National Park Service
Cultural Landscapes Inventory

2015

Fort Marcy
George Washington Memorial Parkway

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Inventory Summary

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory Overview:

CLI General Information:

Purpose and Goals of the CLI

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI) is an evaluated inventory of all significant landscapes in units of the national park system in which the National Park Service has, or plans to acquire any enforceable legal interest. Landscapes documented through the CLI are those that individually meet criteria set forth in the National Register of Historic Places such as historic sites, historic designed landscapes, and historic vernacular landscapes or those that are contributing elements of properties that meet the criteria. In addition, landscapes that are managed as cultural resources because of law, policy, or decisions reached through the park planning process even though they do not meet the National Register criteria, are also included in the CLI.

The CLI serves three major purposes. First, it provides the means to describe cultural landscapes on an individual or collective basis at the park, regional, or service-wide level. Secondly, it provides a platform to share information about cultural landscapes across programmatic areas and concerns and to integrate related data about these resources into park management. Thirdly, it provides an analytical tool to judge accomplishment and accountability.

The legislative, regulatory, and policy direction for conducting the CLI include:

onal Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)). Each Federal agency shall establish…a preservation program for the identification, evaluation, and nomination to the National Register of Historic Places…of historic properties…
cutive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(a)…Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall prepare an assessment of the current status of its inventory of historic properties required by section 110(a)(2) of the NHPA…No later than September 30, 2004, each covered agency shall complete a report of the assessment and make it available to the Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Secretary of the Interior… (c) Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall, by September 30, 2005, and every third year thereafter, prepare a report on its progress in identifying… historic properties in its ownership and make the report available to the Council and the Secretary…
Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Standard 2: An agency provides for the timely identification and evaluation of historic properties under agency jurisdiction or control and/or subject to effect by agency actions (Sec. 110 (a)(2)(A)

ıagement Policies 2006. 5.1.3.1 Inventories: The Park Service will (1) maintain and expand the following inventories…about cultural resources in units of the national park system…Cultural Landscape Inventory of historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes,… and historic sites…
ural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22 issued pursuant to Director's Order #28. As cultural resources are identified and evaluated, they should also be listed in the appropriate Service-wide inventories of cultural resources.

Responding to the Call to Action:

The year 2016 marks the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service. A five-year action plan entitled, "*A Call to Action: Preparing for a Second Century of Stewardship and Engagement*" charts a path toward that second century vision by asking Service employees and partners to commit to concrete actions that advance the agency's mission. The heart of the plan includes four broad themes supported by specific goals and measurable actions. These themes are: Connecting People to Parks, Advancing the NPS Education Mission, Preserving America's Special Places, and Enhancing Professional and Organizational Excellence. The Cultural Landscape Inventory relates to three of these themes:

Connect People to Parks. Help communities protect what is special to them, highlight their history, and retain or rebuild their economic and environmental sustainability.
Advance the Education Mission. Strengthen the National Park Service's role as an educational force based on core American values, historical and scientific scholarship, and unbiased translation of the complexities of the American experience.
Preserve America's Special Places. Be a leader in extending the benefits of conservation across physical, social, political, and international boundaries in partnership with others.

The national CLI effort directly relates to #3, Preserve America's Special Places, and specifically to Action #28, "Park Pulse." Each CLI documents the existing condition of park resources and identifies impacts, threats, and measures to improve condition. This information can be used to improve park priority setting and communicate complex park condition information to the public.

Responding to the Cultural Resources Challenge:

The Cultural Resources Challenge (CRC) is a NPS strategic plan that identifies our most critical priorities. The primary objective is to "*Achieve a standard of excellence for the stewardship of the resources that form the historical and cultural foundations of the nation, commit at all levels to a common set of goals, and articulate a common vision for the next century.*" The CLI contributes to the fulfillment of all five goals of the CRC:

1) *Provide leadership support, and advocacy for the stewardship, protection, interpretation, and management of the nation's heritage through scholarly research, science and effective management;*
2) *Recommit to the spirit and letter of the landmark legislation underpinning the NPS*

3) *Connect all Americans to their heritage resources in a manner that resonates with their lives, legacies, and dreams, and tells the stories that make up America's diverse national identity;*
4) *Integrate the values of heritage stewardship into major initiatives and issues such as renewable energy, climate change, community assistance and revitalization, and sustainability, while cultivating excellence in science and technical preservation as a foundation for resource protection, management, and rehabilitation; and*
5) *Attract, support, and retain a highly skilled and diverse workforce, and support the development of leadership and expertise within the National Park Service.*

Scope of the CLI

CLI data is gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries, archives and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance. The baseline information describes the historical development and significance of the landscape, placing it in the context of the landscape's overall significance. Documentation and analysis of the existing landscape identifies character-defining characteristics and features, and allows for an evaluation of the landscape's overall integrity and an assessment of the landscape's overall condition. The CLI also provides an illustrative site plan that indicates major features within the inventory unit and generates spatial data for Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The CLI also identifies stabilization needs to prevent further deterioration of the landscape and provides data for the Facility Management Software System

Inventory Unit Description:

The Fort Marcy cultural landscape is located in northern Virginia, in the Arlington Heights. It is accessed via the northbound lanes of the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP). The fort is approximately 11 miles northwest of the United States Capitol and 9 miles north of Arlington, Virginia. Fort Marcy is a component landscape of the George Washington Memorial Parkway and the Civil War Defenses of Washington. The boundaries of Fort Marcy, as considered for this cultural landscape Inventory, are defined by Chain Bridge Road to the north, the Civil War-era military road trace to the west, NPS's ownership boundary, south of the parkway, to the south and the eastern most Civil War-era rifle pits, running from Chain Bridge Road to Pimmit Run, to the east.

Historical Overview

Fort Marcy was one of 68 forts built as a defensive ring around Washington at the start of the Civil War. Located in the Arlington Heights, the fort was constructed in September of 1861. Unlike the majority of the defenses of Washington, Fort Marcy was not built to protect the city itself, but rather to control movement across the Leesburg Turnpike and Chain Bridge. The Chain Bridge was a key crossing over the Potomac River and one of the major approaches to Washington. D.C., and Fort Marcy, along with Fort Ethan Allen, was considered of vital importance in securing the Union Army's continued presence in northern Virginia. Fort Marcy's irregularly shaped parapet measured approximately 345 yards and enclosed an area of about 1.5 acres. The fort had emplacements for eighteen guns. Armament consisted of three 24-pounders en barbette, two 12-pounder howitzers, six 30-pounder Parrott rifles, three 20-pounder Parrott rifles, three 10-pounder Parrot rifles, one ten-inch

mortar, and two or three 24-pounder Coehorn mortars.

In addition to the main earthworks, rifle trenches were dug in a nearly continuous line to the Potomac River, above and below the Chain Bridge and eight unarmed batteries were constructed at different points along the line to protect the valley of Pimmit Run and other areas unseen by Forts Marcy and Ethan Allen. Outworks extended north from Fort Marcy to anchor the fortification to the river. The line also ran south and west of the fort, across Pimmit Run to Fort Ethan Allen. An eight-gun battery was located directly west of the main fort, and two one-gun batteries south of Fort Marcy protected the Pimmit Run valley from either side of the creek. An extensive system of military roads constructed by the Union Army connected the main fort with surrounding batteries and Fort Ethan Allen.

The fort reverted to civilian ownership at the end of the Civil War. The Vanderwerken family retained ownership of the fort and surrounding land for the next 88 years, leaving Fort Marcy untouched. In 1953 the fort was sold to Ann DeLashmutt. The combined threats of new ownership and new development, and road expansion in the 1950s led local activists to advocate for the Federal government to purchase the fort as part of the George Washington Memorial Parkway's northern extension, and preserve the site as a public park. In 1959 the National Capital Planning Committee acquired the land and in 1963 it opened to the public. At least one Civil War-era cannon was installed at the site as part of the celebrations surrounding the opening of the new park, and vegetation was cleared to provide areas for picnicking and aid in interpretation of the site.

Today Fort Marcy is among the best preserved of the Civil War Defenses of Washington. Though a section of the parapet was bulldozed, and natural and visitor related erosion has affected the site, the earthworks remain in a remarkably good state. Mature tree growth and heavy vegetation insulate the fort from the heavy traffic on the GWMP. Residential development in the area immediately surrounding the fort has increased since the 1960s, and large suburban now surround the park. Local homeowners are probably the most regular visitors to the site, using Fort Marcy and its surrounding trails for walking dogs and jogging.

Significance Summary

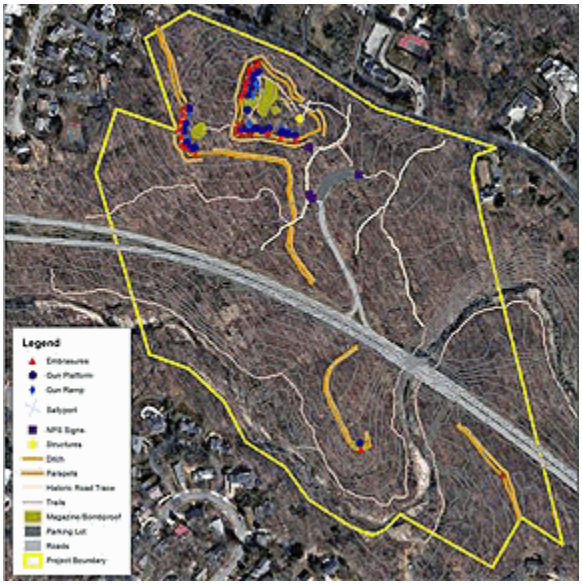
Fort Marcy is listed on the National Register as part of the 1977 Defenses of Washington revision of the 1974 Civil War Fort Sites nomination. The National Register lists Fort Marcy's period of significance as 1861-1865. The fort is listed on the National Register for its military significance. George Washington Memorial Parkway North (of which Fort Marcy is a component landscape) is also listed on the National Register as part of a thematic, multiple-property nomination for the parkways of Washington, DC. The parkway is listed for its significance in the areas of transportation and landscape architecture. This CLI maintains that Fort Marcy is eligible under National Register Criteria A, C and D and recommends adding a second period of significance, 1953-1963. This second period of significance will recognize Fort Marcy's role in the development of Parks and Recreation throughout Washington, D.C. and the surrounding area. As part of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, Fort Marcy is also significant as a component of that landscape, which was listed on the National Register in 1995.

The GWMP is significant as an example of the system of local parkways, proposed as part of the McMillan Plan, which provided leisure drives for D.C. residents and visitors. These parkways and associated sites such as Fort Marcy, were designed to promote the natural beauty of the area surrounding Washington, D.C. and convey to citizens the importance of the capital city.

Analysis and Evaluation Summary and Condition

This CLI finds that Fort Marcy retains integrity from the Civil War-era period of significance (1861-1865) as well as the second period of significance (1953-1963) covering its conversion to a public park. Fort Marcy has retained many of its landscape characteristics and features, and displays the seven aspects that determine integrity as defined by the National Register of Historic Places: location, design, setting, feeling, materials, workmanship and association.

Site Plan



Fort Marcy Site Plan

Property Level and CLI Numbers

Inventory Unit Name:	Fort Marcy
Property Level:	Component Landscape
CLI Identification Number:	600136
Parent Landscape:	600135

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	George Washington Memorial Parkway -GWMP
Park Organization Code:	3300
Park Administrative Unit:	George Washington Memorial Parkway

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Complete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative:

This cultural landscape Inventory was researched and written by Shannon Garrison, Research Associate, University of Pennsylvania. Primary and secondary source material from within the National Park Service and local repositories were used to complete the inventory and are listed in the bibliography. Research and editorial assistance was provided by: Martha Temkin, Cultural Resource Specialist, National Capital Parks Region, Nation Park Service; Maureen Joseph, Regional Historical Landscape Architect, National Capital Parks Region, National Park Service; Gregory Anderson, Cultural Resource Specialist, George Washington Memorial Parkway, National Park Service; Brent Steury, National Resources Program Manager, George Washington Memorial Parkway, National Park Service; Kym Elder, Program Manager, Civil War Defenses of Washington, National Capital Region, National Park Service; Randall Mason, Associate Professor and Chair, Historic Preservation, University of Pennsylvania; Collette Kinane, research Associate, University of Pennsylvania

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence: Yes

Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence: 09/30/2015

National Register Concurrence: Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination

Date of Concurrence Determination: 11/04/2015

Concurrence Graphic Information:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

Memorandum:

To: Regional Landscape Architect, National Capital Region

From: Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway

Subject: Statement of Concurrence, Fort Marcy Cultural Landscape Inventory

I, Alexcy Romero, Superintendent of George Washington Memorial Parkway, concur with the findings of the Cultural Landscape Inventory for the Fort Marcy, including the following specific components:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: Must be Preserved and Maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good

Good: indicates the inventory unit shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The inventory unit's cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

Fair: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character defining elements will cause the inventory unit to degrade to a poor condition.

Poor: indicates the inventory unit shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory for the Fort Marcy is hereby approved and accepted.

Alexcy Romero 9/30/15

Superintendent, George Washington Memorial Parkway Date

Superintendent Concurrence Signature

Statement of Concurrence
Fort Marcy Cultural Landscape CLI

The preparation of this CLI for the Fort Marcy is part of the National Park Service's efforts to update cultural resource inventories, as required by Section 110(a)(1) of the National Historic Preservation Act.

I, Julie Langan, Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer, concur with the findings of the Fort Marcy cultural landscape inventory. In addition, I concur that the enumerated cultural landscape resources of Fort Marcy retain integrity to its periods of significance ((1861-1865, 1953-1963) and contribute to its historic character.

for M. Amanda Shea
Julie Langan
Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer

4 November 2015
Date

DHR File No. 2015-1057

Please email signed PDF copy to Martha Temkin, NCR CLI Coordinator at Martha_temkin@nps.gov.

SHPO Concurrence

Geographic Information & Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

The Fort Marcy cultural landscape is located in northern Virginia, in the Arlington Heights. The main fort is located in Fairfax County, though the boundaries for this CLI include a section of outworks located in Arlington County. Fort Marcy is accessed via the northbound lanes of the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP). The fort is approximately 11 miles northwest of the United States Capitol and 9 miles north of Arlington, Virginia. Fort Marcy is a component landscape of the George Washington Memorial Parkway and the Civil War Defenses of Washington. The boundaries of Fort Marcy, as considered for this Cultural Landscape Inventory are defined by Chain Bridge Road to the north, the Civil War-era military road trace to the west, NPS's ownership boundary, south of the GWMP, to the south and the eastern most Civil War-era rifle pits, running from Chain Bridge Road to Pimmit Run, to the east.

State and County:

State: VA

County: Arlington County

State: VA

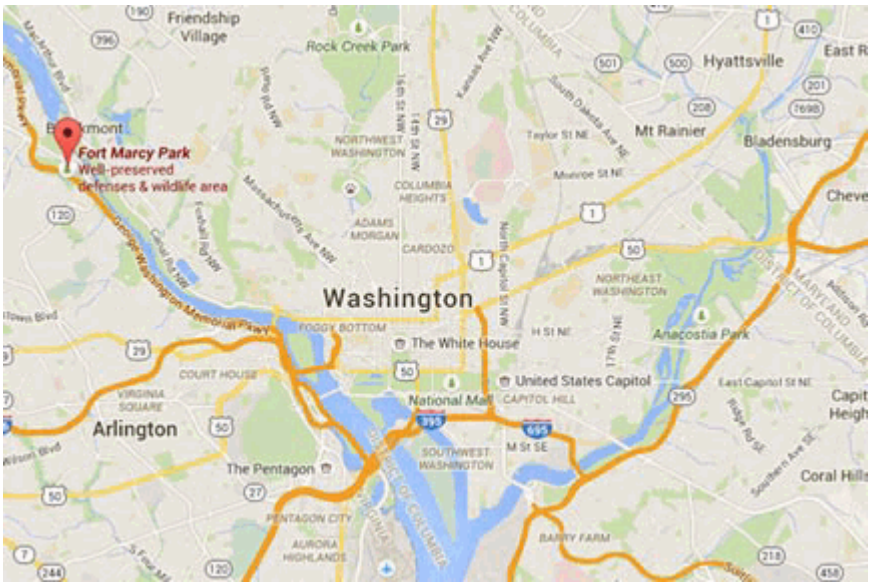
County: Fairfax County

Size (Acres): 59.00

Boundary Coordinates:

Source:	GPS-Differentially Corrected
Type of Point:	Point
Latitude:	-77.1216700000
Longitude:	38.9360980000
Source:	GPS-Differentially Corrected
Type of Point:	Point
Latitude:	-77.1228650000
Longitude:	38.9344990000
Source:	GPS-Differentially Corrected
Type of Point:	Point
Latitude:	-77.1234550000
Longitude:	38.9291310000
Source:	GPS-Differentially Corrected
Type of Point:	Point
Latitude:	-77.1279860000
Longitude:	38.9322150000

Location Map:



The location of Fort Marcy in relation to Washington D.C..

