly responsible for the renewal of diplomatic discussions of the San Juan Question toward the end of the 1860's; and the matter was negotiated against a background of more serious and pressing differences between the two governments. The San Juan dispute was included among the matters covered by the Treaty of Washington of 1871 and was referred by that agreement to the German Emperor for arbitration.

On October 21, 1872, Emperor Wilhelm I upheld the contention of the United States regarding the San Juan Islands. Upon learning of the decision, George Bancroft, the venerable American statesman and historian and then Minister in Berlin, said, "After an unrelenting strife of ninety years, the award . . . closes the long and unintermitted, and often very dangerous, series of disputes on the extent of their respective territories, and so for the first time in their histories opens to the two countries the unobstructed way to agreement, good understanding and peace."

The joint occupation of San Juan Island ended on November 25, 1872, when the British withdrew their forces from the "English Camp." The last United States troops moved out of "American Camp" during July, 1874. Settlers extended private land claims over both sites very soon after their abandonment.

Significance

The colorful "Affair of the Pig," arising directly from the protracted and bitter quarrel between Great Britain and the United States as to the sovereignty of the Oregon territory, brought the two great powers briefly to the brink of war in 1859. For thirteen years the two nations maintained armed forces in the disputed San Juan archipelago, and the question of sovereignty was resolved only by the Treaty of Washington in 1871 and the final arbitration of the question by the German Emperor in 1872. Then, for the first time in the history of the United States, the republic had no boundary dispute with Great Britain.

In assessing the Treaty of Washington Thomas A. Bailey has written: "We may conclude that it was the greatest triumph for arbitral methods that the world had yet witnessed. It provided for four significant arbitrations, three of them of major importance /Bailey includes the San Juan question among the important ones/. It was one of those periodic purgations that dispelled every serious cloud in Anglo-American relations. It was not only /Hamilton/ Fish's greatest diplomatic success, but it was also the most substantial accomplishment of eight long years of Grantism--an oasis of achievement in the desert of scandal."[1] Allan Nevins has called the Treaty of Washington "an event of cardinal importance in the history of the relations of the two English-speaking powers."[2]

The splendid physical remains of the American and English camps on San Juan Island thus appear to be the one site from which the larger stories of "54-40 or fight," the incident of the Pig War, and the important Treaty of Washington can be told.

---

[1]Thomas A. Bailey, A Diplomatic History of the American People (New York, 1947), 422.

[2]Allan Nevins, Hamilton Fish: The Inner History of the Grant Administration (New York, 1937), 493.

Bibliographical Essay

The sources, printed and manuscript, relating to the San Juan Controversy are vast in bulk; and they have never been completely utilized by historians. However, the masterful and lengthy treatment of the matter by Hunter Miller in volume VII of the State Department's Treaties and Other International Acts of the United States of America (Washington, D. C., 1948) is highly satisfactory, and it constitutes, incidentally, a virtual guide and index to the lengthy printings of original documents in the Congressional Documents series. The Miller account has been the primary reliance in preparing the present historical summary.

Another standard account which is still useful is found in chapter XXXI in Hubert Howe Bancroft's History of British Columbia, 1792-1887 (San Francisco, 1887). The British side of the controversy is presented in Viscount Milton, San Juan Water Boundary (London, 1869), and Northwest American Water Boundary Case of Government of Her Brittanic Majesty (London, 1873). Archibald W. Shiels, San Juan Islands, the Cronstadt of the Pacific (Juneau, Alaska, 1938), is largely an undigested collection of documents connected by a modest amount of narrative; it contains several items not readily available elsewhere, but the locations of the originals are not indicated. Of major importance are Hunter Miller, San Juan Archipelago: Study of the Joint Occupation of San Juan Island (Bellows Falls, Vermont, 1943), and the same editor's North West Water Boundary: Report of the Experts Summoned by the German Emperor (Seattle, Wash., 1942).

A general view of the entire dispute is provided by Andrew Fish, "The Last Phase of the Oregon Boundary Question," in Oregon Historical Quarterly, XXII (September, 1921), 161-224. Charles McKay, "History of San Juan Island," in Washington Historical Quarterly, II (1907-1908), passim, contains valuable material. Another general view, written in popular style, is Warren C. Magnuson, "One-short War with England," in American Heritage, vol. XI, no. 3 (April, 1960), 63-64, 105-107.

The following regional and general histories contain good discussions of the dispute: L. B. Shippe, Canadian-American Relations, (New Haven, 1939), 240-246; F. W. Howay, W. N. Sage, and H. F. Angus, British Columbia and the United States (Toronto, 1942); Bruce Hutchison, The Struggle for the Border (Toronto, 1955), 394-397, 399; Thomas A. Bailey, A Diplomatic History of the American People (New York, 1947), 416-417, 422; and George W. Fuller, A History of the Pacific Northwest (2nd ed., New York, 1958), 178-179. The diplomatic phases of the question are well treated in J. B. Moore, History of the International Arbitrations to Which the United States Has Been a Party (6 vols., Washington, 1898); and I-Mein Tsiang, The Question of Expatriation in America Prior to 1907 (Baltimore, 1942).

