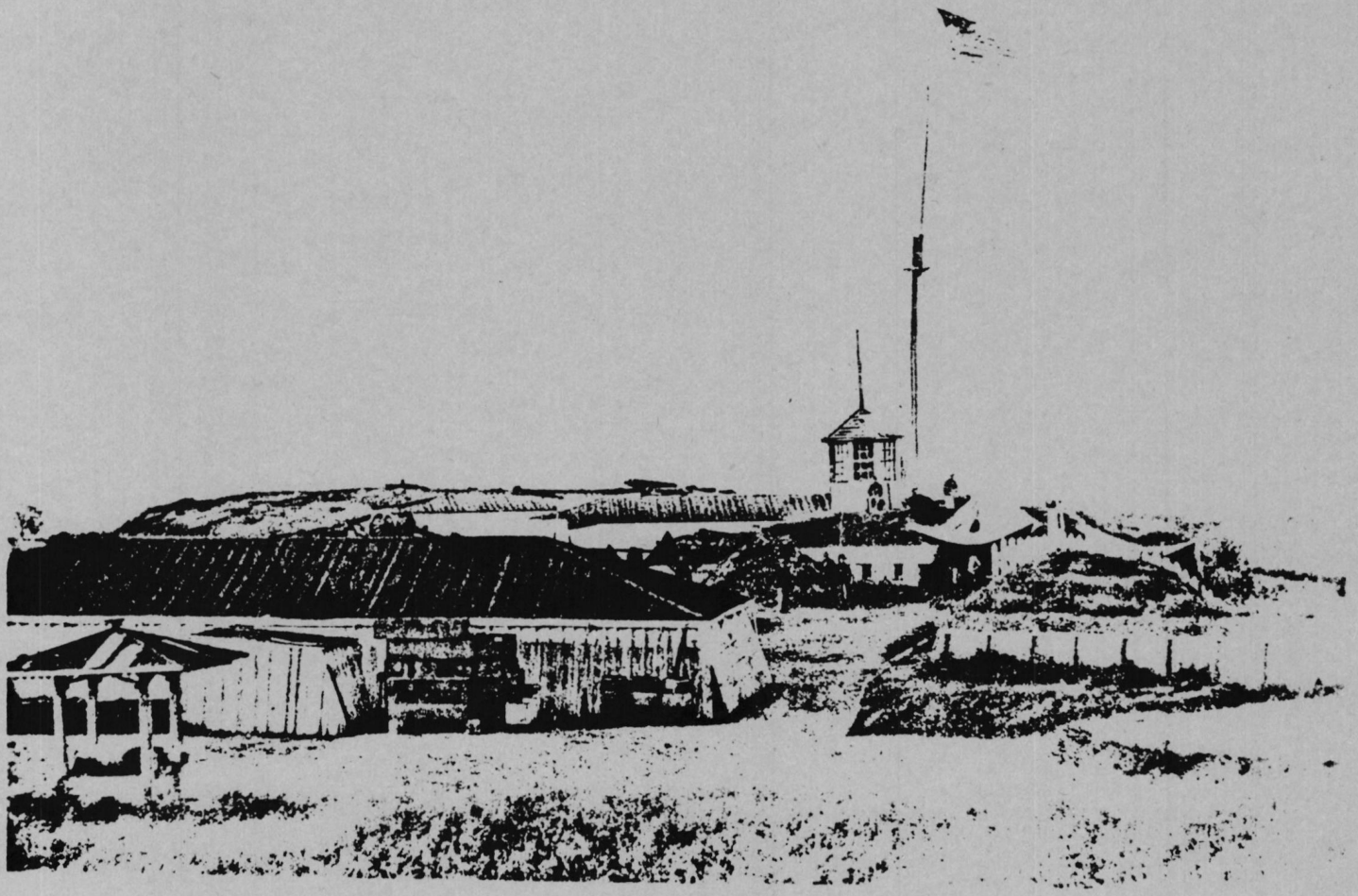
Civil War Defenses of Washington, D.C.

A Cultural Landscape Inventory



Fort Lincoln

Stretching along from fort to fort are strong rifle pits and entrenchments and stockades. Within that circle of forts and rifle pits are the new recruits encamped. At present there are as many as 100,000 or more, while just outside of the forts and rifle pits the old, battered and scarred veterans who have been in the storm of all the horrible and bloody battles are encamped.[1]

Henry Van Aernam, a soldier stationed at Camp Seward in Arlington

---

Cultural Landscape Inventory by

Jacqui Handly
National Park Service
September 1996

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[1] Mark H. Dunkleman, "Camp Seward on Arlington Heights: A Yankee Regiments First Stop in Dixie." *The Arlington Historical Magazine,* Vol.10, No. 2., (Oct. 1994), p. 10.

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I. Introduction

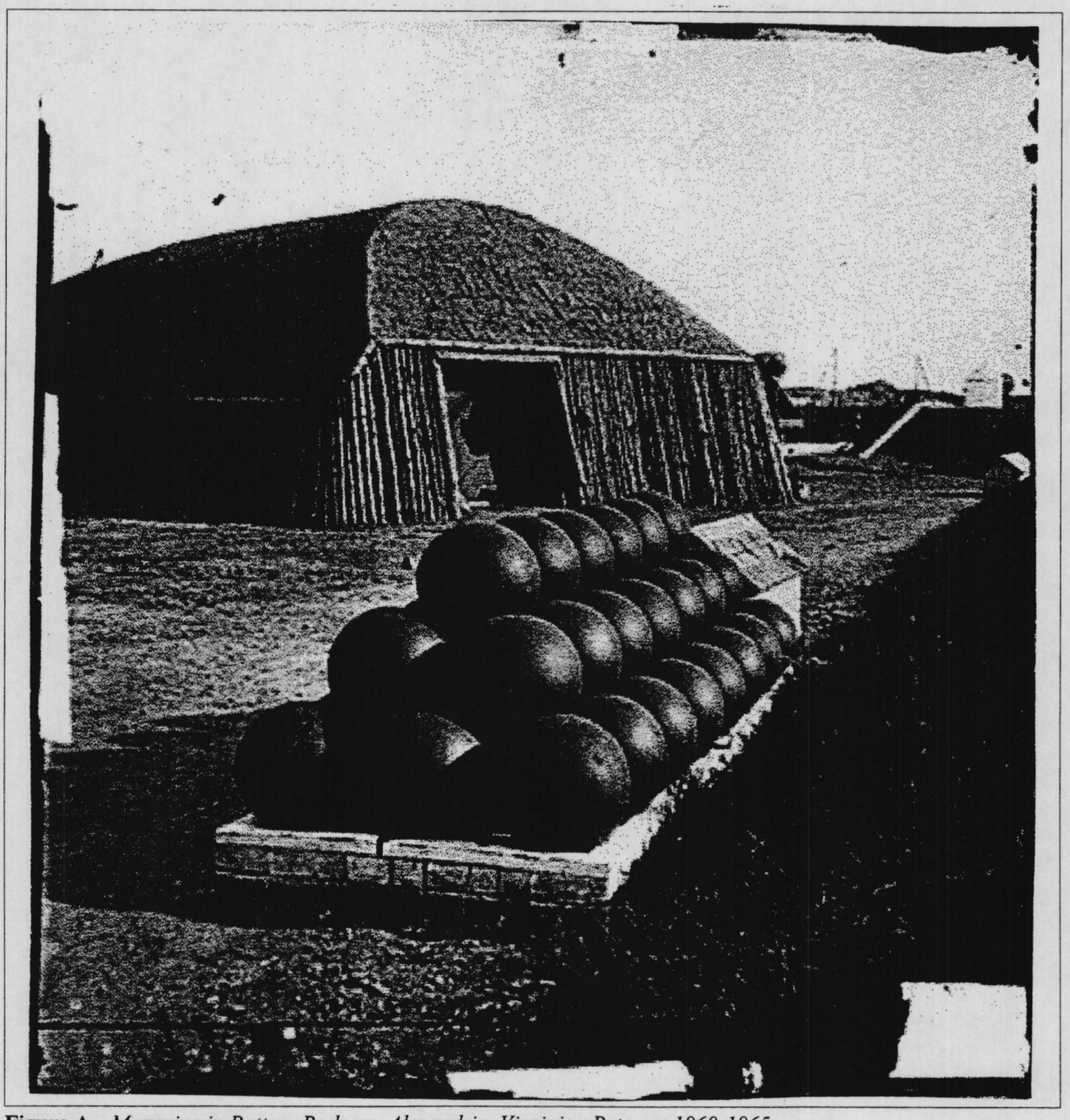


Figure A - *Magazine in Battery Rodgers, Alexandria, Virginia. Between 1860-1865*

I. Introduction

A. CULTURAL LANDSCAPE INVENTORY

By preserving cultural landscapes, the National Park Service contributes to the understanding and appreciation of our Nation's heritage. To this end, a cultural landscape inventory has been prepared which identifies and evaluates the contributing landscape features for the Civil War Defenses of Washington, D.C..

Cultural landscape inventories are completed for sites that are potentially eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places - which lists sites, objects, and places that are significant in our Nation's history. The Civil War Defenses of Washington, D.C. were placed on the National Register prior to the establishment of the cultural landscape inventory and report program. However, the information in the inventory is still critical to the parks, and every cultural landscape in the National Park Service needs this type of baseline data before day-to-day and long-term management guidelines can be developed.

B. DEFINITION OF A CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

A cultural landscape is a geographic area, including both cultural and natural resources, associated with a historic event, activity, or person. In the broadest sense, a cultural landscape is an expression of human adaptation to and use of the natural resources of an area. Cultural landscapes are complex resources that range from extensive agricultural lands to formal courtyard gardens. By protecting cultural landscapes we can preserve our nation's scenic wonders and perpetuate its legacy.

Cultural landscapes may be defined by:

- the manner in which a property is divided and used,
- the spatial organization of features,
- the systems of circulation that allow movement through the landscape,
- the types of structures built,
- the modification of the existing topography and vegetation, and
- the purposeful planting of trees and shrubs.

C. THE BENEFITS OF A CULTURAL LANDSCAPE INVENTORY

Because cultural landscapes have not been identified consistently in the past, there is a general lack of baseline data upon which to base comprehensive management decisions. A cultural landscape inventory will benefit the *National Park Service* by filling in the information gap and contributing to the preservation and interpretation of knowledge.

The National Park Service *Washington Office* will benefit from the inventory of the Civil War Defenses of Washington, D.C. because that office is compiling a service-wide cultural landscape database. The database will be similar to and will cross-reference the list of classified structures (LCS). Information in the database will be used to analyze property types and conditions, summarize existing features, and develop preservation programs.

The *Field Director's Office* and *System Support Offices* will be able to use the inventory of the civil war defenses to determine funding needed for restoration and stabilization projects. They will also be able to amend the existing National Register of Historic Places nomination to include contributing landscape resources.

The *parks* will also benefit from the inventory as it will provide information to managers, interpreters, and maintenance and resource management staff to help them make informed decisions based on the inventory data. In addition to the benefits listed above, the information will be used to:

- determine the need for new or revised interpretive programs,
- help interpreters understand the landscape changes so they can relate this information to the visitor,
- help determine maintenance strategies, and
- assist park managers in planning and programming decisions.

State and local agencies which manage defense sites will benefit from the inventory because they can use the information to add to their interpretive programs or to develop management strategies.

And finally, the *public* can use the information to enhance their understanding of, or to teach about, the pivotal role that the defenses of Washington, D.C. played in the Civil War and the defenses relationship to the development of our country.

D. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A CULTURAL LANDSCAPE INVENTORY AND A CULTURAL LANDSCAPE REPORT

A *cultural landscape inventory* (CLI), to state it simply, identifies and evaluates existing information and landscape features for *planning purposes*. The existing information evaluated for a CLI is information *only from secondary sources* - books and reports which have been published. The purpose of the inventory is to determine where more primary research - such as research at the National Archives - is needed. However, for this CLI, the author completed some primary research, the evaluation of which is included in this inventory. This is not usually included in a CLI.

Using the baseline data from a CLI, work on a cultural landscape report (CLR) can begin. Research will be completed to fill in the information gaps that are missing from existing books and reports. Once the research and evaluation is completed, a full preservation treatment plan can be developed that provides both immediate and long-term management guidance for the cultural landscape. A Cultural Landscape Report (CLR) is the primary approved document for the *treatment and use* of a designated cultural landscape.

E. THE CONTENTS OF THE INVENTORY OF THE CIVIL WAR DEFENSES OF WASHINGTON

The cultural landscape inventory of the Civil War Defenses of Washington documents the *overall* cultural landscape consisting of the fortifications, supporting defense works, and associated features that formed an integral unit for defending the city. In order to give a better understanding of the cultural landscape during the Civil War, the fort and batteries which are owned by the National Park Service and those which are not are discussed in the inventory.[1]

The *Inventory* of the Civil War Defenses consists of the following:

- a *site history narrative* section that:
  - includes a description of the historic development of the landscape associated with the Civil War defenses, and
  - discusses how humans have impacted the land from the pre-civil war period to the present.

[1] The National Park Service only plans on managing the properties it currently owns.

- an *analysis and evaluation* section that:
    - addresses the character-defining features outlined in the National Register bulletins (numbers 18 and 30),
    - defines the characteristics that contribute to the historic character of the landscape, and
    - identifies the individual features associated with those characteristics.
- an *inventory form* that:
    - provides pertinent information in a standardized format which can be put into a database.
- an *appendix* that:
    - lists the forts and batteries and the states in which they are located,
    - identifies many of the camps located in the Washington, D.C. area,
    - identifies the sources for the photographs, maps, and illustrations throughout the document, and
    - includes a bibliography and list of research sources.

F. RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON THIS INVENTORY

Subsequent to the completion of the overall inventory, it is recommended that a cultural landscape report examine each inidividual fort and battery site that makes up the Civil War defenses of Washington, D.C., i.e. each component landscape. The following information would be valuable to include:

- a viewshed analysis for each site,
- consideration of various means of protection of viewsheds,
- information from archeological studies (at sites where it is required by plans for development, restoration, interpretation, or preservation),
- a current topographic survey of each site,
- information on the development of surrounding communities,
- information on the roles of the U.S. Colored Infantry and freedman in the forts and the community,
- a vegetation management plan for each site,
- historic structures reports for those forts which do not yet have them,
- a study of the historic, military, and public roads in comparison to existing roads,
- a study locating the historic camps, and
- an accurate boundary mapping of the extent of the historic sites.

II. Site History Narrative



Figure B - *Soldiers at Fort C. F. Smith*

II. Site History Narrative

A. HISTORY SUMMARY

Washington, D.C., the Union capital, sat almost completely unprotected at the beginning of the Civil War. Virginia, a Confederate state, lay on one side of the city, and Maryland, a slave-owning state, lay on the other, leaving Washington in a precarious position. The defenses, built to protect the city, greatly impacted the Washington area culturally, socially, and politically. The defenses also tremendously impacted the physical landscape. Miles and miles of trees and many buildings were razed to construct sixty-eight enclosed forts and armed batteries, and ninety-three unarmed batteries. Rifle pits connected the forts and batteries in a thirty-seven-mile band around the city. The extensive fort system discouraged the Confederacy from attacking the city that symbolized the Union. (Confederate General Jubal Early's assault in July 1864 was the only battle at the forts.)[2] The protection of the fort system attracted escaping slaves, many of whom settled nearby and provided services for the forts and soldiers.

Today just over thirty of the sites that made up the Civil War defenses of Washington, located on approximately 130 acres, are under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service.[3]

The following information is the history of the development of the landscape associated with the Civil War defenses of Washington.

B. PRE-CIVIL WAR

Many of the world's major cities, including those in the United States, are located adjacent to waterways. Rivers have provided food and facilitated travel for thousands of years. They have been desirable places for humans to live, and the confluence of the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers is no exception.

Semiagricultural Native American tribes lived on flatlands of the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers for over 3,000 years:

> *In 1607 the subsistence economy of the Algonquian chiefdoms of the Virginia-Maryland tidewater was based, in part, on slash-and-burn or swidden* [sic]

---

[2] Stanley W. McClure, *The Defenses of Washington 1861-1865.* (National Park Service, 1957), p. 1.

[3] See the Appendix called *Fortification Names and Historic Locations* for a listing of the fortifications under the National Park Service jurisdiction. Due to the fact that historic boundaries have not been defined around sites such as Fort DeRussy, which is located within the much larger Rock Creek stream valley, the acreage is approximate.

> *cultivation, Varieties of maize, beans, squash, pumpkins, gourds, sunflower, and tobacco were grown by the natives, with the greatest emphasis on maize production....*[4]

"When the English invaded Virginia in 1607, they unwittingly settled in the midst of one of the most politically complex Indian groups along the Atlantic coast."[5] In 1608, explorer Captain John Smith sailed up the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers and encountered the local Native Americans.

Over time, the Native Americans were decimated by European diseases and warfare with other Indians and whites.[6] To avoid the explorers and colonists, some Native Americans chose to move.[7] After about 1650 "...some native peoples of the Potomac and Rappahannock valleys began adopting European ways...."[8] Other Indians, "with no lands of their own...became tenants living on...English plantation(s), a common custom during the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries when the majority of non-reservation Indians lived 'scatter'd upon the English seats.'"[9]

Until the end of the seventeenth century, English activities were "...largely confined to Indian trade, limited 'seating' of patented tracts of land and, possibly, some land surveying."[10] But, by 1700 Englishmen were fishing at the Potomac falls.[11]

The growing colonies broke away from England, and in 1776 America declared independence. The Continental Congress located its headquarters and the new Nation's Capital in eight different cities, for periods ranging from as long as one day to several months.[12]

---

[4] Stephen R. Potter, *Commoners, Tribute, and Chiefs: The Development of Algonquian Culture in the Potomac Valley*, (University Press of Virginia, 1993), p. 32.

[5] Ibid. p. 1.

[6] Louise Daniel Hutchison, *The Anacostia Story: 1608-1930,* (Smithsonian Institution, 1977), p. 4.

[7] Ibid.

[8] Potter, p. 208.

[9] Ibid, p. 229.

[10] Paul B. Cissna, Ph.D., *Historical and Archeological Study of the George Washington Memorial Parkway*, (National Park Service, 1990), p. 29.

[11] Ibid, p. 32.

[12] *Revised Draft for L'Enfant Plan of Washington , D.C.: Nomination for National Register.* (National Park Service, May 1994), p. 30.

> *In 1790 the national capital had just moved from New York to Philadelphia, driven by yellow fever, rioting veterans, and regional jealousies. Only such urgencies could have induced the Congress to sentence itself to bucolic retirement on the Potomac, at some distance from the center of the new nation's intellectual and mercantile life.*[13]

In 1791, the confluence of the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers, the site of the capital's permanent home, primarily consisted of woods, meadows, and scattered farms.[14] A few towns existed, named Georgetown, Alexandria, Carrolsburgh, and Hamburgh, as well as a village called Anacostia.

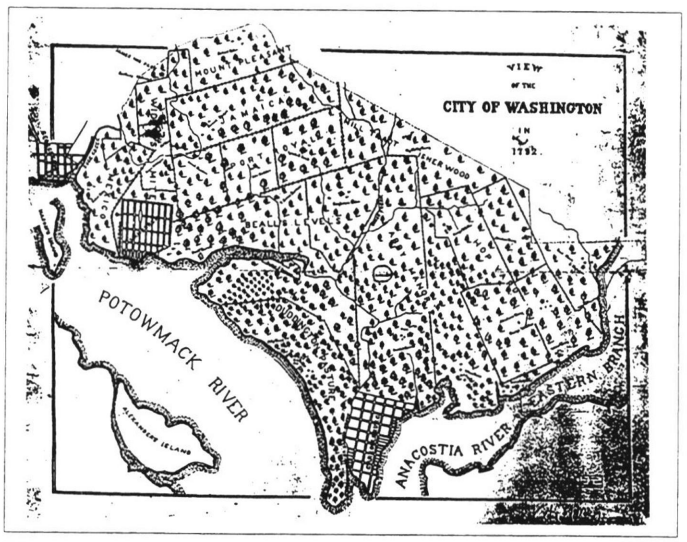


Figure 1 - *City of Washington in 1792* (See Appendix for photograph, map and illustration credits.)

A census of Prince George's County shows that the area to become the City of Washington was occupied by twenty households consisting of seven hundred and twenty persons: thirty-seven free white males older than sixteen, thirty-five free white males under sixteen, fifty-three white females, four other free persons, and five hundred and ninety-one slaves. The fact that the area was largely undeveloped gave the city's founders the unique opportunity of creating an entirely new capital city.[15]

Prior to the Civil War, people considered Washington, D.C. to be a small town. Still, even then, the White House was a tourist attraction, and people wanted an invitation to dinner.[16]

---

[13] Roger G. Kennedy, *Rediscovering America, Journey's Through Our Forgotten Past*, (Houghton Mifflin Company, 1990) p. 110.

[14] Hutchison, p. 18.

[15] *Revised Draft for L'Enfant Plan of Washington , D.C.*, p. 31.

[16] Benjamin Franklin Cooling III at Civil War Workshop, Rock Creek Park, July 11-12, 1995. The Civil War workshop, sponsored by Rock Creek Park, a National Park Service site, brought together experts in the study of the defenses of Washington, D.C. to share information. The participants included National Park Service employees; private scholars, historians, and authors; and representatives from state and local agencies who administer defense sites.

The British attacked the city in 1814 and burned the White House and the Capitol, both of which were symbols of the new country. To deter further sea attacks from international enemies, the army rebuilt and expanded Fort Washington at a strategic position along the Potomac River.

C. THE CIVIL WAR

At the time of Lincoln's election, the country was already divided on the issues that would lead to the Civil War. South Carolina had seceded in December. Virginia was strongly against the new administration, and Maryland, a slave-owning state, was sympathetic to the Southern seceders. Abraham Lincoln, on the way to his inauguration, traveled through Baltimore unobtrusively, not in disguise, but without the fanfare of the official presidential train car.[17] The inauguration took place as Confederates camped in Alexandria, ready for an attack on Washington.[18]

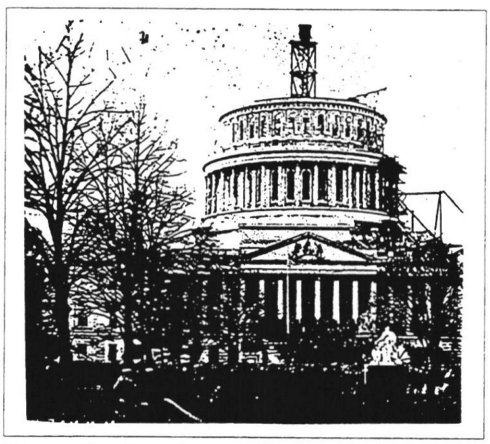


Figure 2 - *People standing on the steps of the Capitol at Abraham Lincoln's inauguration*

The Civil War broke out almost sixty years after the founding of the capital. Fort Washington, the only existing defense protecting the city, was twelve miles downstream on the Potomac River.

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[17] Richard Wheeler, *A Rising Thunder, From Lincoln's Election to the Battle of Bull Run: An Eyewitness History.* (HarperCollins, 1994), p. 64.

[18] David V. Miller, *The Defenses of Washington During the Civil War,* (Mr. Copy, Inc., 1976), p. 3.

The animosity in the air was evident in an article printed in the Eufaula, Alabama *Express:*

> *With independent Virginia on one side and the secessionists of Maryland, who are doubtless in the majority, on the other, our policy at this time should be to seize the old Federal Capital and take old Lincoln and his cabinet prisoners of war. Once we get the Head of Government in our power we can demand any terms we see fit, and thus, perhaps avoid a long and bloody contest.*[19]

The Richmond Examiner went even further:

> *From the mountaintops and valleys to the shores of the sea, there is one wild shout of fierce resolve to capture Washington City, at all and every human hazard. That filthy cage of unclean birds must and will assuredly be purified by fire.... For the purpose of making their work sure they* [the North] *have determined to hold Washington City as the point* [from] *whence to carry on their brutal warfare.*[20]

On April 15, 1861, the government called for volunteers from the North. For almost a week Maryland blocked the troops from coming to the city's aid and left Washington in an extremely vulnerable position. "A week after the fall of Fort Sumter, in April 1861, Spencer Baird, [curator of the Smithsonian Natural Museum] wrote, 'City in wild state of confusion in consequence of the refusal of Maryland to permit the passage of (Union) troops.' He prepared for possible Confederate assault on the city by packing away rare eggs and birds."[21] In fact, throughout the duration of the Civil War, "...no flags flew from Smithsonian towers - a tacit sign of scientific neutrality...."[22]

The troops eventually got through, and "...with their arrival, about noon of the 25th of April, all the gloom and doubt and feeling of danger to the capital vanished."[23] "By May, Baird was back to 'labeling exotic reptiles,' while crowds of soldiers visited the Smithsonian."[24] However, a Confederate rebel state and a sympathetic slave-holding state bordered the city and fortifications were deemed necessary by the Union.

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[19] Wheeler, p. 137.

[20] Ibid.

[21] *Bright Lights, Bold Adventure: 1846-1878, To the Territories*, Smithsonian Institution Internet document, http://www.150.si.edu/chap3/three.htm

[22] Ibid.

[23] Wheeler., p. 147.

[24] *Bright Lights, Bold Adventure: 1846-1878*

"A large portion of the city and nearly all the buildings occupied by the executive branch could be shelled or reached by military fire from the heights of Arlington, two miles distant."[25] So, in May 1861, realizing the imminent danger to the city, the infantry and military engineers moved into Alexandria for reconnaissance. They captured a few rebels, but over seven hundred escaped, burning bridges behind them.[26] The Union soldiers then started to build Forts Albany, Corcoran, Ellsworth, Runyon, Bennett and Haggerty in Virginia.[27]

The Battle of Manassas in July 1861 highlighted the beginning of what some historians would call the "One Hundred Mile War" (from Richmond to Washington, D.C.) or the "Battle for the Capitals."[28]

The day after defeating the Federal army in Manassas, the rebels considered attacking Washington; "...plans for making a quick thrust against the Union capital were seriously considered, but the idea was soon abandoned. The Confederate army was woefully disorganized, and Washington, it was realized, was not wholly defenseless. The Potomac River itself was a barrier to easy access, and the Federals, it was concluded, still had enough organized troops to meet and attack."[29]

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[25] John G. Barnard, U.S. Army. *A Report on the Defenses of Washington to the Chief Engineers.* (Washington Government Printing Office, 1871), p. 7.

[26] Miller, p. 4.

[27] Ibid., p. 5.

[28] Benjamin Franklin Cooling III at Civil War Workshop, July 11-12, 1995.

[29] Wheeler, p. 388.

1. Fortification Construction

The government and the people soon realized this was not going to be the short, sweet war they originally envisioned, and a commission recommended extending the fortification campaign.

Major General George B. McClellan assigned Major John G. Barnard to supervise the construction for the city's protection. Barnard, an engineer, who happened to be deaf, first turned his attention to expanding and completing the works in Arlington.[30] In 1871, after the end of the war, Major Barnard would write *A Report on the Defenses of Washington to the Chief Engineers*. The report included such information as why the forts were necessary, why each fort location was chosen, maps of the forts, and many other facts about the defenses. As Barnard said in his report:

> *When after the disaster of Bull Run, it became apparent that the war was to be a struggle of long duration, the necessity of the thorough fortifying of Washington ceased to be doubtful. The situation indeed was such as to admit of no elaborate plans, scarcely of the thorough study of the ground necessary to a judicious location of a line so extensive. The first exigency was to fortify the position of the heights of Arlington.*[31]

On fortifying the city, Major John G. Barnard also wrote:

> *The commission concluded their report expressing their convictions of the great importance of this system of defenses to Washington, and by urging upon the War Department and Congress to take steps and provide means for a full and early completion of the work. The great authority of Napoleon is on record upon the necessity of fortifying national capitals.* [Napoleon felt that]*...had Vienna, Berlin and Madrid been fortified, the countries, of which they are the capitals, would have been preserved from the fatal results of his campaigns of 1806 and 1808 and that had Paris been fortified in 1814, his own empire would have been saved from overthrow.*[32]

---

[30] Benjamin Franklin Cooling III, *Symbol, Sword and Shield: Defending Washington During the Civil War,* (Archon Books, 1975), p. 66. (Unless otherwise specified all references to this book are from the 1975 edition.)

[31] Barnard, p. 10.

[32] Ibid., p. 32.