Management Unit: GWMP

Management Information

General Management Information

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: 09/30/2015

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

Fort Marcy is listed in the National Register of Historic Places for its military significance and its association with the Civil War Defenses of Washington. The fort was one of 68 defensive forts constructed during the war to protect the national capital. Fort Marcy is one of 19 forts surrounding Washington acquired by the National Park Service and listed as a group in the National Register.

NPS Legal Interest:

Type of Interest: Fee Simple

Public Access:

Type of Access: Unrestricted

Explanatory Narrative:

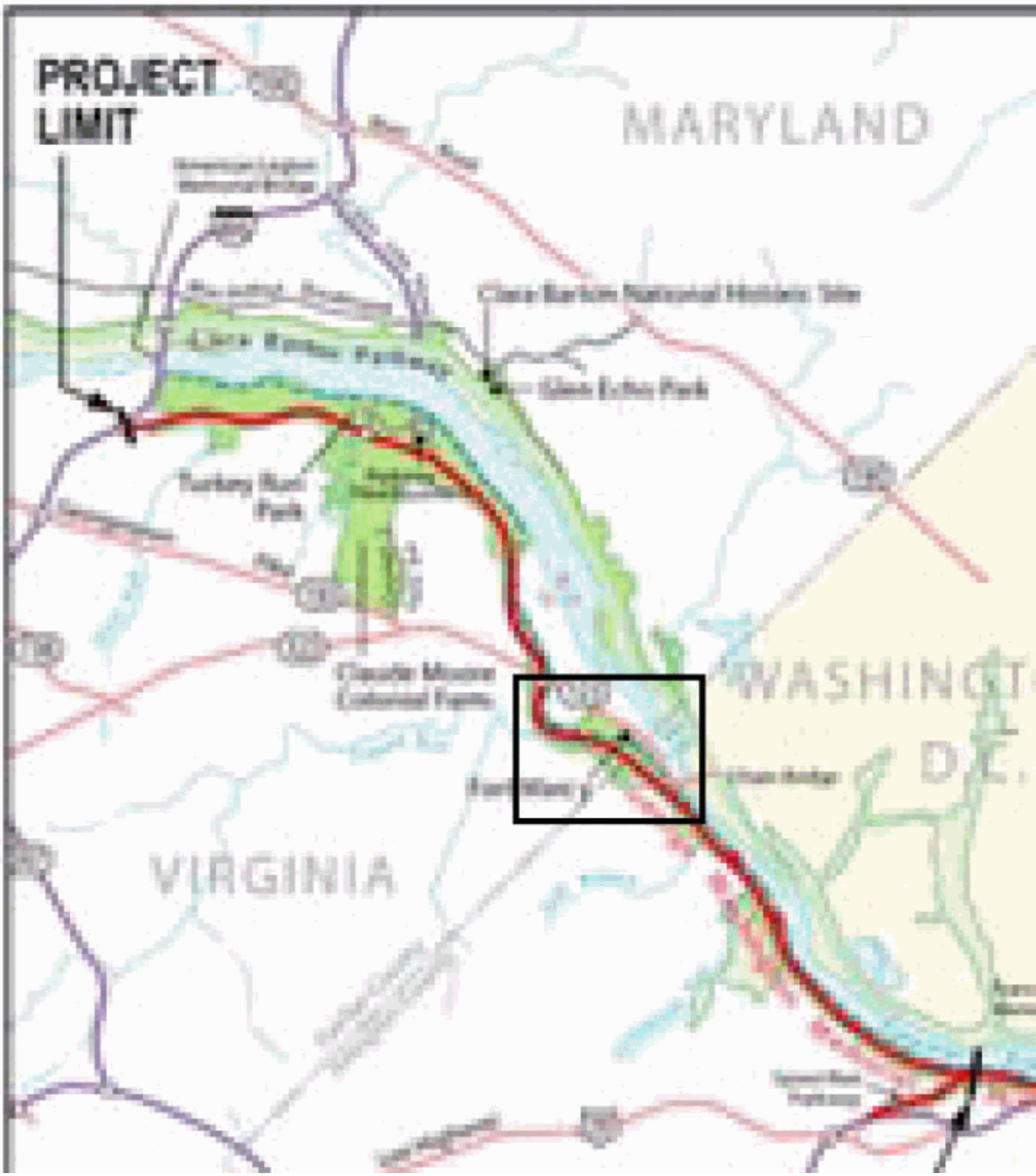
Park closes at dusk.

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Adjacent Lands Description:

NPS-owned land along the George Washington Memorial Parkway North, to the south, southeast and northwest of the CLI project boundaries, contribute to the second period of significance, when Fort Marcy was purchased as part of the GWMP-N extension project and converted to public parkland.


PROJECT LIMIT
MARYLAND
VIRGINIA

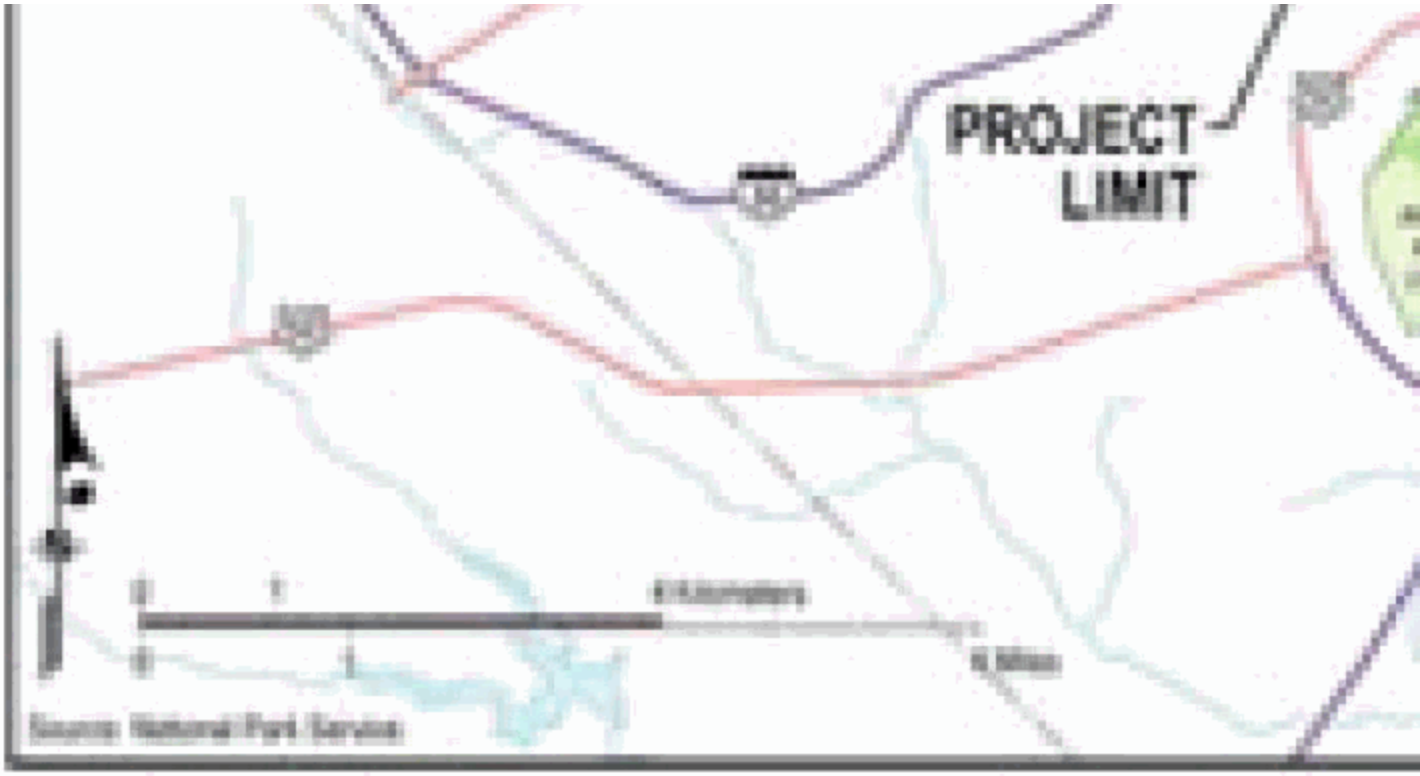


Image of George Washington Memorial Parkway North (GWMP-N), from a 2009 Cultural Landscape Inventory, showing adjacent lands NPS owned lands in bright green. Lands within the boundaries of the project limit contribute to the Fort Marcy cultural landscape.

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status

National Register Landscape Documentation:

Entered Inadequately Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

Fort Marcy is listed on the National Register as part of the 1977 Defenses of Washington revision of the 1974 Civil War Fort Sites nomination. The National Register lists Fort Marcy's period of significance as 1861-1865. The fort is listed on the National Register for its military significance. The George Washington Memorial Parkway – North is listed on the National Register for its significance in the areas of transportation and landscape architecture.

According to research conducted for this CLI and the categories of National Register documentation outlined in the "CLI Professional Procedures Guide" the Fort Marcy landscape is inadequately documented based on the existing National Register documentation. This CLI maintains that Fort Marcy is eligible under National Register Criteria A, C and D and recommends adding a second period of significance, 1953-1963. This second period of significance will recognize Fort Marcy's role in the development of Parks and Recreation throughout Washington, D.C. and the surrounding area. As part of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, Fort Marcy is also significant as a component of that landscape, which was listed on the National Register in 1995. The GWMP is significant as an example of the system of local parkways, proposed as part of the McMillan Plan, which provided leisure drives for D.C. residents and visitors. These parkways and associated sites such as Fort Marcy were designed to promote the natural beauty of the area surrounding Washington, D.C. and convey to citizens the importance of the capital city.

Existing NRIS Information:

Name in National Register:	Civil War Fort Sites (Boundary Increase)
NRIS Number:	78003439
Primary Certification Date:	09/13/1978

National Register Eligibility

National Register Concurrence:	Eligible -- SHPO Consensus Determination
Contributing/Individual:	Contributing
National Register Classification:	Site
Significance Level:	National

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

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

Significance Criteria: D - Has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important to prehistory or history

Criteria Considerations: F -- A commemorative property

Period of Significance:

Time Period: CE 1861 - 1865

Historic Context Theme: Shaping the Political Landscape

Subtheme: The Civil War

Facet: The Industrial North

Time Period: CE 1953 - 1963

Historic Context Theme: Creating Social Institutions and Movements

Subtheme: Ways of Life

Facet: Urban Life

Other Facet: Recreation; General Recreation

Area of Significance:

Area of Significance Category: Community Planning and Development

Area of Significance Category: Engineering

Area of Significance Category: Ethnic Heritage

Area of Significance Category: Military

Statement of Significance:

Periods of Significance 1861-1865, 1953-1963

Fort Marcy is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the 1977 Defenses of Washington, a revision of the 1974 Civil War Fort Sites nomination.

The National Register lists the period of significance as 1861-1865. This CLI recommends that an

additional period of significance be added to include the years 1953-1963. This time period includes the site's acquisition by the Federal Government and conversion to public parkland as part of the larger development of the George Washington Memorial Parkway.

The Fort Marcy cultural landscape derives national significance under Criterion A: property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history. The Fort Marcy cultural landscape is associated with several contributions to American history, including the Civil War, the local history of African American contrabands during the Civil War and the creation of the George Washington Memorial Parkway in the 20th century. This CLI also finds the cultural landscape is nationally significant under Criterion C: property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction. Fort Marcy is an example of Civil War-era military design, engineering and construction, as well as a local example of mid-20th century community planning and development as an element of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, which itself is a part of the larger 1902 McMillan plan for redevelopment of the area in and around Washington, DC. Lastly, this landscape is also significant under Criterion D: property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important to prehistory or history. Fort Marcy has the potential to yield information related to the site's pre-colonial settlement, as well as its Civil War construction and use and post-Civil War activity at the site.

CRITERION A

National
The Fort Marcy cultural landscape derives national significance under Criterion A for its association with the Civil War. The fort is significant as the physical remnants of an unprecedented ring of armed fortifications that defended the national capital between 1861and 1865. It was part of the ring of 68 fortifications built around Washington, the presence of which served as an effective deterrent against Confederate attack. Unlike the majority of the defenses of Washington, Fort Marcy was not built to protect the city itself, but rather to control movement across the Leesburg Turnpike and Chain Bridge. The Chain Bridge was a key crossing over the Potomac River and one of the major approaches to Washington. D.C., and Fort Marcy, along with Fort Ethan Allen, was considered of vital importance in securing the Union Army's continued presence in northern Virginia. The fort was constructing in 1861 and remained active until fall of 1865.

Local

The fort has local significance for its association with the history of African Americans in the area during the Civil War. Throughout the war, slaves fled the Confederacy to claim their freedom, and Washington, D.C. received more of these freed people than any other northern city. Many of the new arrivals settled in temporary camps near Washington's fortifications and some found work building and maintaining the defenses, including Fort Marcy. Contrabands worked to renovate the fort in the fall of 1862.

Under Criterion A, Fort Marcy is also eligible for local significance in the area of

Entertainment/Recreation, as part of the 20th century development of recreational parks and parkways in and around the District of Columbia. Fort Marcy has provided local residents with ready access to open recreational space near their homes and workplaces since 1963. This usage began well in advance of the first efforts to acquire the site for public use in the 1950s. Local residents recall using the area for recreational purposes while it was still under private ownership. Threatened by the expansion of local roads in the 1950s, citizens rallied around efforts to preserve the site, petitioning on behalf of its historic significance. At the same time, the rapid expansion of suburbs surrounding Washington, D.C. emphasized the need to preserve the site as undeveloped open space. Under the Capper-Cramton act of 1930, the Federal government acquired the land around Fort Marcy for park purposes. Since its official opening in 1963, visitors have enjoyed both passive and active recreation throughout the park.

CRITERION C

National

The Fort Marcy cultural landscape is nationally significant under Criterion C as a preeminent example of Civil War-era fort technology and construction methods. The fort also qualifies for listing under Criterion C as the masterwork of Major John G. Barnard, the Union engineer officer who commanded and coordinated the design and construction of the entire fortification system. Much of the credit for the successful defense of Washington, D.C. is attributed to Major Barnard, who employed the most up-to-date methods of construction and sound defensive strategies. Based on the specifications of Dennis Hart Mahan, a professor at West Point Military Academy and author of “A Treatise on Field Fortifications,” Fort Marcy represented the height of fortification technology at the time of its construction. Upon completion of the system of defenses, Washington, D.C. was described as “the most heavily fortified city in the world.” Additionally, the Fort Marcy landscape is locally significant as one of the best-preserved examples of the 68 earthworks that once surrounded the city.

Local

Fort Marcy is locally significant in the area of Community Planning and Development as an element of the George Washington Memorial Parkway, which was part of the original 1902 Senate Park Commission Plan for the redevelopment of Washington, D.C. The 1902 Senate Park Commission Plan held two primary objectives: to redevelop Washington’s historic core according to L’Enfant’s original 1792 plan of the city and to extend this design beyond the borders of the old city via a park system ranging over the entire District of Columbia and extending out into neighboring Maryland and Virginia. As part of this effort, the McMillan Plan recommended the construction of parkways around Washington, D.C. The idea languished for decades, but the passage of the Capper-Cramton Act in 1930 provided funds for improving entryways to the nation’s capital. As a result, a variety of parkways were developed to address the desire for recreational driving around the capital. Local parkways were designed to provide leisure drives that would fit the contours of the land and convey to citizens the importance of Washington, D.C. The George Washington Memorial Parkway, constructed between

1929 and1970, is a significant example of this type of parkway and a significant example of mid-20th Century community planning. Fort Marcy was incorporated as part of the George Washington Memorial Parkway in 1963.