The important Treaty of Washington of 1871 and the subsequent arbitration by the German Emperor are given detailed treatment in Allan Nevins, Hamilton Fish: The Inner History of the Grant Administration (New York, 1937), 385-399, 426-448, 471-493; Goldwin Smith, The Treaty of Washington, 1871: Study in Imperial History (Ithaca, New York, 1941); R. C. Clark, "The Diplomatic Mission of Sir John Rose, 1871," in Pacific Northwest Quarterly, XXVII (1936), 227-242; and J. P. Baxter, 3rd, "The British High Commissioner at Washington in 1871," in Massachusetts Historical Society Proceedings, LXV (1940), 334-357.

Emphasis on the more local view of the occupation of San Juan is given in the following: an article by Terry Pettus in Tradition Magazine for December, 1962 [exact citation not available]; a series of articles by Lucile McDonald which appeared in the Seattle Times at intervals during the last eleven years, including issues for Dec. 6, 1953; Nov. 2, 9, 16, 1958; Nov. 20, 1960: March 12, 1961; Dec. 6, 15, 1963; Col. V. J. Gregory, "Divided Waters," in Military Review, vol. XLIV, no. 2 (February, 1964).

III. DESCRIPTION

A. Physical Features

American Camp: The windswept southeastern coastline of San Juan Island affords an imposing setting for the historic American Campsite. The site itself does not support the lush vegetation typical of the island. Broad areas of open grassland are edged with a few shrubs and occasional groups of Douglas fir sculptured by the wind. The site of the American Camp earthworks enjoys a view of the low dome of Mt. Finlayson to the east and the magnificance of the Olympic Range visible to the south across Puget Sound. On clear days, Mt. Baker's snowy summit appears above the complex of islands and channels which dominate the view to the northeast.

Remnants of buildings thought to be part of the former Hudson's Bay farm are visible from the ridge top site, and the gentle sweep of Griffin Bay's shoreline loses itself in the increasingly dense timber on the more protected parts of the Island to the north.

English Camp: Contrasting with the harshness of the American Campsite, English Camp rests serenely along the eastern shore of Garrison Bay, one of the many intimate inlets and channels which frequent the north end of San Juan Island. The heavily timbered softness of the surrounding hills is broken here and there by small meadows cleared by the local residents who cultivated this area.

Upon climbing Young Hill to the English cemetery and further to the old lookout site on the summit, the vegetation opens up rewarding views to the north and west. Vancouver Island is low on the western horizon and the deeply indented shoreline of San Juan and adjacent islands lie in the foreground.

The setting for the Campsite itself remains reasonably intact with a large barn and a house constructed in 1903 by Mr. Crook being the only major buildings in the immediate area other than the historic structures.

B. Accessibility

San Juan Island is served by car ferry from Anacortes, Washington, twice daily and fron Sidney, British Columbia, once daily. During the summer and on special weekends, additional service is provided depending on demand. The boats carry up to 80 cars and the ferry slip is in the town of Friday Harbor.

Planes operate daily between Friday Harbor and Bellingham. However, only light planes are used on the small San Juan airfield and thus only few passengers can be accommodated.

Privately owned pleasure craft frequent the complex of channels, inlets and bays of the San Juan Islands during the summer. Roche Harbor, approximately three miles from English Camp, has a sizeable small boat harbor and Friday Harbor docks will accommodate a few boats adjacent to the ferry slip.

C. Population

San Juan County encompasses all the islands in the San Juan group. Its population according to the 1960 census is 2,872. Friday Harbor, the county seat and only community of consequence, has a population of 706, while San Juan Island's total population is 1,351.

D. Climate

Considerably drier than nearby mainland areas, San Juan Island has an average annual rainfall of 29 inches. Temperatures generally range from summer highs of 80 degress Fahrenheit to 20 degrees in the winter.

E. Land Ownership

English Camp: Of the approximate 529 acres suggested for inclusion within the National Historical Park at English Camp, the State of Washington owns approximately 110 acres. The remainder of the area is in private ownership and divided among five owners.

American Camp: Other than the approximately five and one-half acres of State land at Pickett Monument, all land in this suggested 1,223-acre unit is privately owned and divided among about 34 owners.

F. Existing Development and Use

English Camp: Consisting largely of uncleared forest land, this area has had little development except for some small fruit orchards of overage trees and a few cleared meadows north of the campsite itself. The traditional use of the land has been for sheep grazing.

Adjacent shoreline areas are being subdivided and sold for vacation homesites. At present, however, subdivision has not taken place within the area suggested for designation as a national historical park.

American Camp: As at English Camp, the major use has traditionally been sheep grazing. While such use promises to continue on upland areas, the coastal land is being subdivided, particularly on land north and west of the suggested boundary and at Cattle Point east of the boundary. Limited subdivision within the suggested boundary has occurred adjacent to the county road at the west end of the area and on the shoreline of Griffin Bay near the north boundary.