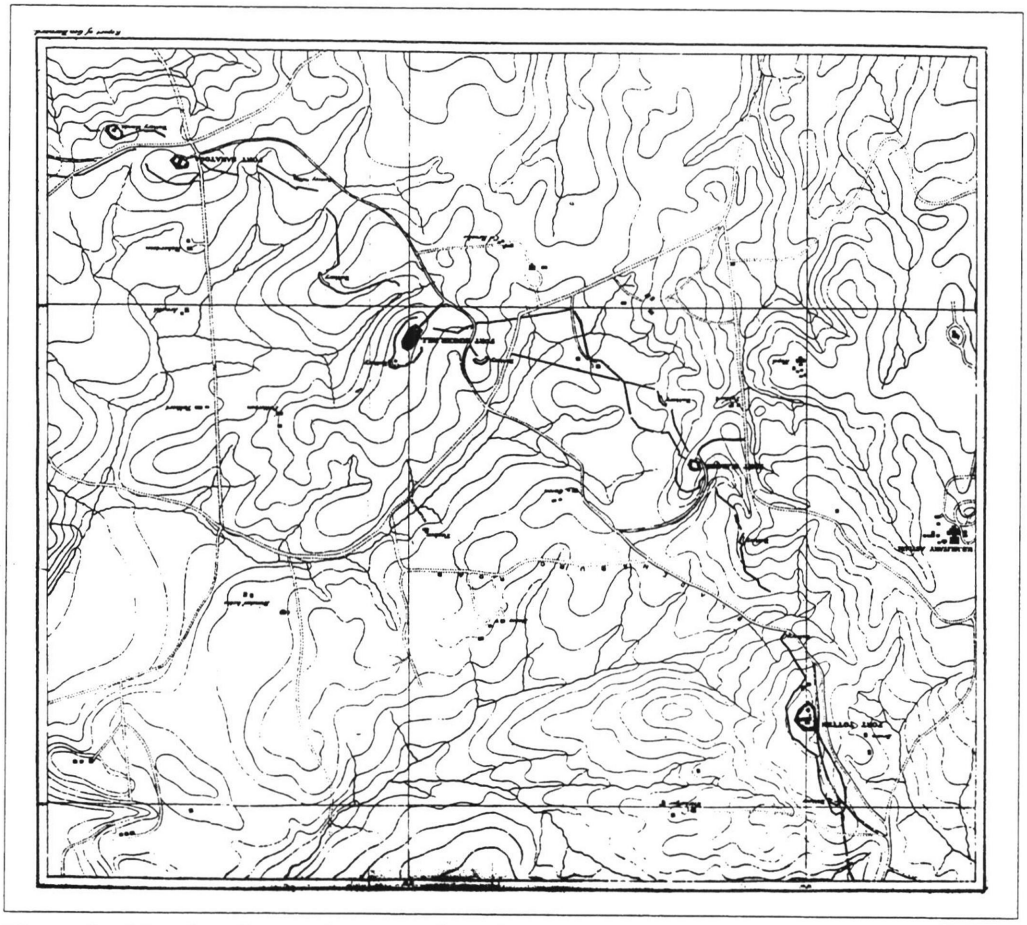


Figure 3 - *Map from Barnard's report: forts, batteries, and rifle pits from Fort Totten to Fort Saratoga*

The army took possession of the fort sites under the law of 'military necessity'[33] with concern for military advantage, not for the current landowners. "Local property owners howled in protest...."[34] "Lines of rifle pits [long trenches men could hide behind], massive earthworks [forts and batteries], and military roads were located with little regard to cultivated fields, orchards or even dwellings and churches."[35] Later, in 1864, Major Barnard estimated that almost 1,000 people would want compensation for their properties at the end of the war.[36]

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[33] National Archives, Washington, D.C., Documents Division, Record Group 77.

[34] Cooling, p. 67.

[35] Benjamin Franklin Cooling III and Walton H. Owens II, *Mr. Lincoln's Forts: A Guide to the Civil War Defenses of Washington,* (White Mane Publishing Company, 1988), p. 6.

[36] Cooling, p. 236.

Barnard wrote:

> *To meet the emergency, works* [the forts, batteries, and rifle pits, etc.] *were necessarily thrown up without that deliberate study of the topography on which the establishment of such defensive line should, if practicable be based. The first directions given to our labors were to secure the roads, not merely the beaten highways of travel from the country to the city, but as in general, occupying the best ground for an enemy approach.*[37]

The fortifications were generally named after Union officers who had died. However, there were exceptions; For example, Fort Williams was for a time known as Fort Traitor, because the original land owner had pledged an oath to the Union army and then become a Confederate.[38]

The defenses helped the soldiers to prevent Confederate access to the city and protected locations from which Confederates could fire down on the Capitol.[39] Some forts guarded transportation ways, such as roads and bridges; some prevented access by water or through valleys; and some allowed views of advancing troops. In addition, the forts protected the city's water supply.[40]

The effective range of artillery of the period was several miles, as is evident in an account from the First Battle of Manassas: "A shot...severed a bough from a tree quite two miles distant...."[41] So the men cleared all the land for a mile or two in front of the forts and batteries. The soldiers razed farmers' fields and woodlots.

Within the cleared area, buildings were removed if they lay where the soldiers and volunteers were building the forts.[42] For example, the army expanded Fort Stevens and evicted a free black woman and her child from their home right before they demolished it.[43] Buildings outside of the fort walls were usually not removed unless the fort was under attack.[44]

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[37] Barnard, p. 13.

[38] Frances Kennedy, Civil War Historian at the Conservation Fund, per conversation, 1996.

[39] Miller, p. 6.

[40] Cooling and Owens, p. 7.

[41] Wheeler, p. 330.

[42] Miller, p. 10.

[43] Cooling and Owens, p. 159.

[44] Miller, p. 10.

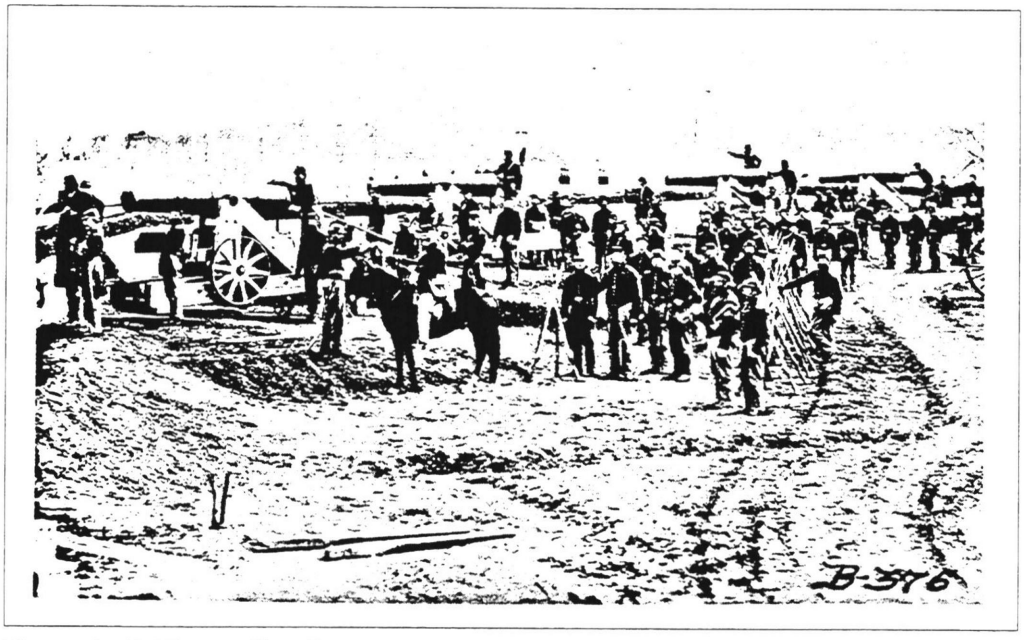


Figure 4 - *Soldiers at Fort Totten*

One person from the Seventy-ninth New York Highlanders explained the forest cutting process:

> *It was an interesting sight to witness the simultaneous falling* [sic] *of a whole hillside of timber; the choppers would begin at the foot of the hill, the line extending for perhaps a mile, and cut only part way through the tree, and in this way work up to the crest, leaving the top row so that a single blow would bring down the tree - then, when all was ready, the bugle would sound as the signal, and the last stroke of the ax be given, which brought down the top row; these falling on those below would bring them down, and like the billow on the surface of the ocean, the forest would fall with a crash like mighty thunder.*[45]

[45] Cooling and Owens, p. 6.



Figure 6 - *Volunteers working on the defenses in Arlington Heights*

Some time later, Professor Thaddeus S. C. Lowe, inventor of a gas generator for filling hot air balloons, hovered above the city in a balloon. The army saw hydrogen balloons as possible new tools for military reconnaissance. Via a "...telegraph wire leading from the basket to the war department...he sent a message to President Lincoln. 'This point of observation commands an area nearly fifty miles in diameter. The city with its girdle of encampments, presents a superb scene....'"[51]

[51] Wheeler, p. 265.

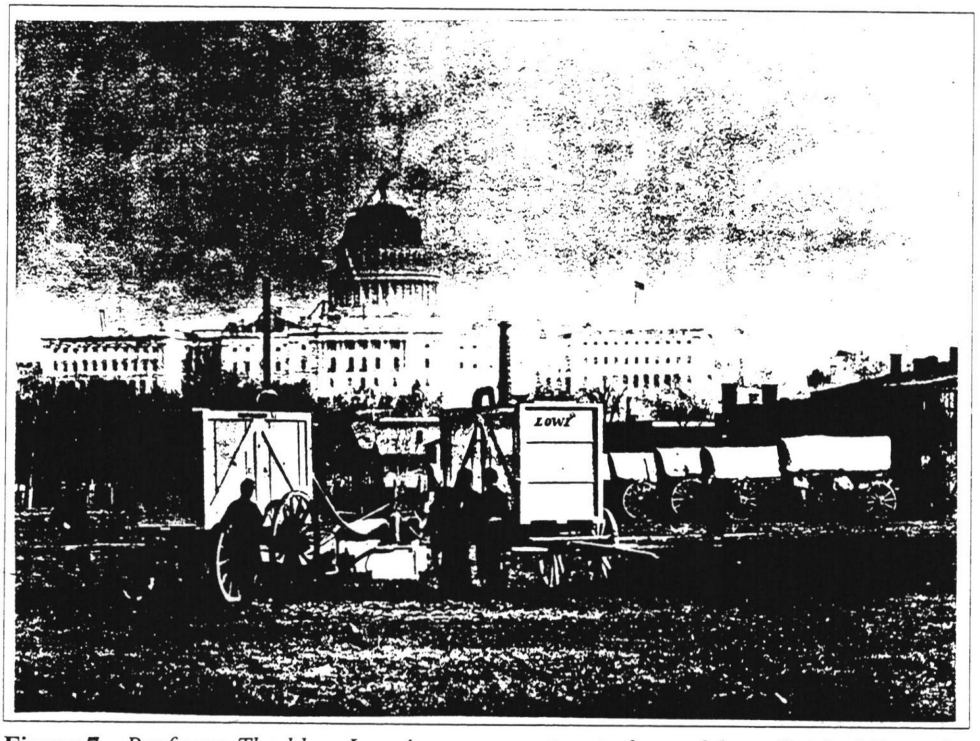


Figure 7 - *Professor Thaddeus Lowe's gas generators in front of the unfinished Capitol*

2. Defenses Impact on the City

In 1860 about 62,000 people lived in Washington. During the war, the soldiers outnumbered civilians twelve to one.[52] The soldiers and the war completely changed the land all around the forts and in fact the entire landscape of the city.

Being close to the front lines, the heavily fortified city served as a place for troops to go on leave and a place for supplies, such as food that had to be stocked and shipped. It also served as a place for logistical headquarters. During the early part of the war, both Major General George B. McClellan and General Ulysses S. Grant located their headquarters in Washington.[53] Soldiers poured into the city and had to be fed, dressed, kept warm, trained, and housed. Within the safety of the fort perimeter, the army trained and staged newly arrived troops. Cattle grazed on the grounds of the partially built Washington Monument while Union butchers slaughtered cattle at its base.[54]

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[52] Hutchison, p. 47.

[53] Miller, p. 47.

[54] *Revised Draft for L'Enfant Plan of Washington , D.C.*, p. 40.



Figure 8 - *Cattle on the mall: Treasury Building and White House in the distance*

Soldiers camped and drilled in parks throughout the city, including on the mall.[55] Before building the army barracks at the outskirts of town, recruits were housed in the Capitol, the Treasury and Patent Office buildings, the Navy Yard, and City Hall.[56] Many other buildings were used as prisons. Washington, D.C. was the closest Union-held city to the fighting[57] and therefore the city became "...an armed and fortified camp as well as a great supply depot and hospital center for the Union Armies in the East."[58]

However, one soldier traveling through Washington, D.C. on the way to meet his regiment, wrote to his mother:

> *I never saw such quiet in a city where military movements are carried on in such a grand scale.... I never should know from its outward appearance that it was threatened by a rebel army, nor should I in the least dream that it was our*

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[55] Ibid, p. 64.

[56] Keith Melder, Editor, *City of Magnificent Intentions: a History of the District of Columbia,* (Intac, Inc., 1983), p. 129.

[57] R. Christopher Goodwin, Christopher R. Polglase, and Michelle T. Moran, *Historic Resources Survey: Addendum to the 1970 Historic Structures Report: Forts Carroll and Greble,* (National Park Service, March 1991), p. 11.

[58] *Resource Management Plan for East,* (National Park Service, 1971), p. 7.

> *national capital, except by its public buildings. It lacks all the supposed grandeur of a presidential city, a royal abiding place.*[59]

Hospitals sprung up around the city to care for the wounded troops. A soldier from Camp Casey wrote in a letter, "The sick and wounded men in the permanent hospitals in Washington, Georgetown, and Alexandria, number thirty-four thousand - an army in themselves. Many of these are in tents."[60] Even the partially constructed Capitol became a hospital with doctors and nurses tending over 1,200 soldiers.[61]

Louisa May Alcott, author of *Little Women*, worked as a nurse in Washington, D.C. for a while during the war. She wrote of the city:

> *Long trains of army wagons kept up a perpetual rumble from morning until night. Ambulances rattled to and fro with busy surgeons, nurses taking an airing or convalescents going in parties to be fitted for artificial limbs. Strings of sorry looking horses passed. Often a cart came by carrying several rough coffins and no mourners following; barouches* [carriages] *with invalid soldiers rolled around the corner....*[62]

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[59] Carter, p. 79.

[60] Grenville Benedict, *Army Life in Virginia: Letters from the Twelfth Vermont Regiment and Personal Experience of Volunteer Service in the War of the Union 1962-63,* (Free Press Association, 1895), p. 33. From Benjamin Franklin Cooling III's notes donated to Fort Ward.

[61] Ibid., p. 41.

[62] Melder, p. 132.

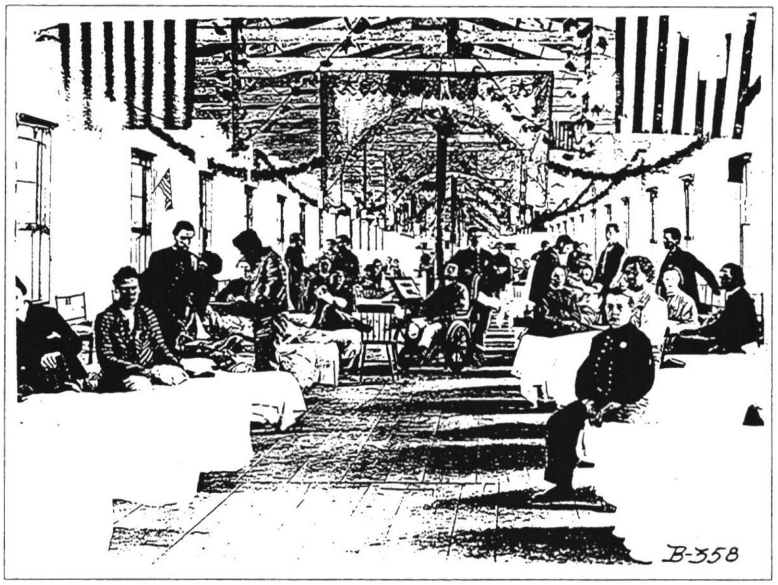


Figure 9 - *Soldiers in Washington, D.C. Hospital*

Many soldiers slept in camps outside the forts. Camp accommodations ranged from 'A' frame and tepee-shaped tents to wood cabins and barracks. "From journal entries and photographic evidence it appears that the stockaded wedge tent was in greatest vogue in the winter encampments encircling Washington."[63] A camp one-quarter mile from Fort Mahan was home to "...a superintendent's office, cook-house, mess room, carpenter's shop, blacksmith's shop, stables, and a tent city for laborers."[64] As letters from soldiers at Camp Seward relate:

> *Tom Aldrich, a soldier, wrote 'As far as the eye can reach there is nothing to be seen but the white tents of soldiers, and there is lots of forts in sight.' Private George W. Newcomb wrote to his wife Ellen, 'Well Ell, things look like war here. There is some 100,000 men camped here on about four square miles.' Private James D. Quilliam said, 'We are in no more danger of the Rebels here than at home for there are forts and earthen breastworks here extending for miles, which were built to defend Washington in the face of the enemy, and they know better than to come back.'*[65]

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[63] Dean E. Nelson, "Right Nice Little House(s): Impermanent Camp Architecture of the American Civil War," *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture*, (Vernacular Architecture Forum, 1982), p. 81.

[64] Cooling and Owens, p. 192.

[65] Mark H. Dunkleman, "*Camp Seward on Arlington Heights: A Yankee Regiments First Stop in Dixie*", (The Arlington Historical Magazine, Vol. 10, No. 2.Oct. 1994) p. 10.



Figure 10 - *Camp near Washington, D.C. - perhaps by Fort Totten*

Even Rock Creek was effected by the proximity of the forts. Often the creek would be so polluted by activities that the troops would not even bathe in it.[66]

A soldier at a camp by Fort Ellsworth said:

> *We are now in better quarters and begin to feel settled.... We are in small wedge tents, and five of us are in one of them.... But, oh, the dirt and filth of all our surroundings! It is perfectly awful. It is only the hope of future fight and victory, that keeps us bright and jolly.*[67]

The same soldier wrote:

> *It isn't half what we have got to endure, for, as far as I see, the war-worn veterans of McClellan's army wend their weary way along the turnpikes that pass our camp, and hear the horrid stories of Hooker's Brigade, my heart grows sick within me, and I consider that I am now in a blissful state, only patiently waiting transportation to purgatory.*[68]

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[66] Stephen Potter, National Park Service Regional Archeologist, at Civil War Workshop, Rock Creek Park, July 11-12, 1995.

[67] Carter, p. 83-84.

[68] Ibid, p. 84.

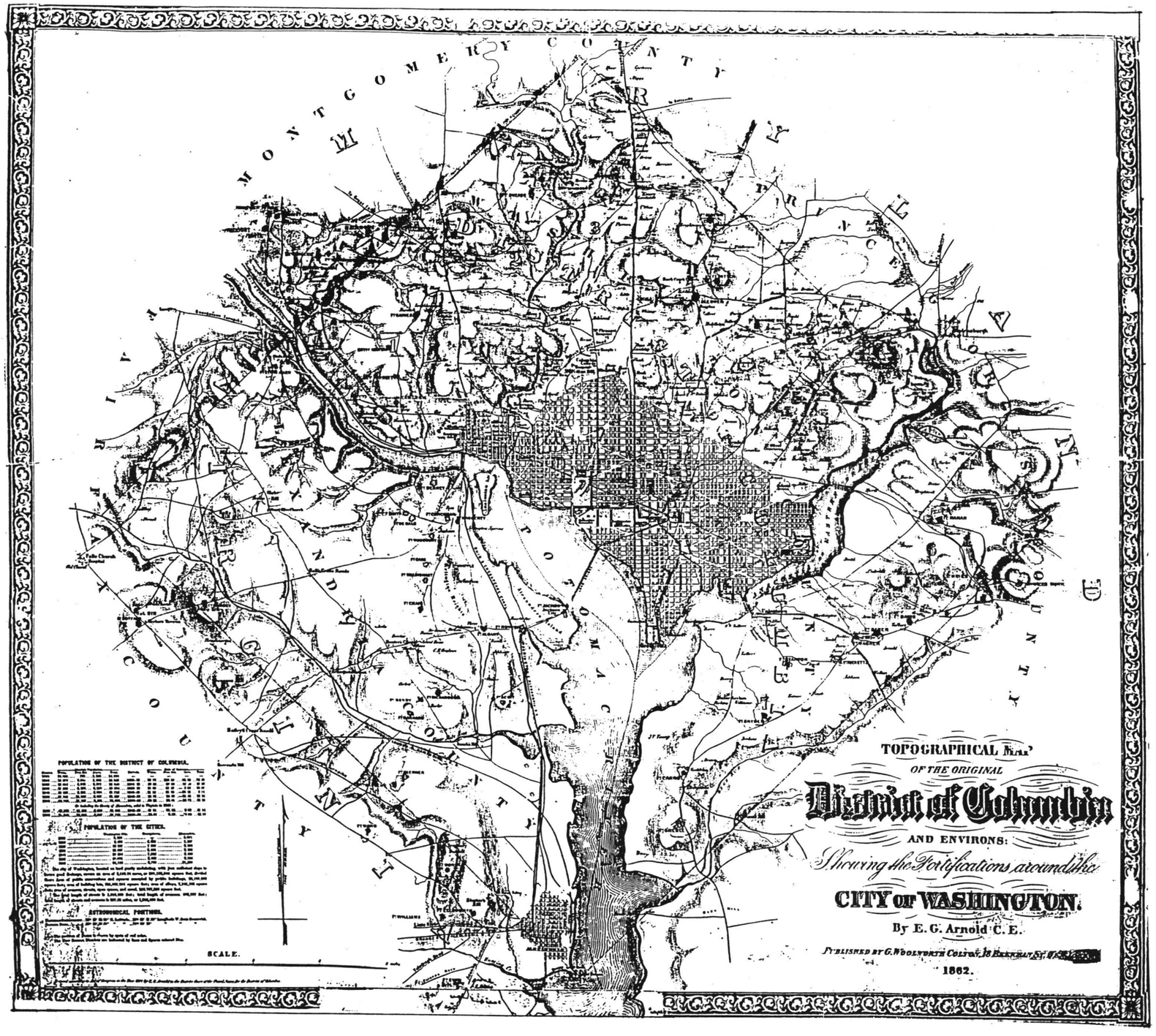


Figure 11 - *Topographical Map of the Original District of Columbia and Environs: Showing the Fortifications around the City of Washington, 1862*

POPULATION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Census.	Absolute Population. White.	Free Col.	Slave.	Total.	Periods.	Rate of Increase. White.	Free Col.	Slave.	Total.
1800	10,066	783	3,244	14,093	—	—	—	—	—
1810	16,079	2,549	5,395	24,023	1800–10	59.73	225.54	66.80	70.46
1820	22,614	4,048	6,377	33,039	1810–20	40.64	58.80	18.20	37.53
1830	27,563	6,152	6,119	39,834	1820–30	21.88	51.97	— 4.04	20.57
1840	30,657	8,361	4,694	43,712	1830–40	11.22	35.90	—23.28	9.74
1850	37,941	10,059	3,687	51,687	1840–50	23.75	20.30	—21.45	18.24
1860	60,788	11,107	3,181	75,076	1850–60	60.22	10.41	—13.72	45.25
Or excluding the County of Alexandria, ceded to Virginia in 1846 :									
1850	45,158	11,463	5,069	61,695	1840–50	47.81	37.16	8.00	41.14
1860	70,645	12,515	4,567	87,728	1850–60	56.44	9.18	—9.90	42.19

POPULATION OF THE CITIES.

	Washington City.	Georgetown.	Alexandria.
1800	3,210	—	5,071
1810	8,208	4,948	7,227
1820	13,247	7 360	8,218
1830	18,827	8,441	8,263
1840	23,364	7,312	8,459
1850	40,001	8,366	8,784
1860	61,118	8,733	11,206

The city of Washington, located on land gently undulating, with just sufficient slope to insure good drainage, covers an area of 6,110.94 acres, or 266,192,546 square feet, divided thus: Area of public reservations and squares occupied by public buildings, 25,189,002 square feet; area of building lots, 121,095,214 square feet; area of alleys, 7,141,105 square feet; area of avenues, streets, open spaces, and canal, 112,767,225 square feet.

The total length of streets is 1,019,668 feet; total length of avenues, 183,797 feet; total length of streets and avenues is 227.93 miles, or 1,203,460 feet.

ASTRONOMICAL POSITIONS.

National Observatory . . 38° 53′ 38.96″ N. Latitude . . 77° 02′ 47.29″ Longitude W. from Greenwich.
Capitol Dome . . . . . 38° 53′ 19.89″ " " . . 77° 00′ 15″ " " "

3. The Defenses as Symbols of the Country and of Strength

The memory of the British attacking and burning the White House and the Capitol in 1814 was deeply engraved into the American psyche, and from the perspective of both sides, control of the capital could define a nation. Both the North and South felt that if Washington fell into Confederate hands other countries would recognize the South and back it with defensive troops.

After the Civil War, John G. Barnard, supervisor of the fortifications construction, summarized in his report about the defenses that:

> *It is scarcely necessary to dwell upon the necessity, in the civil war through which our country has just passed, of holding and defending Washington. In a war of the nation - united and patriotic - with a foreign power, conquest by the enemy of the seat of government, though it might be a disaster and even a disgrace, would have little influence upon the issues of the contest. In the recent civil war, on the contrary, the rebel flag flying from the dome of the Capitol would have been the signal of 'recognition' by those foreign powers whose open influence and active agency would be too willingly thrown, with whatever plausible pretext, into the scale of dismemberment to become almost decisive of the event. That the preservation of the national cause should have been thus identified with the continuous tenure of a city situated as is Washington, upon the very boundary to the most powerful and energetic of the rebellious States, and surrounded by the territory of another State only restrained from open rebellion by the heavy pressure of armed force, was one of the chief embarrassments of the Government in the prosecution of the war.*[69]
>
> *What the defenses of Washington were capable of and what they were incapable of is very well illustrated by real events. When the Army of the Potomac, in 1862, was beaten in the field, and to some extent demoralized and disorganized, it fell back on the defenses, where it rested in security; a very few days of respite, the arrival of reinforcements, and a change in the commander,* [enabled] *it to take the field again offensively.*[70]

The defenses also provided an important strategic refuge for defeated Federal forces in July 1861, September 1862, and July 1864.[71]

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[69] Barnard, p. 5.

[70] Ibid., p. 91.

[71] Cooling, p. 239.