CRITERION D

In addition, the Fort Marcy cultural landscape is nationally significant under Criterion D: property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information in prehistory or history. Past excavations in and around Fort Marcy have identified artifacts from prehistory and the Civil War. Further archeological excavation of the site and surrounding properties may provide additional information on pre-Columbian and pre-colonial history, fort construction and Civil War life. Resources dating to the second period of significance may shed light on the history of the site post-Civil War.

Chronology & Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use

Cultural Landscape Type: Designed
Historic Site

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function: Battery (Defense)

Primary Current Use: Outdoor Recreation-Other

Current and Historic Names:

Name	Type of Name
Fort Marcy	Both Current And Historic
Fort Baldy Smith	Historic

Ethnographic Study Conducted: No Survey Conducted

Chronology:

Year	Event	Annotation
CE 1608	Explored	Captain John Smith is first English settler to explore and map the Potomac River and its Eastern Branch.
CE 1612	Platted	Captain John Smith publishes General Historie of Virginia, which maps his explorations along the Potomac River.
CE 1649	Land Transfer	King Charles II grants land in northern Virginia to supporters, including Thomas Fairfax.

CE 1719	Land Transfer	Lady Catherine Fairfax sells Thomas Lee 2,862 acres along the Potomac River, between Great Falls and Little Falls.
CE 1790	Established	The Residence Act of 1790 establishes the District of Columbia. Pierre L'Enfant lays out the new federal city, sited between the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers.
CE 1797	Engineered	Construction of First Chain Bridge
CE 1850 - 1859	Purchased/Sold	Gilbert Vanderwerken buys 13,000 acres in the Arlington Highlands, including future site of Fort Marcy.
CE 1861	Military Operation	Virginia succeeds from the Union on May 23, 1861
	Military Operation	Union army establishes first defenses of Washington in northern Virginia and captures Alexandria the night of May 23, 1861.
	Engineered	Construction of Fort Marcy begins on or about September 24, 1861, under supervision of Major D. P. Woodbury of the army engineers. Along with Fort Ethan Allen, Marcy provided cover of the approaches to Chain Bridge.
		Major General John G. Barnard
	Established	Initially called “Fort Baldy Smith,” the site received its new name, Fort Marcy, in honor of Brigadier General Randolph Barnes Marcy by General Order #18 on September 30, 1861.
CE 1861 - 1862	Engineered	First military roads constructed in the fall and winter of 1861-1862 along the Arlington Heights.
CE 1861 - 1865	Settled	Contraband slaves fleeing the Confederacy begin to arrive in Washington, D.C. Some settled in camps near the fortifications and provided labor for construction and maintenance.
CE 1862	Rehabilitated	In September 1862, the 152nd New York Volunteers and five hundred contrabands began renovations to Fort Marcy to address erosion caused by frost and rain. Changes included improved embrasures, bombproofs, and reconstructed magazines.

	Engineered	Rifle trenches above and below the Chain Bridge are completed.
CE 1865	Military Operation	At the end of Civil War, the Union Army announces the immediate dismantling of all but 11 forts in the Defenses of Washington
	Land Transfer	On October 23, 1865 Fort Marcy and surrounding land transferred back to the Vanderwerken family where it remained relatively untouched for almost eighty-eight years.
CE 1865 - 1957	Eroded	Fort Marcy and surrounding features, including outworks, trenches, rifle pits and military roads erode and deteriorate.
CE 1901 - 1902	Designed	The Senate Park Commission report/The McMillan Plan calls for the design of a new Fort Drive connecting former Civil War fort sites in a green parkway around the city.
CE 1912	Established	Congress passes the first legislation for the protection of the former Civil War Defenses of Washington.
CE 1925	Purchased/Sold	National Capital Planning Commission receives first authorization to purchase land related to the Civil War Defenses of Washington.
CE 1930	Established	Capper-Cramton Act provided funds for parkland acquisition in the D.C. metropolitan area, including adjoining areas of Maryland and Virginia. George Washington Memorial Parkway established as part of this act.
CE 1933	Maintained	The National Park Service takes over the management of federally owned parkland in Washington, D.C., including the fort parks.
CE 1947	Abandoned	The Fort Drive plan to link the Defenses of Washington is officially halted though pressure to complete the project continued.
CE 1953	Purchased/Sold	Two parcels of land, 25.9360 and 7.991 acres sold to Anna DeLashmutt, who plans to develop the land along with her brothers who own most of the land surrounding Fort Marcy.

CE 1954	Planned	March 14, 1954, a memorandum recommends that the Government acquire Forts Marcy and Sumner in connection with the land purchases along the George Washington Memorial Parkway.
CE 1956	Planned	Proposals for widening Virginia Route 123 endanger Fort Marcy. Concerned local citizens speak out in favor of its preservation.
CE 1959	Land Transfer	On May 7, 1959, Anna DeLashmutt deeds Fort Marcy to the Federal Government.
CE 1963	Designed	Fort Marcy opened as a public park on May 18, 1963. Brass howitzer placed on platform 15 to commemorate occasion
CE 1968	Designed	Fort Circle Parks Master Plan, developed in consultations with planning consultant Fred Tuemmler, adopted as the guiding document for all future work concerning the fort parks. The plan stresses the importance of natural resource conservation, historic preservation, and public recreation.
CE 1978	Established	Fort Marcy added to the Civil War Defenses of Washington Historic District.
CE 1993	Excavated	Fort Marcy site partially excavated as part of the investigation of the death of Vince Foster, General Counsel to President Bill Clinton.
CE 2004	Designed	New Fort Circle Management Plan published. Describes plans for improving the use, management and development of the Parks.
CE 2014	Expanded	National Register nomination updated to include additional land and historic resources associated with the planning and development of the fort sites as part of a system of parks.

Physical History:

PREHISTORY AND NATIVE AMERICAN SETTLEMENT, 15,000 BCE to 1608 CE

Archeological and historical evidence suggests that the area around present day Washington, D.C. has been inhabited by humans since 15,000 BCE. From 12,000 to 7,500 BCE (the Paleo-Indian Period) humans survived in small, mobile bands of hunter-gatherers. Seasonal migrations followed large game such as elk, caribou and deer and tools were made of stone, bone and wood. During the Archaic Period, which lasted from 7,500 to 1,000 BCE, warming climates and rising sea levels forced native populations to adapt. They developed new technologies for hunting, fishing and food preparation and established larger, more permanent settlements along the Potomac River circa 2200 BCE. As the size and permanency of tribal populations grew, local resource exploitation increased and new social hierarchies emerged. New tools included large, heavy stone points, or "broadspears," mortars and pestles and large bowls carved out of steatite and soapstone. These developments continued through the Woodland Period (1,000 to 1,600 CE) as Native Americans began to experiment with farming, cultivating crops such as maize as early as 1000 CE. The earliest ceramics found in the area also date to this period and town sites feature evidence of diverse activities and substantial dwellings, including stone-lined storage cists, above ground granaries and warehouses and longhouse structures with internal partitions. (Donaldson 2009: 32; Palus 2014: 26-49; Bedell, et al. 2011: 9-12)

In 1897 William Henry Holmes, of the Smithsonian Institution, identified notable sites of former Native American fishing villages on the PotomacRiver, near Little Falls. The area was first excavated in the 1940s, and evidence of settlement was dated to the Late Archaic and Early Woodland Periods. In the 1970s a small fishing camp just below the Chain Bridge was excavated, and pointed towards sporadic use of the site through the Middle Woodland period (Palus 2014: 57-63).

In the years immediately preceding European settlement, Eastern Algonquin tribes, known as the Conoy or Kanawha, inhabited the area around present day Washington, D.C. The earliest Conoy are believed to have arrived on the inner coastal plain in the early fifteenth century. Evidence of these peoples is today found in archaeological assemblages of pottery and worked rhyolite. In 1608, the Conoy groups who lived on the eastern shore of the Potomac River were known as the Nacotchtanks, Piscataways, Pamunkeys, Nanjemoys, Potapacos, and Yaocomacos. They cultivated corn and produced distinctive ceramics in a style now referred to as Potomac Creek ware (Donaldon 2009: 32).

The largest Native American settlement in the area was located directly south of present day Washington, on the southeastern side of the junction of the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers. The seat of the Nacotchtank tribe, the settlement was comprised of approximately 400 to 500 people, who lived in a cluster of riverside villages. From their base in the central Nacotchtank village, inhabitants of the area were ideally situated to take advantage of trade routes and various resources found along the rivers. The inner coastal plain of the Potomac River attracted a wide range of species, including herring, shad, salmon and sturgeon, which local tribes relied on for sustenance. Subsistence among Algonquin-speaking people also included hunting and

foraging and slash-and-burn agriculture. Corn, beans, gourds, pumpkins and other crops were cultivated. These practices continued after European contact (Donaldson 2009:33; Palus, 2014 50-57).

PRECOLONIAL HISTORY AND SETTLEMENT, 1608 to 1790 CE

In 1608 Captain John Smith led the first European exploration of the area around the Potomac River and initiated contact with local tribes. Smith's map indicates he traveled as far at Little Falls, but his maps and writings do not document Native American settlements in the area. Smith does document encounters with the Nacotchtanks, and Europeans quickly formed trade relationships with the tribe. It is thought that early interactions between indigenous people occupying the area around present day Fort Marcy and European traders would have been carried out through mediation, occurring at chiefly centers like the main Nacotchank village (Palus, 2014 50-57). In 1631, Henry Fleet established fur trading among indigenous communities along the Potomac River, journeying to the vicinity of Great Falls to trade with the Iroquois (Palus 2014: 77).

As European settlement increased during the 17th century, local Native American settlements were abandoned or taken by force. Hostilities between tribes contributed to Native American displacement during the period, but by the 18th century many of these had subsided and the English emerged as the clearest threat to indigenous populations. European settlers would largely displace the Native American population by the end of the 18th century, as settlement of the area around Fort Marcy increased
(Donaldson 2009: 33; Palus, 2014 50-57).

In 1649, King Charles II granted the land that is now northern Virginia to several of his supporters, who then sold the land to settlers to establish plantations and small villages. Thomas Fairfax was given approximately 5 million acres of land, property that was eventually sold to Thomas Lee, by Fairfax's daughter, Lady Catherine. The land, comprised of some 2,862 acres, was described as "the land on the Potomac between Great Falls and Little Falls." (Donaldson 2009: 33-34).

Lee hired Francis Awbrey to develop a portion of his land and tasked him with building a ferry landing and initiating ferry service across the Potomac, at the mouth of Pimmit Run. The ferry was the earliest transportation route between Virginia and Maryland and may have been operational as early as 1720 (Palus 2014: 87).

Tobacco was the staple crop in the area in during the first half of the 18th century. It was harvested by slaves on giant plantations and shipped overseas. After 1750 agricultural practices shifted to a more diverse production of staples, especially wheat and corn and livestock. The Lee family operated a tobacco warehouse at the mouth of Pimmit Run until 1790, when much of their land was incorporated into the newly formed District of Columbia (Palus 2014: 89,158).

ESTABLISHMENT OF FEDERAL CITY AND PRE-CIVIL WAR HISTORY, 1790 to 1861 CE

In accordance with the Residence Act of 1790, which established a permanent seat of the United States government between the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers, Maryland and Virginia ceded the area that is now Washington, D.C. to the Federal government. The Lee family lands immediately south of Fort Marcy were part of the cessation. Though well outside the planned urban center, Pierre L'Enfant considered the hills surrounding the city, future sites of the Civil War Defenses, as an important part of his design, providing a natural frame for the new capital (Bushong 1990: 24).

During the late 18th and early 19th centuries, as the new capital grew, roads and canals were constructed connecting nearby towns and states. The first bridge over the Potomac River opened at Little Falls in 1797, connecting Georgetown with Loudoun County, VA via the Georgetown and Leesburg Turnpike. In 1808 a new bridge, built using a chain suspension, was erected at this site and named the Chain Bridge. The bridge was rebuilt three times before the Civil War. Twice it was replaced with chain suspension construction. In the 1850s a new bridge of wooden trusses and stone piers was erected and stood throughout the Civil War (Image XX). West of the Potomac, the bridge connected with the Leesburg Turnpike, via a 14-mile road known historically as the Georgetown Pike. The Georgetown Pike was built between 1813 and 1827 and connected Georgetown markets with agricultural producers and manufacturers in Leesburg and northern Virginia. (Donaldson 2009: 35; Palis 2014:129, 148).

In 1850 Gilbert Vanderwerken purchased approximately 1300 acres of land in Alexandria (now Arlington) and Fairfax Counties, including the future site of Fort Marcy. Vanderweken was born in Waterford, New York in 1810 and moved to Washington, D.C. in 1850, where he founded an omnibus line serving Georgetown, the Navy Yard and Seventh and Fourteenth Streets. Originally, Vanderwerken purchased the Virginia land as pasture for his omnibus horses. Vanderwerken built a large house and barn south of modern day Old Glebe Road and christened his new estate "Fall's Grove," planting wheat, hay and corn in the surrounding fields. Census records do not indicate the northern-born Vanderwerken ever owned slaves (Hansen 1973: 14-16; Old Glebe Civic Association 2003: 11; Palus 2014: 173).

"Washington, D.C. Chain Bridge Over the Potomac; Chesapeake and Ohio Canal in Foreground," William Morris Smith, 1865. Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division. Accessed: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/cwpb.04112

PREPARATION FOR WAR, 1861 CE

As civil war loomed, the atmosphere in Washington was one of apprehension and uncertainty. After the British attack on the capital in 1812, the Federal government was all too conscious of Washington's defenseless borders. Just one fort, the outdated Fort Washington, protected the capital from attack. John Brown's 1859 raid at Harper's Ferry, WV heightened tensions in the Border States. Southern states feared slave insurrection, and threatened succession, while Northern states, and the federal capital, rushed to strengthen their militias (Billings 1960/1962:123-4).

On April 12, 1861, Confederate troops fired on Fort Sumter, marking the beginning of the Civil War. Three days after the attack, President Lincoln called for volunteers from loyal states to protect Washington. Only a few hundred marines, a handful of officers and fifty-three "men of ordnance" stationed at the Navy Yard were available to guard the capital (Cooling and Owen 1988:4; Cooling 1991:19).

On May 23, 1861 Virginia seceded from the Union leaving only the Potomac River as a buffer between Washington, D.C. and enemy territory. That night, 13,000 Union soldiers invaded northern Virginia and moved swiftly to capture Alexandria and the Arlington Heights. Without Alexandria, navigation on the Potomac would not be possible, and securing the Heights was considered vital to the defense of the capital. (Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft, 2014: Sec.8, p71-72). Rudimentary defenses were built throughout northern Virginia, including Forts Corcoran, Haggerty, Bennett, Runyon and Ellsworth. These forts were located on low ground and primarily used for guarding roads and bridges crossing the Potomac River.

They provided a foothold in enemy territory, establishing a foundation for future development, and were eventually incorporated into the larger system of defense surrounding Washington (Cooling and Owen 1988:4-5; Miller 1911:85).

As Union troops worked to secure Alexandria, three infantry units accompanied by military engineers led a reconnaissance mission around the capital, scouting locations for a more complete system of fortifications (Miller 1976:3-4). On July 8th, the House of Representatives voted in favor of the construction of a ring of forts around Washington. General George McClellan, Union Army Commander of the Potomac, appointed General John G. Barnard, chief engineer of the Corps of Engineers, to oversee the construction of the Civil War Defenses of Washington. Barnard was a West Point graduate who helped construct defenses in New York, Florida and Louisiana during the 1846 Mexican War. He immediately began planning a ring of fortifications to defend the city, using West Point professor Denis Hart Mahan's Treatise on Field Fortifications as a guide (Cooling and Owen 1988:6; Cooling 1991:57).

FORTIFICATION OF THE FEDERAL CITY, 1861 to 1865 CE

Working swiftly in the summer and fall of 1861, the US Army bought, seized, and confiscated land for military posts and battlements around the edge of the city. Topographically, the city of Washington sits in a low depression, with the surrounding heights located in Washington County and neighboring Maryland and Virginia. The overall effect is that of a bowl with a well-defined rim. It is along this rim that the Union Army would, beginning in May 1861, establish a ring of fortifications to protect the city from Confederate attack. In Virginia, these fortifications occupied a chain of highpoints along the Potomac known as the Arlington Heights. From these elevated vantage points Union defenders could observe and track advancing Confederate forces, assess the enemy's strength, protect important routes in and out of the city, extend the effective range of their guns and most importantly, prevent the Confederates from occupying the high ground and shelling the city below (Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft 2014: Sec.8 p70).