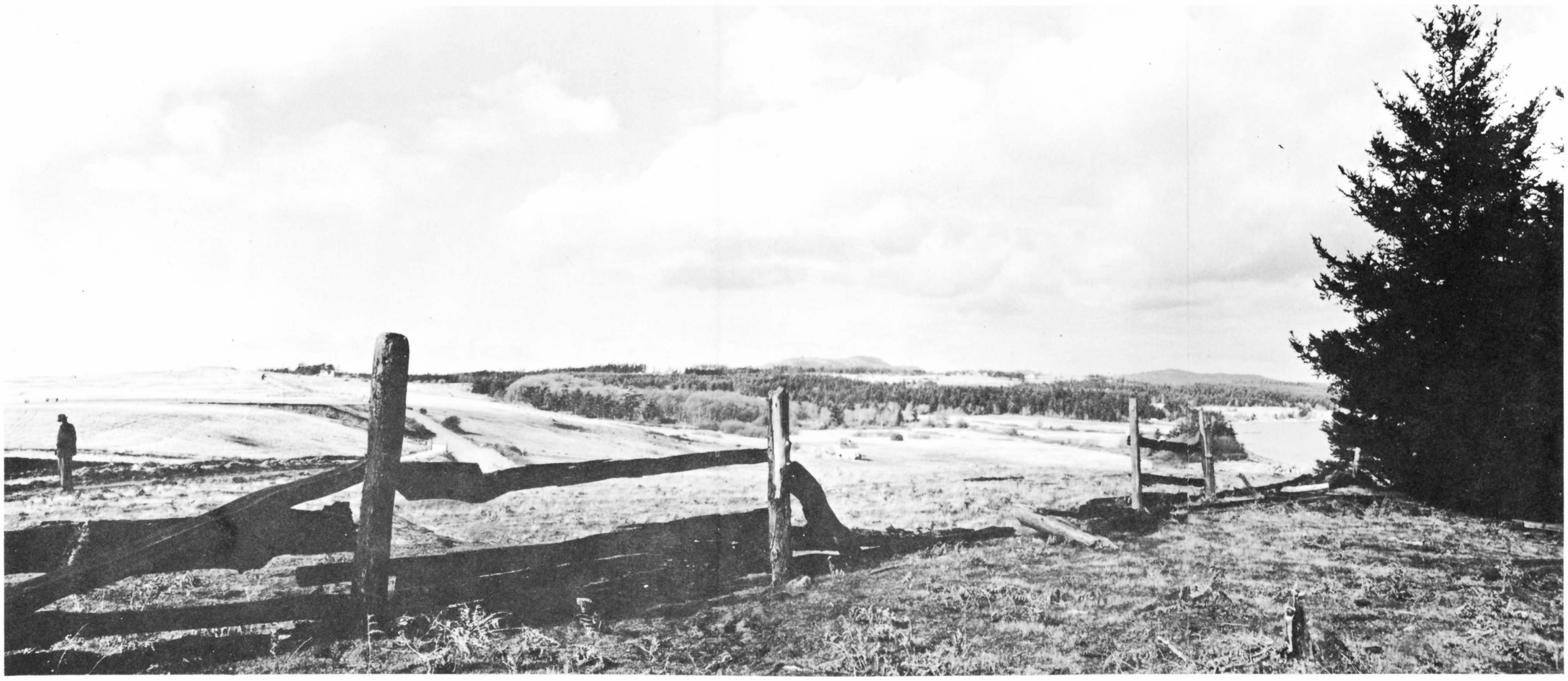


Plate 3 - American Camp from west shoulder of Mt. Finlayson. Earthworks are low mound on skyline at far left. American garrison located directly in front of trees farthest left on the skyline. Cutler House site near skyline in clearing to right of left fence post. Site of San Juan town and Hudson's Bay Company wharf located on shore of Griffin Bay at lower right of picture.