Dale Floyd, president of the Civil War Fortifications Study Group, remarked, "the mental image of what the soldiers would encounter had more influence than what they actually encountered. The Civil War fortifications struck fear into the minds of the combatants and the strongest fort was not one that fought off a determined assault but one that was never attacked."[72]

In their book, *Mr. Lincoln's Forts,* Benjamin Franklin Cooling III and Walter Owens II wrote "...if one compares the defenses to a modern nuclear deterrent, we find that both accomplished, in a sense, their respective missions without an all-out test. Both proved expensive weapons but worthy of the price to both government and people."[73]

As Barnard stated, "The Washington lines were the defenses of a city, in this case the capital of the Nation, the maintenance of which was of the most vital importance in the civil war raging."[74]

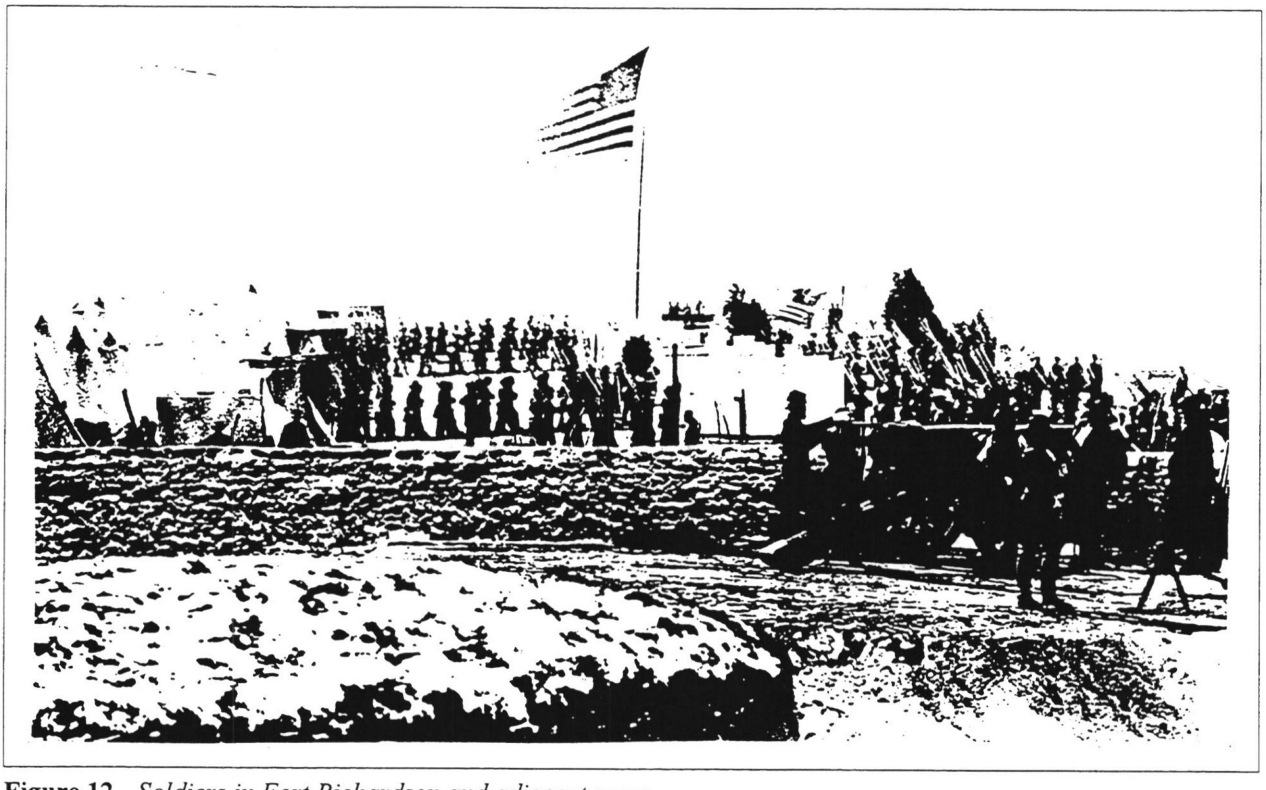


Figure 12 - *Soldiers in Fort Richardson and adjacent camp*

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[72] Dale Floyd, President of the Civil War Fortifications Study Group, At Civil War Workshop, Rock Creek Park, July 11-12, 1995.

[73] Cooling and Owens, p. 16.

[74] Barnard, p. 89.

4. Communications

The army built a military road system more than thirty-two miles in combined length to facilitate communication. "Several conditions were imposed: the roads should not be positioned on grounds that could be occupied by Confederate forces along the front, they should be as direct as possible, and, as Barnard said in his report, they 'should have sufficient width for the movement over them for field batteries or army trains.'"[75]

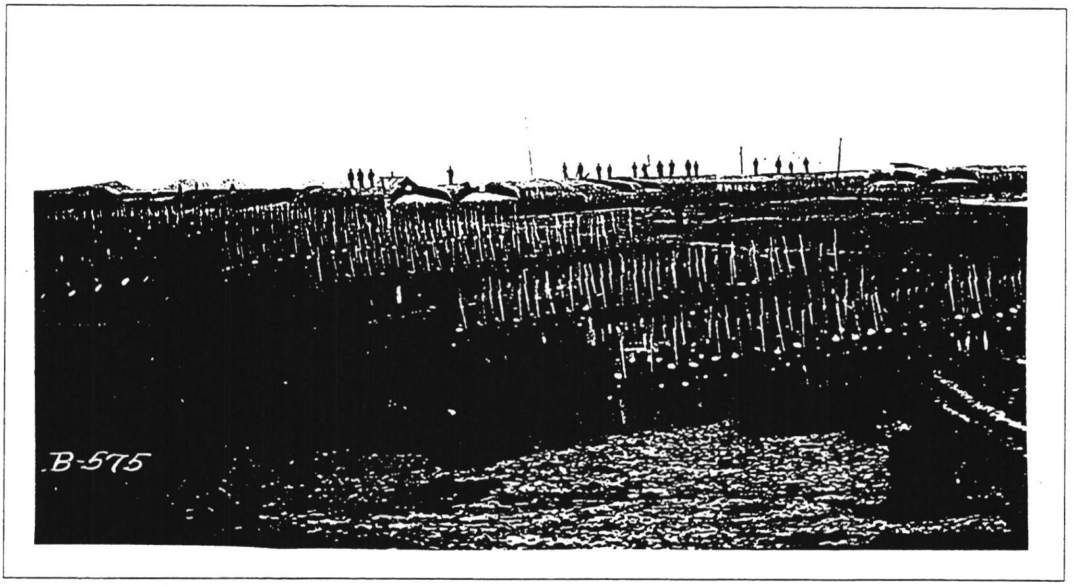


Figure 13 - *Soldiers outside Fort Lyon*

In 1862 a soldier at Fort Ellsworth remarked about the movement of troops along the roads:

> *From this camp the turnpikes are seen full of soldiers, moving forward to join the army. Regiment after regiment from Pennsylvania and New York pass us daily. At night their camp fires light up the surrounding country with thousands of beacon-fires, bidding the anxious hearts of our Northern people to rejoice in their coming strength.*[76]

[75] Cissna, p. 47.

[76] Carter, p. 84.

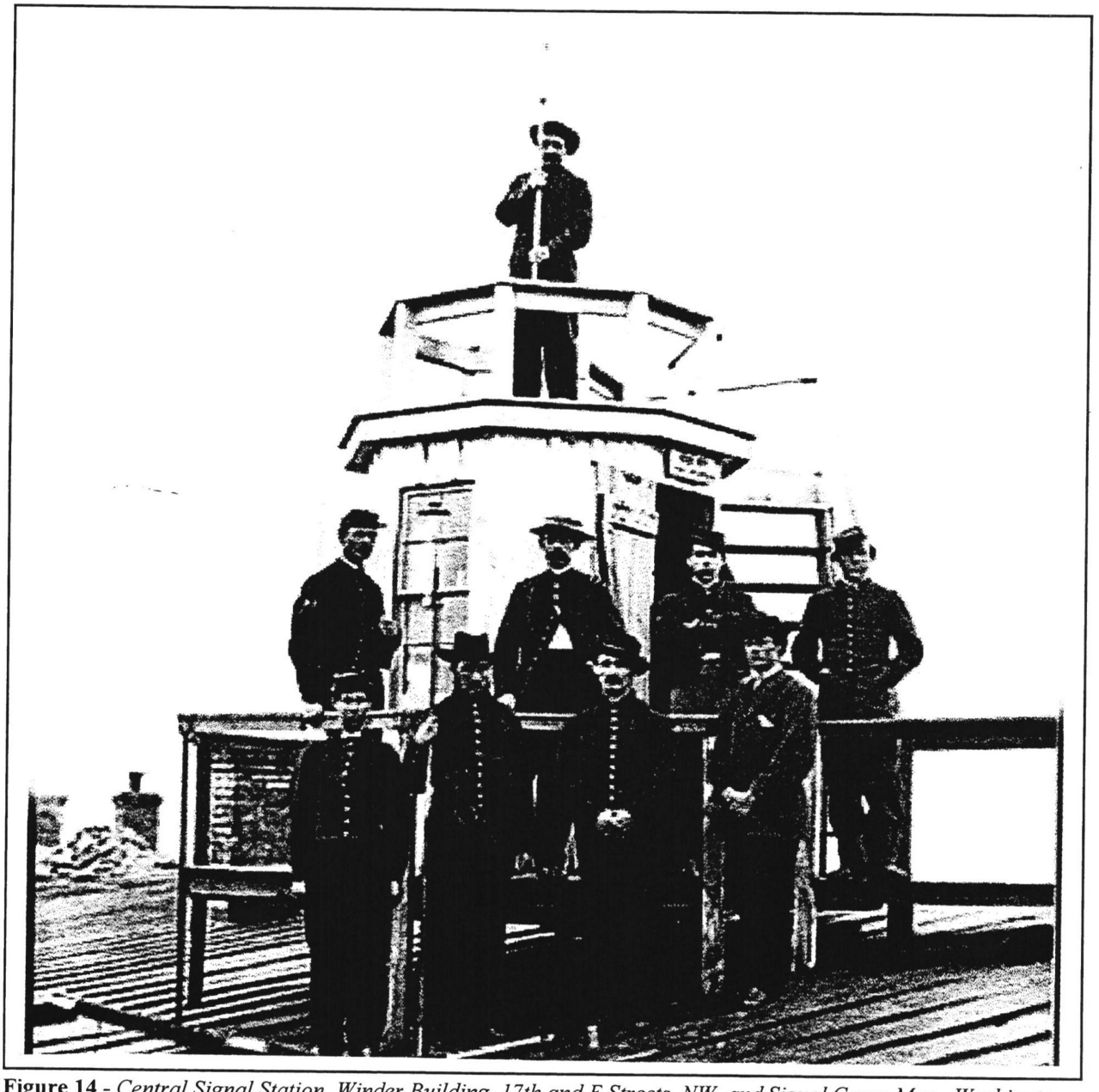


Figure 14 - *Central Signal Station, Winder Building, 17th and E Streets, NW, and Signal Corps Men. Washington D.C., April 1865*

"In addition to couriers and the system of military and public roads linking the forts around Washington, a series of Signal Stations (for flag and torch relay of information) connected the system."[77]

[77] Cooling and Owens, p. 241.

5. Beacons of Hope[78]

At the start of the war, the Union had no policy to deal with slaves escaping from the Confederacy. Eventually slaves were considered "contraband" of war and therefore could be "confiscated" and set free.

Across the country slaves escaped into Union Army lines, many coming to Washington. The forts protected the city, but their distant flickering campfires were also "beacons of hope" to slaves. The forts were a symbol of the Union and the freedom it stood for, as well as a physical line which could be crossed to freedom. Many escaped slaves settled close to the Union encampments, hoping the troops would protect their new found freedom.[79] Freedman's villages grew up around the city.

A member of the 17th Maine Volunteer Infantry stationed at Fort Carroll said, "Runaway slaves came into our lines daily and were either retained as servants for the officers, or sent to Washington as contraband property."[80] The companies, "...recounted their...receipt of runaway slaves as [one of] the high points of their tours in forts like Stanton."[81]

Many former slaves worked in the forts as servants or day laborers, helping build and expand fortifications. Freed women washed the soldiers' clothes and supplied them with homecooked food, fresh vegetables, and fruits.[82] As one of the soldiers related, "It was always a welcome sight for the men to see freed slaves coming down the winding country lanes in the morning with melons, peaches, and other fruits."[83]

By 1863, approximately 10,000 former slaves had come to the city primarily from Maryland and Virginia. However, because Maryland had never joined the Confederacy, many slaves from that state were returned to their owners. Still, by the end of the war, as many as 40,000 fugitives from slavery may have made their way to Washington.[84]

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[78] "Beacons of Hope" is a saying Benjamin Franklin Cooling III used to refer to the forts, from a slave's perspective, at the Civil War Workshop on July 12, 1995, at Rock Creek Park.

[79] Melder, p. 142.

[80] George J. Olszewski, *Historic Structures Report: Forts Carroll and Greble,* (National Park Service, June 1970), p. 12.

[81] Cooling and Owens, p. 206.

[82] Hutchison, p. 70.

[83] Cooling and Owens, p. 217.

[84] Melder, p. 142.

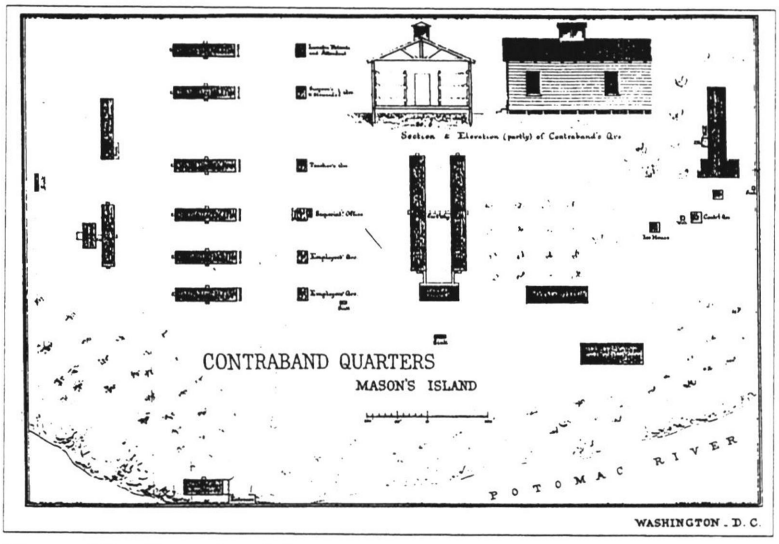


Figure 15 - *Contraband Quarters built to house Freedman*

Moses Grant Lucas, a former slave, "...fought on both sides of the war as he made his way to Anacostia from Louisa County, Virginia."[85] Over 178,000 African-American men served in the Civil War.[86] Civil War photographs show members of the U.S. Colored Infantry standing in front of Forts Lincoln and Corcoran. In fact, the 1st Infantry Regiment of U.S. Colored Troops organized in Washington, D.C. in May and June of 1863:[87]

> *...Army Commanders were concerned that white D.C. residents would be alarmed to see black men armed with rifles, so the new recruits were hidden away on what is now Roosevelt Island, across form Georgetown. However, late in June, five companies of armed black soldiers in uniform marched along Pennsylvania Avenue, attracting a curious but respectful crowd.*[88]

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[85] Hutchison, p. 70.

[86] William A. Gladstone, *United States Colored Troops, 1863-1867*, (Thomas Publications, Gettsyburg, PA, 1990), p.11.

[87] Linda Wheeler, *'The Unseen Soldiers: Memorial in D.C. to Bring Recognition to Black Troops Who Fought in the Civil War,'* The Washington Post , Tuesday, September 3, 1996, p. B1 and B5.

[88] Ibid, p B5.

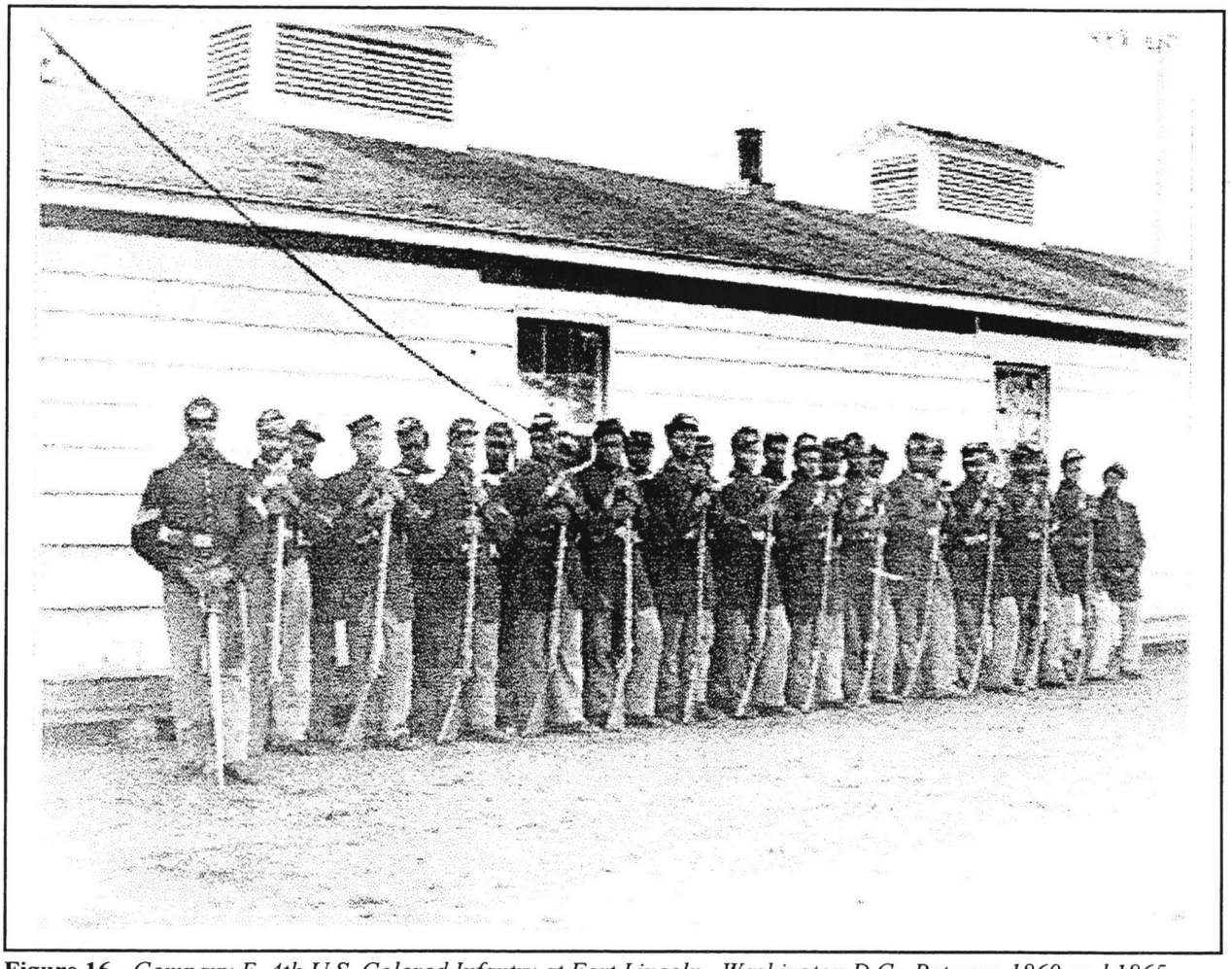


Figure 16 - *Company E, 4th U.S. Colored Infantry at Fort Lincoln. Washington D.C. Between 1860 and 1865*

6. Threats to Washington

The forts were within the grasp of the Confederate army several times.[89] A 'no-man's land' existed between the federally protected land and land controlled by the Confederate "guerrillas."[90] Sniping at opposing pickets became common along the front.[91]

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[89] McClure, p. 1.

[90] Cooling, p. 141.

[91] Ibid., p. 92.

On September 1, 1862, a soldier stationed at the defenses wrote to his family, "The enemy are at Fairfax Court House...[and] the wounded are coming by the road; some shot through the arm, leg or hand."[92]

The New York *Herald* of September 1, 1862, said about the city of Washington:

> *The bustle and confusion of Alexandria exceeds that of any previous occasion, not excepting even the tumult of McClellan's departure for the Peninsula; the army wagons, regiments and stragglers block up the streets from daylight till the small hours of the morning, so that pedestrianism becomes almost impossible.*
>
> *The river is obstructed with shipping; the wharves groan beneath the weight of army paraphernalia; long trains of cars creep through the mass of humanity, and artillery now and then, with its deafening rumble, adds to the din, while a dense cloud of dust hangs above all the town, blinding the eyes and choking up the respiratory organs of every visitor of this modern Babel....*
>
> *Of course the 'secesh'* [secessionist/Confederate] *element is jubilant. Delight upon the countenances of rebel sympathizers too plainly marks their long-nutured hopes of deliverance from the 'Yankees,' and the bitter experiences of former delinquents only checks the full expression of disloyalty.*
>
> *There has been continual anxiety all the morning relative to the engagement now going on in the vicinity of Centreville. It is 12 o' clock, and there is a lull in the cannonading, which has been very severe up to this hour. On every hill from Fort Ellsworth to the city, and on many of the roofs of the houses, crowds were observed listening to the distant cannonading. The 'secesh' families kept their houses closed and, occasionally would partially open their doors, and with dark and scowling features peer up the street as if anxiously expecting Jackson.*[93]

The Confederates did not make it to Washington, D.C. then, but the ever present threat was still there.

The concern of attack on the city and the President was so great that in 1863 Walt Whitman said that President Lincoln,"...always has the company of twenty-five or thirty cavalry, with sabres drawn and held upright over their shoulders. They say this guard was against his personal wish, but he let his counselors have their way."[94]

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[92] Carter, p. 94.

[93] Ibid.

[94] Walt Whitman, *The Sunday Star*, Washington, D.C. Nov.17, 1957. From Benjamin Franklin Cooling III's notes donated to Fort Ward.

One author wrote about this same time period that:

> *One of the stirring moments of those four long winters of war came on December 3, 1863, when to the boom of cannon from every fort about Washington, Thomas Crawford's bronze* [statue] *"Freedom" hoisted by horses, ropes and pulleys, rose to her place on the crowny cupola of the new Capitol dome.*[95]

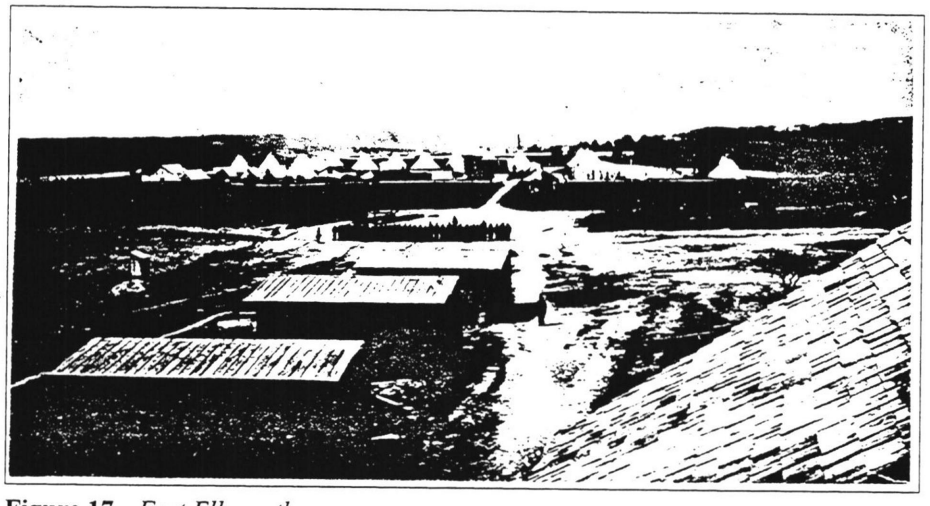


Figure 17 - *Fort Ellsworth*

On July 11, 1864, Confederate General Jubal Early, under orders from General Robert E. Lee, marched into Washington with anywhere from 11,000 to 12,000 hot bedraggled soldiers.[96] The numbers of attacking Confederates varies in different references. This may be because Confederates might have been purposefully disseminating incorrect information. The Washington, D.C. *Evening Star* of July 12, 1864, recounted:

> *When the 8th Illinois pushed back the rebel line this morning, two prisoners were taken - infantrymen - who, on being brought in, stated that their force in the immediate vicinity of Fort Stevens and DeRussey* [sic] *numbered 40,000, of which a considerable number were infantry with little artillery, but they expected heavy reinforcements of artillery.*[97]

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[95] Constance McLaughlin Green, *Washington: Village and Capital, 1800-1878*, (Princeton , New Jersey, Princeton Univ. Press, 1962), p. 268.

[96] Cooling and Owens, p. 14.

[97] *The Evening Star*, '*Further Reports from the Front - Reports of Rebel Prisoners - They Say They Have 40,0000 Men in Front of Forts Stevens and DeRussey*', Washington, D.C, July 12, 1864. (RCP) (Newspaper articles in this report followed by the designation (RCP) can be found in the cultural resource files at Rock Creek Park.)

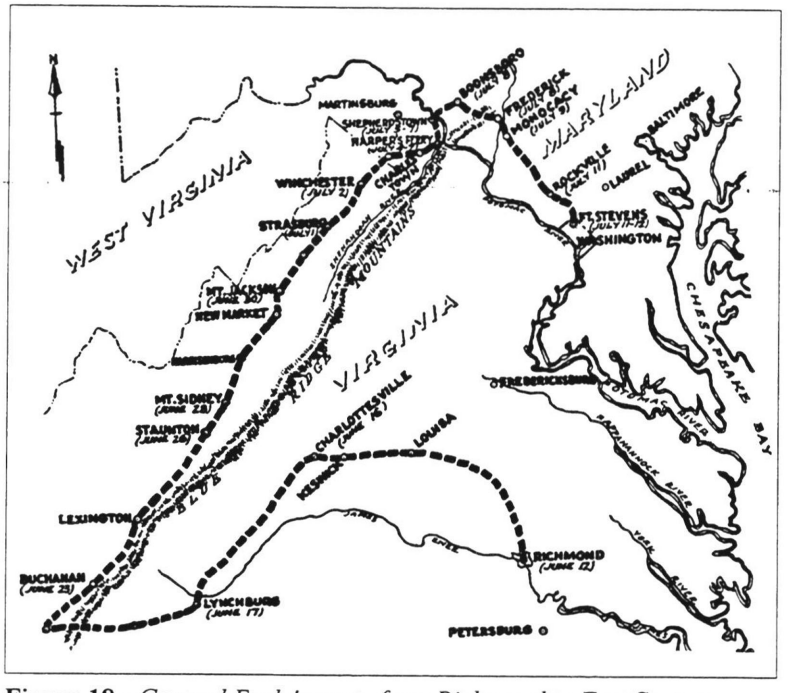


Figure 18 - *General Early's route from Richmond to Fort Stevens*

Meanwhile, "straggling veterans from the hospitals, District militia and groups of armed government clerks came to bolster the inexperienced garrison..." that was manning the city's Union defenses. [98]

Mary E. Hill, a Confederate and a Washington, D.C. resident, said in the diary she wrote for her children:

> *The talk of Early getting into Washington made a terrible stir. Even the men in repair shops were called to uniform and drill to resist Early. When the uniforms were brought in, your Father went to the foreman and threw his uniform down saying, 'Mr. C., I will not put on that uniform. I am on the other side'.... All thought General Early would soon be in Washington, and more than your Father were ready to join him.*[99]

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[98] Cooling, p. 198. (1991 edition)

[99] Mary E. Hill, *To My Children: The Days of Strife in Civil War.* (Diary of Mary E. Hill that she published herself as a pamphlet, 1915. After the pamphlet started to disintegrate, Mrs. John O. Williams copied it. The copy is in the Virginia room of the Arlington Central Library.), p. 22-23.

The Star of July 11, 1864, reported:

> *The President rode to the front in the direction of Tennallytown* [sic] *at about 9 a.m. today, accompanied by Assistant Adjt. Gen. Hardie, on a mounted escort. Yesterday he paid a similar visit of observation and inspection. His presence among our gallant troops will doubtless do much to animate and encourage them in the discharge of their duties.*[100]

However:

> *The anxiety of the government was such that there were boats being held in readiness at the Seventh Street wharf, to remove the President and his cabinet and important records should Federal troops fail to repulse the assault.*[101]



Figure 19 - *Fort Stevens*

Word came to the Confederates that Union troops were arriving to support the fortifications. Early himself is quoted as saying in Barnard's report that information on more troops arriving caused him to '*...delay the attack until I could examine the works again....*'[102]

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[100] John Clagett Proctor, '*Preservation of Historic Fort Stevens,' The Sunday Star*, Washington, D.C., Sunday July 8, 1945. Newspaper quoting from the *Star* of July 11, 1864. (RCP)

[101] Ibid.

[102] Barnard, p. 118.

The morning of July 12 revealed to Early that three veteran Union brigades had indeed landed at the wharves and marched to reinforce the forts. The rifle pits from Fort DeRussy to Fort Slocum were filled with men in faded blue uniforms, a sign of veterans.[103]

Early said:

> *'...as soon as it was light enough to see, I rode to the front and found the parapets lined with troops. I had, therefore, reluctantly to give up all hopes of capturing Washington, after I had arrived in sight of the dome of the Capitol and given the Federal authorities a terrible fright.'*[104]

However, he proceeded to skirmish with the Union forces all day. Fire and militia skirmishers from Fort Simmons to Fort Totten fanned out to create "an illusion of strength."[105] Action was focused between Forts DeRussy and Totten. The center of combat concentrated around Fort Stevens.[106] The *Evening Star* printed a report of the on-going battle, and described the surrounding landscape:

> *This morning the rebels showed themselves in front of Fort Stevens in considerable force.... Our skirmishes now occupy a corn-field, while those of the enemy occupy an apple orchard not over a hundred yards distant, and they are continuously popping at each other, the rebs being careful not to come from under cover.*[107]

Throughout the city thoughts turned to the fortifications:

> *This morning* [July 12, 1864] *Judge Fisher announced to the Grand and Traverse Juries that he did not suppose their minds were in a condition to try cases, but that, as the city was said to be in imminent danger, every true citizen should be using all his endeavors to assist in its defense.*[108]

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[103] Lenard E. Brown, *Forts DeRussy, Stevens, and Totten; General Background,* (National Park Service, Feb. 1968.), p. 18.