According to Barnard's Report on the Defenses of Washington, published in 1871, control of the Chain Bridge, one of the main approaches to Washington, D.C. was among his primary concerns in planning for the defense of the capital. He describes measures being taken to secure the bridge "at an early date…consisting of a barricade immediately over the first pier from the Virginia side, with a movable staircase, by which defenders could retreat over the flat below, leaving the bridge open to the first of two mountain howitzers, placed immediately at its Maryland end." A battery, named Martin Scott, was hastily constructed on the eastern bluff, overlooking the river, while a second battery, Battery Vermont, located on a higher point, southeast of Martin Scott, commanded the Virginia heights from the Maryland shore of the Potomac (Barnard 1871:14).

Described by Barnard as "essential to the future operations of our army in Virginia" the Virginia shore was officially occupied on September 24, 1861, at which time Brigadier General W.F. Smith crossed the Chain Bridge to commence work on Fort Marcy and nearby Fort Ethan Allen. A Union engineer, Major D.P. Woodbury, skirted Confederate pickets to survey the site of the future Fort Marcy, selecting a plot of heavily wooded land between the Potomac and

Pimmit Run creek. The site was located on a high ridge, known as Prospect Hill, just south of the Georgetown-Leesburg Pike and about three-quarters mile above the Chain Bridge (Hansen 1973:9-11; Palus 2014: 173). The land's owner, local businessman and Union sympathizer, Gilbert Vanderwerken, would see his property fall victim to both armies during the Civil War. Confederates plundered his plantation, taking his horses, wagons and feed, while the Union army seized his land to build Forts Marcy and Ethan Allen. Several thousand Union soldiers camped in Vanderwerken's woods, clearing trees to build batteries, digging trenches, laying road and occasionally, flirting with his young daughters (Barnard 1871:14; NPS Publication 2010; Hansen 1973:16-17; Palus 2014:163).

Fort Marcy was the first of the two defenses to be fortified. According to Barnard construction began on September 25, 1861. A steep knoll, of "considerable" height faced the Leesburg Turnpike and was determined as the most advantageous site for the new fort. The steeply sloping topography, with a crest that fell twenty or thirty feet from the front to the rear, dictated Fort Marcy's layout. While the topography does not appear in plan, the fort was described by Barnard as "necessarily very irregular" (Barnard 1872:45). 13-foot parapets, built atop an already large knoll, created imposing north and west faces for Fort Marcy.

As with all the forts in the Civil War Defenses, Barnard based his design for Fort Marcy on the specifications of Dennis Hart Mahan. Soldiers moved tons of earth to create ramparts and parapets 12-18 feet thick (Handly 1996:15). As specified by Mahan, parapets had a uniform exterior slope of 45 degrees from their height to the ditch below. Timber posts, called revetments, supported the interior slope of the wall. The posts were usually five and a half feet long and four to six inches in diameter. Embrasures were cut out of the parapet at a 45-degree angle and spaced between 23-30 feet apart (Brown 1968:23-24; Handly 1996:15). Cannons rested on gun platforms built on packed soil and logs, to protect against recoil following firing and prevent the gun from damaging the revetments (Brown 1968:35).

Fort Marcy was "speedily armed with artillery" and essentially finished within a few weeks. Soldiers continued to clear the surrounding wooded area, to provide high visibility toward the Leesburg Pike and Chain Bridge. The forests nearest Fort Marcy and Fort Ethan Allen were brought down by skilled tree-fallers from Maine (CEHP 2004:IV-31). The completed fort, with the aid of auxiliary batteries and trenches, defended the bridge against Confederate advance between the Potomac River and Pimmit Run, while Fort Ethan Allen, located 600 yards below the Chain Bridge, was laid out to protect the "remaining portion of accessible periphery" (Barnard 1871:45-47).

The fort was originally called Fort Baldy Smith after Brigadier General Smith whose brigade helped build the earthworks. It was renamed Fort Marcy on September 30, 1861, in honor of Brigadier General Randolph Barnes Marcy, father-in-law and chief of staff to General George McClellan. The Fort's original perimeter was approximately 345 yards and enclosed an area of approximately 1.5 acres, Compared to other defenses it was considered a second category, or medium-sized, fort. The interior was tiered and steeply sloping, the western face being the highest elevation. Bombproofs and magazines were built on an artificial shelf, with the sally port and well at the lowest elevation (Cooling and Owen 2010:123-124; Hansen 1973:18; Lowe

2014:1).

By the close of 1861, the Army Corps of Engineers had designed, completed and approved for garrisoning 48 forts throughout Washington, Maryland and Virginia (Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft: Sec.8 p72). The forts stretched from east of the Anacostia River, through northern Washington, D.C. and into the Virginia heights and functioned as a system. In addition to covering crucial approaches to the capital city, they supported one another in case of Confederate attack. According to Barnard, Fort Marcy was supported by fire from the heavy guns at Fort Sumner and Batteries Cameron, Parrott, Kemble, Vermont and Forts Alexander and Franklin (Barnard 1871:24) (Figure 2).

Due to their hasty construction, and erosion caused by frost and rain, many of the Defenses of Washington required renovations shortly after their completion. Fort Marcy was no exception and in September 1862, additional work on the fort began. Construction also addressed inquiries made by General McClellan as to the readiness of the Arlington Heights Forts. Following General Lee's victory at the Second Battle of Bull Run in August 1862 there was concern that an attack on Washington was imminent. At Fort Marcy embrasures were improved, field and siege guns substituted for heavy guns on barbette carriages, magazines rebuilt, and a new bombproof added. The new bombproof took advantage of the fort's steep slope and its roof was designed so as to be level with the western terreplein (the broad, flat area behind the parapet), while the façade opened onto the interior at a lower level, above the magazine, which was level with the fort's lowest elevation and the sally port (figure 3, section AB). The reconstructed bombproof, magazines, embrasures and some of the guns can be seen in an undated photo taken from outside the sally port (figure 4). As security against a cavalry attack, a stockade with gates was built across the Georgetown-Leesburg turnpike, directly north of Fort Marcy (Barnard 1871:45-47; Hansen 1973:19).

The renovated fort had emplacements for eighteen guns (figure 3). Armament consisted of three 24-pounders en barbette, two 12-pounder howitzers, six 30-pounder Parrotts, three 20-pounder Parrotts, three 10-pounder Parrotts one 10-inch mortar and two or three 24-pounder Coehorn mortars (Cooling and Owen 2010;123; Miller 1911:97).

Between 1862- 1864 additional rifle trenches (outworks) were dug in a nearly continuous line to the Potomac River, both above and below the Chain Bridge and eight unarmed batteries were constructed at different points along the line to protect the valley of Pimmit Run and other areas unseen by Forts Marcy and Ethan Allen (Barnard 1871 45-47: Hansen 1973:20-21). Outworks extended north from Fort Marcy to anchor the fortification to the river. The line also ran south and west of the fort, across Pimmit Run to Fort Ethan Allen. An eight-gun battery immediately west of the main fort was also constructed during this time, and a one-gun battery was built south of Fort Marcy, to protect Pimmit Run.

Construction of military roads throughout the Arlington Heights began in the fall of 1861, and many were completed by winter 1862. These roads were vital to the Union Army, connecting the defenses and allowing for movement of soldiers, armament and supplies; it was critical that they remain passable at all times. Engineers insured the roads were built to preclude

Confederate observation or occupation of strategic positions along transportation routes. Despite their importance, many roads deteriorated quickly and were often in need of repair. The Arlington Heights roads were described as particularly treacherous, especially in wet weather, when they were barely usable (Hansen 1973:20-21; Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft 2014: Sec.8 p77).

More research is needed to compile a complete list of buildings at Fort Marcy. A general plan of Fort Marcy from 1865 shows 10 buildings of various dimensions, all located directly north of the fort, on either side of the road leading to the sally port (figure 5). Buildings depicted on this plan include two mess houses, a cook's house, four officers quarters, two barracks and one unnamed building. Captain Augustus Brown, Company B, 4th New York Heavy Artillery described his officers' quarters as "a model of architectural beauty considering the purposes for which it was created…it was painted a light drab color, with dark cornices and trimmings, with white window frames and veranda posts and railing, and three tiny red chimney surmounting the black, steep roofs…the interior was no less neat and appropriate…[and] the officers' quarters of Fort Marcy were universally acknowledged to be the most attractive of anything of the kind in the Defenses of Washington" (Cooling and Owen 2010: 125). The roof of one building can be seen in the lower right corner of figure 4, and some unidentified buildings as well as the main camp are clearly visible in an undated photograph taken from the interior of the fort (figure 6). Based on the location of the well, also visible in the photo, and the comparatively low elevation of the camp, this photo likely depicts the area to the east of the fort. Twenty-one structures were listed as part of the property returned to Gilbert Vanderwerken after the war, eleven of which were listed as miscellaneous buildings. The largest building on site, an enlisted men's barracks, measured 2,400 square feet (Hansen 1973:61-62; Cooling and Owen 2010:126).

While Union soldiers supplied most of the manpower needed for construction and maintenance of the fortifications, as the war progressed and more and more able-bodied troops were called to the field to replace casualties, Army engineers were forced to look elsewhere for labor. Some of this came from other military personal, but mostly, the Army employed civilians, both skilled and unskilled, to complete necessary renovations and maintain the fortifications, In many cases, former slaves, known during the war as contrabands, were employed, along side military personal and white civilians.

During the Civil War, the United States used the concept of contraband property to resolve questions about the legal status of African Americans who escaped slavery in the Confederacy and fled to Union territory, or sought protection from Union troops. By designating slaves who escaped from the Confederacy as contraband, the United States was freed from any obligation to return them to their owners without challenging the Fugitive Slave Law or the institution of slavery within the Union. After being designated as contraband, fugitive slaves were legally declared free (Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft 2014:Sec.8 p77).

As early as 1862, approximately 500 contrabands are documented as working on Fort Marcy (Hansen 1973:20,52-53). Many self-emancipated slaves sought refuge near Civil War fortifications in and around Washington and some worked in the construction and maintenance

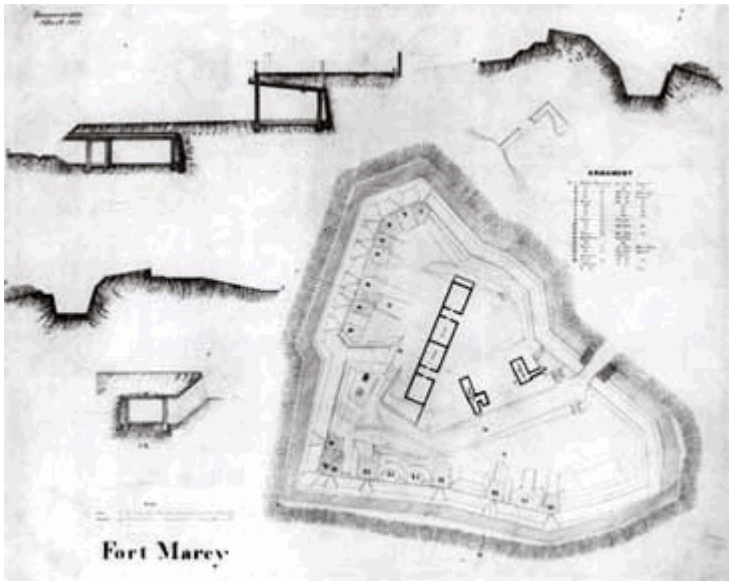
of the defenses. Contrabands were usually underpaid and often mistreated. Whereas the lowest-paid white laborer earned $1.00 per day, the contraband laborers were paid at a rate of only 40 cents, when they were paid at all (Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft 2014:Sec.8,p77-78).

Like the majority of the Defenses of Washington, Fort Marcy was not attacked during the Civil War. For soldiers, daily life at the fort was often dull, filled mostly with maintenance and upkeep of the fort and its surrounding buildings. While Fort Marcy was often on high alert, due to the regular presence of Confederate pickets and rebel spies in the surrounding area, regimental histories recount mundane activities. Descriptions of drills, repairs, parades and mud filled many letters home. A typical soldier's routine began with reveille at daybreak, followed by lunch at noon and lights out at 9pm each day, including Saturday. Sunday was free time, and sometimes filled with pranks and practical jokes, which soldiers devised to amuse themselves. In one letter, a soldier stationed at Fort Marcy described his duties as "not varry laborious Business" (NPS Publication 2010, Cooling and Owen 2010: 125-126).

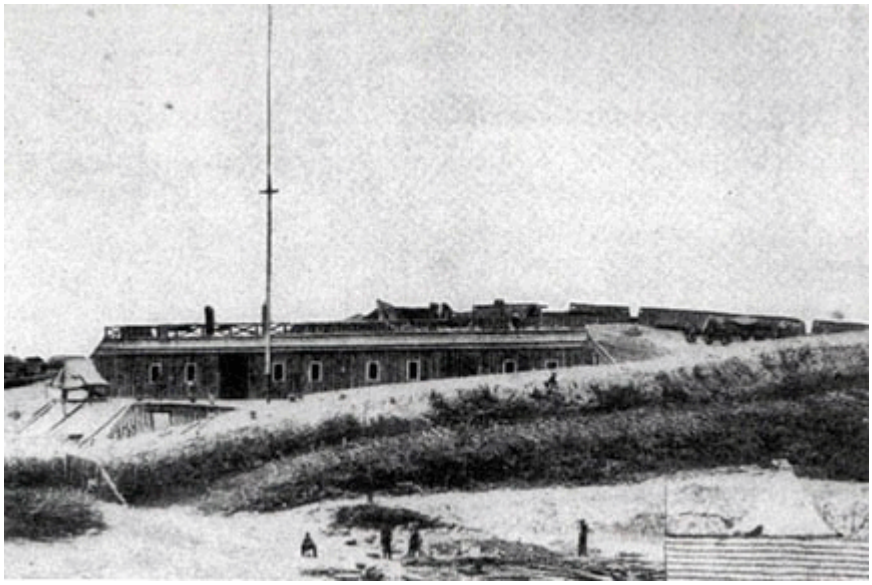
Though largely untested, for four years the ring of forts around the District of Columbia served as topographical, psychological, strategic and military buffers to nearly all Confederate attacks on the capital. By the time of Robert E. Lee's surrender in April 1865, the defensive system around Washington encompassed a total of 164 distinct fortifications. Sixty-eight were classified as major forts and batteries; together they had emplacements for 1,120 guns, with 807 cannon and 98 mortars mounted. Ninety-three unarmed batteries, with room for an additional 401 mobile field guns, and three blockhouses, which filled in the gaps between major forts and batteries. Twenty miles of outworks connected the more vulnerable stretches between these various fortifications and approximately 32 miles of military roads served as a means of communicating along the defensive lines and moving troops and supplies. (Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft 2014:Sec.8 p80)

On April 29, 1865, Lt. Colonel Barton S. Alexander, then in charge of the Washington defenses, received orders to suspend operations and collect and preserve engineer equipment. The Federal government was already formulating plans to abandon the fort system, but Alexander recommended retaining ten of the most important works, including Fort Marcy, in the interest of future security. The War Department initially accepted his suggestion and issued orders to maintain 25 forts and batteries. However, as more and more enlisted men departed, manpower shortages necessitated further reductions. By September, only 11 forts and one battery remained under government control, and the disposition of the fortifications continued in the coming months. On October 23, 1865, the government transferred Fort Marcy back to Gilbert Vanderwerken. The fort would remain in the Vanderwerken family for the next eighty-eight years (Hansen 1973:61; Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft 2014:Sec.8,p81).