GPO 970-617

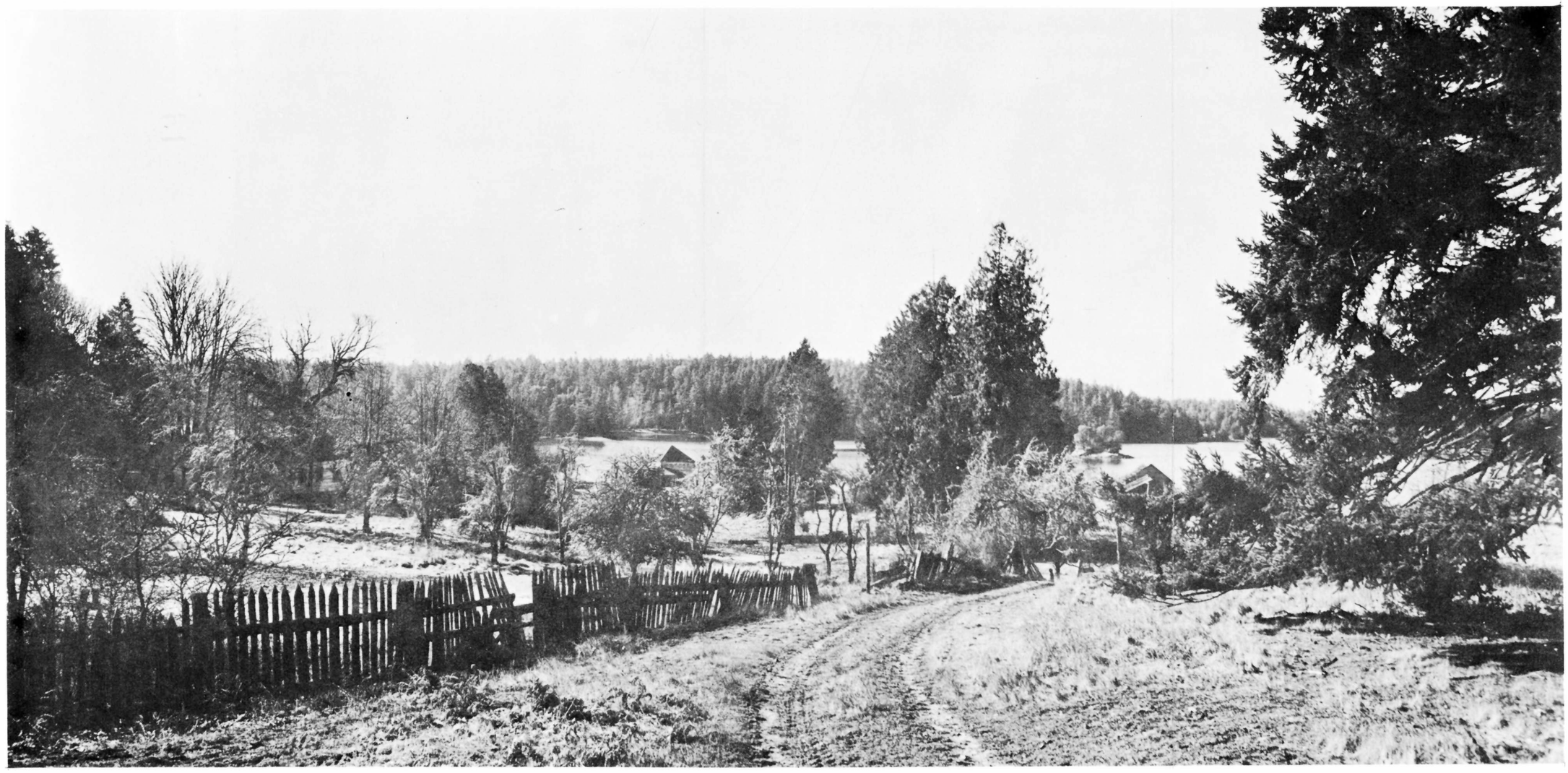


Plate 4 - English Camp from vicinity of suggested visitor center site looking southwest across Garrison Bay. Building in trees at left is the original English Barracks, blockhouse in center and commissary building at right.

GPO 970-617



Plate No. 5 - Block house at English Camp with corner of Commissary Building in the foreground, view south along east shoreline of Garrison Bay.



Plate No. 6 - Old military road northeast of English Campsite above county road and near suggested south boundary.



Plate No. 7 - English Camp cemetary on Young Hill.



Plate No. 8 - Earthworks at American Camp view west.

GPO 970-617

IV. SUITABILITY

A. Integrity

Although most of the structures associated with the British and American Camps of 1859-1872 have disappeared, the few which remain, and the general rural character of the landscape, still present the essence of the scene at the time when conflict threatened between the United States and Great Britain on San Juan Island. The site possesses a high degree of integrity.

B. Adaptability

If sufficient land is acquired to permit adequate preservation of the historic structures and landscape and to accommodate the necessary administrative and interpretive facilities, the sites would be entirely suitable for national historical park purposes.

C. Accessibility

Although situated on an island not directly accessible by road, it can be reached by air, car ferry, and small boat and presents no serious problem of accessibility. Paved roads pass through English and American Camp areas. Privately owned pleasure boats enter both Griffin Bay east of American Camp and Garrison Bay west of English Camp. Air service and car ferry service are sometimes curtailed by inclement weather, but this situation does not occur frequently enough to be a serious problem as the Island receives substantial visitation during the summer months.

V. FEASIBILITY

A San Juan Island National Historical Park of the size and scope suggested in this report would be feasible. Land acquisition costs would be substantial.

A. Availability

Prior to 1960, the land ownership situation in the San Juan Islands remained very stable and many properties had been under the same ownership for many years. However, in the past three years there has been some subdivision of this heretofore completely rural area, particularly along the shoreline.

Recent purchases by the State of Washington in the English Camp area further indicate that land is available and reports from local appraisers show considerable activity in land sales.

B. Relationship to the Economy

San Juan Island's economy has previously been based largely on agriculture. However, recent increased interest in recreation in the islands, particularly in pleasure boating, has and will likely continue to stimulate investment in facilities to accommodate the increased number of visitors. These visitors will arrive by car ferry and by private pleasure boat.