[104] Barnard, p. 118.

[105] Cooling, p. 198. (1991 edition)

[106] Ibid.

[107] *Evening Star*, July 12, 1864. (RCP)

[108] *'The Courts Adjourned', Evening Star*, Washington, D.C., July 12, 1864. (RCP)

President Abraham Lincoln and his wife, Mary Todd Lincoln, visited Fort Stevens:

> *President Lincoln, accompanied by his wife, came on the grounds in a carriage. Seeing Gen. Wright he at once extended his hand, saying: 'General, I am very glad to see you. This looks as though we are going to do something.'*
>
> *'Mr. President,' said the general, pointing towards Fort Stevens, 'if you'll just come along down there with me, I'll show you one of the prettiest little fights you could wish to see.'*
>
> *'No sooner were the words out of my mouth,' remarked Gen, Wright, in speaking of the matter afterward, 'than I deeply regretted having uttered them. I fully realized that the President's life was far too valuable to be brought into danger by any careless words of mine. But it was too late. He not only accepted my invitation but insisted on accompanying me, not-withstanding all I could say to prevent him. He sent his wife back and when I mounted the parapet, there he was beside me, looking out upon the scene with a great deal of interest. The enemy's sharpshooters were firing pretty closely, and I explained to him that the place was entirely too dangerous for him.... Just then a sharpshooter's bullet struck a surgeon who was standing near the President and I became really alarmed for his safety and, I have no doubt, a little excited, as I said firmly':*
>
> *'Mr. President, you must really get down from this exposed position. I cannot allow you to remain here longer and if you refuse I shall deem it my duty to have you removed under guard.'*
>
> *'I suppose the absurdity of my threatening to put the President of the United States under arrest amused him for he smiled, looked at me quizzically and got down, behind the parapet, where I provided him an ammunition box for a seat, but he wouldn't sit a minute at a time and was constantly stretching up his long form to see what was going on, thereby exposing fully half of himself to danger in spite of all I could do....'*[109]

President Lincoln became the only President to ever come under direct fire in war while in office.[110]

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[109] John Clagett Proctor, *The Sunday Star: Preservation of Historic Fort Stevens*, July 1945. (RCP)

[110] Christine Sadler, *'One More Mile and the District will have a Driveway Linking Forts,' The Washington Post*, Sunday, October 10, 1937. (RCP)

The *Evening Star* reported:

> *The rebel cavalry extended...from Tennallytown to Fort Reno, and their infantry from thence to Fort Stevens. An officer accustomed to judge of the size of bodies of troops* [sic], *and who inspected last night as closely as possible, estimated that they devloped* [deployed] *about 3,000 men of both arms on that extended line.*[111]

The Confederates were retreating. The *Evening Star* went on to say that while a small part of the forces continued to skirmish at Fort Stevens:

> *...At that very hour, 7 o'clock Tuesday night, the main portion of their* [the Confederates] *force were stealing away towards the fords of the Potomac.*[112]

General Wright said that President Abraham Lincoln meanwhile:

> *...Continued to bob up and down until the action was over, when he cheered lustily along with the rest and, bidding us good night, got into his carriage and rode away home.*[113]

A newspaper article recounted that the Confederates:

> *...left in the fields about 90 of their dead, and a detail of contrabands* [freed slaves] *went out to bury them,* [and they] *came marching in at sunset bearing trophies of rebel guns, etc. One rebel was found buried so hastily by his comrades in their exit, that the feet were sticking out of the ground.*
>
> *In the hospital beyond the third tollgate, the rebels left sixty-three of their wounded including eleven officers, none of them being above the rank of captain. With these wounded they left a surgeon, two assistant surgeons, twelve nurses (soldiers) and a chaplin.*[114]

Barnard spoke of Early's march on Washington in his report: "...inadequately manned as they were, the fortifications compelled at last concentration and an arraying force on the part of the assailants, and thus gave time for the arrival of the succor."[115]

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[111] *'The Rebel Lines,' Evening Star*, Washington, D.C., July 13, 1864. (RCP)

[112] Ibid.

[113] *Evening Star*, July 12, 1864. (RCP)

[114] *'Fort Stevens and Outside', Evening Star*, July 14, 1864. (RCP)

[115] Barnard, p. 91.

The *Evening Star* of July 13, 1864 reported;

> *...the defences* [sic] *of both Washington and Baltimore...* [proved] *too strong to be attempted by the number of men they might be able to bring to bear upon them.*
>
> *Though it is clear the Government was unprepared for such a demonstration as they, the rebels, have made, it is most credible to the efficiency of the organization that they were able to prevent even the semblance of an assault upon the works of Washington....*[116]

While the fighting had ended, concern for the safety of the Capital was still evident as seen by the *Evening Star* article:

> *It struck us yesterday in visiting the fortifications north of the city that they, or rather their surroundings, are not quite what they should be. The abattis* [sic] *in front of one of them, for instance, seems to be old and rotten, and we noticed paths made through it by lazy soldiers to avoid a long detour to the gate entrance; which paths could be used by the enemy.*
>
> *It seems strange, too, that we had no exterior line of defenses to prevent the enemy from getting so close up to the forts that they could pick off our men from its walls with impunity. As we understand it, the defenses of Richmond are of a very different character, having one line of defense within another, of such a character that the fate of the city does not depend upon the capture of a single line of them. The undergrowth near by, that affords so successful a cover for rebel sharpshooters, should be removed, too, one would think.*[117]

7. Battleground National Cemetery

The two-day battle at Fort Stevens left fifty-nine Union soldiers dead and 207 wounded.[118] The death toll for the Confederates is unknown, but over 100 severely wounded were left in Silver Spring, Maryland.

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[116] *The Evening Star*, Second Edition, 3 o'clock p.m., July 13, 1864. (RCP)

[117] Ibid.

[118] Maizie Jean Cummings, *Battleground National Cemetery: An Example of a Victorian Mourning Area,* (George Washington Univ., Aug. 24, 1990), p. 7. In books this author read the number of Union dead ranged from 59 to 72. The report by Ms. Cummings focused solely on the cemetery, and so this author choose it as the most reliable in reporting the number of dead.

Per a study on the cemetery:

> *The dead 'were laid that night in rude graves on the common...(awaiting)...a more ceremonious burial in a little cemetery presently established' (Leech 1941, p. 343). Battleground National Cemetery...was established within two weeks of the battle, but an exact date has not yet been established.... President Lincoln dedicated the ground on the evening of 12 July, 1864, 'as a national cemetery in honor of the men being interred there.' ...The government secured title four years later.*[119]

A 1.033 acre site on the Fort Stevens battlefield, a portion of a larger parcel belonging to James Mulloy, was designated as the site for a cemetery.[120] Forty-one of the Union defenders were ultimately buried in a circle in Battleground National Cemetery, established in 1864.[121] The Armbrecht family, the caretaker, and the caretaker's family, were also later buried in the cemetery.[122] The cemetery is one of the smallest Civil War cemeteries in the United States. Three verses of a poem written by Colonel Theodore O'Haras stand on signs in the cemetery as silent testament to the soldiers. The stanzas say:

On Fame's eternal camping ground,
Their silent tents are spread.
And Glory guards with solemn round
The bivouac of the dead.

The muffled drum's sad roll has beat,
The soldier's last tattoo;
No more on Life's parade shall meet
That brave and fallen few.

Rest on, embalmed and sainted dead,
Dear as the blood ye gave;
No imperious footstep here shall tread
The herbage of your grave.[123]

---

[119] Ibid., p. 17.

[120] Ibid., p. 18.

[121] McClure, p. 30.

[122] Cummings, p. 19. The caretaker's lodge is still standing in the cemetery and is used as an office/storage. The National Park Service brochure on the cemetery on p. 2 , Major Edward R. Cambell, buried on March 12, 1936, at the age of 92, was the last Union veteran eligible for interment.

[123] On signs at the cemetery. (The whole poem has eight verses, and they are sometimes written in a different order, per Cummings, p. 18.)

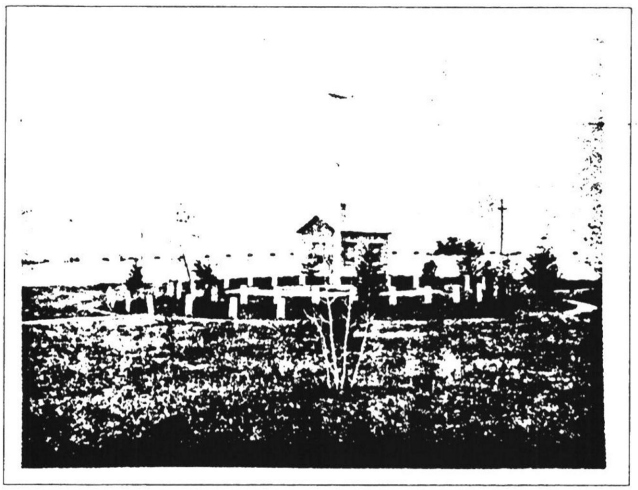


Figure 20 - *Battleground National Cemetery in 1867*

The city was not attacked again and the Union went on to win the Civil War - reuniting the United States of America.

D. AFTER THE WAR

By 1865, Washington had become the most heavily fortified city in the world for its time.[124] The defenses consisted of sixty-eight enclosed forts and armed batteries encircling thirty-seven miles. There were also 93 unarmed batteries and twenty miles of rifle pits. Although the battle of July 11-12, 1864, accounted for many dead, many more had died at the forts from diseases.

With the influx of soldiers and escaped slaves who elected to stay in the area after the war and of Southerners loyal to the Union, as well as others, the population of the city doubled.[125]

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[124] Dale Floyd, at Civil War Workshop, Rock Creek Park, July 11-12, 1995.

[125] *Resource Management Plan for East,* p. 7.

1. Fate of the Defenses

At the end of the war, the army debated the fate of the forts. Colonel Barton S. Alexander, successor to Barnard, wrote to the Brigadier General:

> *I have always supposed that it will be the policy of the Government, even after the termination of the rebellion, to maintain the more important works of defense around this city. It seems to me after our experience during this rebellion that a wise foresight will not permit us to allow the seat of government to become again entirely defenseless.*[126]

The War Department temporarily accepted the Colonel's suggestion and chose to maintain twenty-five forts under General Order 89, June 23, 1865.[127] However, by September, as the defense forces were released from service, further reductions were necessary until only eleven forts and one battery remained in government hands.[128]

The trees which had surrounded the city had been decimated, and wood had become scarce and expensive. Many of the forts were dismantled. In September 1865, advertisements, placed in newspapers in Washington, D.C.; Baltimore, Maryland; and Alexandria, Virginia; called for sealed bids on the abatis, timber, lumber, and other fort materials.[129] The profits to the government for selling the wood and tools totalled over 15,000 dollars.[130]

The remainder of the forts were returned to their rightful owners or, if owned by Confederate sympathizers, sold at auction.[131] Many were restored to the original land owners complete with earthen walls and army buildings.

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[126] Cooling and Owens, p. 15.

[127] Ibid., p. 16.

[128] Cooling, p. 236.

[129] Lenard E. Brown, *Historic Structures Report: Fort Stanton, Fort Foote and Battery Ricketts,* (National Park Service, May 1970), p. 41.

[130] Cooling and Owens, p. 16.

[131] Ibid.

The following is a list of people who are known to have received government owned fortification sites after the war:[132]

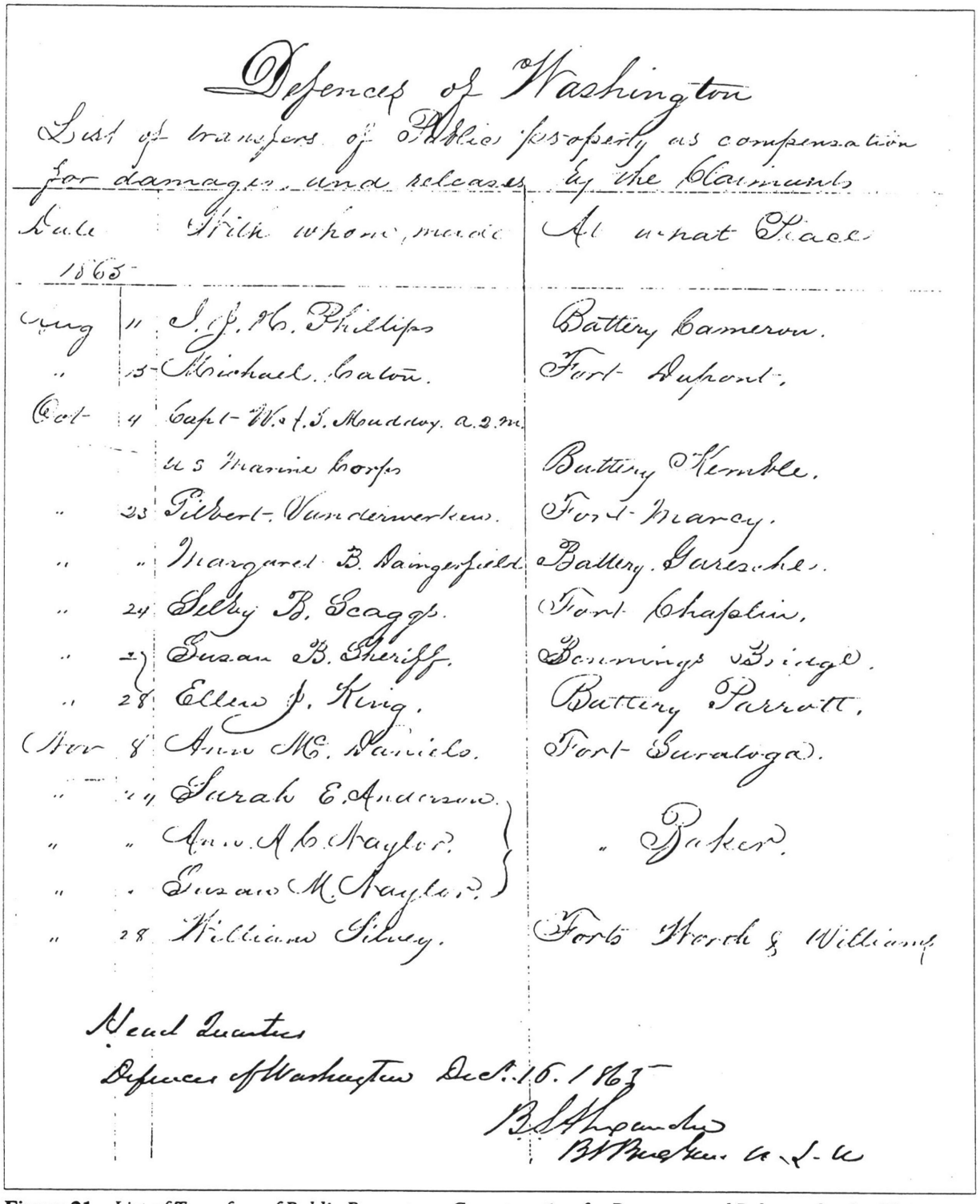
DATE	OWNER	FORTIFICATION
1864 (Month ?)	Daniel F. Lee	He purchased Fort Davis (The buildings were sold off by the government.)[133]
1865 Aug. 11	Mr. Philips	Battery Cameron
Aug. 13	Michael Caton	Fort Dupont (He also received one dollar compensation, five quartermaster structures, and the wooden portions of the works.)[134]
Oct. 4	Capt. W. A. S. Mouddoy	Battery Kemble
Oct. 4	Gilbert Vanderwerken	Fort Marcy
Oct. 23	Margaret B. Daingerfield	Battery Gareshe
Oct. 23	Selby B. Scaggs	Fort Chaplin and Craven [He also received one dollar compensation (he wanted $10,000), the fort timbers, and the engineer buildings from Camp Franklin.][135]
Oct. 24	Susan B. Sheriff	Bennings Bridge
Oct. 28	Ellen King	Battery Parrott
Nov. 8	Ann McDaniels	Fort Saratoga
Nov. 24	Sarah E. Anderson, Susan M. and Ann A. Naylor	Fort Baker
Nov. 28	William Silvey	Forts Worth and Williams (He purchased Fort Williams at a U.S. Marshall sale for one dollar)

[132] National Archives, Washington, D.C., Documents Division, Record Group 77.

[133] Cooling, p. 236.

[134] Ibid.

[135] Ibid.



Defences of Washington

List of transfers of Public property as compensation for damages, and releases by the Claimants

Date 1865		With whom made	At what Place
Aug	11	J. G. H. Phillips	Battery Cameron.
"	13	Michael Galvin.	Fort Dupont.
Oct	4	Capt W. H. J. Muddy. a.q.m. U.S. Marine Corps	Battery Kemble.
"	23	Gilbert Vanderwerken.	Fort Marcy.
"	"	Margaret B. Daingerfield.	Battery Garesche.
"	24	Selby B. Scaggs.	Fort Chaplin.
"	27	Susan B. Sheriff.	Bennings Bridge.
"	28	Ellen J. King.	Battery Parrott.
Nov	8	Ann Mc. Daniels.	Fort Saratoga.
"	14	Sarah E. Anderson.	" Baker.
"	"	Ann A. B. Naylor.	
"	"	Susan M. Naylor.	
"	28	William Silvey.	Forts Stark & Williams

Head Quarters
Defences of Washington Dec. 16. 1865
B. S. Thompson
Bt Brig Gen. A.A.G.

Figure 21 - *List of Transfers of Public Property as Compensation for Damages and Releases by the Claimants. Dec. 16, 1865*

The records also indicate that some of the sites were retained by the U.S. government. The following are "records of plots of survey of ground to be retained by the U.S." as of June 18, 1865:[136]

Fort Totten
Fort Slocum[137]
Fort Stanton
Fort Lincoln
Fort Stevens
Fort Sumner
Fort Whipple
Fort Ellsworth
Fort Carroll
Fort Reno (plot dated Dec. 28, 1865)

The government also retained Battery Rodgers.[138]

Fort Foote was deeded to the U.S. in 1872-73.[139] An 1869 letter stated that "... the Signal Corps occupied Fort Greble for several years after the war, despite the fact that Lucien and Eliza Berry held title to the property."[140]

On July 23, 1864, James Mullory, a portion of whose land had been acquired for the Battleground National Cemetery, filed for damages. His adjacent spring had been contaminated by the soldiers' remains. He felt it had rendered the property unsuitable for his planned homestead. On August 1, 1868, he received $2,650.35 in compensation.[141]

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[136] National Archives, Washington, D.C., Documents Division, Record Group 77. All records cited in this list were found in the National Archives except the items footnoted as being listed in Cooling's book, *Symbol, Sword and Shield.*

[137] Cooling, p. 236.

[138] Ibid.

[139] Ibid.

[140] Goodwin, p. 14.

[141] Cummings, p. 18. Many other claims were put in for Civil War Defense sites and further research could be done as a part of a CLR. (One claim, found in the Virginia room of the Arlington Central Library, said, "...my wagon had been used by the Rebels, and they had fixed it up in such a way [as] to make it appear like a cannon in the distance.")

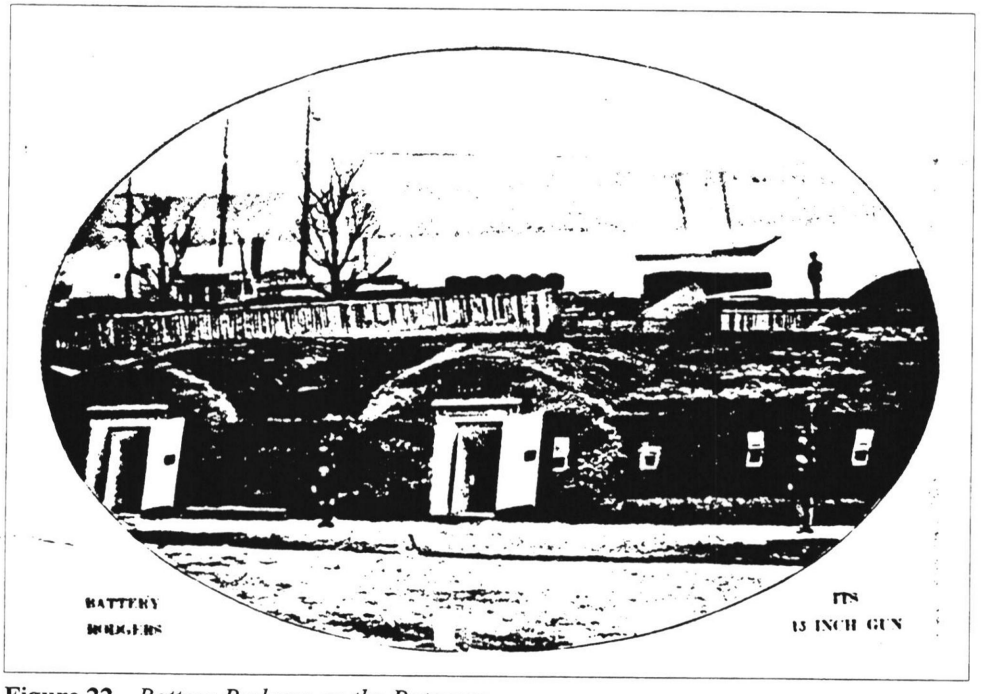


Figure 22 - *Battery Rodgers on the Potomac*

2. Freedman

During the Civil War, the freed blacks had come in such large numbers that the Union soldiers had to turn to the government for help. In 1865, just before the close of the war, the government established the Bureau of Refugees, Freedman, and Abandoned lands, better known as the Freedman's Bureau. The Bureau helped blacks find housing, employment, and supplies, offered them legal and medical aid, and established schools. It also kept marriage and other vital records.[142]

At the National Archives, in Record Groups 77 - 571, there is a monthly record of clothing furnished to contrabands at fortifications north of the Potomac.

---

[142] Judith Beck Helm, *Tenleytown,* [sic] *D.C.: Country Village into City Neighborhood,* (Tennally Press, 1981), p.168.

The original owners of the Fort Reno site, the "Dyers," received their land and subsequently sold it to real estate agents for development. "The development provided homes for many newly freed slaves...and by 1894 there were about sixty houses on the old fort site."[143]

A model community was formed from a camp of army barracks in Arlington to house former slaves. The barracks were converted into over 100 one and one-half story whitewashed wooden houses that had been split down the middle to house two families. The houses were not much bigger than the cabins they had occupied as slaves. The village also contained a day and night school, a tailor shop, a wash-house, an orphanage, and a hospital.[144]

After the war, veterans of the U. S. Colored Infantry also lived in the vicinity of the forts and one veteran, Chrisitan Fleetwood, a medal of honor recipient, worked in a Freedman's bank.[145]

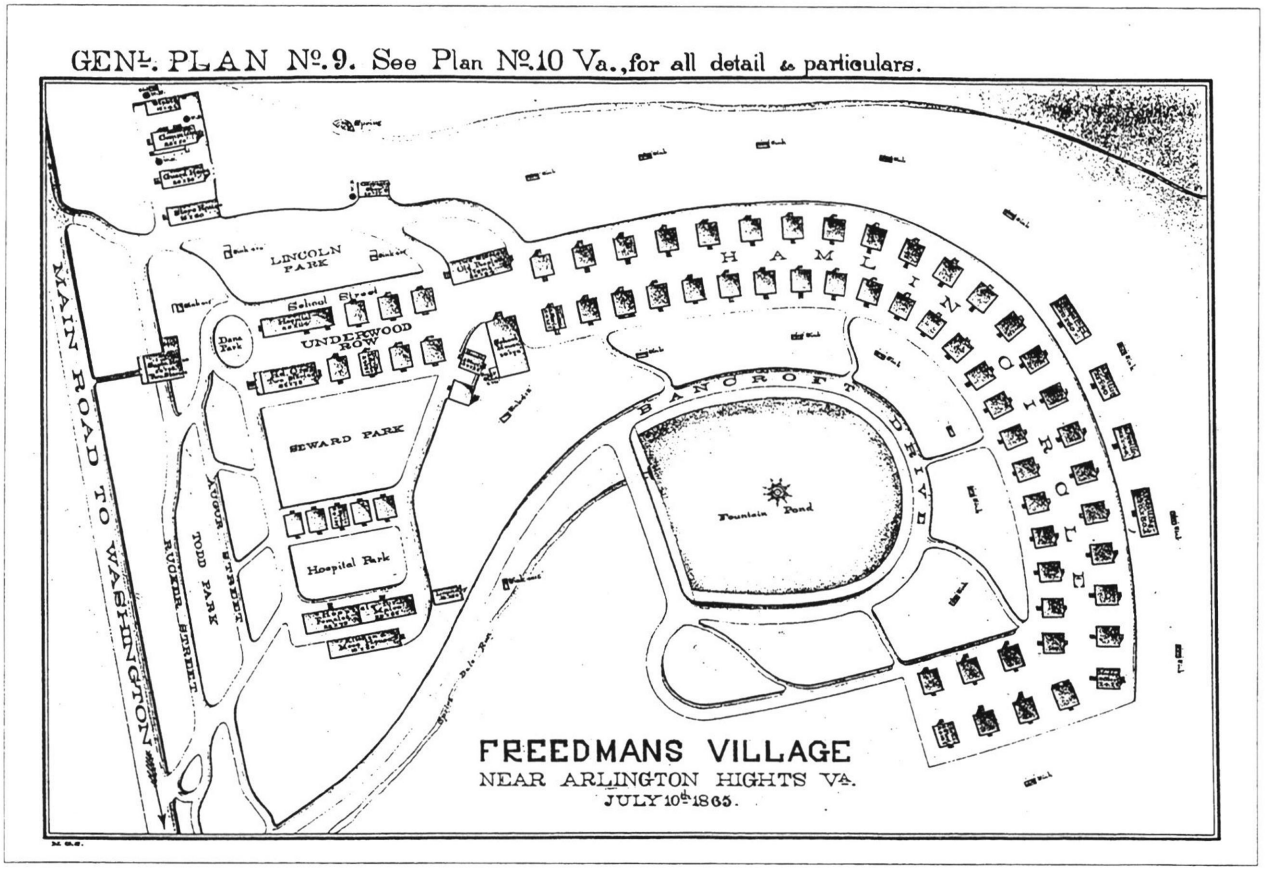


Figure 23 - *Freedman's Village near Arlington Heights, July 10, 1865*

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[143] Kathryn Schneider Smith, Editor, *Washington at Home: An Illustrated History of Neighborhoods in the Nation's Capital,* (Windsor Publications, 1988), p. 83.

[144] Melder, p. 148.

[145] Brenda Hynson, park ranger historian at Rock Creek Park, per her notes, 1996.