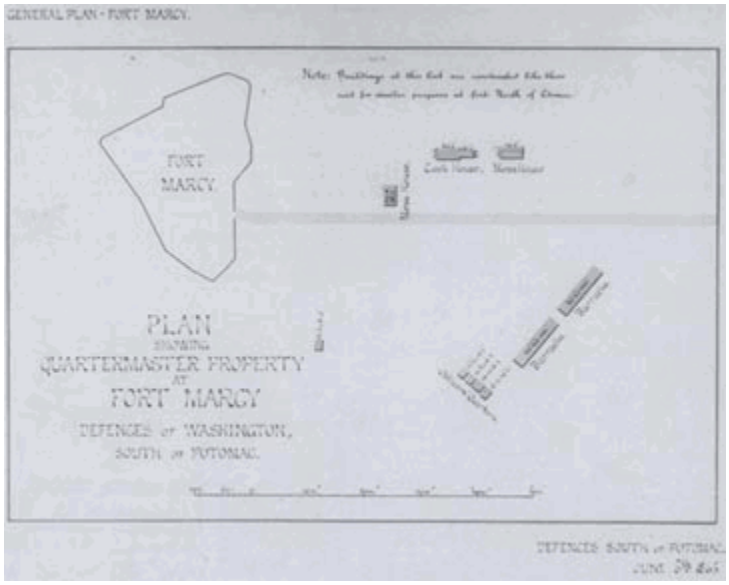
showing Fort Marcy in relation to Forts Sumner and Ethan Allen and support batteries and outworks, all show in pink, from "Map of the environs of Washington: compiled from Boschkes' map of the District of Columbia and from surveys of the U.S. Coast Survey



Barnard's engineering drawing of Fort Marcy showing plan and sections. Image from Mr. Lincoln's Forts, Benjamin Franklin Cooling and Wallace Owen, 2010.



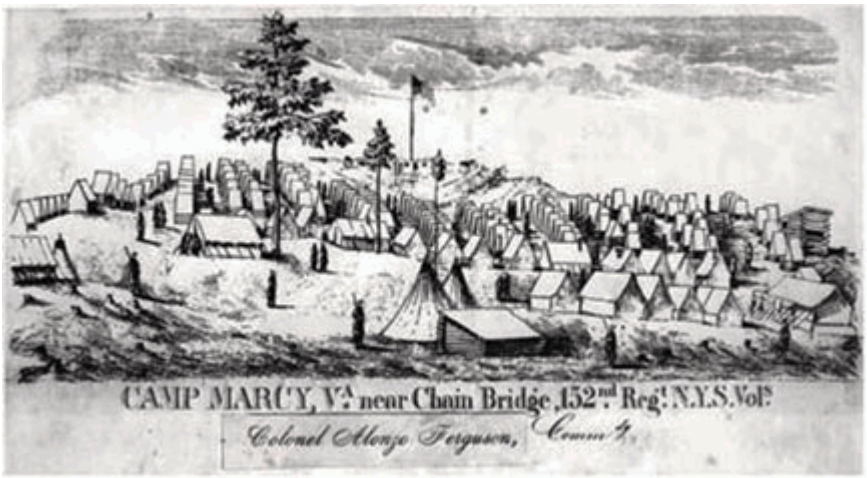
Photograph of Fort Marcy. Image from Mr. Lincoln's Forts, Benjamin Franklin Cooling and Wallace Owen, 2010.



Plan for Fort Marcy showing buildings. Image from Mr. Lincoln's Forts, Benjamin Franklin Cooling and Wallace Owen, 2010.

Drawing Water from Fort Marcy's Well. *Fort Ward Museum Collection*

Photograph of Fort Marcy. Image from Mr. Lincoln's Forts, Benjamin Franklin Cooling and Wallace Owen, 2010.



an undated lithograph showing a view of Fort Marcy from the soldiers camp.

POST-WAR DEVELOPMENT, 1865 to 1901 CE

Property returned to owners after the Civil War, including Fort Marcy, was much altered by military construction programs and activity. While it appears that none of Gilbert Vanderwerken's own buildings were demolished during the war, the effect on the natural landscape of his property was significant. The Army cleared trees in all directions around Fort Marcy to provide sight lines and lumber for building. One story that ran in the Washington Star in 1913, describes the difficulties faced by residents of the area around Fort Marcy in the years after the war:

This part of the country is picking up now, but during the war and for a long time after living was hard. In the first place, the inhabitants were often treated as though working in the service of the Confederacy, and it is true that the sympathies of many of the people in the Chain Bridge neighborhood were with the South. The timber was cleared off, and the fields could not be well tilled. There were Confederate foraging parties, and the Federals also did some foraging. The timber was cut down because the guns in the forts and various batteries needed a clear field of fire, and because woodland might afford cover for attack (Franke 1938:4).

Union troops trampled fields and helped themselves to Vanderwerken's own stores of supplies. In 1863 and 1864 Vanderwerken filed considerable claims with the U.S. government for lost wood and manure. It is unclear whether this claim was settled before Vanderwerken's land was returned to him in 1865. A condition of the return released all pending and future claims on the U.S. government (Hansen 1973:17,62).

The population of Washington multiplied in the decades following the Civil War, but the area surrounding Fort Marcy remained mostly rural. Many Civil War forts were destroyed, as owners leveled parapets and filled ditches, creating flat plots more suitable for farming or new development. The land in and around Fort Marcy was spared this fate. The Vanderwerken family left the former fort to erode naturally and the interiors of earthen magazines and bombproofs collapsed as the lumber supporting them deteriorated or was removed. By 1880 young trees and underbrush covered the earthworks (Hansen 1973:63). It is not clear when the surrounding military buildings were demolished, but many landowners chose to pull them down and sell them as raw materials after the war.

MCMILLAN PLAN, 1901 to 1930 CE

The year 1900 marked the centennial of the national capital moving to Washington from Philadelphia, and this anniversary prompted an interest in civic improvements within the District. In 1901, Senator James McMillan, Chairman of the Committee on the District of Columbia, received Senatorial approval to employ experts to develop a plan and make recommendations for improving the parks, public buildings, and public spaces in Washington. Thus the Park Improvement Commission of the District of Columbia, commonly known as the Senate Park Commission or the McMillan Commission, was born. The four commission members, Daniel Burnham, Charles McKim, Augustus Saint-Gaudens, and Frederick Law Olmstead, Jr. were the preeminent professionals within their respective fields of architecture, sculpture, and landscape architecture (Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft 2014:VIII.90-92)

The Senate Park Commission's plan for Washington, submitted in 1902, is widely regarded as one of the seminal documents in the history of American city planning. A prime example of the City Beautiful movement, the plan aspired to promote public welfare, civic virtue, social harmony, economic growth, and increased quality of life through park planning and naturalistic design. The commission repeatedly stressed that its primary objectives were to update and enhance the L'Enfant Plan and to expand it beyond the old city boundaries via a modern system of parks and parkways encompassing the entire District of Columbia and extending into Maryland and Virginia (Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft

2014:VIII.90-92).

Meanwhile, preservation efforts to save historic sites around Washington had been growing, in part the result of a wave of nationalism sparked by 1876 Centennial celebrations. Civil War veterans groups rallied to promote the preservation of the remaining Defenses of Washington. The McMillan Commission recommended that the Federal government acquire 17 fortification sites as parkland, encompassing a total area of approximately 556 acres, and connect them via a parkway, called Fort Drive (Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft 2014:VIII.90-92).

For political and jurisdictional reasons, the Federal government had limited ability to acquire forts and batteries in Virginia and Maryland and Fort Marcy was not included as part of the Commission's plan for Fort Drive. Another part of the plan, a "Potomac Drive" parkway connecting Mount Vernon to Great Falls would eventually pass alongside Fort Marcy, and incorporate the site as an historic attraction and park (Donaldson 2009:36).

Congress did not approve the McMillan Plan as a single action. Instead work proceeded in a piecemeal fashion for several decades, with each project contingent upon its own enabling legislation and source of funding (Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft 2014:VIII.90-92). In 1912 preservationists finally succeeded in getting the first bit of legislation related to the Civil War Defenses passed. That January, the East Washington Heights Citizen's Association submitted a resolution calling for Forts Davis and Dupont to be preserved as public parks. On June 14, a new law went into effect that called for the condemnation of the necessary land to acquire the parks and "provide a connecting parkway between them." The National Capital Parks and Planning Commission (NCPPC) acquired most of the remaining Civil War fortifications and connecting rights-of-way for Fort Drive between 1926 and 1932. Although the Commission's overall vision for the parks and parkway was never fully realized, the McMillan Plan continued to guide the development of Fort Drive and the fort parks until the 1940s (Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft 2014:VIII.94-95).

World War I halted most non-military planning efforts within the District of Columbia, but the 1920s saw renewed interest in constructing a scenic parkway between Mount Vernon and Great Falls. In 1922 the Bureau of Public Roads (BPR) made a "preliminary reconnaissance survey" and legislation was subsequently introduced to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to lay out, construct and maintain a Mount Vernon Avenue. The construction of the Arlington Memorial Bridge, begun in 1926, further spurred development efforts. BPR chief Thomas MacDonald reported that survey results supported two separate roads: an inland route extending 12.5 miles south to Mt. Vernon and a 14.6 mile route along the Potomac River to Great Falls. In March 1928, the Senate passed a construction authorization bill without significant opposition. Calvin Coolidge signed the bill into law on May 23, 1928, opening the doors for construction on the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway (Donaldson 2009: 36-37).

BUILDING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL PARKWAY, 1930 to 1953 CE

As preservationists and city planners worked to preserve sites of scenic beauty and historic importance in the early 20th century, Washington, D.C. and its surroundings continued to grow,

placing new development pressures on areas immediately surrounding the city. Pressures from the capital's growing population gradually forced agricultural activities out of Fairfax and Arlington Counties. New residential neighborhoods and commercial buildings replaced farmland. As transportation between the counties and Washington, D.C. (and new government outposts in Arlington) improved, development pressure increased.

In response to a proposal to dam the Potomac above and below Great Falls, in 1928 Michigan Representative Louis C. Cramton, chairman of the House Subcommittee on Parks and Related Appropriations, introduced legislation that, in cooperation with the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Virginia, would create a parkway along both sides of the Potomac, from Mt. Vernon to Great Falls. A revised bill, put forth by Kansas Senator Arthur Capper was signed into law on May 13, 1930. Congress authorized a total of $416 million for land acquisition within the District and an additional $13.5 million in the adjoining areas of Maryland and Virginia. The states, as well as smaller political jurisdictions, were required to cover 50% of the land acquisition cost (Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft 2014:VIII.38).

The Capper-Cramton Act provided the necessary funds to keep planning projects alive after the onset of the Great Depression. Construction on the Mount Vernon Memorial Highway (MVMH), a scenic parkway connecting Mount Vernon to Memorial Bridge, was in fact, already underway prior to its passing into law. Upon completion of the MVMH in 1932 the National Capital Parks and Planning Commission began promoting the George Washington Memorial Parkway, which would connect the MVMH north, to Great Falls. The NCPPC placed considerable emphasis on the parkway's historic elements and significance as a monument to the first president. The necessary land to connect the MVMH with the Arlington Memorial Bridge and through Rosslyn, Virginia was acquired by the NCPPC throughout the 1930s and transferred to the National Park Service for management, after the Office of Buildings and Public Parks was abolished in 1933. (Donaldson 2009:38-40).

The project, put on hold during World War II, resumed in 1947 when land was acquired between the Francis Scott Key Bridge and Spout Run, VA. The Spout Run extension of the GWMP opened in 1950 and was acclaimed by highway designers, architects and engineers for its modern road-building techniques and successful marriage of road and landscape (Donaldson 2009:42-43).

The design of the George Washington Memorial Parkway revolved around a set of criteria already determined by the National Park Service and Department of the Interior. According to the Recreational Resources Committee of the National Resources Committee, a parkway was a "strip of public land devoted to retreat which features a pleasure vehicle road through its entire length, on which occupancy and commercial development are excluded, and over which abutting property has no right of light, air or access." NPS landscape architect Dudley Bayliss further emphasized that the protection of natural resources, recreational development, improvement of wildlife habitat and scenic beauty were all among the underlying principle of parkway development and that the road was only part of the entire project (Donaldson 2009:39).

Despite the new Spout Run extension's popularity with design professionals and motorists, project funding to complete the GWMP was a serious concern. Congress refused to appropriate additional funds for the GWMP between 1949 and1954. State and local governments were also unwilling to support the project during this time (Donaldson 2009:43).

Meanwhile, Fort Marcy, still in the hands of the Vanderwerken family, remained in a remarkable state of preservation. The area surrounding the fort had been completely reforested, and mature trees and a thick understory growth covered the earthworks. Though Fort Marcy, essentially untouched since the Civil War, had survived for nearly a century, suburban development pressures threatened remaining large tracts of land in the area, including that owned by the Vanderwerken family.

FORT MARCY AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL PARKWAY – NORTH, 1953 to 1963 CE

Preservation interest in Civil War sites continued to grow as the hundred-year anniversary of the firing at Fort Sumter approached. A 1954 memorandum to the National Capital Regional Planning Council (NCRPC) recommended the government acquire Forts Marcy and Sumner in connection with land purchases along the George Washington Memorial Parkway. At the same time, nearly a century of ownership came to an end on July 7, 1953, when the Vandereweken heirs sold the fort and its surrounding property to Anna DeLashmutt. DeLassmutt, along with her family of real estate brokers and land developers, had been purchasing land in Fairfax County since the 1940s, with the intent to redevelop it (Hansen 1973:70-71).

As new ownership threatened Fort Marcy, 1955 marked a turning point in the development of the northern segment of the GWMP. It began with the successful request for $135,000 from the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC - which replaced the NCPPC) and the purchase of land between Route 123 and Spout Run. Of greater importance, the Military Construction Authorization Act was passed that year and granted the Director of the CIA the ability to acquire lands, construct facilities and build access roads for the new CIA Headquarters in Langly, Virginia. $8.5 million was transferred to the NCPC to provide for the expansion of the GWMP to Langley. In 1956 construction began on the 2.37-mile section between Spout Run and the Chain Bridge (Donaldson 2009:44).

That same year, proposals for widening Virginia Route 123 included the demolition of Fort Marcy. Concerned local citizens spoke out in favor of its preservation. Mrs. R.M.F. Strarr, a member of the NCRPC's advisory board, again recommended the area be purchased from parkway funds and the Director of National Capital Parks repeated this recommendation to the National Capital Planning Commission (Hansen 1973:74-75).

Despite these recommendations and perhaps due in part to the resistance of some Virginians to the idea of preserving a Union site, no action was taken and Fort Marcy remained at risk (Hansen 1973:76-78). In June 1957 Mrs. Starr, acting on a tip from NPS historian Stanley McClure, learned that the Virginia Highway Department was starting work at the fort. They planned to destroy Fort Marcy's trenches and parapets to obtain fill dirt for a State Highway project. She contacted a Fairfax County Supervisor, drove to the site, and parked her car in

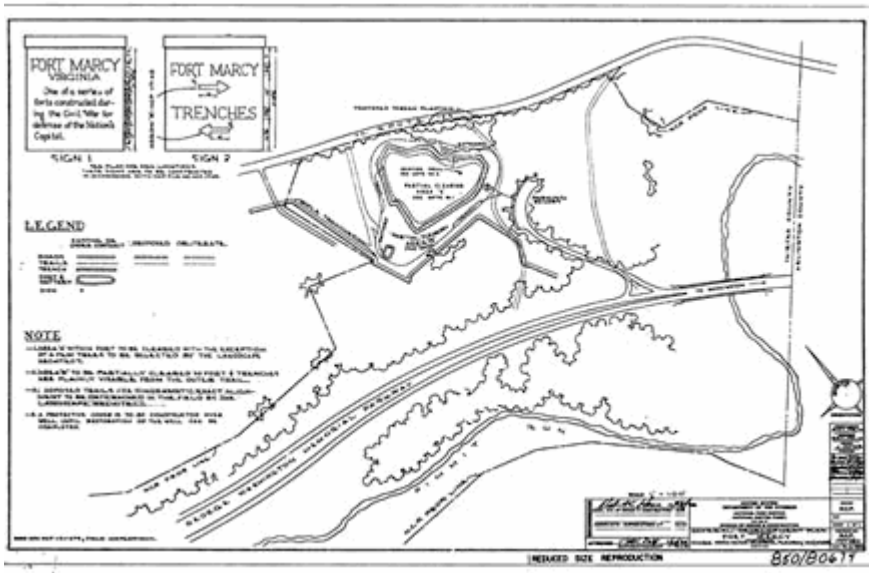
front of the bulldozer's blade to halt further destruction (Hansen 1973:76).