Establishment of a National Park System unit on San Juan Island can be an integral part of this expansion of visitor use facilities by providing, in areas of both scenic and historic interest, a wider range of activities for prospective tourists and thus favorably affect the overall economy of the Island and the county.

C. Public Interest and Support

The Washington State Park and Recreation Commission, although in the process of planning public use facilities for State park lands at English Camp, is favorably disposed toward Federal ownership and administration of both American and English Camps.[1/]

1/ Letter from State Parks and Recreation Commission Director Charles Odegaard dated January 23, 1964.

Discussions with several members of the local community have revealed considerable interest in the proposed historical park. The members of the study team and authors of this report know of no local opposition to the proposal at this time.

D. Timing

Rapidly expanding interest in subdivision and sale of property on San Juan Island emphasizes the need for early action on a proposal to protect these historic sites. Delay can only increase the possibility of development of incompatible uses on the sites themselves and impairment of the heretofore relatively unspoiled historic scene.

Furthermore, with the increasing interest in San Juan Island for vacation homesites, property values and complexity of land ownership patterns are almost certain to increase along with the density of both seasonal and permanent populations.

VI. LOGICAL BALANCE AMONG THEMES IN HISTORICAL AREAS OF THE NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM

No existing unit in the National Park System specifically commemorates and illustrates such broad phases of American history as the Oregon Question, the Treaty of 1846, the Pig War incident, and the important Treaty of Washington which are so well symbolized by the San Juan Island sites. One purpose of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial National Monument on Lake Erie, Ohio, is to commemorate 100 years of peace between Great Britain and the United States, but this area does not specifically commemorate and illustrate the peaceful culmination of the long years of dispute over the international boundary.

VII. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AND USE

A. General Considerations

San Juan Island National Historical Park, as proposed, would be established to protect the significant historic features at English and American Camps for public enjoyment. Development must be subordinate to the historic setting while allowing the visitor access to the historic features and making provision for appropriate management and protection.

The two sites and surviving historic structures, once restored, would present no unusual maintenance problems. The repair of the earthworks at American Camp, the restoration of the several historic buildings at English Camp and preservation of the landscape at both American and English Camps would not be major undertakings. The costs of staffing, operating, and maintaining a National Historical Park on San Juan Island would be reasonable even though access is limited to automobile ferry and private pleasure boat.

Each unit presents a separate development problem. The widespread sites on the windswept ridge at American Camp require circulatory roads within the historic area to adequately provide for visitor use. The fragile serenity of English Camp suggests that no road mar the compact compound and intrude on the atmosphere of bay, indented shore, historic structures and the adjacent wooded hills.

A map showing proposed development of both English and American Camps is included as Appendix C of this report.

B. Visitor Facilities

English Camp: Restoration of at least some of the buildings composing the military compound on Garrison Bay will present perhaps the greatest visitor attraction. A visitor center proposed for location northeast of the remaining historic buildings at English Camp and reached by a park road would prepare the visitor for his trip through the historic camp on Garrison Bay. Bell Point, again outside the major historic area, can provide space for limited picnicking. A boat dock is suggested near the entrance to Garrison Bay from which a short walk would bring the visitor to the historic site or to the picnic area. Trails within the camp area plus a trail to the English cemetery and continuing to the top of Young Hill complete the public use facilities suggested at English Camp.

American Camp: Relocation of a two-mile section of the Cattle Point county road to the south would be highly desirable to restore the historic scene at American Camp. Such relocation would allow construction of a circulatory road within the boundary for access to the visitor center, American Camp earthworks, Hudson's Bay Farm, and the Cutler Potato Patch.

The shore of Griffin Bay was the site of old San Juan Town and a boat dock to serve American Camp. A road to this site would also allow access to a suggested picnic area. A trail, on the location of the old military road, could lead from Griffin Bay to the American Campsite. A proposed boat dock would allow access by the numerous private boats which frequent this area in the summer.

C. Staff Facilities:

English Camp: The major protection problem is at English Camp with its complex of restored structures and their setting. Here also the park office adjacent to the visitor center and a small utility yard could be constructed close to the historic area without encroaching on the site itself. Permanent and seasonal residences would allow protection on seven-day a week basis.

American Camp: Residences plus a small service yard will suffice for staff facilities at American Camp.

The staff not provided for in the above-suggested housing could rent or purchase private housing in the Friday Harbor area.