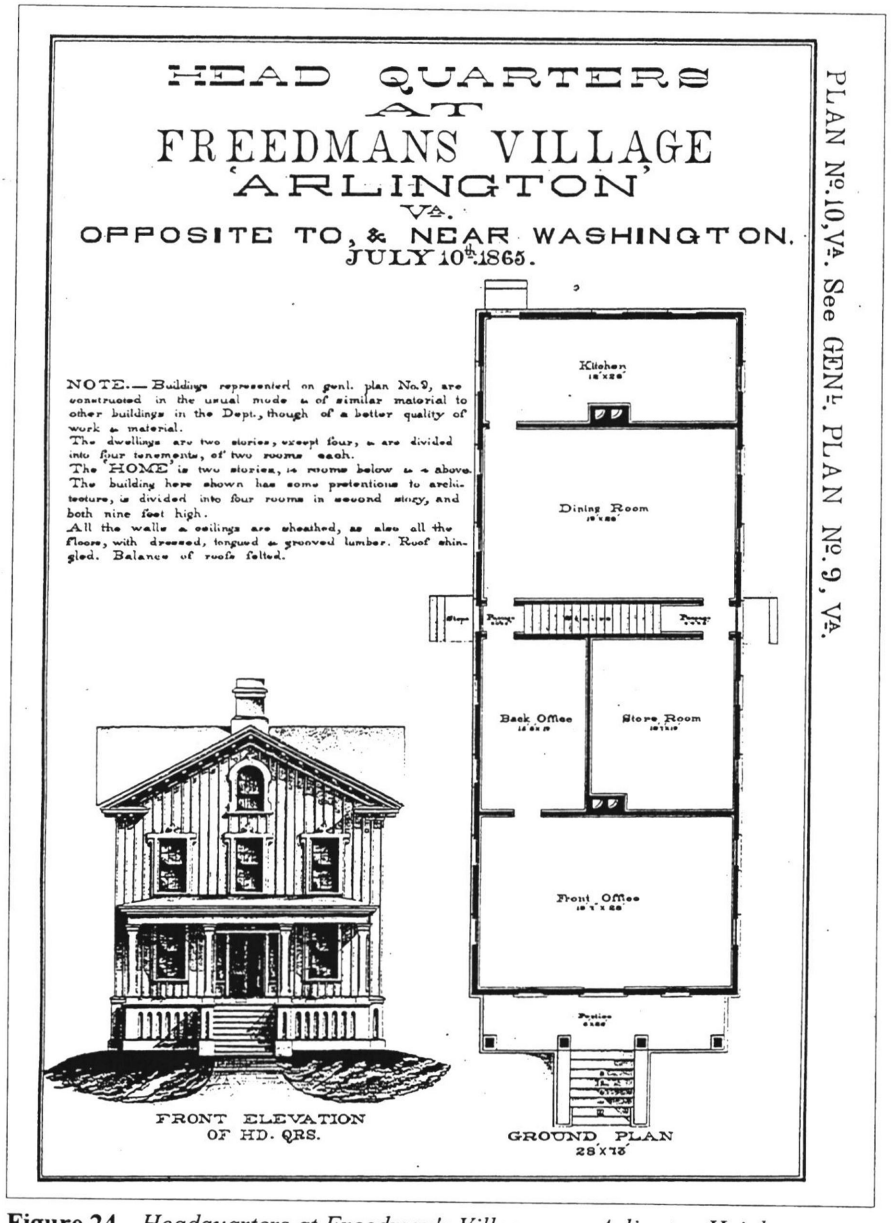


Figure 24 - *Headquarters at Freedman's Village near Arlington Heights, July 10, 1865*

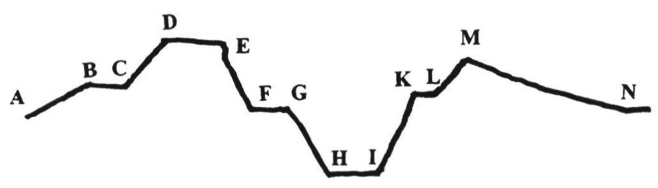
3. Post War Fortification Deterioration

Due to the lack of maintenance and effects of the elements, the forts were already decaying only eighteen years after the war, as is clear in an 1883 newspaper article:

> *The fairest creation of man's brain as well as the most stupendous monuments of his skill must all alike succumb to that law of nature which declares that no work of man's hand shall withstand the gnawing tooth of time. A few uncouth mounds of earth in remote, obscure, and gloomy silence preach their sermon upon the mutability of moral passion and are all that is left to testify that the proud defenses of Washington had ever existed.*[146]

The author continued:

> *Towering ambition might glean valuable reflection in these fast fading footprints of history. Where the hand of man has not caused obliteration, the eroding rains and frosts, the storms and winds have mingled glacis and counterscap and carried the frowning parapet into the ditch, while the forbidding abatis has gone to cheer the cotter's hearth. Magazine and filling room, bombproof and covered way are but shapeless mounds of earth, and in the deadly embrasure, whence swift destruction frowned suspiciously, the peaceful goats nibble the tender shoot of apple and peach, while on the parapet, ambitions proudest stand, the sumpse and the blackberry compete where embattled foes were supposed to clinch in deadly battle.*[147]



Letters...	form the profile of the ...
ABCDEF	Parapet
GHIK	Ditch
LMN	Glacis
AB	Banquette Slope
BC	Tread of Banquette
D	Interior Crest
E	Exterior Crest
FG	Berm
GH	Scarp
IK	Counterscarp

Figure 25 - *Profile of an entrenchment based on D.H. Mahan's book: A Treatise on Field Fortifications, 1857*

[146] Miller, p. 47.

[147] Ibid.

In addition to the hands of time, new weapon technology and the fact that the country was no longer at war with itself contributed to making the Civil War defenses obsolete. The rise of naval power required more emphasis on protecting the coast from international enemy attack.[148]

While forts fell so did the height of people's passions. In 1915, once Confederate sympathizer Mary E. Hill said in her diary:

> *And now as the blood of the North and the blood of the South has met in my grandchildren, there is no more North and South. It is our one country.*[149]

Using the advantage of hindsight, a 1927 *Washington Times* article summed up the significance of the conflict at the Civil War defenses of Washington, D.C.:

> *...The battle* (at Fort Stevens) *was without a doubt one of the most important of the Civil War. It is certain that had the Confederates been successful in breaking through to the city at the time, the morale of the Southern army would have been materially bettered, and with the Confederate forces in control of the Capital, it is difficult to guess what the final outcome would have been.*[150]

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[148] Cooling, p. 236.

[149] Hill, p. 27.

[150] *'Historic Fort Stevens now a Wardman Built Community', Washington Times*, October 29, 1927. (RCP)

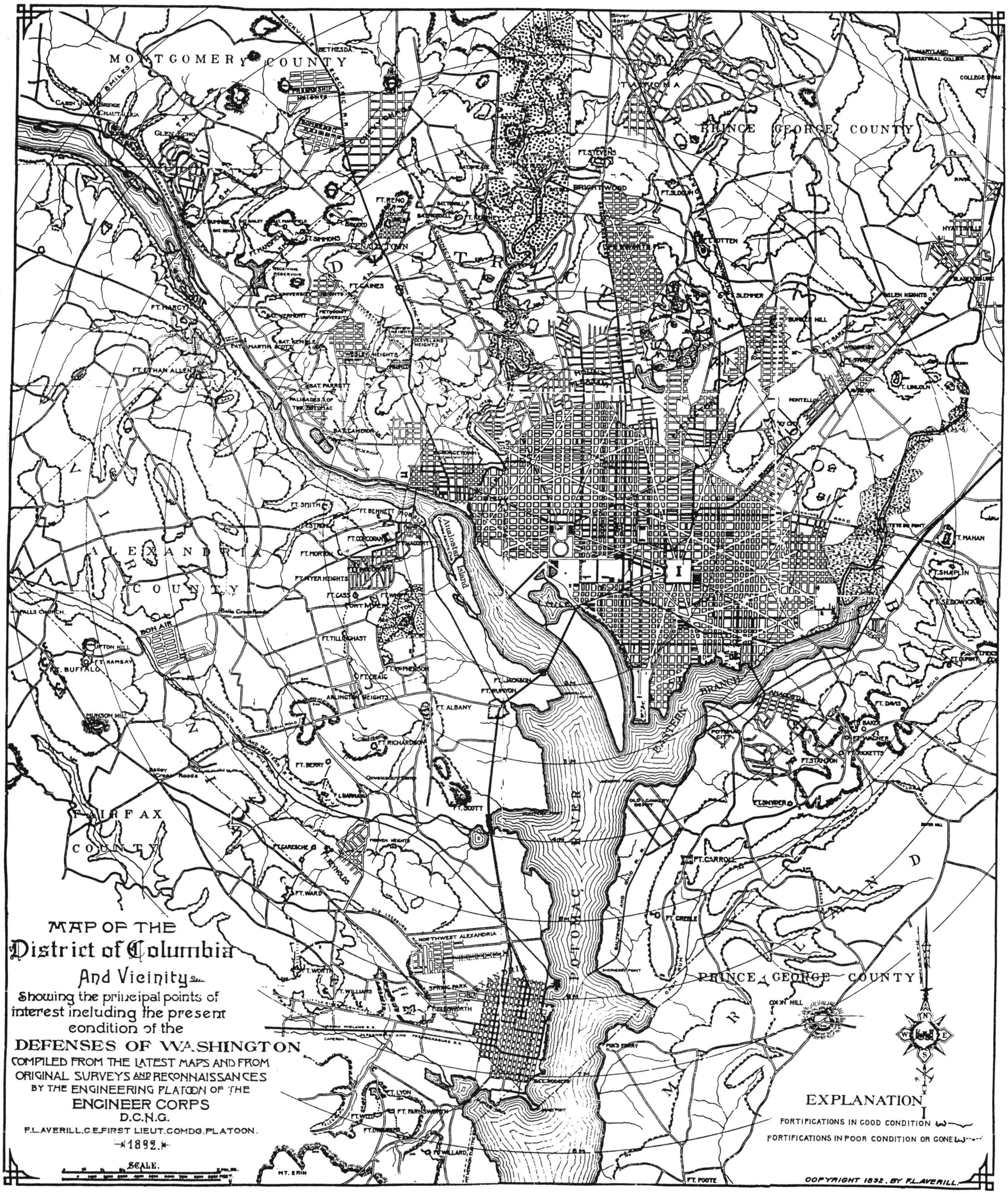


Figure 26 - *Map of the District of Columbia and Vicinity: Showing the principal points of interest including the present condition of the Defenses of Washington, 1892*

E. THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

1. McMillan Commission - Fort Drive Proposal: 1902

The Commission on the Improvement of the Park System (the McMillan Commission) was established in 1901 to appraise the L'Enfant plan, a 1790's plan to arrange the important elements in the new city, including the roads and open spaces.[151] Frederick Law Olmsted Jr., acting for the Commission, proposed a regional park system. Part of the recommendations included a "fort drive" which would memorialize the fort sites by maintaining them as park lands and relinking them with a scenic road. Part of the intent was to help people remember the past. The proposal called for the sites to be developed for recreation and to provide expansive overlooks for viewing the city.[152]

The McMillan Commission 1902 report to Congress, called "The Improvement of the Park System of the District of Columbia," said:

> *The boundaries shown upon* [the] *map...are fixed mainly with respect to the character of the views from each fort and the possibility and importance of keeping them permanently open. The areas of the proposed parks are therefore somewhat adjustable, depending upon the attitude of the owners.... With the forts indicated on the map - Stevens, Totten, Slemmer, Bunker Hill, and Thayer - and with such other small parks and view points as may be selected later, a northern park circuit of great interest would thus be formed, having views off into the country in contrast with the principal inner circuit of larger parks, presenting views chiefly south towards the city.*
>
> *In the section east of the Anacostia a similar chain of hilltop forts marks the points of* [the] *most commanding view.*[153]

---

[151] Fred W. Tuemmler and Associates, *Fort Park System*, for the National Capital Planning Commission, (Urban and Regional Planning Consultants, April 1965), p. 2-3.

[152] Melder, p. 218.

[153] Charles Moore, Editor, *The Improvement of the Park System of the District of Columbia*, (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1902), p. 111.

2. Fort Drive Proposal Pursued by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission: 1926[154]

In 1924 a Park Commission was established by Congress and given the task to "...preserve the flow of water in Rock Creek, to prevent pollution of Rock Creek and the Potomac and Anacosita Rivers, to preserve forests and natural scenery in and about Washington, and to provide for the comprehensive systematic, and continuous development of the park, parkway, and playground system of the National Capital...."[155] The Commission worked towards "...a Fort Boulevard following the hills and encircling the city and connecting the Civil War forts."[156] In 1926, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission took over from its predecessor, the Park Commission.

The 1930 "Capper-Cramton Act" authorized appropriations for land acquisition and development of "... such lands in the States of Maryland and Virginia as are necessary and desirable for the park and playground system of the National Capital in the environs of Washington."[157] The act went on to say:

> *Whenever the use of the Forts Washington, Foote, and Hunt, or either of them, is no longer deemed necessary for military purposes they shall be turned over to the Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital, without cost, for administration and maintenance as a part of the said George Washington Memorial Parkway.*[158]

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[154] The National Capital Park and Planning Commission's name was changed to National Capital Planning Commission in 1952. (Per an information sheet from the National Capital Planning Commission, 1996.)

[155] 68th Congress, Sess. I, Chap. 270, *An Act Providing for a comprehensive development of the park and playground system of the National Capital,* June 6, 1924.

[156] Tuemmler, p. 3.

[157] 71st Congress, No. 284, *An Act for the acquisition, establishment, and development of the George Washington Memorial Parkway along the Potomac from Mount Vernon and Fort Washington to the Great Falls, and to provide for the acquisition of lands in the District of Columbia and the States of Maryland and Virginia requisite to the comprehensive park, and playground system of the National Capital*, 1930. p. 1.

[158] Ibid. p. 3.

In a period of intense planning for the city, the National Capital Park and Planning Commission worked towards the proposed scenic fort drive. In 1932, a book was printed for the United States House and Senate called *Washington, the National Capital.* The book described the "Fort Drive" being developed by the Commission:

> *The citizens' movement to connect by a boulevard a considerable part of the Civil War defenses of Washington was incorporated in the plan of 1901. These old defenses, occupying strategic positions, are capable of being converted into small parks of excellence and availability, and a connecting boulevard will have an added historic interest. Of these so-called forts a number are already in possession of the Government. Among those that have been purchased is Fort Stevens, near the Army Medical Center, where during General Early's raid, on July 12, 1864, President Lincoln was under fire until ordered to the rear by the officer in command. The Fort Drive is being developed by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. There will be a continuous parkway of suitable width connecting the sites of the following old forts:*
>
> *Fort Greble, Fort Carroll, Battery Ricketts, Fort Stanton, Fort Wagner, Fort Baker, Fort Davis (United States owned), Fort Dupont (United States owned), Fort Shaplin* [sic], *A Battery, Fort Mahan, Fort Bunker Hill, Fort Totten, Fort Slocum, Fort Stevens (United States owned), Fort De Russye* [sic], *Fort Bayard, Battery Kemble, Battery Vermont (United States owned), and Battery Parrott. There is another Civil War fortification in Arlington National Cemetery, called Fort McPherson, which is being preserved for its historic character. From it a commanding view of the cemetery and of the river is obtained.*[159]

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[159] H. P. Caemmerer, *Washington, The National Capital.* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1932) p. 119-121.

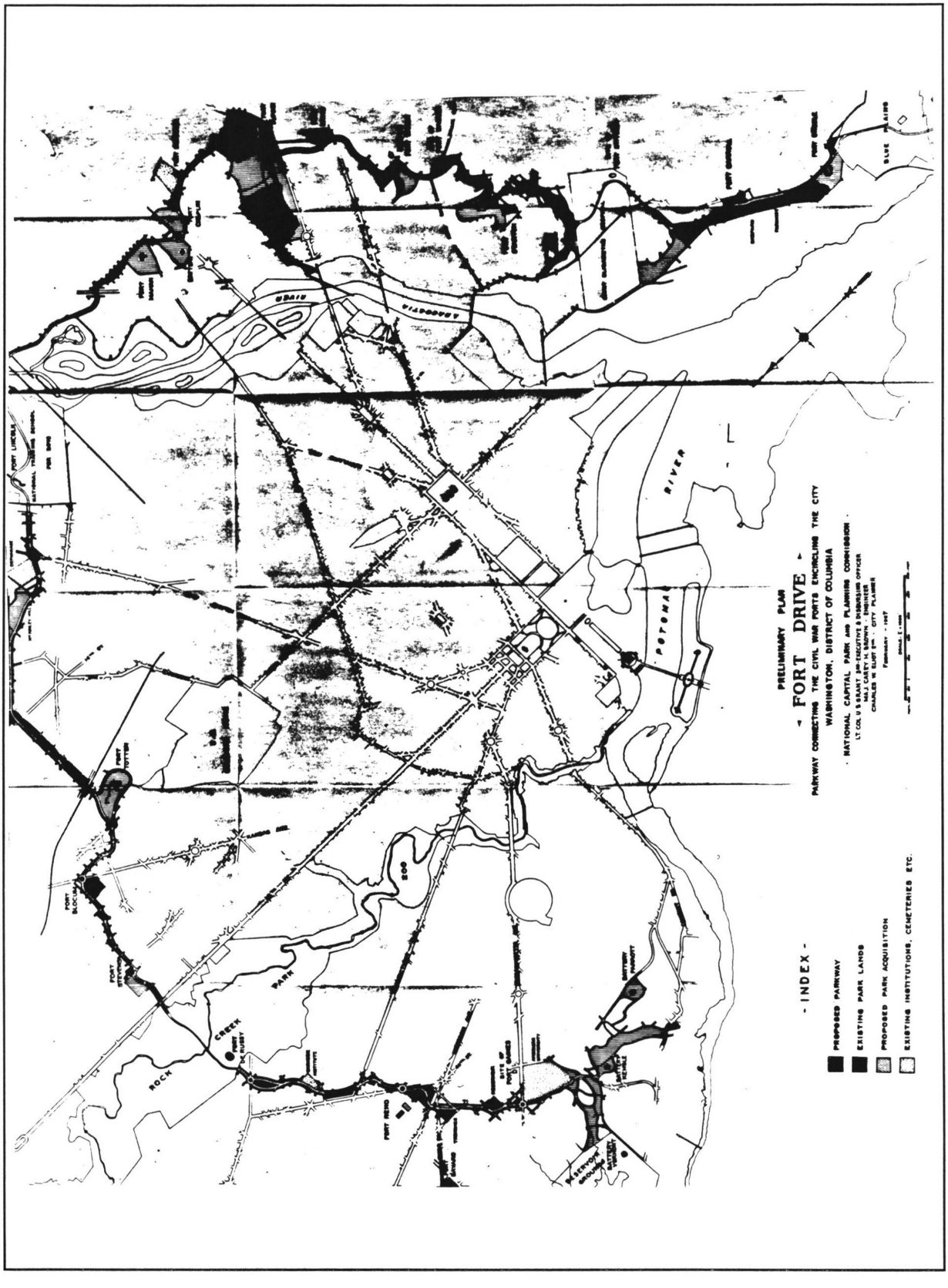


Figure 27 - *1927 Preliminary Plan for Fort Drive - Parkway Connecting the Civil War Forts Encircling the City*

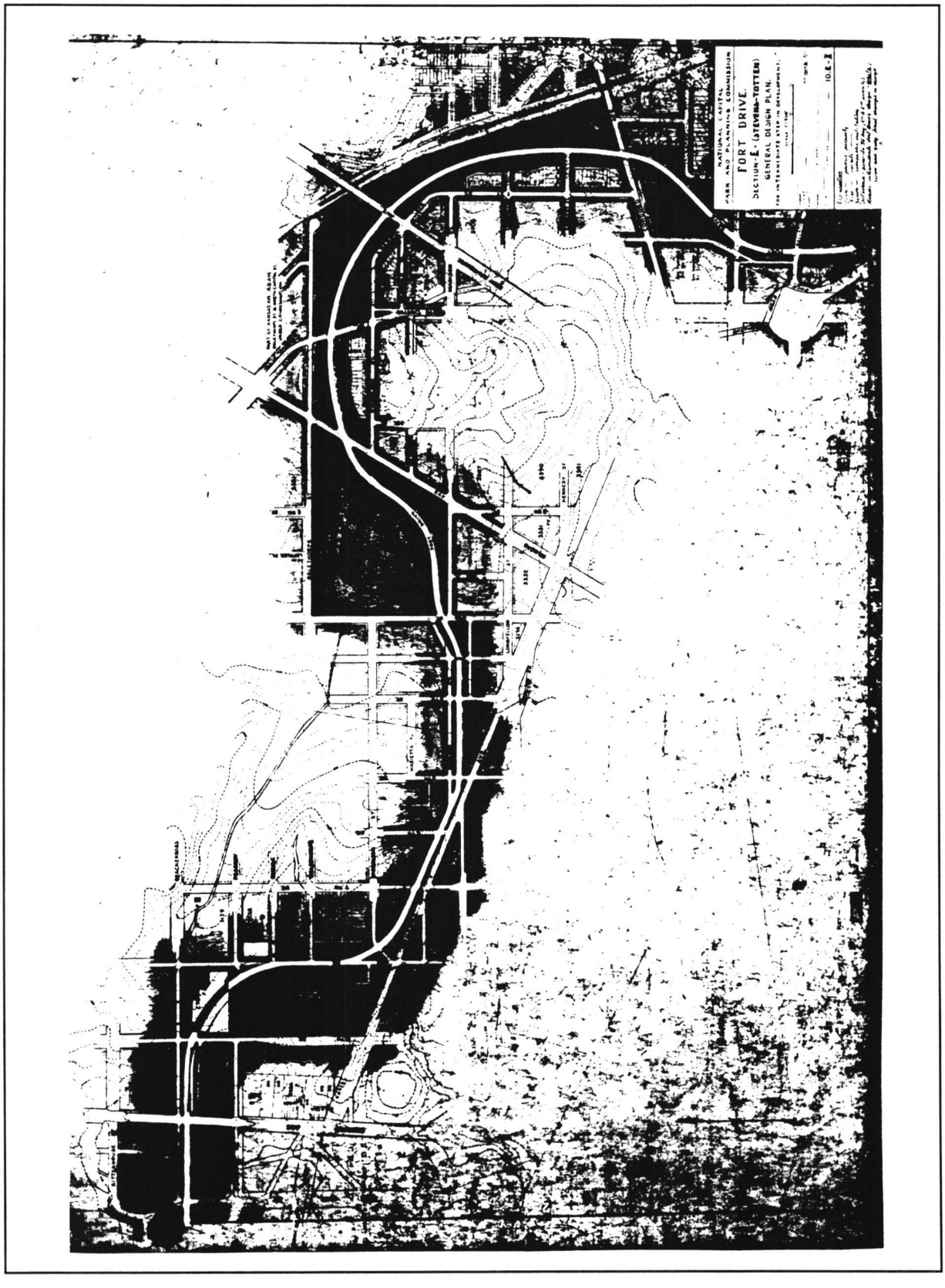


Figure 28 - *1934 General Design Plan for Fort Drive, Section E, Fort Stevens to Fort Totten*

A 1937 book called *The WPA Guide to Washington, D.C.*, of over 1,000 pages in length, contained, "...the complete list of sites that the Fort Drive would cover."[160] The list consisted of addresses of all the sites and notes about some of them. (It called Georgetown a "quaint, romantic suburb."[161]) The selected sites and notes, as written in the 1937 book, have been included in the following list:[162]

Fortification name	**Notes from book (if any)**
Battery Kemble	*Part of the old fortifications still exists.*
Fort Reno	*This is the highest point in the District of Columbia.*
Battery Terrill	
Fort DeRussy	*This fort is in exceptionally good state of preservation.*
Fort Stevens	*A small portion of the ramparts is standing and the remaining portion will be restored. A monument to President Lincoln commemorates the occasion of his being under Confederate fire here.*
Fort Slocum	
Fort Totten	*One of the best preserved of the old forts.*
Fort Lincoln	
Fort Mahan	
Fort Chaplin	*Inaccessible to vehicles at present.*
Fort Dupont	*Fort is in excellent preservation. Adjoining area of 315 acres is being acquired, which will make this, next to Rock Creek Park, the largest in the District of Columbia.*
Fort Davis	
Fort Stanton	*A portion of the old fort is still in existence.*

[160] *Washington: City and Capital,* Federal Writer's Project, Works Progress Administration, American Guide Series, (Government Printing Office, 1937), p. 593.

[161] Kennedy, p. 126.

[162] *Washington: City and Capital*, p. 593-594.

Battery Ricketts	*Only a small part of the old battery remains.*
Fort Snyder	
Fort Carroll	
Fort Greble	*Remains of this fort are still visible.*

It went on to say that "...other forts acquired by the Commission but not connected with Fort Drive are Fort Bayard, Fort Bunker Hill, and Fort Foote."[163]

In the 1930's and 40's, under the 1930 Capper-Cramton Act, the Commission acquired many Civil War forts for the purpose of forming a drive, including property transferred from the District of Columbia government.[164]

The *Washington Post* wrote in 1937 that:

> *After a decade of "concentrated forethought and piecemeal buying," the National Capital Park and Planning Commission this fall finds itself in virtual possession of all but one of the 23 1/2 miles needed for development of the long-proposed Fort drive - which some year soon will encircle the District by way of sites of old Civil War defenses.*
>
> *Running along rims of the hills which make a saucer out of Washington, the proposed 40-foot* [wide] *boulevard will be one of the most scenic and historic drives in America, as well as a most welcome means of quick crosstown travel.*[165]

3. Forts assigned to the National Park Service: 1933

The War Department retained some fort areas from the Civil War period until 1925. In 1925, the forts were transferred to the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks, under the general supervision of the Chief, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In March 1933, after the Executive Branch was reorganized, the fort system was placed under the Department of Interior jurisdiction for National Park Service administration.[166]

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[163] Ibid.

[164] *Fort Circle Parks Master Plan,* (National Park Service, 1968), p. 9.

[165] Christine Sadler, *The Washington Post, One More Mile and the District Will Have a Driveway Linking Forts*, Sunday, October 10, 1937. (RCP)

[166] *Fort Circle Parks Master Plan*, 1968, p. 9.

4. Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC): 1937

In 1937 and 1938, the CCC helped the National Park Service reconstruct part of Fort Stevens. The CCC also worked on Fort Bunker Hill.[167]

The *Sunday Star* headline on July 4, 1937, read,"Restored Civil War Fort is New Sightseeing Shrine." It went on to say, "Gnarled, battle-scarred veterans pause at the restoration site to watch the industrious CCC workers who, in their blue denim attire, are veritable modern boys in blue." Robert R. Mckean, a National Capital Parks landscape architect, supervised the development of the reproduction.

The *Sunday Star* wrote that people would ask:

> *'What kind of wood is used in the fort wall?' The question never fails to stump the sightseer, whether he be a noted botanist or John Q. Layman . With a twinkle in his eyes Mckean explains that the logs are made of concrete, not wood. Little wonder the visitor is incredulous. Only close examination of the logs reveals that the 'bark' is dark-colored cement cleverly applied by deft artisans. These simulated logs, Mckean says, last far longer than natural wood.*[168]

A 1945 article said about Fort Stevens:

> *It was nearly half a century ago that William Van Zandt Cox, a nephew of "Sunset" Cox, bought the site of old Fort Stevens...in order to preserve it for prosperity. Shortly after this the Fort Stevens Lincoln National Military Park Association was formed and through its efforts, in 1902, a bill was introduced in the Senate by Senator Redfield Proctor of Vermont 'to preserve the most historic and important part - Fort Stevens and vicinity - of the defenses of Washington.' A further bill was introduced by Senator William Warner in 1906, and other bills followed, it being known from the first that Mr. Cox purchased the property only through patriotic motives and held the site to sell to the Government for the amount he paid for it, plus taxes. But all things have an ending and eventually, after a lapse of many years, the Government did buy the fort tract, now known as Fort Stevens Park, and since has considerably restored the fortification.*[169]

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[167] Ibid, p. 7.

[168] Bernard Kohn, '*Restored Civil War Fort is New Sightseeing Shrine,' The Sunday Star*, Sunday morning, July 4, 1937, Washington, D.C. (RCP)

[169] John Clagett Proctor, '*Preservation of Historic Fort Stevens', The Sunday Star*, Washington, D.C., Sunday July 8, 1945. (RCP)

5. The National Park Service and Fort Marcy: 1959

Fort Marcy protected Chain Bridge (so-called because the original bridge was a chain suspension bridge). Barnard said, of Fort Marcy (and Fort Ethan Allen), that the work, "...form[ed] no part of the defenses, strictly speaking, but are of utmost importance as a tete-de-pont [bridgehead] to the Chain Bridge, over which it is indispensable to secure a debouche [a site where there is a geographic change from a narrow space or valley to an open plain or river]."[170]

In June 1957, bulldozers were on site and ready to knock down the fort for development when concerned citizens blocked the bulldozers and asked the state to save the fort. Other Virginia citizens opposed the idea and questioned:

> *'...why the state should contemplate buying and preserving a fort the Confederacy tried unsuccessfully to destroy during the War Between the States.' Mrs. Templeton, granddaughter of a Confederate surgeon whose home in South Carolina was destroyed by General Sherman...pointed out that '...true southerners are good sports and dignified losers, led by the fine example of General Lee who accepted defeat without bitterness.' She continued, '...these forts were a tribute to the Confederates, tangible proof of Federal fear of their might.' A few months later the Virginia Highway Department said, 'We don't think we'd want to buy a Union fort.'*[171]

When the state would not step in, the citizens took their case to the Federal Government. In 1959, Fort Marcy became the last of the Civil War defenses of Washington to become a part of the National Park Service.

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[170] Barnard, p. 24.

[171] Captain Reed Hanson, USAF, *Civil War to Civil Concern: a History of Fort Marcy,* (George Mason University, May 1973), p. 76.