In response, Fairfax County and the Federal government agreed to split the cost to purchase Fort Marcy from Anna DeLashmutt and preserve it as a public park. The transfer was made official on May 7, 1959 when DeLashmutt deeded approximately 10 acres of land to the NCPC in exchange for $75,000. The acquisition stipulated that the National Park Service would restore and maintain the site thereafter (Hansen 1973:80-81). It was the last of the Civil War Defenses of Washington to be acquired by the Federal government.

The section of the GWMP connecting Spout Run to Langley Virginia opened in 1959. Additional funds provided through the Capper-Cramton Act financed a further extension, through Turkey Run to the Beltway Interstate 495, which opened to traffic in December of 1962 (Donaldson 2009:45). Attempts to complete the original plan and extend the parkway further to Great Falls met with resistance from conservationists and local advocacy groups and public support for the project waned. The extension was officially abandoned in 1987, when the NPS returned a 14.7-acre tract to private ownership. The GWMP was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1995 (Donaldson 2009:49).

In the four years between the purchase of Fort Marcy and its official opening as a public park NPS officials focused mainly on landscape clearance and interpretation of the site. Trees were removed from the earthworks and within the fort to provide opportunities for picnicking and a clearer understanding of the site's original function. Partial clearance of the area directly south of the fort was also completed, so Fort Marcy would be visible from an existing outer trail. Social trails leading to the site from Route 123 were obliterated and signage, interpretive markers and waysides were designed and installed. In 1960 plans were approved for a turn-off from the northbound side of the GWMP and a 20-car parking lot, located east of the fort. More research is needed to determine when the fort's parapet was partially demolished to provide access from this lot, but it is probable that it occurred sometime before the park opened in 1963. Light landscaping, including plantings of Northern Red Oaks, Flowering Dogwoods, Eastern Redbuds and Highbush Blueberrys, was designed for the area around the turnoff and signage installed directing motorists to the fort from the northbound land of the GWMP. (Hansen 1973:83. GWMP Plans 1960, 1962).

The site opened to the public under NPS management on May 18, 1963. To celebrate the occasion the NPS installed one twelve-pounder brass howitzer cannon near gun platforms #15. This type of cannon was commonly used by the Union Army during the Civil War, but this particular pieces of armament was not associated with the Defenses of Washington. Trails in and around the earthworks were constructed, some of which incorporated remaining traces of Civil War era military roads (Hansen 1973:83-84; Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft 2014:VIII.9,12). Though the main fort and the area immediately surrounding it had been cleared of most vegetation, the park itself remained heavily wooded. Outworks and support batteries were left untouched and thick ground cover made them difficult to access. Recreational activities were mostly confined to the designed areas in and around the fort.



Site plan for Fort Marcy park, showing access road, parking lot and clearance areas. 1960, National Park Service, George Washington Memorial Parkway.

FORT MARCY TODAY, 1963 to 2015 CE

Because of its location within the George Washington Memorial Parkway, Fort Marcy was not integrated into the Fort Circle Parks system until after 1970, but it represented an important addition to the National Park Service's collection of Civil War sites and was added to the Civil War Defenses of Washington Historic District in 1978 (Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft 2014:VII.5, VIII.108-109).

Throughout the 1970s, historical tours and programming sponsored by the NPS brought numerous visitors to the earthworks. The Civil War-era well was mentioned as a particular draw. Travelers and commuters on the GWMP-North used the site as a rest area, and among locals it proved popular for picnicking.

As commuter use of the Parkway grew, The Potomac Heritage Trail, completed in 1997, attempted to expand the GWMP's recreational values. The Trail incorporated many previously existing hiking trails, including those that pass through Fort Marcy and its nearby rifle pits and historic military roads, into a non-motorized travel route linking the Potomac River to the Allegheny Highlands (Donaldson 2009:48).

In 1993, an archeological investigation was undertaken at Fort Marcy as part of the investigation of the death of Vince Foster, General Counsel to President Bill Clinton. Foster's body was discovered on the fort, near Howitzer cannon #1.

Today Fort Marcy is among the best preserved of the Civil War Defenses of Washington. Mature tree growth and heavy vegetation insulate the fort from the heavy traffic on the

GWMP. Attitudes toward the preservation of earthworks have changed considerably over the past twenty years and thick growth and leaf cover such as exists at Fort Marcy is now considered among the best forms of preservation. It serves as a detriment to visitors who might otherwise walk on the earthworks and protects the earthworks from further erosion. Though its magazines and bombproofs long ago collapsed, much of the fort and its outworks retain their historic character.

Recently, there's been a renewal of interest in the Fort Drive concept. A new Fort Circle Parks Master Plan was developed in 2004.Though Fort Marcy was not included as a part of the original Fort Drive proposals, the new plan emphasizes connections with sites in both Maryland and Virginia. It specifically identifies Fort Marcy as a site that provides a logical point of entry for a large number of tourists, and as such, the report recommends a shift in focus for site interpretation, introducing visitors to the concept of the Fort Circle and the military practices of defense during the Civil War (Meringolo 2005:1).

Analysis & Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

Analysis and Evaluation Summary
This section provides an evaluation of the physical integrity of the Fort Marcy cultural landscape by comparing landscape characteristics and features present during the periods of significance (1861-1865 and 1953-1963) with existing conditions. Landscape characteristics are the tangible and intangible aspects of a landscape that allow visitors to understand its cultural value. Collectively, they express the historic character and integrity of a landscape. Landscape characteristics give a property cultural importance and comprise the property's uniqueness. Each characteristic or feature is classified as contributing or non-contributing to the site's overall historic significance.

Landscape characteristics are comprised of landscape features. Landscape features are classified as contributing if they were present during the property's period of significance. Non-contributing features (those that were not present during the historical period) may be considered "compatible" when they fit within the physical context of the historic period and attempt to match the character of contributing elements in a way that is sensitive to the construction techniques, organizational methods or design strategies of the historic period. Incompatible features are those that are not harmonious with the quality of the cultural landscape and, through their existence, can lessen the historic character of a property. For those features that are listed as undetermined, further primary research, which is outside the scope of this CLI, is necessary to determine the feature's origination date. Landscape characteristics and features, individually and as a whole, express the integrity and historic character of the landscape and contribute to the property's historic significance.

Landscape characteristics identified for Fort Marcy are topography, spatial organization, land use, buildings and structures, circulation, vegetation, views and vistas, small-scale features and archeology. The buildings and structures already documented through the List of Classified Structures (LCS) are described here in the context of the landscape setting.

This section also includes an evaluation of the property's integrity in accordance with National Register criteria. Historic integrity, as defined by the National Register, is the authenticity of a property's identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during the site's historic period. The National Register recognizes seven aspects of integrity: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. Several or all of these aspects must be present for a site to retain historic integrity. To be listed in the National Register, a property not only must be shown to have significance under one or more criteria, but must also retain integrity.

INTEGRITY
The Seven Aspects of Integrity

Location: The location aspect of integrity involves the place where the landscape was constructed.

The location of Fort Marcy remains unaltered since its construction and retains a high degree of integrity to both the first and second periods of significance.

Design: Design is the combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure and style of a cultural landscape or historic property. Although the earthworks have deteriorated, they still retain their original form from the Civil War and the layout of the fort and its surrounding system of batteries is legible. Recreational areas designed to accommodate motorists and hikers alike date to the second period of significance and remain virtually unchanged since the park opened in 1963. The site retains integrity from the first period and high integrity to the second period of significance.

Setting: Setting is the physical environment of a cultural landscape or historic property. During the Civil War, the area around Fort Marcy was rural, densely forested and occupied by only a few local landowners. During the 20th century, as the surrounding neighborhoods became more populated, the site's immediate setting was preserved by the Vanderwerken family, who owned the fort property for nearly 90 years. The rural setting around Fort Marcy was affected during the second period of significance when the building of the GWMP brought increased traffic directly south of the site. Increased residential development in area in the last half of the 20th century obliterated the last traces of Fort Marcy's original rural setting. The site retains some integrity from the first period, and partial integrity to the second.

Materials: Materials are the physical elements of a particular period, including construction materials, paving, plants and other landscape features. Fort Marcy's earthworks retain partial integrity of materials. While some original elements have been removed, the natural materials used to build the fort and the batteries that surround it date to the earliest period of significance and retain a moderate level of integrity. Some materials used to construct the GWMP and the Fort Marcy Park during the second period of significance have been upgraded over the past 50-years, but the original material is largely intact and the site retains high integrity to this period.

Workmanship: Workmanship includes the physical evidence of the crafts of a particular period. This characteristic is most present in the form of the earthworks, which displays the design-work of the Army Corps of Engineers and craftsmanship of soldiers and laborers who constructed the fort. Both design and building elements are particular to the Civil War-era. Because certain aspects of Fort Marcy were dismantled after the war and the earthworks have eroded it retains a partial degree of integrity of workmanship to the first period of significance.

Feeling: Feeling is a property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period. Because portions of the site's Civil War-era layout, design and features are extant today, historic feeling from the nineteenth century period of significance is preserved. Moreover, Fort Marcy remains a park in the midst of a residential neighborhood, with access for motorists using the GWMP. The feeling at Fort Marcy retains moderate integrity from the Civil War period of significance and high integrity to the second period of significance.

Association: Association is the direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic

property. Fort Marcy is associated with the Civil War as well as the planning of Washington, D.C. in the 20th century. Links to these historic events and movements are still evident at the park. The extant earthworks offer the most explicit connection between the historic significance of the site and its present-day form. Several park features including some vegetation and parts of the circulation pattern date to the second period of significance. Fort Marcy retains high integrity of association from both periods.

CONCLUSIONS

After evaluation of the landscape features and characteristics within the context of the seven aspects of integrity established by the National Register, this CLI finds that the Fort Marcy Park cultural landscape remains extant and retains high integrity to both the 1861-1865 and 1953-1963 periods of significance. While the Civil War-era landscape has been impacted by the loss of some features and natural deterioration of the site, the fort remains in a remarkable state of preservation. The park has been altered only slightly since the later period of significance, when it was opened to the public for recreational purposes.

Aspects of Integrity:
Location
Design
Setting
Materials
Workmanship
Feeling
Association

Landscape Characteristics and Features Summary

This section presents an analysis of landscape characteristics and their associated features and corresponding List of Classified Structures names and numbers, if applicable. It also includes an evaluation of whether the feature contributes to the property's National Register eligibility for the historic period, contributes to the property's historic character, or if it is noncontributing, undetermined, or managed as a cultural resource.

Contributing landscape characteristics identified for Fort Marcy are topography, spatial organization, land use, buildings and structures, circulation, vegetation, views and vistas, small-scale features and archeology.

The site for Fort Marcy was selected for its topography. Its position on a steep hill in the Arlington Heights provided an elevated vantage of the surrounding landscape, and direct sight lines to the Georgetown-Leesburg Turnpike and the Chain Bridge. Control of the turnpike and Chain Bridge were of vital importance to the Union's defensive strategy in the protection of Washington. The topography of Fort Marcy remains the same as it was throughout the historic period, and has a high degree of integrity.

The current spatial organization of the Fort Marcy cultural landscape is similar to that of the first period of significance and relatively unchanged since the second period. During the first period of significance the main earthworks were located at the topographic crest of a hill overlooking the Chain Bridge. Outworks connected Fort Marcy with the Potomac River to the northeast and Pimmet Run to the south. Surrounding batteries provided support, including one directly west of the fort and two south of the fort, which are within the project area. The layout of the fort, and its surrounding batteries and outworks, is largely unaltered since the Civil War, and illustrates many of the original design principles used in the fort's construction. It retains partial integrity to the first period of significance. The partial destruction of the fort's southeastern parapet reoriented the entrance to the fort away from the original sally port, providing access from the newly built parking lot to the south. Construction of the George Washington Memorial Parkway (GWMP) also cut through some outworks between Fort Marcy and Fort Ethan Allen. The section of the GWMP that runs through the project area, and an offramp/onramp, were constructed during this time to provide access to the newly opened park. The spatial organization of Fort Marcy remains consistent with the 1960s design for the park, and retains a high level of integrity to the second period of significance.

The Civil War-era military land use aspect of Fort Marcy ended when the government returned the property to its original owner in 1865. It has no integrity of land use from that period. However, the land use of the project area has not changed since the second period of significance, when it was opened as a public park in 1963. The site is an attraction for tourists and locals who are interested in its recreational and historic value. Land use at Fort Marcy retains a high degree of integrity to the second period of significance.

The Fort Marcy cultural landscape has partial integrity of buildings and structures from the first period of significance. The earthworks, though deteriorated, are well preserved and remain extant as ruins. Outworks and batteries to the west and south are clearly visible, though deteriorated. None of the Civil War-era buildings are extant. Additions to the site during the second period of significance include historic stone masonry guard walls and a bridge crossing Pimmit Run. These additions are considered contributing as part of the original design for the GWMP. Fort Marcy's buildings and structures retain a high degree of integrity to the second period of significance.

Fort Marcy's Civil War circulation pattern partially survives in the form of a path leading through the original sally port and the remains of outworks and military roads that originally connected the fort with the Potomac River and batteries to the south. Circulation patterns through the project boundaries via the GWMP are consistent with those present during the second period of significance. The site retains partial integrity from the first period of significance and high integrity from the second.

There was limited vegetation at Fort Marcy during the Civil War, in keeping with the site's strategic design and use. The current vegetation pattern is consistent with the later period of significance when trees and bush were cleared from the fort before it opened as a park and some landscaping was designed around the turnoff from the GWMP. In recent years trees and brush have grown in, covering parts of the site that were cleared in the 1960s. Vegetation retains no integrity from the first period of significance and partial integrity from the second period of significance.

Except for a capped well located within the fort, the small-scale features at Fort Marcy all post-date the first period of significance. More research is needed to determine which, if any of the existing wayfinding and interpretive signage dates to the second period of significance. All are considered compatible. One of the howitzer cannons was installed at Fort Marcy in 1963. Installation of the second cannon is probably outside the periods of significance but it is considered compatible. Neither cannon was used at the fort during the Civil War but serve interpretive functions. Fort Marcy retains little integrity of small-scale features to the first period of significance and partial integrity to the second period.

Fort Marcy was sited to control movement over the Chain Bridge, thus an unobstructed view of the bridge and the approach to it from the Leesburg Turnpike was of primary importance during the Civil War. The area immediately surrounding the fort was cleared of trees in September of 1861 to afford views in all directions from Fort Marcy. These views were impacted by natural re-growth at the site over the nearly hundred years between periods of significance. No significant views were designed during the second period of significance and the present day site has no integrity of views from the first period of significance.

Multiple archeological investigations have been conducted at Fort Marcy over the past two decades. Finds at the site indicate the fort contains a rich store of knowledge from the Civil War era, and may provide information about Native American settlements, early Colonists and their descendants.

Aspects of Integrity:

Location

Design

Setting

Materials

Workmanship

Feeling

Association

Landscape Characteristic:

Topography

Historic
The topography of the Fort Marcy cultural landscape determined its location and design during the first period of significance. Elevation was the primary consideration when army officials scouted sites for the Civil War Defenses in 1861. Fort Marcy was situated at the topographical crest of a rocky hill overlooking the Georgetown-Leesburg Turnpike, with views of the approach to the Chain Bridge. The fort was designed to take advantage of a large knoll at the top of the hill, which was incorporated into the western and northern faces of the fort. The slope of the knoll inspired a tiered interior design for the fort, with magazines, bombproofs and gun platforms arranged at different levels (Barnard 1871:45-47; Hansen 1973:19).

Support batteries surrounding Fort Marcy were sited for their topography as well. The eight-gun battery to the west of the fort and one-gun batteries to the south were built at the military crests of hills on either side of Pimmit Run (Lowe 2014:1-3)..

Existing Conditions
The topography of Fort Marcy and its surroundings has not changed since the first period of significance.

Analysis
Fort Marcy's topography contributes to the historic character of the site and retains a high degree of integrity to the first period of significance.