D. Utilities

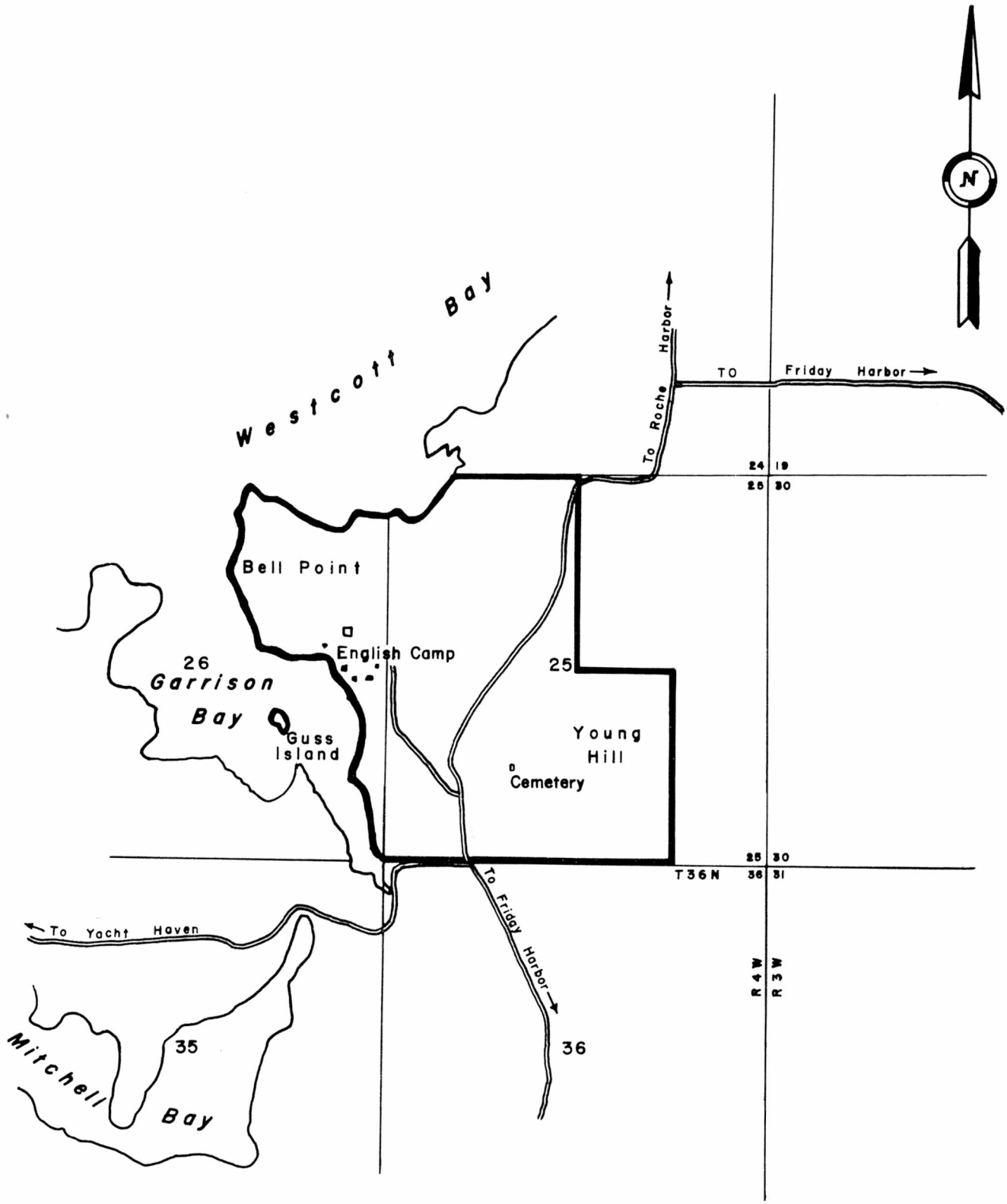
Power and telephone service is available on the Island. Water, being available from springs and wells, does not appear to be a serious problem although due to the remote location of English and American Camps, tie in with the system at Friday Harbor does not appear feasible.