6. Proposal Changed from a 'Fort Drive' to a 'Fort Park System': 1965

A National Capital Planning Commission subcommittee addressing the fort drive in May of 1962, said the idea of a park road connecting the Civil War fort sites was "...no longer valid in its entirety because of changed conditions and the great increase in traffic on all the cross streets and avenues it must intersect...."[172]

In June of 1962, the National Park Service, in a letter to the Director of Highways and Traffic, said, "...it would be, 'impossible and unjustifiable in view of changed economic and social factors...' for the National Park Service to proceed with construction of the Fort Drive as originally conceived and planned."[173]

A 1965 report written for the National Capital Planning Commission, called *Fort Park System, A Re-evaluation Study of Fort Drive, Washington, D.C.*, proposed that the Fort Drive be renamed Fort Park System and the proposal be revised from a drive to a connected park. The report proposed park development policies that included preserving the historic forts, offering a ring of recreation and green space, identifying with adjacent neighborhoods, and introducing circulation facilities such as bike trails.[174]

7. The National Park Service Master Plan: 1968

In 1968, the National Park Service again proposed taking the concept of the "Fort Drive" and making the same linkage but with a bike and pedestrian trail instead of a road, calling it the "Fort Circle Parks." At that time, the National Park Service envisioned connected parks which would be home to a variety of activities. The plan suggested activities such as environmental learning centers, play lots, on-site interpretive programs, attractive natural areas, and neighborhood cultural centers. The plan also called for picnic and family outing areas.[175] Camping was envisioned as a major activity, including both day and overnight group camps. The 1968 Master Plan also recommended individual treatments for each fortification site.

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[172] Tuemmler, p. 6.

[173] Ibid., p. 7.

[174] Ibid. iv - vii.

[175] *Fort Circle Parks Master Plan,* 1968, p. 4.

Recommendations and/or status of fortifications from the 1968 plan:

Fortification Name	**Plan Recommendation**
Fort Bayard ✓	No evidence of fort remains
Fort Bunker Hill ✓	No evidence of fort remains
Fort Carroll	Remains to be stabilized
Fort Chaplin	To be stabilized
Fort Davis	To be partially restored
Fort DeRussy ✓	Maintain in present condition
Fort Dupont	To be restored
Fort Greble	Landscape marking and minor reconstruction
Battery Kemble ✓	To be stabilized
Fort Mahan	To be stabilized
Fort Reno ✓	No evidence of fort remains
Battery Ricketts	To be stabilized
Fort Slocum ✓	No evidence of fort remains
Fort Stanton	Remains to be stabilized
Fort Totten ✓	To be stabilized

FORT STEVENS?

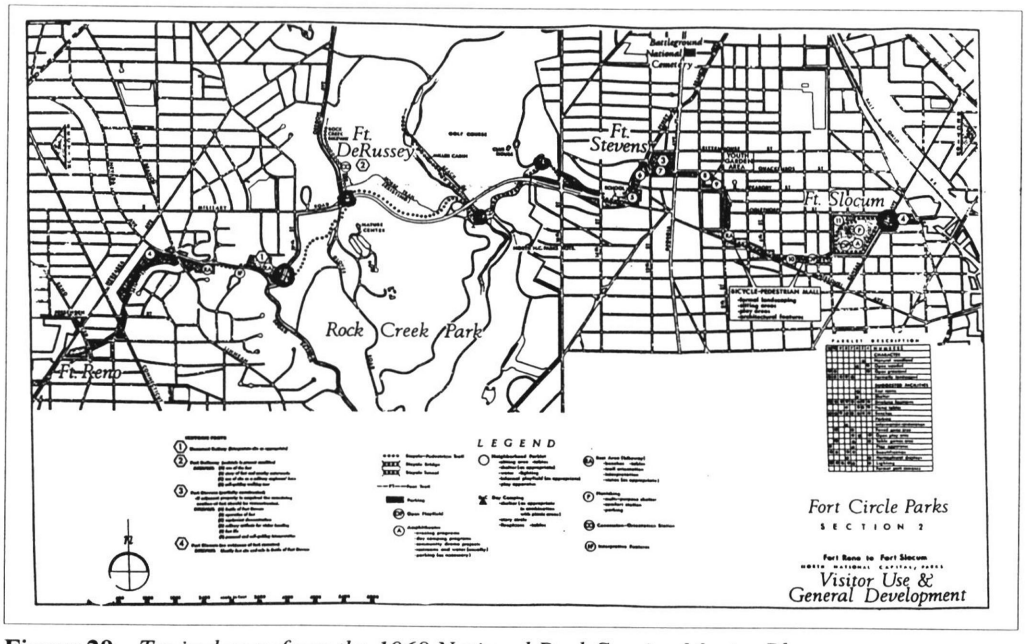


Figure 29 - *Typical map from the 1968 National Park Service Master Plan*

8. Civil War Sites under State, Local, or Private Ownership: Present

Some of the Civil War defenses of Washington, D.C. are administered by State and local park authorities.

The city of Alexandria partially reconstructed Fort Ward in the 1960's, and today the site is maintained as an historic park. A reconstructed Civil War camp headquarters serves as a visitor center and museum which focuses on the Civil War defenses of Washington. Fort Ward offers on-site and off-site programs to students, including teacher lesson plans. On-going lecture series are offered at the fort on subjects relating to the Civil War.

In 1995, Arlington County bought the site of Fort C. F. Smith, considered by some to be the best preserved defense site in Arlington. It is administered by the Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation. The county is currently preparing a Cultural Resource Management Plan to determine how the site will be used. The community has been involved with the plan development. People basically responded that they wanted to preserve the historic and natural resources. The plan will be completed by the fall of 1996, and then the park will be open to the public. The county also owns Fort Ethan Allen which will have interpretive displays.

The Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (the National Capital Planning Commission, which used to be the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, is an entirely separate agency) completed a stabilization project on Battery Bailey in Bethesda, Maryland in 1995, and it is open to the public.

Two fort sites are under the Fairfax County Park Authority administration. Fort Willard (near Bell Haven country club), acquired in 1978, is located in a park encircled by a road and houses. Fort Freedom Hill, a partially reconstructed advance fort located in Vienna, Virginia, was acquired in 1969 and restored in 1977.

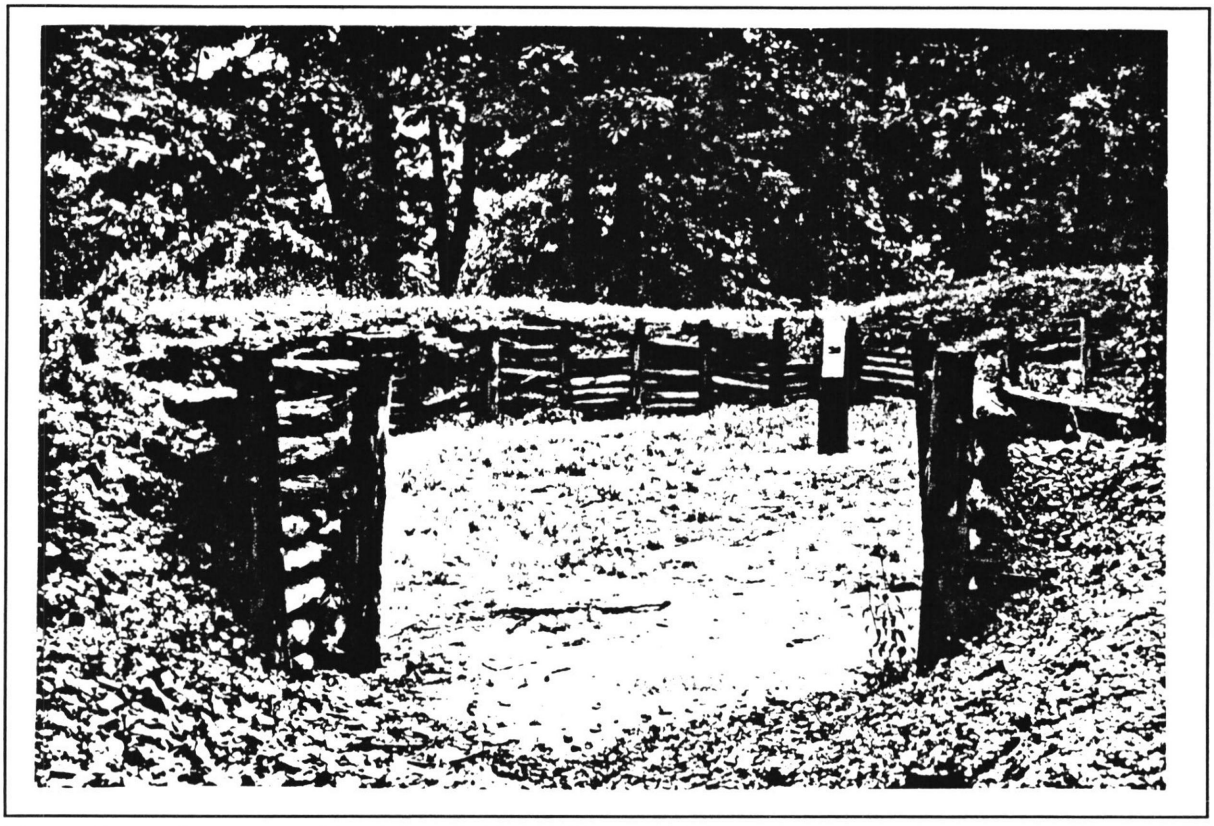


Figure 30 - *Redoubt at Fort Freedom Hill, Vienna, Virginia - 1996*

Most forts that were in private hands have been lost to development. Typical examples are Forts Runyon and Albany which were located where route 395 now runs by the Pentagon. However, a few remnants of other forts still exist. A specific example of this can be seen in a neighborhood in Alexandria. One family has a fort's well in their backyard and a knoll in the adjoining neighbor's yard is the fort's powder magazine.[176]

[176] In order to maintain the privacy of the individual homeowners, their names and the name of the fort are not included in this report.

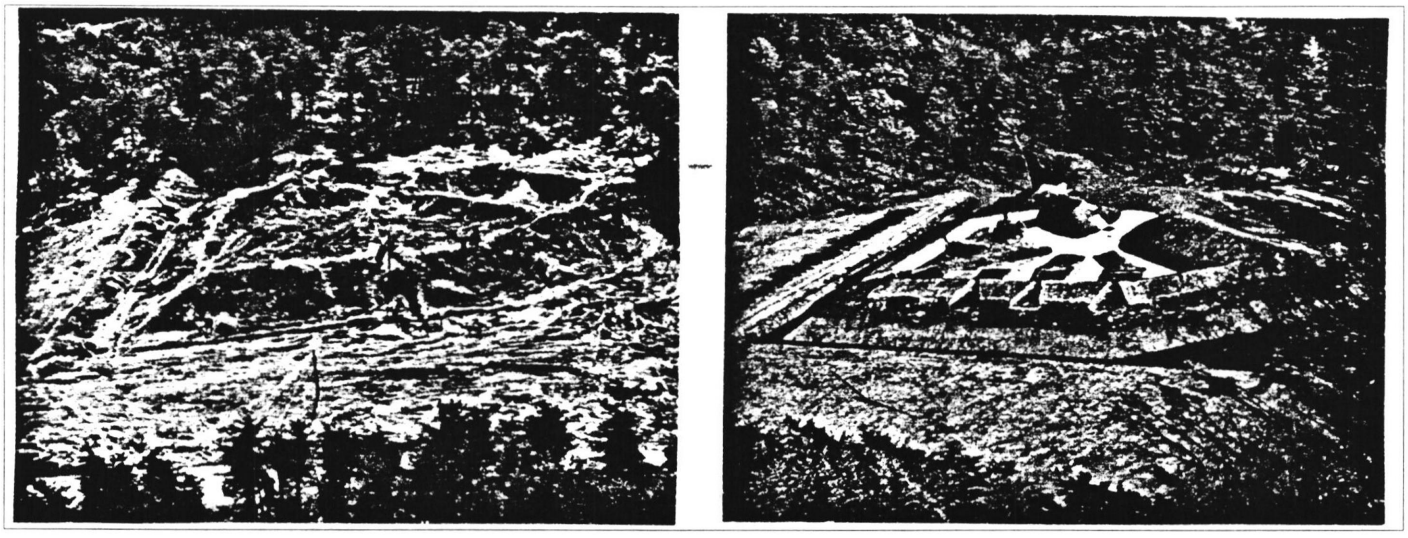


Figure 31 - *Fort Ward under reconstruction in the 1960's .....and today*

F. THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE SITES TODAY

The remnants of the historic fort system still protect the city, but from a different perspective. The forts and the green open spaces associated with the forts are important preservation elements in the National Capital Planning Commission's plan for the nation's capital. The plan delineates a low-scale city with green open spaces and radiating avenues with the Washington Monument at the center of the monumental core. From this central point on the mall, and the Capitol, vistas extend out toward the topographic rim, where low-scale development and green open spaces are preserved in many locations by the remnants of the historic fort system.

As was written in a 1965 report to the Commission:

> *Of great significance to the visitor to the National Capital and of recurring value to those who live here are the many majestic views of the inner city afforded from the topographic eminence in the Fort Park System.*[177]

By preserving the Civil War defenses in Washington, D.C. and interpreting them, visitors to the city and residents learn about our nation's history. They also experience recreation opportunities from picnicking to ball games, and they gain a greater understanding of natural resources, all in an urban center.

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[177] Tuemmler, p. 22.

A newspaper article written in 1937 about Fort Stevens could also be true of all the sites today:

> *Every one finds something of special interest at Fort Stevens. Historians and military engineers gain a wealth of technical information. Teachers and students discover that historical facts and dates assume a new meaning. Even neighborhood children at play find the place thrilling.*[178]

The Civil War defenses of Washington, D.C. are now an integral part of the overall plan for the city. Elbert Peets wrote, "Washington...is a beautiful place, as American cities go, made beautiful by its trees, skies, fogs, rivers, and low green hills, even by the rich chaos of its buildings, a chaos subdued by its magnificently ordered plan."[179] The National Capital Planning Commission in their 1983 comprehensive plan stated:

> *The Federal government's Open Space holdings within the Regions* [which includes the Civil War Defenses] *has contributed enormously to the amenity and livability of the Nation's Capital.*[180]

In addition the Commission said, the natural park areas, including Rock Creek Park and "the steam valley parks" in which some of the fortifications are located:

> *...are important for the way in which they complement and contrast with the more formal Open Space used as settings for the monuments and memorials in the vicinity of the Mall.*[181]

The fortifications, in their graceful sweep around the city, add to the rich plan of the city and to the definition and history of the city and the country.

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[178] Bernard Kohn, *'Restored Civil War Fort is New Sightseeing Shrine,' Sunday Star*, Sunday morning, Washington, D.C., July 4, 1937. (RCP)

[179] Kennedy, p. 128.

[180] *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital: Parks, Open Space and Natural Features*, (National Capital Planning Commission, Sept. 1983) p. 16.

[181] Ibid.

Civil War sites under National Park Service jurisdiction in the National Capital Field Area:[182]

Battleground National Cemetery

Fort Bayard

Fort Bunker Hill

Fort Carroll

Battery Carroll

Fort Chaplin

Fort Davis

Fort DeRussy and outworks

Fort Dupont

Fort Foote

Fort Greble

Battery Kemble

Battery Kingsbury

Fort Mahan

Fort Marcy and outworks

Fort Reno

Fort Ricketts

Fort Stevens

Battery Sill

Fort Slocum and outworks

Fort Stanton and outworks

Fort Totten and outworks

Fort Washington

Unnamed batteries and rifle pits

Unnamed Battery to left of Rock Creek

Unnamed Battery to right of Broad Branch

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[182] Due to the widespread location of these sites, the fortifications are administered by three different National Park Service units. The fortifications are listed by park administration in the appendix titled *Fortification Names and Historic Locations.* In the same appendix all fortification locations, including those outside of National Park Service jurisdiction, are listed.

III. Analysis and Evaluation

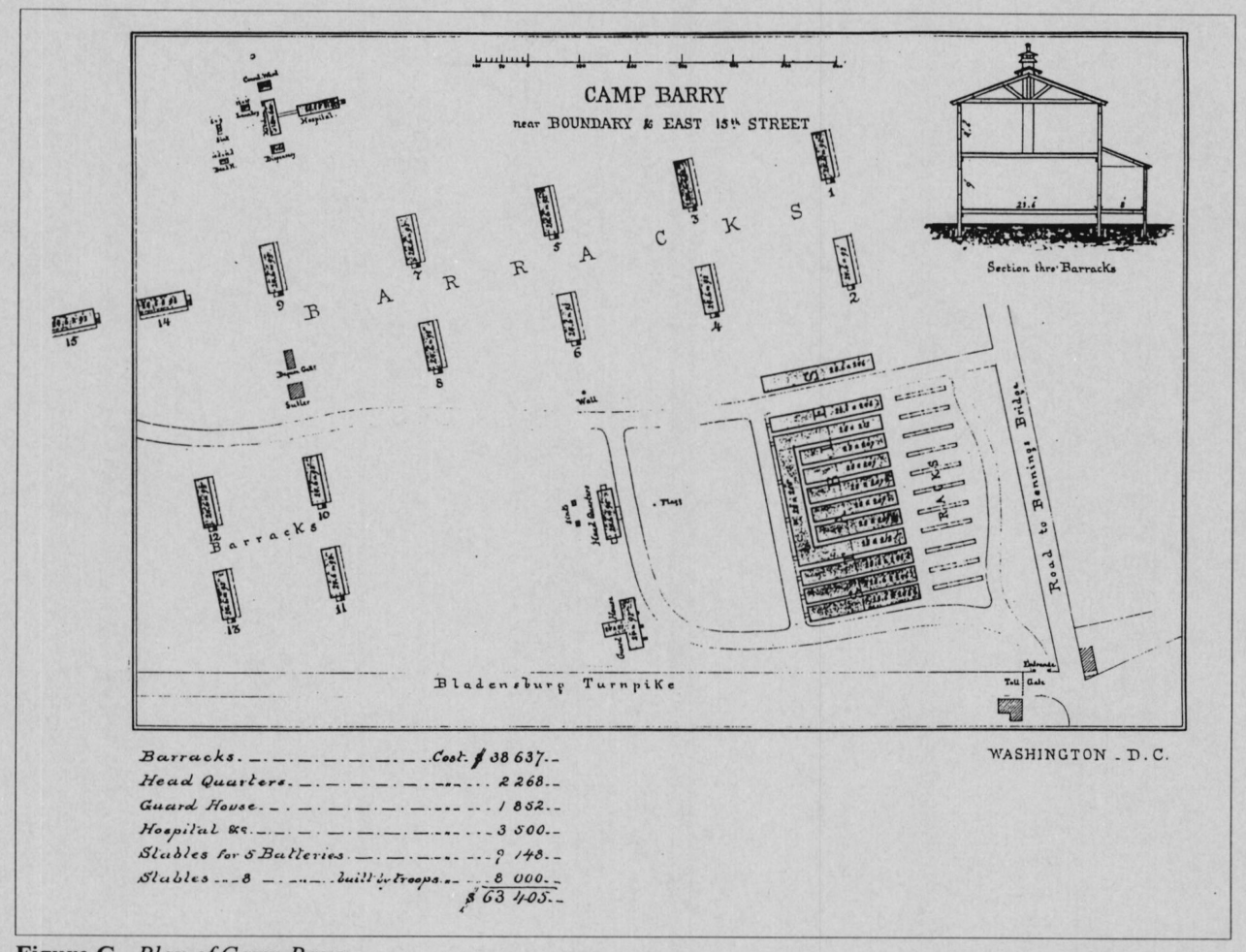


Figure C - *Plan of Camp Barry*

III. Analysis and Evaluation

The purpose of the Analysis and Evaluation section is to:

- provide a history of the evolution of the landscape,
- define the landscape characteristics that contribute to the historic qualities of the landscape, and
- identify the individual features associated with those characteristics.

The Analysis and Evaluation is consistent with the National Register's criteria for cultural landscapes. The distinctive qualities and features that contribute significantly to a cultural landscape's physical character are defined as landscape characteristics. As the National Register Bulletin says:

> *Landscape Characteristics are the tangible evidence of the activities and habits of the people who occupied, developed, used, and shaped the landscape to serve human needs; they may reflect the beliefs, attitudes, traditions, and values of these people.*[183]

Landscape characteristics include both the processes that have been instrumental in shaping the land and the physical components that are evident on the land as a result of those processes.

The following section addresses the overall cultural landscape of Washington's Civil War fort defense system and includes the specific landscape characteristics and features of the fort and battery sites that together formed an integral unit designed to defend the nation's capital.

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[183] *National Register Bulletin #30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes,* (U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, Interagency Resources Division), p. 15.

A. PATTERNS OF SPATIAL ORGANIZATION

1. Fortifications

At the close of the war, the defenses of Washington consisted of a circuit thirty-seven miles around the city. Sixty-eight enclosed forts and batteries, and ninety-three unarmed batteries, designed at about one-half mile increments, were built, as Barnard said, in:

> *...musketry or canister range of each other, and thus form*[ed] *a chain.... Detached earthworks, with wide intervals and no connecting lines or obstacles, could only constitute 'points d'appui'* [points of base] *for an army giving battle to an invader - not a fortified place which a garrison could defend against* [a] *greatly superior force.*[184]

One soldier stationed at Camp Seward in Arlington Heights wrote, "Right in sight of where I am writing"' observed James Emmons, "there is [sic] four forts and a good number of breastworks."[185]

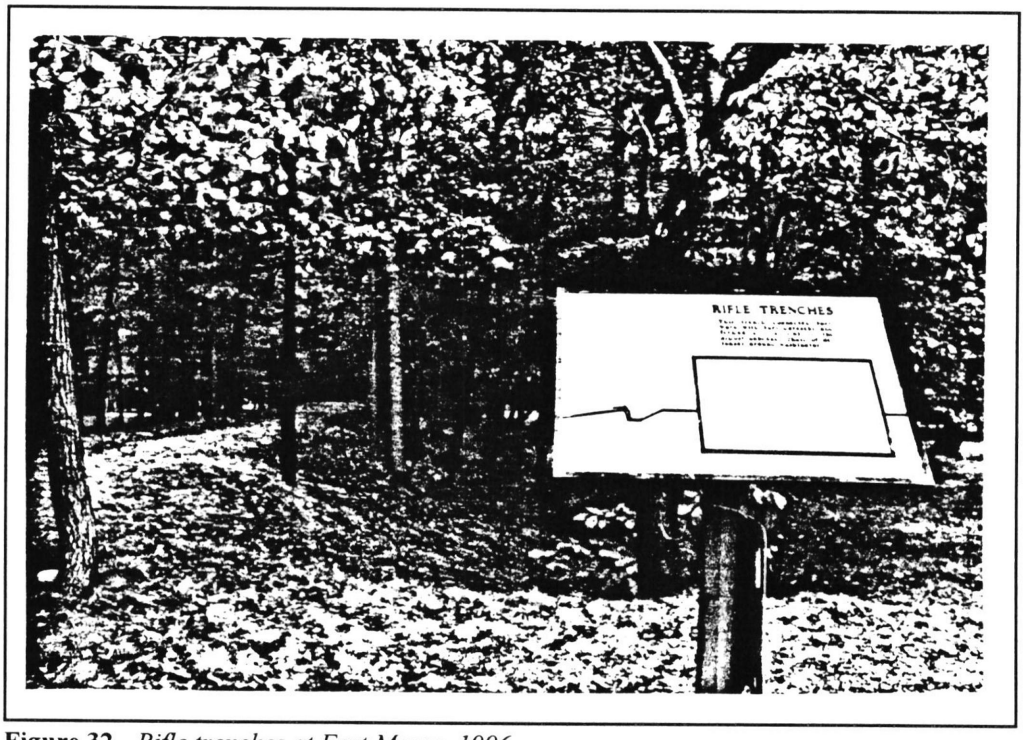


Figure 32 - *Rifle trenches at Fort Marcy, 1996*

[184] Barnard, p. 10 & 16.

[185] Dunkleman, p. 10.

To increase the fortification of the city, over twenty miles of rifle pits were built to connect the positions linearly. Thirty-two miles of military roads, in addition to the public roads, radially connected the sites and allowed for increased communication. Without one of the links in the defense chain, the city would have been vulnerable. Therefore, all the sites, including the long rifle pits and unnamed batteries, were significant in that they contributed to the whole.

The defense system acted on the horizontal plane to protect the city from advancing ground troops. Protection from the air was not as much a concern since airplanes had not yet been invented. However, there were cliffs and high points that, if captured, would have been perfect sites from which to fire down on the capital, so those critical sites were secured. Some of the forts were built on the city's highest elevations, including Fort Reno and Battery Kemble.[186] Other forts, like Greble and Carroll, were located on the high river terraces on the east side of the Anacostia River.[187] Access from rivers and valleys was also considered when determining fort system locations; Fort Marcy protected the Chain Bridge and Fort DeRussy protected the Rock Creek river valley.

The spatial organization within the fort structures followed a similar pattern, independent of the size or geometric layout of the individual fort. The fort and battery walls were dirt berms with an interior slope (the rampart) lined with logs made from the felled trees. Within the forts and batteries, the bombproofs, which sheltered gun crews and officers, were often located in the center - in an area least likely to get hit. The fort or battery entrance was located in the wall facing the city - away from the most likely direction of enemy attack. The guns peeked through the embrasures, which were notches cut in the top of the walls (the parapet), primarily on the side(s) of the fort facing away from the city. Outside the fort or battery lay a steep slope leading down to a dry moat. Beyond this ditch was an abatis, a barricade of fallen trees with sharpened branches pointing outward.[188] The abatis, which lay around the perimeter of the forts and batteries, formed a barricade.[189]

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[186] *Fort Circle Parks Master Plan*, 1968, p. 14.

[187] Ibid.

[188] *Fort Circle Parks Brochure*, p. 2.

[189] Cooling and Owens, p. 239.

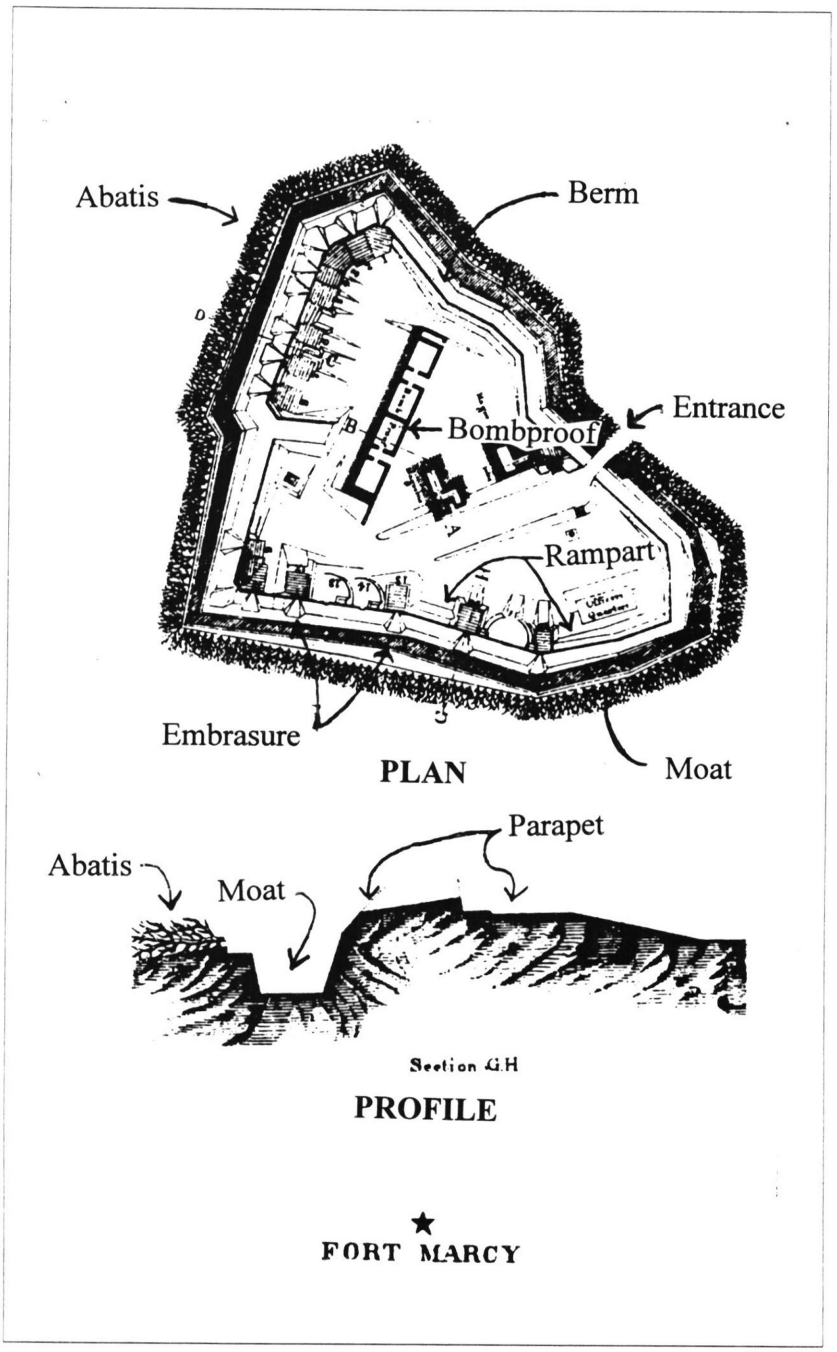


Figure 33 - *Plan of Fort Marcy from Barnard's Report* (The identifying arrows added by author)

Many of the camps and forts had elaborate entrance gates A reconstructed gate can be seen at Fort Ward in Alexandria.