Spatial Organization

Historic Condition

Fort Marcy's elevation, together with the views it provided, was the organizing principle for the site's original spatial design. Fort Marcy was located at the topographic crest of a hill, along the Georgetown-Leesburg Turnpike and overlooking the Chain Bridge to the southeast. The fort, its support batteries and surrounding military roads were designed and organized to work as a system. Civil War engineers exploited the natural topography of the site and adapted defense strategies to existing conditions. Fort Marcy was oriented so that weaponry and armaments covered both the main approach to the bridge, along the turnpike and the deep ravine that cut through the Arlington Heights at Pimmet Run. The sally port, or entrance, to the fort was located along the turnpike, on the fort's northeast face. Outworks connected Fort Marcy with surrounding support batteries, dug along the west and south slopes of the hill, and across Pimmet Run. These batteries were designed to fill in "dead ground," or areas that could not be seen or reached by armament from Fort Marcy. Artillery was eventually moved forward to the large, eight-gun battery west of the fort, where guns were better able to sweep into and along the deep ravines that formed the approaches to Fort Marcy (Lowe 2014:1,3).

In the eight decades between the end of the Civil War and the site's second period of significance, the earthworks at Fort Marcy were abandoned to nature. All wartime buildings were dismantled and the unused military roads deteriorated. The National Capital Planning Commission purchased the site in 1959 and reorganized the fort's spatial organization slightly, for its new use as a public park. The most significant change made during the second period of significance, was the reorientation of entry to Fort Marcy. Main access to the fort was redesigned so that motorists could access the site via the George Washington Memorial Parkway. The new section of the GWMP, constructed between 1955 and 1959, cut through the site, directly to the south of the fort. A new bridge spanning the steep ravine over Pimmit Creek, made a once difficult crossing navigable in a matter of seconds. A turn off from the north-bound lanes of the GWMP was completed in 1963. While original access via the sally port at Chain Bridge Road was not blocked, interpretive signage and new trails effectively reoriented the site around the new, cleared areas closer to the parking lot. More research is needed to determine if a southeast portion of the parapet was bulldozed during this time to

provide a new entrance to the fort. Original plans for Fort Marcy Park do not indicate a new entrance was planned, and proposed trails lead visitors through the sally port from the parking lot (GWMP Plans 1960, 1962).

Existing Conditions
Fort Marcy's spatial organization retains a partial degree of integrity to the first period of significance. While original approaches to the fort remain extent via the Chain Bridge Road, the main entrance to the fort via the parking lot, erosion, vegetation and lack of interpretation makes it difficult to determine the site's original spatial organization, the orientation of artillery or Civil War circulation patterns throughout the site.

Changes to the fort's spatial organization during the second period of significance affected the original integrity of the site. The construction of the GWMP was itself a huge shift in the landscape, bringing thousands of commuters speeding through a quiet, formerly rural neighborhood and the area around Fort Marcy was redesigned to accommodate motorists. The spatial organization of the site has not been altered since the park opened in 1963.

Analysis
Fort Marcy's current spatial organization retains partial integrity from the first period of significance and contributes to the historic character of the site. It has a high degree of integrity to the second period of significance, when the site was incorporated as part of the GWMP and opened as a public park.

Land Use

Historic Condition
Fort Marcy's periods of significance represent two distinct uses of the landscape, military and recreation/interpretation. Built in 1861 as one of the Defenses of Washington, the land use of Fort Marcy was military until it was abandoned by the Union army and returned to its original owner in 1865. For nearly a century the fort remained in the ownership of the Vanderwerken family, a wartime relic, unused and undisturbed.

As early as 1953 the site was identified by local preservationists for potential inclusion in a proposed extension of the George Washington Memorial Parkway. After threat of demolition, the land was finally purchased by the National Capital Planning Commission in 1959 and converted to public parkland in 1963. Since that time the site has been managed by the National Park Service.

Existing Condition
Today the Fort Marcy cultural landscape remains public parkland, its original land use from the second period of significance. It is a place for public recreation and interpretation of Civil War history.

Analysis
Military use of Fort Marcy ended with the abandonment of the fort and the return of the land to its original owner in 1865. Its use as a recreational landscape has not changed since the second

period of significance, which ends in 1963 with its opening as a public park. Land use at the site retains a high degree of integrity from this period.

Contributing Features:
Recreation
Historic Interpretation

Buildings and Structures

Historic Conditions
The Civil War-era buildings and structures at Fort Marcy were comprised primarily of the main fort, within which were also located a bombproof and magazine. Outworks connected the fort with an exterior magazine and support batteries, three of which are included in the project area. At least 21 auxiliary buildings were built on-site during the Civil War.

Fort Marcy was built in September 1861. Due to the unique topography of the site, and the decision to incorporate a large knoll into the fort's parapet, it was irregularly shaped when compared with the other Civil War Defenses (Barnard 1872:45). Its parapets formed a rough triangular perimeter that enclosed an area of about 1.5-acres. The parapet of the main fort was approximately 345 yards. According to specifications used when building all of the Civil War Defenses, the walls were 12 to 18-feet thick. All parapet walls had an exterior slope of 45 degrees extending from the top of the parapet to the ditch that encircled the earthworks. Log shoring supported rammed earth walls. The interior of the fort was tiered, the western face being at the highest elevation, with the bombproof and magazines on an artificial shelf and the sally port and well at the lowest elevation (Lowe 2014:1; Brown 1968:23-24; Handly 1996:15).

Outworks extended north of the fort to anchor the fortification to the Potomac River. Outside the fort's entrance, the Georgetown-Leesburg Turnpike was closed off with a stockade and gate. West of Fort Marcy the line of outworks extended to a second magazine, outside the main fort, and an eight-gun battery, built sometime between 1862 and1864. Outworks then continued south, to a one-gun battery overlooking a bend in Pimmet Run and across the creek where they connected with another one-gun battery. These batteries and outworks were also constructed between 1862 and1863. They were approximately 16 feet wide with a 12-foot wide interior ditch that served as a rifle pit and/or covered walkway for movement between forts (Lowe 2014:1-2).

Outside the fort's perimeter, Fort Marcy's camp included at least 21 buildings at the close of the war. Those listed in the 1865 transfer of ownership include: two barracks, four mess rooms, four officers quarters and eleven miscellaneous buildings. The largest building on site was the enlisted men's barracks, which measured 2,400 square feet. Further research is needed to determine the exact location of these buildings but photos and plans of the site indicate they were located north of the main fort, out side the sally port (Hansen 1973: 61-62; Plan of Quartermaster Property 1865).

The ownership of Fort Marcy and its auxiliary buildings reverted to Gilbert Vanderwerken in 1865. It has not been determined whether the Vanderwerken family pulled down the 21

buildings around Fort Marcy immediately or at a later date. The family retained possession of the land for the next 88-years, leaving the earthworks virtually untouched. They were allowed to erode and deteriorate naturally, until the NCPC purchased them in 1959 as part of the GWMP-North project. As part of the site's conversion to a public park, the main fort was partially cleared of vegetation. A section of the parapet may have been destroyed during this time to allow access to the fort via the new parking lot.

No significant buildings or structures were constructed on or around the Fort Marcy earthworks during the second period of significance, but a 424-foot bridge over Pimmet Run was completed during this time and is within the project boundaries. The Pimmet Run Bridge was designed in 1955 and built in 1959. Unlike predecessors on the southern GWMP, which used native stone facing to disguise structural elements, Pimmit Run and the other bridges on the GWMP-North featured clean, graceful lines of exposed concrete and steel and no ornamentation. The bridge was lined with aluminum posts and railings and built with cantilevered "T"-shaped piers. Due to the steep, rugged terrain and unstable mica schist on which they stand, the abutments of the bridge were outfitted with deep counterfort footings over leveling courses. The reinforced concrete wing walls were also constructed on counterfort footings, while the concrete piers rest on spread footings (Donaldson 2009:95).

Existing Condition

The main fort is mostly intact. All but a small portion of the parapet survives. Further research is needed to determine when the southeast angle was bulldozed, but the result is an intrusion about 15 yards wide that serves as the trail entrance to the fort. Interior features such as embrasures (15), gun platforms (14) and gun ramps (8) are visible and well defined. Internal structures include two collapsed magazines, a collapsed bombproof, a large traverse and a 10-inch mortar platform. The interior of the main fort is covered with planted grass, and bush and trees cover the parapets, ditches, magazines, bombproofs and surrounding batteries and outworks. On the outer scarp of the north face and northwest angle there are several bare and severely eroding areas.

The eight-gun battery in front of the fort is in fair to good condition, with 8 embrasures, 6 well-defined gun platforms and 5 gun ramps. Behind the battery is a large round magazine, about 16 yards in diameter. A social trail from the main fort at the embrasure for gun #9 leads over the forward magazine, which has caused erosion to the structure's surface.

The fort's outworks are in good condition and largely intact from Chain Bridge Road to Pimmit Run. They extend for 116 yards north from the battery to Chain Bridge Road. South and east of the battery, the outworks extend 249 yards to the turn-on to the parkway, where they are truncated. The outwork segment immediately south of the parkway extends for 208 yards and ends at the one-gun battery at the military crest of the hill overlooking Pimmet Run. This battery has been damaged by a sanitary sewer line, installed at an unknown date. The final segment of outworks, on the high ground of the east bank of Pimmit Run, extend for 156 yards from near the Pimmit Run Bridge to a chain link fence that delimitates NPS boundaries. The

outworks continue past the fence into a suburban backyard. This line is not as well defined as the other outworks, and measures only about 3 feet in relief. A one-gun battery in the center has suffered from erosion and there is evidence of a large fire at the battery which killed two trees. (Lowe 2014:1-2)

At Pimmet Run Bridge, concrete core, stone-faced, masonry parapet walls were installed beneath the historic aluminum guardrails in 1972. A new concrete deck slab was installed in the 1990s and footing erosion repairs completed in 2004.

A series of concrete core stone faced masonry guardwalls have been installed along the length of the GWMP-N since 1995. These wall have concrete cores covered with a stone masonry veneer. They are higher and more uniform than their historic counterparts, with a consistency of stone size and mortar joints that fails to produce the same rustic appearance that can be found along other sections of the parkway. Within the boundaries of this CLI these features include the “L” – shaped wall along the access road to Fort Marcy, the short wing wall along the northbound GWMP, directly north of Pimmit Run Bridge and the wall tapering into the ground north of Pimmit Run Bridge, along the southbound GWMP (Donaldson 2009:103)

Analysis
While auxiliary buildings and structures dating to the Civil War era of significance have been lost, the earthworks themselves are in an overall intact state and are considered among the best preserved of the Civil War Defenses of Washington. They retain partial integrity to the first period of significance. The Pimmit Run Bridge, the only building and structure that dates to the 1953-1963 period, retains a high level of integrity. The concrete core guardwalls are incompatible with the historic character of the parkway and therefore non-contributing.

Contributing Resources:
Fort Marcy Earthworks (LCS 01216)
Pimmit Run Bridge (LCS 136976)
Northbound historic stone masonry guard walls (LCS 136986)

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Fort Marcy Earthworks

Feature Identification Number: 175586

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 12126

LCS Structure Name: Fort Marcy, Earthworks

LCS Structure Number: FM

Feature: Pimmit Run Bridge

Feature Identification Number: 175588

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 45355

LCS Structure Name: George Washington Mem. Pkwy, Pimmit Run Bridge

LCS Structure Number: NP-04

Feature: Northbound historic stone guardwalls

Feature Identification Number: 175590

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

Close up of main fort showing collapsed bombproof, magazines and traverse.

Support Battery, photo taken by author in December 2014

Main Fort, photo taken by author, December 2014

Main Fort, showing portion demolished at unknown date, photo taken by author, December 2014.

Main Fort, showing social trail over embrasure, photo taken by author, December 2014.

Main Fort, erosion of parapet, photo taken by author, December 2014.

Circulation

Historic Conditions
At the time of its construction in 1861, Fort Marcy was bounded by the Georgetown-Leesburg Turnpike to the north and east. A steep slope descended to Pimmet Run to the south of the fort. Rifle pits, covered walkways and military roads, all constructed between 1862 and 1864, connected the main fort with support batteries and allowed soldiers to travel between Fort Marcy and Fort Ethan Allen, to the south. The main access to the fort was via the Georgetown-Leesburg Turnpike, modern day Chain Bridge Road. A military road and footpaths through the fort also existed and can be seen in figure 2.

Military roads and footpaths deteriorated naturally after they were abandoned by the Union Army in 1856. During the second period of significance the National Park Service added new circulation systems to the site, most notably, the GWMP, which cuts through the CLI project area, to the south of Fort Marcy. Its construction caused partial demolition of outworks of the one-gun battery south of Pimmit Run. An off-ramp from the northbound lanes of the GWMP opened in 1963, and provided access to the new park at Fort Marcy. A short onramp, also constructed during this time allowed visitors to exit the site via the northbound GWMP.

New trails, completed during the second period of significance, connected a 20-car parking lot with the fort via a footpath leading through the original sally port (GWMP Plans 1960, 1962). Short trails lead through Fort Marcy's bombproof and magazines, and around the outside of the fort, to the eight-gun battery. Some traces of Civil War military roads to the west of the fort were destroyed during this time.

Existing Condition
Most visitors still access the fort site via car from the northbound GWMP, using the turn-off

and parking lot constructed during the second period of significance. Since the park opened in 1963, traffic along the GWMP has increased exponentially. In 2006 it was estimated between 60,000 to 80,000 vehicles used the parkway everyday (Donaldson 2009:87).

1960's era trails now connect with the Potomac Heritage Trail which climbs out of Pimmit Run ravine, runs south of the fort, and can be accessed via the parking lot. East of the parking lot the trail connects with existing traces of the Civil War-era military road before descending back down to Pimmit Run and continuing west, along the creek. The existing upper military road trace is 211 yards long. South of the parking lot it and forks east and west. The western branch truncates shortly after, while the eastern branch continues to Pimmit Run. A small cleared area directly north of the fort's sally port is sometimes used to access Fort Marcy via Chain Bridge Road. Traces of the original military road through the sally part are extent. A social trail from this area leads through the fort, over the western parapet, through the embrasure for gun #9, over the forward magazine, and to the eight-gun battery (Lowe 2014:1-2).

Outworks, or rifle pits, some of which would have been covered and used as walkways during the Civil War, are still extent through much of the project area. These are most notable leading to and from the surrounding support batteries. Outworks extend for 116 yards north from the eight-gun battery to Chain Bridge Road. South and east of the battery, an outwork extends 187 yards, where it is bisected by the Potomac Heritage Trail before continuing another 62 yards, at which point it is truncated by the parkway. The outwork segment immediately south of the parkway extends for 208 yards along the military crest of the hill and ends with the one-gun battery overlooking a bend in Pimmit Run from the western shore. The final segment of the outworks is located on the high ground on the east bank of Pimmit Run, and extends for 156 yards from near the Pimmet Run Bridge to a chain link fence delimitating the end of NPS property. From there it continues into the back yard of a house in a neighboring subdivision (Lowe 2014:1-2).

Analysis
The Fort Marcy CLI project area contains the most intact collection of military road traces of any of the Civil War Defense Sites (Fort Circle Parks National Register Nomination Draft 2014:VII.20). Though these roads have deteriorated over the past 150 years, they retain partial integrity to the first period of significance. The outworks, which were used to circulate between Forts Marcy and Ethan Allen and their surrounding batteries, also retain partial integrity.

Circulation systems constructed during the second period of significance, including the segment of the GWMP that cuts through the project area and the GWMP access road and on-ramp are virtually unchanged since their construction, and retain a high degree of integrity. The Potomac Heritage Trail, completed after the periods of significance, is non-contributing, but is compatible with the recreational purpose of the park dating to the second period of significance.

Contributing Features:
Civil War era military road traces

Segment of the George Washington Memorial Parkway within the boundaries of this CLI
Access road and ramp from the parkway to the fort

Non Contributing Features:
Potomac Heritage Trail

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Civil War Era road traces

Feature Identification Number: 175708

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Segment of GWMP within CLI Boundaries

Feature Identification Number: 175710

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Feature: Access Road & Ramp from Pkwy to Fort

Feature Identification Number: 175712

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

Existing circulation at Fort Marcy

Vegetation

Historic Conditions

Maps, documents and photos dating to the Civil War all indicate that Fort Marcy and its surrounding batteries were completely cleared of trees and undergrowth during the first period of significance. At Fort Marcy this included the removal of large tree stands on all slopes of the site, enabling views of the Chain Bridge and Pimmet Run. A soldier's Civil War-era drawing depicts a site surrounded by stumps from felled trees (figure 17).