APPENDIX

A. Boundary Maps, American and English Camps

B. Boundary Descriptions, American and English Camps

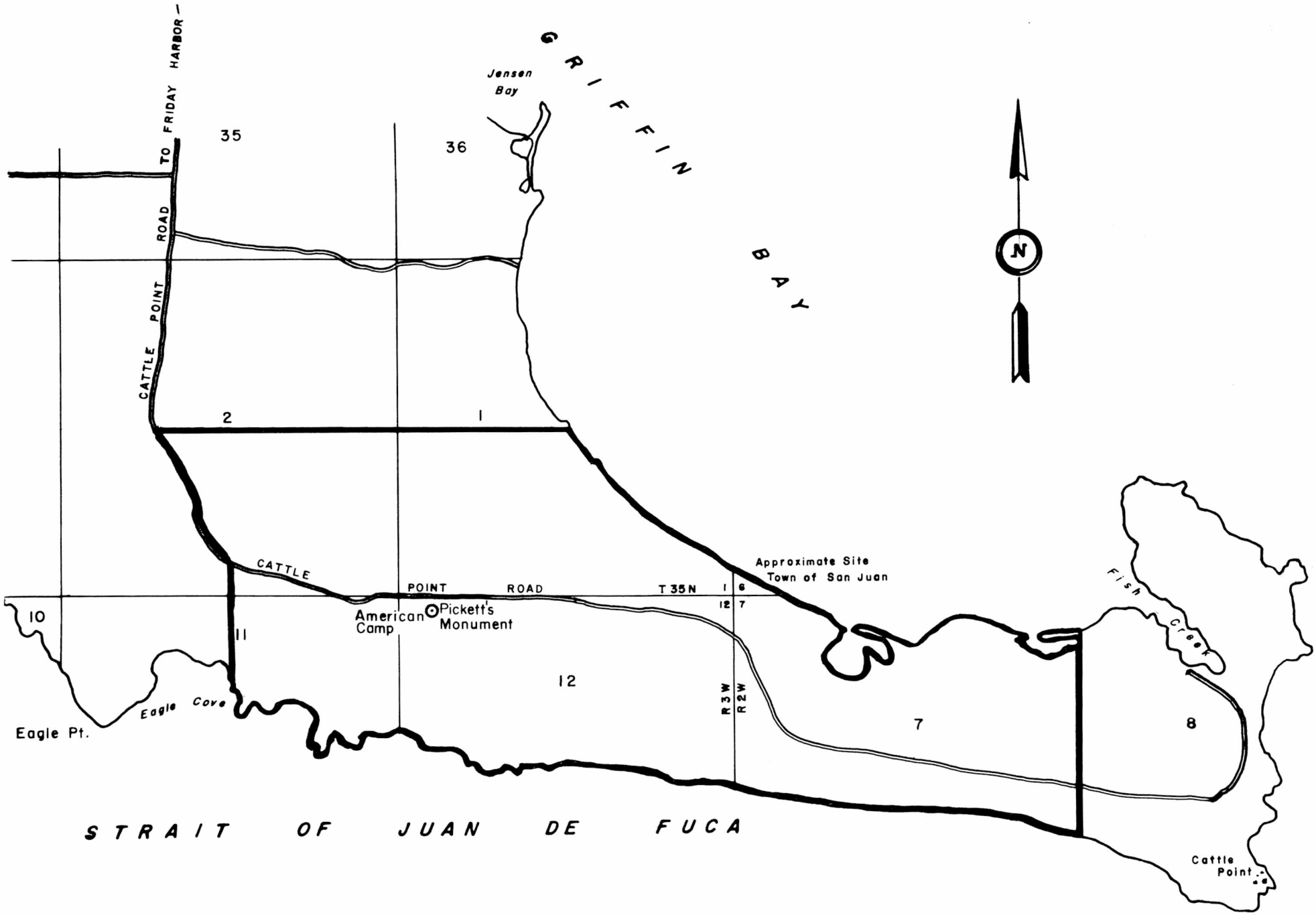
C. Proposed Development Plan



BOUNDARY MAP - ENGLISH CAMP UNIT
PROPOSED SAN JUAN ISLAND NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

Scale in Feet

0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000



BOUNDARY MAP-AMERICAN CAMP UNIT
PROPOSED SAN JUAN ISLAND NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION--AMERICAN CAMP

All that real property situated on the Island of San Juan, County of San Juan, State of Washington, more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the southeast corner of the southwest quarter of Section 2, Range 3 West, Township 34 North, Willamette Meridian; thence north along the easterly line of said southwest quarter to the intersection of the north R/W line of a certain county road known as the Cattle Point Road; thence northwesterly along said northerly R/W line to the intersection with the northerly line of the southwest quarter of Section 2, Range 3 West, Township 34 North, Willamette Meridian; thence east along the northerly line of the south half of said Section 2 and continuing east along the northerly line of the south half of Section 1, Range 3 West, Township 34 North to the intersection of the mean high high tide line of Griffin Bay; thence along said mean high high tide line in a southeasterly and easterly direction to the intersection with the easterly line of Section 7, Range 2 West, Township 34 North, Willamette Meridian; thence south to the intersection with the mean high high tide line on the shore of the Strait of Juan de Fuca; thence westerly along said mean high high tide line to the intersection with the westerly line of the eastern half of Section 11, Range 3 West, Township 34 North; thence north along westerly line of the east half of said Section 11 to the point of beginning.

Containing 1,222.58 acres, more or less, together with the adjacent tidelands.