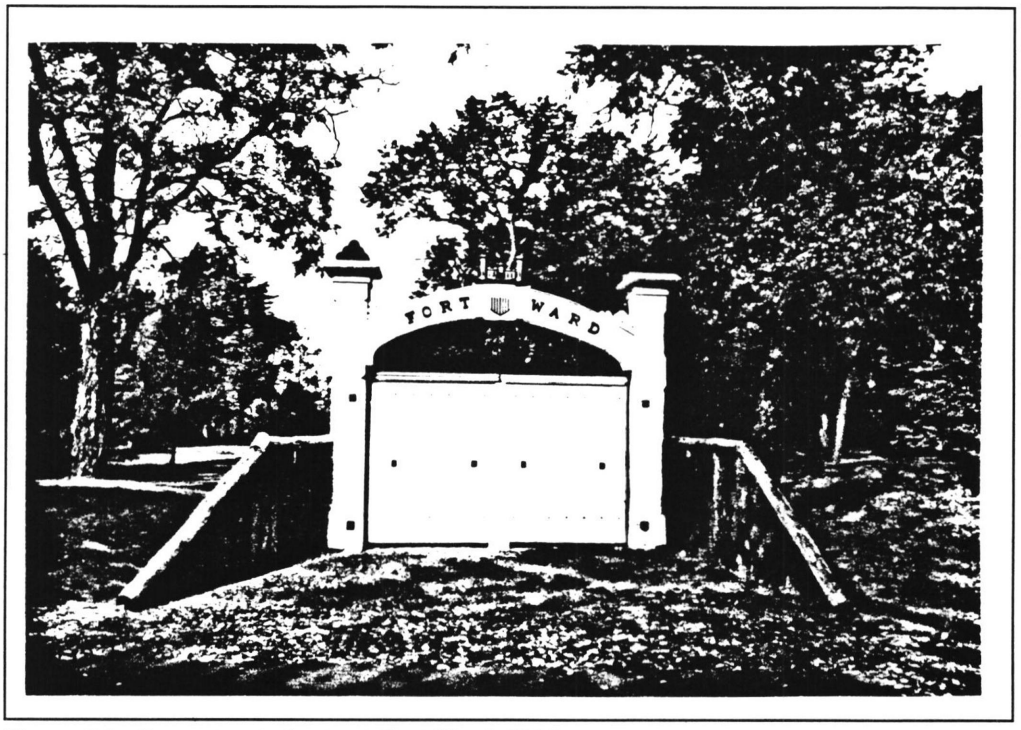


Figure 34 - *Reconstructed gate at Fort Ward, 1996*

2. Camps

The soldiers and officers slept outside the forts in well organized camps. The camps more or less paralleled the lines of defense.

As Henry Van Aernam, a soldier stationed at Camp Seward in Arlington, wrote:

> *Stretching along from fort to fort are strong rifle pits and entrenchments and stockades. Within that circle of forts and rifle pits are the new recruits encamped. At present there are as many as 100,000 or more, while just outside of the forts and rifle pits the old, battered and scarred veterans who have been in the storm of all the horrible and bloody battles are encamped.*[190]

[190] Dunkleman, p. 10.

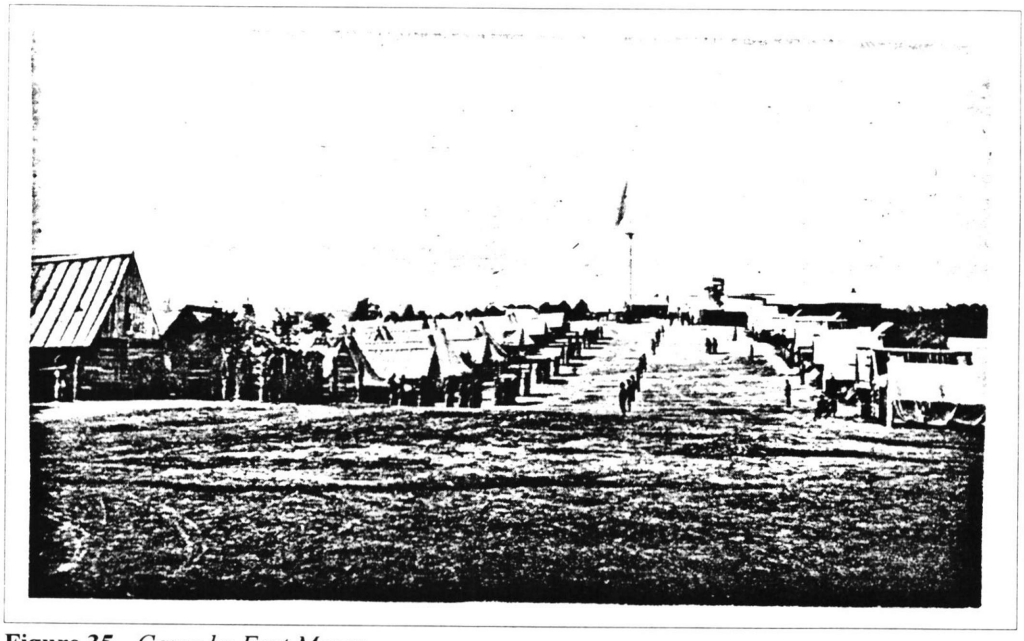


Figure 35 - *Camp by Fort Marcy*

A soldier at Camp Vermont related the arrangement of his camp in a letter:

> *In the absence of anything especially exciting let me try and describe, briefly, an ordinary day in camp. You are perhaps, familiar enough with the regular arrangement of tents in a regimental camp. The tents of the colonel and his staff are commonly disposed in a line at the rear of the camp. In a parallel line with them are the tents of the line officers, each captain's tent fronting the street of his company. The company streets sit at right angles to the line of the officers' tents, and are of variable widths, in different camps, according to the extent of ground. In our camp they are twenty-five feet wide. On each side are the company tents, nine on a side, facing the street on either side. At the inner end of the street, on one side, is the cook tent....*[191]

A unit historian, in describing his camp on Hall's Hill, northwest of Ball's Crossing, included the fact that, "An ample parade-ground for the company and battalion drills was afforded inside the regimental guard-line."[192]

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[191] Benedict, p. 65.

[192] Ibid., p. 83.



Figure 36 - *Major H. W. Sawyer and staff at Camp Stoneman. Washington D.C., March 1865.*

3. Battleground National Cemetery

Battleground National Cemetery was located outside the ring of forts on the battleground itself. A study of the cemetery sums up its organizational components:

> *Battleground National Cemetery has all the elements of any Victorian cemetery - a clean layout designed and executed by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, fairly well-kept grounds planted with trees and shrubs, walls to keep stray animals out, several monuments of 'suitable' nature to inspire the visitor, even epitaphs of a sort. The buried individual is less of a focus; he is instead swept up into the larger picture of the sacrifice rendered...on behalf of a moral stand. The plaques containing the 'Gettysburg Address' and verses for 'The Bivouac of the Dead' become a kind of epitaph to the group sacrifice instead of to the individual.*[193]

[193] Cummings, p. 11.



Figure 37 - *A plaque at Battleground National Cemetery with a verse from the poem, 'Bivouac of the Dead'*

4. Contributing Features[194]

In terms of spatial organization, a critical contributing feature is the connecting line that formed the defense barrier. Portions of this line are distinguishable on modern maps around the western and northeastern half of the city. Other contibuting features are the more than 30 National Park Service fortification sites, covering 130 acres, and their related physical connecting elements such as the rifle pits, as well as unknown archeological features, which are part of the line of uniting green space. In addition to the above contributing features, many of the roads and bridges that the forts protected are contibuting features. (See *Circulation Networks* section.)

Most of the soldiers' camps are no longer evident, as they succumbed to postwar development. The spatial organization of the Battleground National Cemetery is intact and preserved.

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[194] While each individual fortification had its own particular spatial organization, the elements that make those up are the same as those that made up the structure itself, so see the section called *Structures* for the individual contributing features.

Battery Bailey is still visible and is located in Maryland. It was part of the circle around northern Washington, D.C.; however it is outside the existing circle of fortifications administered by the National Park Service.

In Virginia, where few Civil War sites were saved, the defense lines are no longer visible on modern maps. The pattern is only distinguishable on historic maps. While a few fortifications remain, most of the contributing features to the South of the Potomac River have been lost. The partially intact fortifications include: Fort Marcy, Fort C. F. Smith, Fort Ethan Allen, Fort Willard, Fort Freedom Hill, and Fort Ward.[195]

The 1965 report called *Fort Park System, A Re-evaluation of the Fort Drive System* written for the National Capital Planning Commission sums up the importance of the Civil War defense sites to the overall comprehensive plan of the ever-growing city.

> *If the foregoing policies* [for the creation of the Fort Park System] *are established and implemented, there will be provided the necessary balance between the inner city, which had as its beginning the majesty and strength of the L'Enfant Plan, and the outer areas, thus providing a totality of meaningful design and viability, not only within the park system itself but in the total design of the Nation's Capital.*[196]

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[195] Fort Freedom Hill was considered one of the advance forts rather than one of the defenses of Washington, D.C.

[196] Tuemmler, p. 19.

B. RESPONSE TO NATURAL ENVIRONMENT[197]

1. Defense Locations

The natural lay of the land was critical to the success of the defense system. The heights of the Piedmont and the cliffs formed by flooding waters on the Anacostia River became important military positions. (See section III. *Topography* for a thorough discussion of this subject.)

2. Forests Cleared

In preparing the defense sites, the Union forces generally cleared land in front of the works for a mile or two. More important to the army than preserving woodlands, meadows, natural features, or even farms and homes was to protect the city and provide views of advancing troops and a clear field of fire.

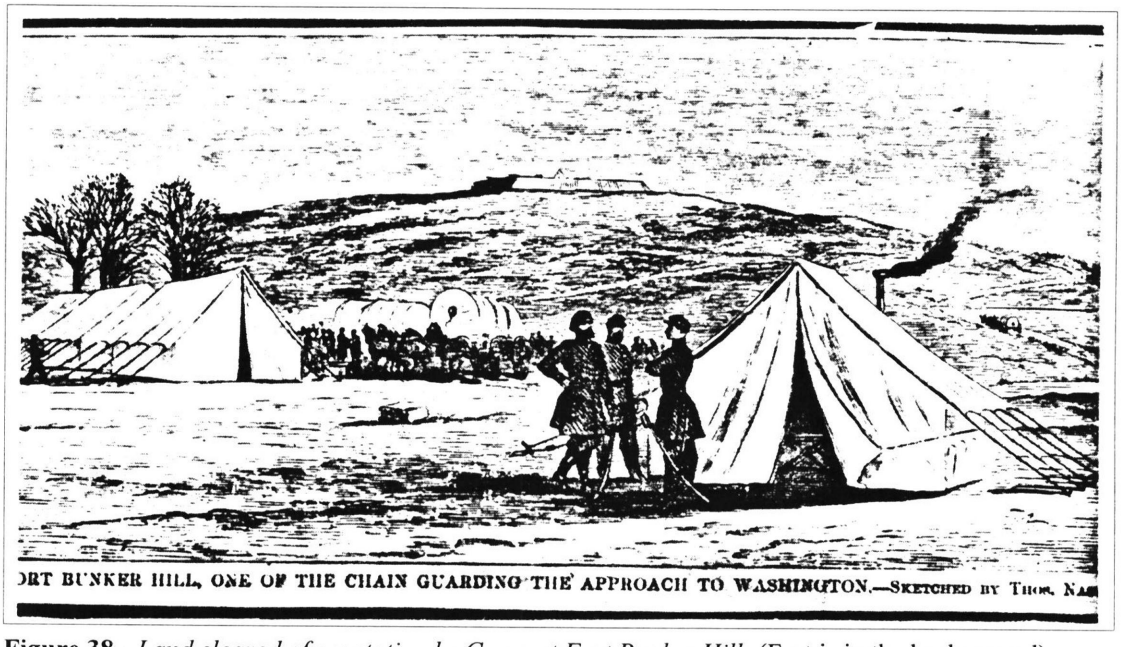


Figure 38 - *Land cleared of vegetation by Camp at Fort Bunker Hill* (Fort is in the background)

The conservation movement, as known today, primarily evolved in the twentieth century. However, even in the 1860's, some people disliked the destruction of the natural resources for the defenses. "Several commentators [of that time period] deplored such 'ecological' destruction and graphically described the ten-man details which '...leveled the old monarchs of the hills, in order

[197] For more information on the natural environment see the sections *Topography* and *Vegetation Related to Land Use*.

to make room for the new reign of the 'grim-visaged.'"[198] Soldiers even wrote home expressing their concerns. A soldier from the Twenty-First Regiment said:

> *I remember to have watched from our encampment, the disappearance of these forests, and as giant after giant was seen to fall along the edge of the woods, the forest seemed to melt away and disappear as snow gradually dissolves from the hillsides in the spring.*[199]

A New Yorker commented:

> *It was a sad necessity that thus compelled the spoiling of nature's fairest handiwork and stripped the beautiful hills of their green robes, - but so it must be.*[200]

3. Use of Native Materials

All of the defenses were built using wood from on-site. Wood from trees that were cut down to open views was used to build the fort walls, bombproofs, and the abatis. It was also burned for cooking and heating.

> *'The appearance of thousands of dead trees all lying in the same direction added greatly to the desolate looks of this war afflicted vicinity.' Adding to the devastation of the land were various demoralizing effects upon the local populace. Construction of winter camps consumed more timber (for tent bases, floors, and cabins), and orchards, dwellings and even churches often fell before the cause of military necessity.*[201]

After the war, as the defenses were dismantled, the wood from the forts was often sold for re-use. At Fort Reno freed slaves built one and two room shanties of leftover wood.[202]

In 1873 George A. Townsend described the forts:

> *All the forts around the city are dismantled, the guns taken out of them, the land resigned* [reverted] *to its owners. Needy Negro squatters living*

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[198] Cooling, p.83.

[199] Ibid.

[200] Ibid.

[201] Ibid., p. 87.

[202] Helm, p. 170.

> *around the forts have built themselves shanties of the officers' quarters, pulled out the abatis...for firewood.... The woods, cut down to give the guns sweep, are overgrown with shrubs and bushes. Nature is unrestingly making war with War.*[203]

Today many of the National Park Service administered sites could still be described as they were in 1873 as being "...overgrown with shrubs and bushes...," only now there are trees reaching maturity as well.[204]

4. Water Features

Water features formed an integral part of the defenses. Water access had to be defended from enemy assaults and a water supply for the soldiers was necessary.

The Potomac and Anacostia Rivers formed natural barriers. However, they were not swift or dangerous enough to prevent crossing by the Confederacy. Forts built in the heights along the rivers protected the city's bridges.

As Benjamin Franklin Cooling III, author of several books on the defenses, wrote in a pamphlet:

> *The Potomac river remained the one gap in Washington's defenses. It bisected the defensive line at two places, Chain Bridge and Jones Point. A threat of attack via this route existed as long as European powers like Great Britain and France showed a willingness to aid the confederate cause. This became a major concern to the Engineers from 1863 to 1865.*[205]

Drinking water, a basic necessity of life, was a critical concern in the defenses, and all the forts and camps had access to a spring or a well. As the unit historian from Hall's Hill in Virginia recorded, "A fine stream of water ran along the base of the hill, affording water for cooking and bathing. The supply was re-enforced by wells, dug by the soldiers, and carefully guarded to secure purity."[206] Fort Totten had a lumber-lined well, which by 1864 tasted of wood.[207] Fort DeRussy, like other forts, was supplied by a spring.[208]

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[203] Ibid.

[204] Ibid.

[205] Benjamin Franklin Cooling III, *Civil War Deterrent: The Defenses of Washington,* Brochure.

[206] Cooling, p. 83.

[207] Brown, *Forts DeRussy, Stevens, and Totten*, p. 38.

[208] Ibid., p. 30.

At Fort Davis, Lieutenant Colonel J. A. Nardie said:

> *The water used is now brought from a spring about 300 yards from, and in the rear of, the fort. There is, however, inside the fort, a well in which there is about fifty feet of water which in my opinion* [is] *hearty but, owing to a rather unpleasant taste it has, it is not used.*[209]

At Camp Seward, Barzilla Merrill reported to his wife, "I would like to call to our house a while and have one drink of water out of our well. They don't have such water down here by no means."[210]

Wells are still visible at some of the fort sites including Fort Marcy and at a privately owned fort site in Alexandria.[211]

5. Food Supplies

Food was usually in ready supply at the forts and could be supplemented by farmers in the area. However, occasionally food was scare. Soldiers discussed the food situation in their diaries and letters home:

> *'Live on what we can get, or nothing.' grumbled Newell Burch in his diary the day after the regiment reached Camp Seward. The same day William Charles wrote, 'We have suffered some for the want of food, but we have nothing to complain of. A Negro woman gave me some rice and molasses today, and I can assure you that I was very thankful for it. But our food will come from the city tonight. Then we shall have enough.' ...An unidentified member of Company K indicated some difficulties the men had regarding their rations.... He joked about worm-ridden rations, 'Our meat we sometimes chain in order to keep it from running away.'*[212]

The soldiers were accused of going into the countryside and pillaging local farms. One person wrote to the *Washington Star* protesting:

> *Our fruit trees have been stripped, our cornfields have been overrun and plucked, our cows milked, our fences torn down. Our potatoes are pulled*

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[209] Glenn J. Little II, *Archeological Research - Fort Earthworks: Fort Davis, Fort Mahan, Fort Dupont, for the National Park Service,* Division of Archeology. Department of Interior. 1968. p. 151-152.

[210] Dunkleman, p. 15.

[211] Name of private land owner and fort are not included here to protect individual's privacy.

[212] Dunkleman., p. 14-15.

> *up half-grown and useless, celery plants plucked up and strewn about the ground, young cabbages uselessly destroyed, and turnips carried off by the bushel.*[213]

"In May 1863 the government opened a contraband village across the river in the bottomlands of Arlington west of Alexandria Canal where a thousand ...[Freedman] raised hay and vegetables for the army."[214] But still, "poor water, poor rations, and poor sanitary conditions among over 900 men crowded together (at Camp Seward) in an unaccustomed climate led to predictable results.... Dysentery and diarrhea were the main complaints."[215]

6. Contributing Features[216]

Today, the rivers and cliff terraces still exist and are contributing features as they provided the significant geographic physical characteritics of the cultural landscape. Forest cover has grown up on the sites linking significant numbers of the forts with green open space corridors. Through mostly natural succession, the forts, batteries, and rifle pits have become overgrown with a variety of mainly deciduous vegetation. The deciduous canopy trees include oaks, maples, tulip poplar, and beech. There are also some pine trees including Virginia and loblolly.

The extent of the natural resources at each fort site varies. Fort DeRussy and Fort Marcy are contiguous with much larger tracts of park land. Fort Dupont, located on 370 acres of park land, has a diversity of habitat including streams, wetlands, meadows, and upland forests. Other sites like Fort Bunker Hill, are small island woodlots surrounded by development.

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[213] Cooling, p. 89. (1991 edition)

[214] Green, p. 277.

[215] Ibid.

[216] Steve Syphax, Natural Resource Manager, National Capital Parks-East, contributed to this section, and some of the information is taken directly or paraphrased from his notes.

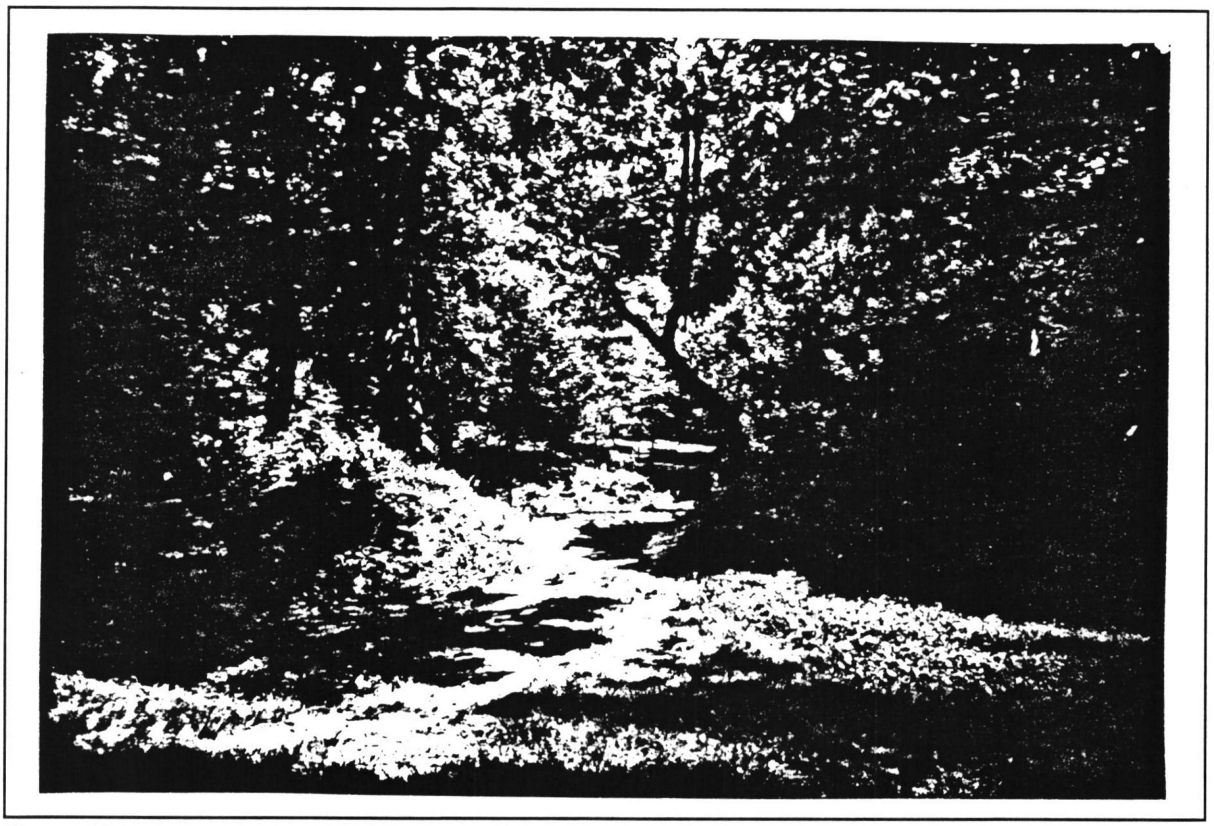


Figure 39 - *Vegetation on earthworks on either side of entrance to Fort Marcy - 1996*

Some of these linked areas have substantial woodlands and serve as wildlife corridors as is evident by the presence of white-tailed deer near Fort Carroll. These links may serve as "gene pool" corridors with respect to plants and animals. Invasive exotic plant species such as English Ivy and Honeysuckle cover some sites, while others have communities dominated by local native species. These areas contain some of the city's last vestiges of indigenous plant and animal life. Two examples of such remnant populations include pink lady-slipper orchids and red-backed salamanders. These areas also provide important habitat to neo-tropical birds, both as nesting areas and as temporary stopping points to migrating birds. As such, these areas warrant special attention and protection.

Threats to the natural resources of the Civil War defense sites include the invasion of native plant communities by aggressive exotic plants, such as porcelainberry, bittersweet, Japanese knotweed, and kudzu. Other forces that threaten the sites' natural resources include city development, streams 'blown out' by runoff from surrounding urban areas, soil compaction and erosion, and large-scale dumping of household and other wastes. Restoration or even preservation of the Civil War defense historic cultural sites could potentially inadvertently and negatively effect the sites' natural resources.

C. TOPOGRAPHY



Figure 40 - *Washington, D.C. survey showing topography and land owners: 1856, 1857, 1858, and 1859*

1. Historically

Barnard felt that, "To meet the emergency, works were necessarily thrown up without that deliberate study of the topography on which the establishment of such defensive line should, if practicable be based."[217] However, it can be seen by looking at the location of the forts that there was definitely *some* consideration of topography. Barnard wrote:

> *Entirely unfortified (if we leave out of view the river defenses twelve miles below) at the commencement of the war, there were no strong natural defensive features in the topography of the environs to become, by an easy adaption, fortifications. Not compact and concentrated, like most European capitals, the objects to be not only defended, but protected from*

[217] Barnard, p. 13.

> *distant artillery fire, were dispersed over an extensive area, while incidental causes compelled the extension of the protecting lines to embrace a neighboring city some miles distant, and on the opposite shore of a great river. When ...the foregoing is included, the consideration that the effective range of field and siege artillery was no longer limited to one mile...but had been...increased to three or even four miles, the magnitude of the task imposed on the engineers may be appreciated.*[218]

The Union chose locations that would prevent Confederate access to the city and to sites which, if reached by the enemy, could be used to rain fire down on the Capitol building.[219] Forts guarded transportation routes such as roads and bridges, some prevented access by water or through valleys, and some were located for their long-distance views. In all these situations, one of the most important considerations was the site's topography. The location had to give the advantage to the Union troops defending the city and it had to allow a good vantage points from which to see the surrounding landscape and establish an adequate commanding field of fire. Higher ridges and terraces became the location of numerous forts.

2. Contributing Features

Washington straddles two major geographic regions, the Piedmont and the Coastal Plain. The Piedmont area, distinguished by deeply cut valleys and well-defined ridges, lies west of Rock Creek Park. As Barnard said, "Rock Creek nearly bisects the sector between the Potomac and Anacostia...."[220] The city's highest elevations can be found in the Piedmont area, and the army situated many forts there, including Fort Reno and Battery Kemble, which are at the 390- and 420-foot elevations, respectively. (The White House is at the 50-foot elevation.)[221] Barnard reported Forts Lincoln, Totten, and Reno were at the 230-, 330- and 430-foot elevations, respectively.[222]

Some forts are located on the terraces in the Coastal Plain. The inner city is shaped like a bowl, and the bottom is the flood plain area at the confluence of the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers. A series of high river terraces extend out from the flood plain at the 25-, 50-, 90-, and 200-foot levels. A visible cliff, formed by erosion, fronts the 200-foot high terrace on the east side of the Anacostia River, on which Forts Greble and Carroll were built.[223]

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[218] Ibid., p. 6.

[219] Miller, p. 6.

[220] Barnard, p. 1.

[221] *Fort Circle Parks Master Plan*, 1968, p. 14.

[222] Barnard, p. 1.

[223] Ibid.

The heights of the Piedmont and the Coastal Plain areas which still ring the city, and historically formed the primary locations for the city's defenses, are significant contributing features.

A National Park Service management document for National Capital Parks-East said that the topographic bowl, with its rim upon which many of the defense sites were located was, "long recognized as the natural framework and scenic background of the L'Enfant City and environs, especially the monumental core."[224]

(See the section on *Views and Vistas* for a discussion of the forts and batteries located on the topographic rim and their relationship to the city.)

[224] Gentry Davis, *National Capital Parks-East Statement for Management*, (National Park Service, 1994), p. 4.

D. LAND USE

1. Pre-Civil War

Humans have always found rivers desirable places to live, and the confluence of the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers is no exception. The rivers provided food and were used for travel for thousands of years. "Prior to European expansion, Native Americans lived and hunted throughout the Washington, D.C. area, including the sites used for the defenses of the city."[225]

After European explorers arrived, the land use patterns of thousands of years started to change rapidly, due to colonization. Settlers came to the area which would become Washington, D.C., and towns grew, especially those with access to navigable waterways. The access to navigable rivers was one reason for locating the country's capital there.[226] Prior to the Civil War, many of the defense sites were the location of homes, other buildings, farms, orchards, woodlands, and meadows. At Forts Carroll and Greble the land was forested and undeveloped.[227]

2. The Civil War

The Civil War erupted, and, during a period of intense activity, the land was cleared and forts constructed. The fortifications stretched through Washington, D.C., Virginia, and Maryland. As Barnard wrote:

> *If no reference has been made to the geographical limits of the District of Columbia it is because they were without importance or even significance in connection with the subjects treated of. Indeed all that portion of the ten miles square lying south of the Potomac, and including the city of Alexandria, which was ceded to the Government by the State of Virginia, had been a few years previously retroceded to that State by Congress. The boundaries of the District are delineated on the general map; no notice, however, was taken of them in any arrangement which concerned the defense of the capital.*[228]

When Fort Stevens was being reconstructed by the Civilian Conservation Corp, a newspaper writer interviewed an 81-year old woman who lived on the site as a girl:

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[225] Stephen Potter, per written comments, June 1996.