According to sources, light tree cover returned to the hillsides in the decades following the war. The site was untended for nearly 100 years following the end of the war, and growth of successive forests occurred naturally. At the time of its purchase by the NCPC, the area around Fort Marcy had returned to the densely forested habitat that characterized the site prior to the civil war. The fort itself was covered with trees and low bushy cover of the type associated with Successional Mixed Deciduous Forest. This second growth vegetation included various species of oak (Quercus sp.), basswood (Tilia Americana), white ash (Fraxinus americana), tulip poplar (Liriodendron tulipifera), yellow buckeye (Aesculus flava), black maple (Acer nigrum), sugar maple (Acer saccharum), southern sugar maple (Acer barbatum), American beech (Fagus grandifolia), butternut hickory (Carya cordiformis), and black walnut (Juglans nigra). Shrubs and other understory plants typical of this forest type include paw-paw (Asimina triloba), painted buckeye (Aesculus sylvatica), twinleaf (Jeffersonia diphylla), harbinger-of-spring (Erigenia Bulbosa), lowland brittle fern (Cystopteris protrusa), and toadshade (Trillium sessile) (Donaldson 2009: 66). The area east of Pimmet Run is characterized by the NPS as Mid-Atlantic Mesic Mixed Hardwood Forest and project area to the south of the fort includes an area characterized as Successional Tuliptree Forest (figure 16).

Some of this vegetation was partially cleared between 1959 and 1963, to provide recreational areas. Clearance included the removal of some trees and understory growth from the parapets, area within and around the fort, and at the site of the access road and parking lot. NPS planting plans along the GWMP-North and the Fort Marcy accessroad/onramp aimed to complement the careful design of the GWMP-North corridor. For much of the GWMP-North, landscape architects designed a mixed and fairly thin layer of understory plants as a foreground to the backdrop of native forest. Planting plans aimed to compliment and respond to the existing environmental conditions. At Fort Marcy two northern red oaks (Quercus borealis), eight flowering dogwoods (Cornus florida), five eastern redbuds (Cercis canadensis) and two highbush blueberries (Vaccinium corymbosm) were planned for the area around the access road. These are all native species, in keeping with the plantings plan listed for this section of the GWMP-North, between Route 123 and the CIA Interchanges (GWMP Plans 1960, 1962, Donaldson 2009:). More research is needed to determine whether these plantings were ever installed.

Existing Condition

The Fort Marcy cultural landscape remains densely forested, its habitat similar to that which characterized much of they surrounding area before the Civil War. Since clearance during the second period of significance deciduous forest cover has been allowed to grow naturally over the parapets, bombproofs, magazines, batteries and outworks. Studies demonstrate that the

growth covering the fort and its surrounding earthworks allows for the least erosion in a fully forested environment. The roots hold the soils of the earthwork together, while the leaf litter on the floor and the overhanging canopy act to protect any exposed earth from direct driving rains. While overtime this level of cover is the least conducive to erosion, the earthworks can be severely damaged by uprooted trees. As of the early 2000s the GWMP was preparing an Earthworks Management Plan for Fort Marcy and its surrounding support batteries and outworks that involved the flagging of trees at high risk for uprooting, and removing them from the earthworks (NPS Earthworks Management Plan).

With the exception of the earthworks, areas cleared during the second period of significance remain free of large vegetation and have been planted with low grass. Occasional mowing of the cleared area within the fort is the only regular maintenance to the vegetation at the site. Plantings along the access road, planned during the second period of significance, no longer exist, and may never have been installed. Volunteer and invasive species including Japanese still grass (Microstegium vimineum), oriental bittersweet vines (Celastrus orbiculatus), wine raspberry (Rubus phoenicolasius) and Japanese honeysuckle (Lonicera japonica) have grown into some of the gaps caused by tree falls or other disturbances (conversation with Brent Steury).

Analysis
The vegetation patterns at Fort Marcy have shifted radically from the Civil War-era period of significance and vegetation has no integrity to this period. The earthworks, hillsides and crest of the hill are now covered with mature trees, which are consistent with the natural landscape during the 20th century period of significance. While the earthworks themselves have been repopulated by vegetation since their clearance in the 1960s, other landscaped sites from that period remain and the site retains partial integrity to the second period of significance. Invasive species are considered more recent additions to the site and do not contribute to its historic character.

Contributing Features:
Landscaping installed during the second period of significance

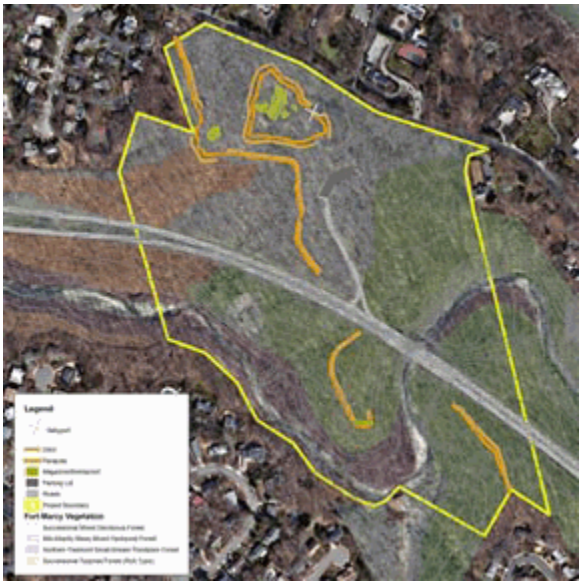
Character-defining Features:

Feature: Landscaping installed in the 2nd PoS

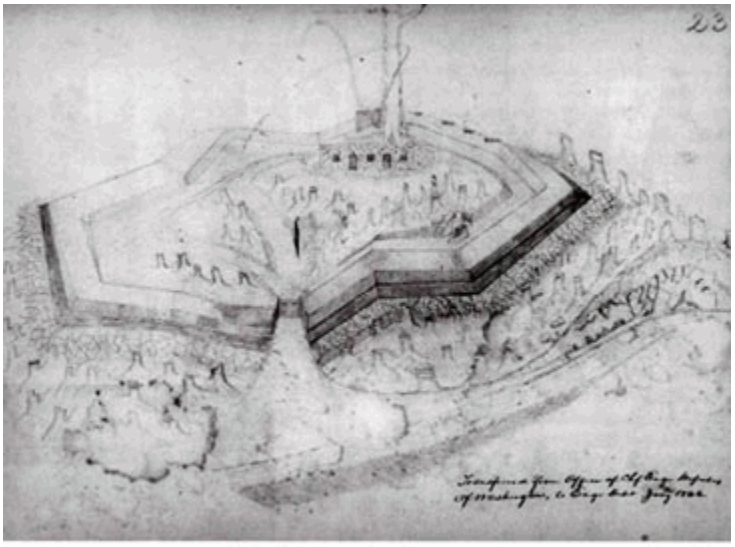
Feature Identification Number: 175706

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:



Fort Marcy Vegetation



A Soldier's Drawing of Fort Marcy. *National Archives*

Drawing of Fort Marcy. Image from Mr. Lincoln's Forts, Benjamin Franklin Cooling and Wallace Owen, 2010.

Views and Vistas

Historic Conditions
In the fall and winter of 1861, the Union Army cut down all trees and vegetation surrounding Fort Marcy. This was done in order to clear sightlines along the Georgetown-Leesburg Turnpike approach to the Chain Bridge and the Pimmet Run ravine. The views from Fort Marcy were essential to the design and function of the fort. They allowed the army to control

movement through the area immediately surrounding the fort and, most critically, observe the Virginia approach to the Chain Bridge.

After it was returned to Gilbert Vanderwerken by the Union Army in 1865 the fort was left to nature. Dense, successional forest grew in and around the fort during the 88-years it remained Vanderwerken property. Though the NPS undertook some clearance at the site in the 1960s, no effort was made to reconstruct the Civil War-era views, and no significant new views were designed during this time.

Existing Condition
The Civil War views from Fort Marcy are entirely obscured by dense, mature forest in and around the fort and covering the surrounding hillsides. Even during the winter, views to the Chain Bridge and Pimmet Run are obstructed by trees.

Analysis
The views from Fort Marcy do not retain historic integrity. The have been obliterated by the natural growth of vegetation on the fort and the surrounding hillside and none of the views, which were so critical to the site during the Civil War, are currently visible.

Small Scale Features

Historic Conditions
Fort Marcy mounted eighteen pieces of artillery during the Civil War, including six 30-pounder Parrott Rifles and one 10-inch mortar. Civil War era maps and drawings of Fort Marcy do not depict any other small-scale features at the site though a photo of the fort (figure 4) shows a large flagpole, near the sally port. Abatis surrounded the hillsides on either side of Pimmit Run ravine, and consisted of trees that were felled during the 1861 construction of the fort. Many of these trees would have had their ends sharpened to a point and been positioned facing outward toward potential attackers. This abatis was probably removed when the site was dismantled in 1865.

A well, 35-feet deep and 9-feet wide supplied water to the fort. It was curbed with brick and stone and was later enlarged to a depth of 90-feet (Hansen 1973: 20). A stockade with gates was installed just north of the fort, as defense against a cavalry attack along the Georgetown-Leesburg Turnpike. With the exception of the artillery, flagpole, well, stockade and abatis, little evidence has been found documenting other small-scale features from the Civil War-era.

Waysides and interpretive signage were installed at Fort Marcy during the second period of significance. These included a large sign indicating the turn-off from the GWMP. The original sign was designed with “Fort Marcy” in large letters and a profile of George Washington below (GWMP Plans 1960). More research is needed to identify additional signage installed at the time, though it is suspected that the large metal signage still extent near the entrance to the fort, and near gun platform #9 date to this period.

At least one of the Civil War-era cannons currently present at Fort Marcy was installed during

the second period of significance. It is not historically associated with Fort Marcy but was added to the park in 1963, as a feature that contributed to the interpretation of the site as a Civil War landscape. The Model 1814 Howitzer was fabricated between 1834 and 1847 and is a type commonly used by the Union Army. The cannon, referred to in this CLI as Cannon #1, was placed at gun platform #15.

Existing Condition

The concrete-capped well is the only small-scale feature from the Civil War period of significance that survives at Fort Marcy. Instructional and identifying signage at the site includes: a wayside near the parking lot with a map of trails surrounding the fort and a map of all the NPS-owned Civil War Defenses; wooden Potomac Heritage Trail signage marking the distances and directions to The American Legion Bridge, Turkey Run, Theodore Roosevelt Island and the Chain Bridge; metal signage in front of the earthworks with a short description of the fort and a reproduction of Barnard's map; and a second, smaller metal sign near gun platforms #9, 10 and 11 describing the role of support batteries in relation to Fort Marcy. More research is needed to determine when all the signage was installed, though the two metal signs may date to the second period of significance. The Howitzer Cannon #1 remains in its original place at platform #15.

A second cannon, Cannon #2, was installed at the site sometime after its opening in 1963. Park records indicate this installation probably occurred sometime before 1970 (Caporaso 2010:1-2), though it is not mentioned in 1973 descriptions of the site, so may not have been installed until later that decade. The model 1841 Howitzer was seated on a 1930's metal NPS carriage and placed at gun platform #12. There is some speculation by NPS staff that this is a Confederate cannon. It is similar to one used at Petersburg and was cast in New Orleans. In 2008, an NPS conservator recommended preservation treatments for the cannon. It is unknown whether these treatments were applied.

Other non-contributing small-scale features which have been installed since the second period of significance at include sewer access points, which are located east of the one gun-battery south of the main fort, a chain link fence that runs across the parapet of the one gun battery east of Pimmit Run and a drainage grate at the outworks directly northwest of the Fort Marcy access road.

Analysis

Due to the presence of the Civil War well, the small-scale features at Fort Marcy have a low level of integrity to the first period of significance. All other small scale features from this period have been lost. A low level of integrity to the second period of significance is also retained, due to the presence of Cannon #1 and some signage that may date to the 1963 interpretation of the site. Additional signage and Cannon #2, installed outside the periods of significance, are non-contributing but compatible with the character of the site.

Contributing Features:

Civil War era well
Cannon #1

Non Contributing Features:
Cannon #2
Non-historic NPS signage
Sewer access points
Chain link fence
Drainage grate

Undetermined:
Large metal signage near the entrance to the fort
Large metal signage near gun platform #9

Character-defining Features:

Feature: Civil War Era Well

Feature Identification Number: 175594

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

IDLCS Number: 222406

LCS Structure Name: Fort Marcy, Well

LCS Structure Number: 26832

Feature: Cannon #1

Feature Identification Number: 175702

Type of Feature Contribution: Contributing

Landscape Characteristic Graphics:

Fort Marcy Small Scale Features

Canon at Fort Marcy, photo taken by author, December 2014.

NPS signs at Fort Marcy, photo taken by author, December 2014.

NPS sign at Fort Marcy, photo taken by author, December 2014

Archeological Sites

Historic Conditions
Fort Marcy was garrisoned by hundreds of men between 1861 and 1865 and such a concentration of humanity generally leaves an archeological signature. In 1993, an archeological investigation was undertaken at Fort Marcy as part of the investigation of the death of Vince Foster, General Counsel to President Bill Clinton. Foster's body was discovered on the fort, near Howitzer cannon #1.

Existing Conditions
Existing conditions in and around Fort Marcy are conducive to further archeological explorations.

Analysis
Fort Marcy retains a high degree of archeological integrity. It is extremely likely that future archeological study of the area around Fort Marcy will locate additional resource from the Civil War-era of significance. Additionally, resources dating to the second period of significance may be discovered and would help shed light on twentieth century work conducted in the area. Evidence of prehistoric occupation/use of the site may also be revealed by further archeological investigation.

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts

Condition Assessment: Good

Assessment Date: 09/30/2015

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative:

This determination takes into account both the landscape and the buildings situated therein. In order to maintain the condition of the property as 'good' the park should consider regularly raking leaves over areas that have little or no leaf cover in order to prevent further erosion and damage caused by the impacts discussed below

Impacts

Type of Impact: Erosion

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Impact Description: Evidence of damage caused by natural erosion is noticeable on the parapet. The interior bombproof and magazines have collapsed and eroded, as have the battery magazine outworks surrounding the main fort. Thick leaf cover protects the majority of the earthworks, but a lack of leaf cover and a social trail that runs along the parapet threaten the earthworks by accelerating natural erosion.

Type of Impact: Exposure To Elements

External or Internal: External

Impact Description: Some signs shows discoloration and streaking that is the result of weather damage. The earthworks have eroded naturally via exposure to elements over the past 150 year.

Type of Impact: Neglect

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Impact Description: Evidence of damage caused by natural erosion is noticeable throughout the site. The Civil War Defenses required constant maintenance and much of the erosion at Fort Marcy occurred in the years after the Civil War, after the Union Army abandoned the fort. The interior bombproof and magazine collapsed and eroded, and outworks surrounding the main fort show signs of natural erosion.

Type of Impact: Visitation

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Impact Description: Visitors impact the site by exacerbating the damage caused by erosion as they climb on the parapets and in the ditch. Cisitors leave litter in and around the earthworks and along the trails. Fires have been set in outworks, killing trees.

Type of Impact: Planting Practices

External or Internal: Both Internal and External

Impact Description: Removal of some trees on the earthworks during the second period of significance has hastened the erosion of the parapet walls. New earthworks management plans have allowed trees and ground cover to grow over the earthworks, protecting them from further erosion.

Treatment

Treatment

Approved Treatment: Undetermined

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Citation Number: G3851.S5 1862 .A7
Citation Type: Graphic
Citation Location: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3851s.cw0674000

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Citation Publisher: Barnard, J.G.
Source Name: Library of Congress/Dewey Decimal
Citation Number: US1598678
Citation Type: Graphic
Citation Location: Historic Map Works Rare Historic Maps Collection, from Library of Congress

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Source Name: Other
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Citation Location: National Park Service

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Citation Author: Boschke, Albert
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Year of Publication: 1861
Citation Publisher: A. Boschke, Washington, DC
Source Name: Other
Citation Number: G3850 1857 .B61
Citation Type: Graphic
Citation Location: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gmd/g3850.ct001206

Citation Author: Boschke, Albert
Citation Title: Topographical Map of the District of Columbia, Surveyed in the Years 1856 '57 '58 and '59
Year of Publication: 1880
Citation Publisher: Blanchard & Mohun, Washington, DC
Source Name: Library of Congress/Dewey Decimal
Citation Number: G3850 1861 .B6
Citation Type: Graphic
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