APPENDIX B

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION--ENGLISH CAMP

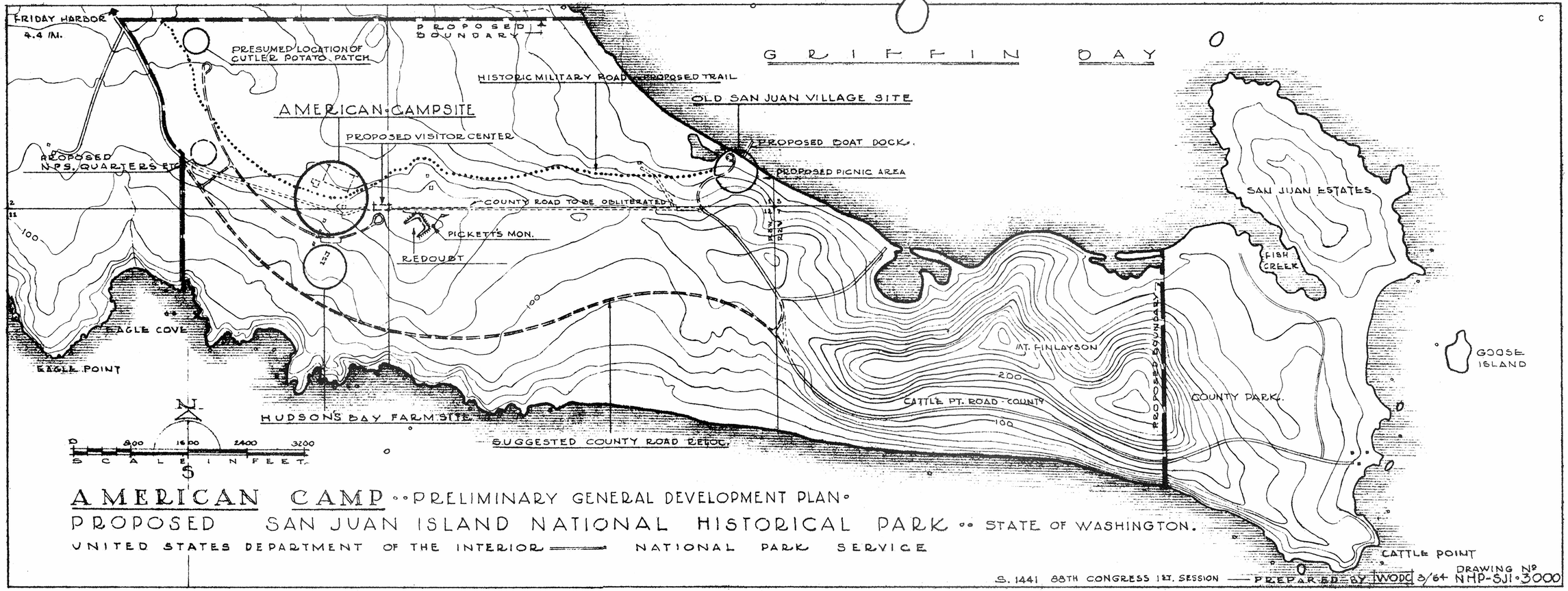
All that real property situated on the Island of San Juan, County of San Juan, State of Washington, more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at the corner common to Sections 25, 26, 35 and 36 in Township 36 North, Range 4 West, Willamette Meridian; thence West along the South line of said Section 26 to the mean high high tide line of Garrison Bay; thence along said mean high high tide line northwesterly and continuing along said mean high high tide line of Westcott Bay in an easterly and northeasterly direction to the North line of Section 25, Township 36 North, Range 4 West, Willamette Meridian; thence East along the northerly line of said Section 25 to the Northwest corner of the Northeast quarter of said Section 25; thence South along the Westerly line of the Northeast quarter of said Section 25 to the Southwest corner thereof; thence East along the northerly line of the Northwest quarter of the Southeast quarter of said Section 25 to the Northeast corner thereof; thence south along the easterly line of the West half of the Southeast quarter of Section 25 to the Southeast corner of the Southwest quarter of the Southeast quarter of said Section 25; thence West along the South line of said Section 25 to the southwest corner thereof and the point of beginning.

Containing 528.83 acres, more or less, together with the adjacent tidelands.

Also including an island in Garrison Bay known as Guss Island.

Containing 0.58 acres, more or less, together with the adjacent tidelands.



AMERICAN CAMP ·· PRELIMINARY GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN·

PROPOSED SAN JUAN ISLAND NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK ·· STATE OF WASHINGTON.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR —— NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

S. 1441 88TH CONGRESS 1ST. SESSION —— PREPARED BY JWOPC 5/64 DRAWING NO. NHP-SJI·3000

C

WESTCOTT BAY

ROCHE HARBOR 1.6 MI.

FRIDAY HARBOR 8.1 MI.

BELL POINT

PROPOSED ENT. ROAD

PROPOSED PICNIC AREA

PROPOSED VISITOR CENTER

PROPOSED NPS. QUARTERS ETC.

PROPOSED DOCK

BARN & JAS. CROCK RES. TO BE REMOVED

COMMISSARY

ENGLISH CAMP

BLOCK HOUSE

BARRACKS

HISTORIC MILITARY ROAD

COUNTY ROAD

R5

+550

GUSS ISLAND

GARRISON BAY

YOUNG HILL

OBSERVATION POST SITE

ENGLISH CEM.

PROPOSED TRAIL

ROAD TO BE OBLITERATED

PROPOSED BOUNDARY

MITCHELL BAY RD.

FRIDAY HARBOR 7.8 MI.

SCALE IN FEET.

0 400 800 1200 1600

ENGLISH CAMP ... PRELIMINARY GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

PROPOSED — SAN JUAN ISLAND NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK..

STATE OF WASHINGTON

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR — NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.

S. 1441 - 88TH CONGRESS 1ST. SESSION — PREPARED BY WDC 3/64 — DRAWING NO. NHP-SJI.3001

GPO 970-617