[226] *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital,* p. 10.

[227] Goodwin, p. 6.

[228] Barnard, p. 6.

> *It is with wrangled emotion that Mrs. Osborn watches the fort rise again. The careful progress of the work strangely contrasts with the feverish haste which marked Union construction activities. Today, she muses, the embattlement is a source of enjoyment for everyone. This is a queer reversal of the fort's destiny. During the war the erection of Fort Stevens caused much anguish, even among true blue patriots....*
>
> *'My father's 13-room house ,' Mrs. Osborn recalls, ' was burned down to make space for the fort. I was only 7 then but I remember distinctly how I tugged on dad's coat and told him that a soldier with a flaming torch was coming to set fire to our house. It was true. The Union engineers found it necessary to destroy our home as well as nine others. Believe me, there* [was] *much wailing among the womenfolk when they saw their homes go up in smoke.'* [229]

For four fervent years the forts were heavily used. The Union men who died at the battle of Fort Stevens were buried on the battleground in what was to be called the Battleground National Cemetery.

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[229] Bernard Kohn, *The Sunday Star*, *'Restored Civil War Fort is New Sightseeing Shrine'*, Sunday Morning, July 4, 1937. (RCP)



Figure 41 - *Fort Stevens - 1996*

3. After the War

After the war, some of the forts returned to private hands and succumbed eventually to development of the ever-expanding city. They became the sites of houses, shopping malls, and roads. The landscape around the fortifications transformed dramatically. With the influx of population caused by the war itself, Washington, D.C. started on a course of change still

underway. A 1937 newspaper article about the scene around Fort Stevens is just as relevant today, although it could now be applied to almost any of the fortification sites:

> *Modern visitors, standing on the spot hallowed by Lincoln look upon a scene vastly different from that viewed by the anxious eyes of the wartime President. Then, except for an occasional farm house, the long, rolling reaches of green pasture lands were unbroken. The staccato beat of horses hoofs rang through the air as grim troops of cavalry dashed along dusty roads. Now, ...* [Fort Stevens] *is hemmed in by brick dwellings, apartments, houses, churches, and schools. Sleek purring automobiles whiz along smooth highways which surround the historic place.*[230]

The sites currently owned by the National Park Service have been home to a myriad of activities since the Civil War. In the 1900's a parkway linking the sites was proposed which would highlight the history of and views from the forts. Parks throughout the city "...were used as campsites during the Civil War and again in the 1930's when park planners installed bathrooms in them for poor people who lived on the federal land during the Depression."[231] Although unauthorized, homeless people still live in some of the fort parks. During World War II, patriotic citizens cultivated Victory gardens in the parks, some of which are still tilled by neighborhood gardeners. The military put the site of Fort Reno to use during World War II as a military station and for communications equipment, since it was the highest point in the city.[232] Over time much of the land for the proposed road was aquired under the Capper-Cramton Act; however, increased development pressure and the associated increase of costs contributed to the proposal being changed to a less intrusive bike trail linkage in the 1960's.

Battleground National Cemetery has remained a cemetery since the Civil War. The last person eligible for burial in the cemetery was Major Edward R. Campbell, a veteran of the Fort Stevens battle. He was buried on March 12, 1936, at the age of 92.[233] From 1921 until the early 1980's, Memorial Day ceremonies commemorating the dead from all wars took place at the cemetery.[234] Walter Reed Army Medical Center took part in the ceremonies until the early 1980's when financial restrictions precluded its involvement and community interest diminished. The National Park Service then changed its management strategies and focused on interpreting the Battle of Fort Stevens.[235]

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[230] Bernard Kohn, *The Sunday Star, 'Restored Civil War Fort is New Sightseeing Shrine,'* Washington, D.C., Sunday Morning, July 4, 1937. (RCP)

[231] *Revised Draft for L'Enfant Plan of Washington , D.C.*, p. 64.

[232] Helm, p. 526.

[233] National Park Service site bulletin on the Battleground National Cemetery, p. 2.

[234] Cummings, p. 21

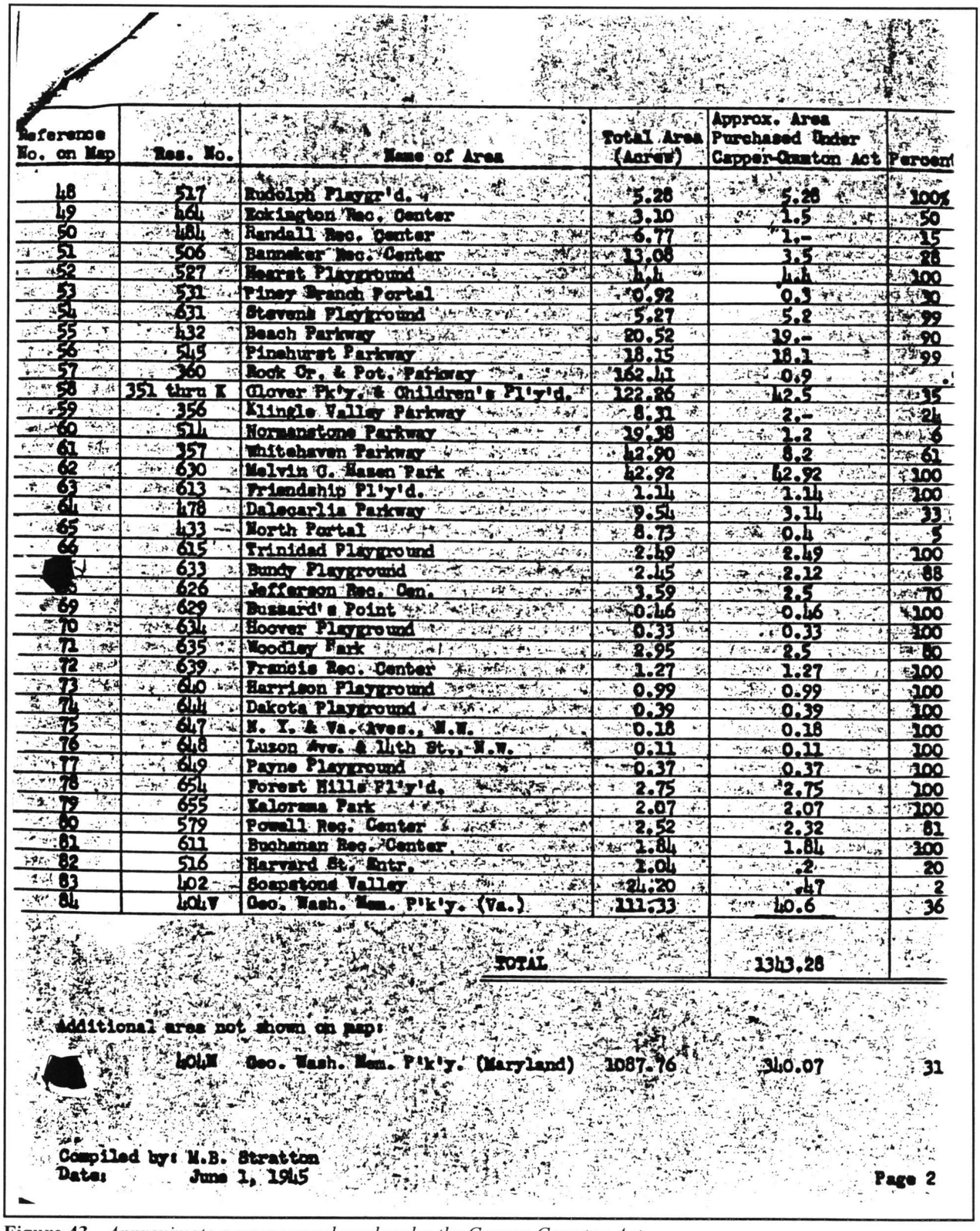
[235] Ibid.

NATIONAL CAPITAL PARKS

Approximate Acreage Purchased
Under Capper-Cramton Act

Reference No. on Map	Res. No.	Name of Area	Total Area (Acres)	Approx. Area Purchased Under Capper-Cramton Act	Percent
1	404	Palisades Park	207.17	180.-	86%
2	504	Palisades Playground	10.31	5.4	50
3	530	Ft.Drive-Pal.Pk. to Amer. Univ.	52.98	52.-	99
4	529	Fulton & 49th St., N.W.	14.-	2.5	17
5	521	Ba. Kemble Park	2.79	2.79	100
6	542	Ft.Drive-Amer. Univ. to Ft. Reno Pk.	3.36	3.3	98
7	470	Ft. Reno Park	26.71	9.-	33
8	515	Ft.Drive-Ft. Reno Pk. to R. C. Park	21.78	12.-	55
9	499	Ft.Drive-R. C. Park to Ft. Stevens Pk.	5.86	5.8	100
10	358	Ft. Stevens Park	3.95	3.7	98
11	494	Ft.Drive-Ft. Stevens Pk. to Ft. Slocum	8.89	5.-	56
12	497	Ft.Drive-Ft. Slocum Pk. to Ft. Totten Pk.	25.57	16.-	62
13	544	Ft. Totten Park	42.24	42.24	100
14	451	Ft.Drive-Ft. Totten Pk. to Barnard Hill	72.24	68.-	97
15	526	Barnard Hill	21.81	17.6	81
16	520	Ft. Drive - Barnard Hill to Ft. Lincoln	7.26	7.2	99
17	523	Ft. Drive - Ana. Park to Ft. Mahan Pk.	36.91	33.2	89
18	475	Ft. Mahan Park	40.52	10.-	25
[illegible]	500	Ft.Drive-Ft. Mahan Pk. to Ft. Dupont Pk.	36.38	12.2	33
[illegible]	653	Piney Run Parkway	1.-	1.-	100
21	405	Ft. Dupont Park	391.72	24.-	6
22	609	Ft. Chaplin Park	30.30	16.-	50
23	612	Ft. Chaplin Rec. Center	2.84	2.84	100
24	518	Ft.Drive-Ft.Dupont Pk. to Ft. Stanton Pk.	125.20	90.-	72
25	412	Ft. Stanton Park	67.84	60.-	88
26	519	Ft.Drive-Ft.Stanton Pk. to St. Elis. Hos.	45.46	31.-	69
27	343	Sec. C - Anacostia Park	68.32	9.5	14
28	343	Sec. D - Anacostia Park	85.95	11.3	13
29	343	Sec. E - Anacostia Park	79.82	8.-	10
30	343	Sec. F - Anacostia Park	303.07	9.-	3
31	343	Sec. G - Anacostia Park	192.84	40.-	21
32	421	Shepherd Parkway	231.44	19.-	9
33	501	Oxon Run Parkway	137.47	95.-	70
34	522	Oxon Run Recreation Center	30.49	16.-	50
35	474	Barry Farms Playground	4.51	1.-	25
36	561	Bald Eagle Hill	26.64	26.6	100
37	632	Congress Hts. Playground	4.4	4.4	100
38	627	Hillcrest Rec. Center	17.66	17.66	100
39	624	Pope Branch Parkway	38.53	31.9	82
40	575	Battery Ricketts Park	3.67	3.67	100
41	610	Watts Branch Parkway	27.39	27.39	100
42	628	Kelley-Miller Rec. Cen.	14.86	11.5	72
43	446	Langdon Park	19.20	6.-	31
[illegible]	339	Rock Creek Pk.-Piney Br. Pky.	1742.92	62.5	3
[illegible]	476	Taft Rec. Center	8.82	0.2	2
[illegible]	534	Edgewood Playgr'd.	4.98	3.5	70
47	552	Sherwood Playgr'd.	1.91	1.75	89

Figure 42 - *Approximate acreage purchased under the Capper-Cramton Act, complied June 1, 1945, by M.B. Stratten, p.1*



Reference No. on Map	Res. No.	Name of Area	Total Area (Acres)	Approx. Area Purchased Under Capper-Cramton Act	Percent
48	527	Rudolph Playgr'd.	5.28	5.28	100%
49	461	Eckington Rec. Center	3.10	1.5	50
50	484	Randall Rec. Center	6.77	1.-	15
51	506	Banneker Rec. Center	13.08	3.5	28
52	527	Hearst Playground	4.4	4.4	100
53	531	Piney Branch Portal	0.92	0.3	30
54	631	Stevens Playground	5.27	5.2	99
55	432	Beach Parkway	20.52	19.-	90
56	545	Pinehurst Parkway	18.15	18.1	99
57	360	Rock Cr. & Pot. Parkway	162.41	0.9	.
58	351 thru K	Glover Pk'y. & Children's Pl'y'd.	122.86	42.5	35
59	356	Klingle Valley Parkway	8.31	2.-	24
60	514	Normanstone Parkway	19.38	1.2	6
61	357	Whitehaven Parkway	42.90	8.2	61
62	630	Melvin G. Hazen Park	42.92	42.92	100
63	613	Friendship Pl'y'd.	1.14	1.14	100
64	478	Dalecarlia Parkway	9.54	3.14	33
65	433	North Portal	8.73	0.4	5
66	615	Trinidad Playground	2.49	2.49	100
[illegible]	633	Bundy Playground	2.45	2.12	88
[illegible]	626	Jefferson Rec. Cen.	3.59	2.5	70
69	629	Buzzard's Point	0.46	0.46	100
70	634	Hoover Playground	0.33	0.33	100
71	635	Woodley Park	2.95	2.5	80
72	639	Francis Rec. Center	1.27	1.27	100
73	640	Harrison Playground	0.99	0.99	100
74	644	Dakota Playground	0.39	0.39	100
75	647	N. Y. & Va. Aves., N.W.	0.18	0.18	100
76	648	Luzon Ave. & 14th St., N.W.	0.11	0.11	100
77	649	Payne Playground	0.37	0.37	100
78	654	Forest Hills Pl'y'd.	2.75	2.75	100
79	655	Kalorama Park	2.07	2.07	100
80	579	Powell Rec. Center	2.52	2.32	81
81	611	Buchanan Rec. Center	1.84	1.84	100
82	516	Harvard St. Entr.	1.04	.2	20
83	402	Soapstone Valley	24.20	.47	2
84	404V	Geo. Wash. Mem. P'k'y. (Va.)	111.33	40.6	36
		TOTAL		1383.28	

Additional area not shown on map:

404M	Geo. Wash. Mem. P'k'y. (Maryland)	1087.76	340.07	31

Compiled by: M.B. Stratton
Date: June 1, 1945

Page 2

Figure 43 - *Approximate acreage purchased under the Capper-Cramton Act, complied June 1, 1945, by M.B. Stratten, p. 2*

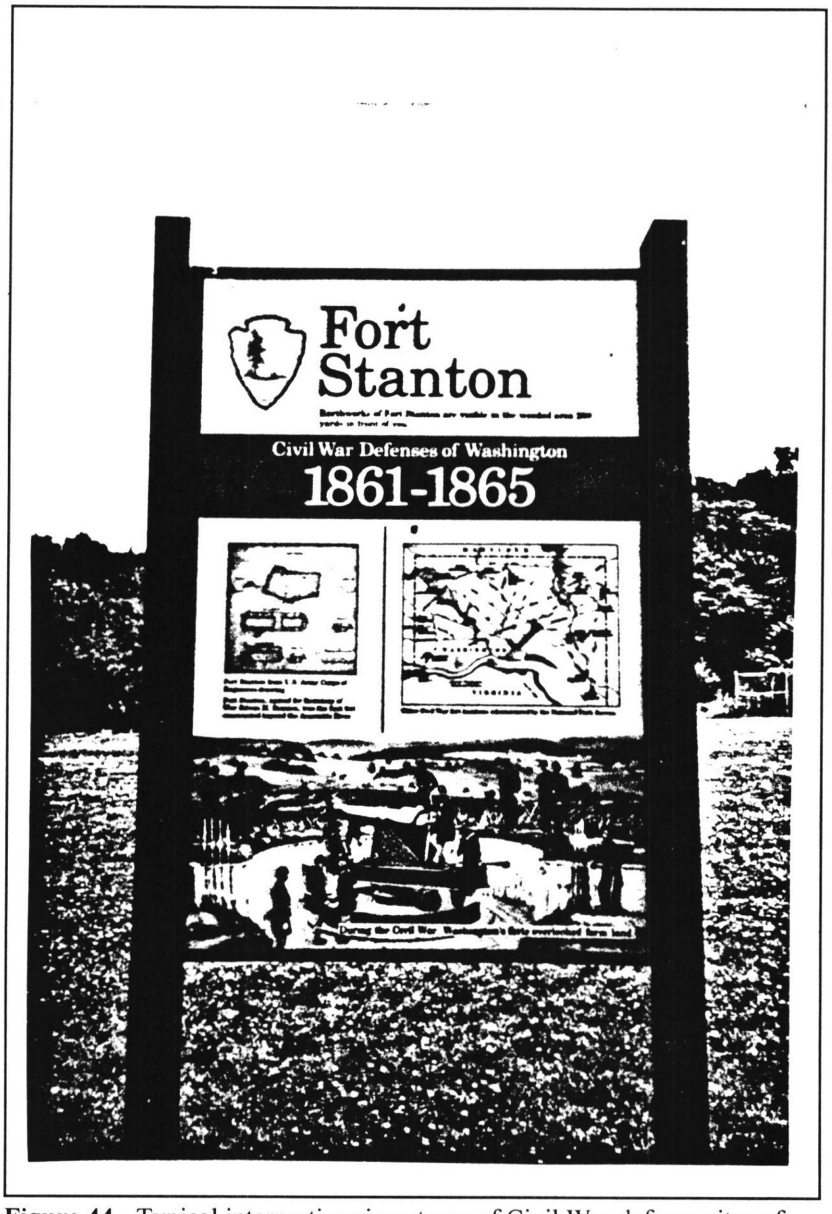


Figure 44 - Typical interpretive sign at one of Civil War defense sites of Washington, D. C.

4. Today

Some forts and batteries and the cemetery remained in government ownership and today are administered by the National Park Service. The defense sites are grouped into three different parks: George Washington Memorial Parkway, which administers one defense site in Virginia - Fort Marcy; National Capital Parks - East, which administers the sites south and east of the Anacostia; and Rock Creek Park, which administers the rest of the National Park Service defense sites in Washington, D.C..[236]

Each park's management direction is defined by the establishing legislation set by Congress and the 1916 and subsequent legislation defining the mission of the National Park Service. The three parks place their priorities, limited by budget constraints, in line with the main purpose outlined by Congress, although legislative direction may not focus on the Civil War aspects of the parks. None of the parks was established with the primary purpose of protecting the fortification sites nor were they established on the basis of an overall united theme such as the Civil War defenses of Washington, D.C.. Each of the three units is adminstered separately based on arbitrary geographic boundaries. Therefore, there is little coordination between the three parks in managing the Civil War defenses in their interpretation, preservation, or day-to-day management. Currently an overall planning effort is underway for the National Park Service Civil War defense sites of Washington, D.C., which may address some of the disparate management and preservation issues.

Civil War defense sites which protected Washington, D.C. are also administered by state, county, and city governments. These include Fort Ward in Alexandria, Virginia; Fort C. F. Smith and Fort Ethan Allen in Arlington, Virginia; Fort Willard and Fort Freedom Hill in Fairfax and Vienna, Virginia respectively; and Battery Bailey in Bethesda, Maryland.[237]

The National Capital Planning Commission in their 1983 comprehensive plan says about the Civil War defenses:

> *The Fort Circle Park System should be enhanced and the important elements of Civil War Forts and panoramic views should be preserved. Community oriented recreational opportunities and a well delineated trail in a park-like setting utilizing the McMillan Plan park connections, should be provided throughout the system.*[238]

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[236] For a list of specific sites in each park, see the *Appendix,* section *Fortifications and Historic Locations.*

[237] Fort Freedom Hill was considered an advance fort.

[238] *Comprehensive Plan for the National Capital*, p. 31.

The use of defense site lands which had echoed with the sounds of guerilla gunfire and soldiers' footsteps has evolved. Roger G. Kennedy, director of the National Park Service, summarized:

> *It has been the ironic fate of Virginians, who developed the most eloquent and consistent theoretical basis for opposition to the expansion of federal power and supplied the crucial economic and intellectual leadership of the Civil War...* [and who] *fought against that expansion, to find themselves the chief beneficiaries of the growth of the federal bureaucracy. Regiments of civil servants are bivouacked in suburbs where once a ring of forts protected the federal city from the armies of the South.*[239]

From the time since the fortification sites were originally taken out of private hands by the war, people have viewed the land as having unique potential. Today, fortification sites which have been protected as parks help people learn about the Civil War through on-site interpretive programs that can bring home the feel of the sites during the war. By preserving the fortifications, visitors can better comprehend the critical part that the defenses of Washington, D.C. played in the Civil War and in the development of our country.

The sites are also natural resource learning areas and home to special events such as family reunions and science fairs. They are used for recreation: children throw balls and fly kites, families share summer picnics, and bikers wind through trials in some of the parks. Children in some of Washington, D.C.'s Department of Recreation programs play in the parks. [240]

A 1937 article in the *Sunday Star* about Fort Stevens anticipated the kind of use which is today seen not just at one fortification, but almost all of them.

> *The restoration area is destined to become famous for its recreational as well as its historic appeal. Large shade trees, shrubs and fresh green expanses will offer pleasant retreat from jammed thoroughfares of the bustling city.*[241]

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[239] Kennedy, p. 113.

[240] Unfortunately, activaties common to many urban centers, such as garbage dumping, also take place in the parks.

[241] Bernard Kohn, *The Sunday Star, 'Restored Civil War Fort s new Sightseeing Shrine'*, Washington, D.C., Sunday Morning, July 4, 1937. (RCP)

5. Contributing Features

While there are no physical contributing features per se, the beliefs and values of people from the time of the Civil War to the present have been reflected in the land use changes to the Civil War fortification sites. During the Civil War one of the most important concerns was to protect the city from the Confederates and the possible overthrow of the government - so the sites were used for defense. After the war some of the fortification sites, camps especially, were used to house Freedman. As soon as 40 years after the war, people were proposing that the sites be planned for commemorative use, and so a scenic road was proposed. During the Depression the sites again found use, as homes to homeless. And during World War II Fort Reno was employed by the military.

Today, with the country no longer worried about a Civil War, Depression or World War, people use the sites for recreation, to learn about the Civil War, and for occasional special events.. While the most dramatic part of the sites' history is focused on the time period of the Civil War, the sites have evolved constantly over time to meet the people's needs.

E. VIEWS AND VISTAS

1. Historically

The views from the forts and batteries to the surrounding landscape were critical components in the design and location of the defenses. The army wanted to be able to watch for advancing enemy troops and to allow for a clear field of fire. The defense lines were "designed" to facilitate the views. This was done by carefully choosing each fort and battery location and by clearing the land in a strip up to two miles wide along the length of the system. Incredible vistas of the city and the countryside opened up. For example, "looking east towards Oxen Run, troops stationed at...Fort [Carroll] possessed a view of the entire valley between Fort Snyder and Fort Greble."[242]

Fort DeRussy even became a tourist attraction because of its views of picturesque Rock Creek.[243] In fact, the soldiers, as well as keeping an eye out for advancing Confederate rebels, took considerable notice of the views.

At Camp Seward, in Arlington, the men talked about:

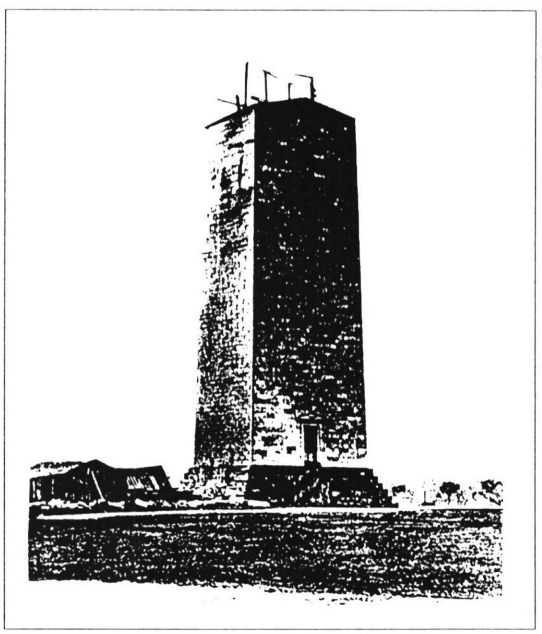


Figure 45 - *Unfinished Washington Monument in 1867*

...the magnificent view from their camp of the broad Potomac, the Long Bridge and the city of Washington. 'All I will stop to say,' James Emmons wrote to his sister, 'is that we are situated on the most pleasant place on the heights.' Lieutenant Griswold echoed the comment, 'the prospect here is very pleasant.' Private John N. Porter wrote, 'We can see the Capitol very plainly from here. It is a splendid building.' Another soldier wrote noticing the unfinished Washington Monument and declared it 'the principal object in view.' Private Oscar Wilbur told his uncle, 'We can see Washington city and old Abe Lincoln's house very plain.... Old Abe has got a very nice house.'[244]

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[242] Goodwin, p. 7.

[243] Cooling and Owens, p. 151.

[244] Dunkleman, p. 9.

The soldiers also mentioned views of the countryside in their letters:

> *We were marched off rapidly two or three miles farther into the country to the brow of the high ground which looks off on the valley of the Potomac, stretching many a mile south, in a varied scene of meadow and timber, now glowing with the varied colors of American autumn....*[245]

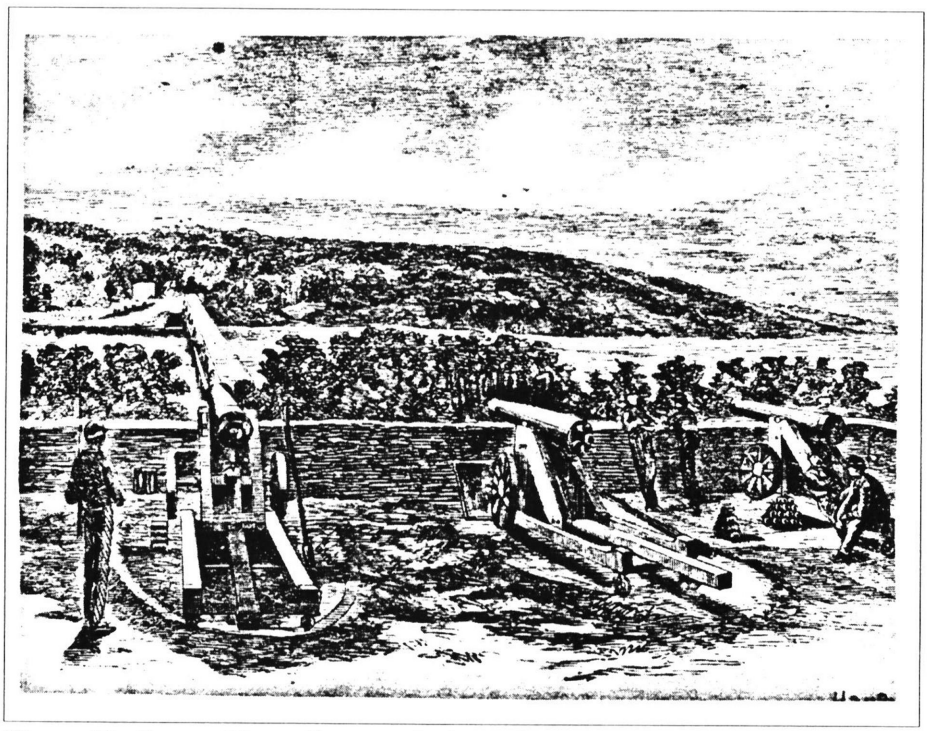


Figure 46 - *Battery Martin Scott overlooking Chain Bridge to the countryside*

A soldier of the 27th New York Volunteer Infantry from Fort Lyon commented:

> *Standing on the entrenchments, and looking to the right, across the Potomac, could be seen the City of Washington, with the dome of the Capitol rising proudly towards the sky. Vessels were plying to and fro in the river..... In front stretched the green valley of Hunting Creek...an artistic view, worthy of a painter's skill.*[246]

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[245] Benedict, p. 35.

[246] Cooling and Owens, p. 60-62.

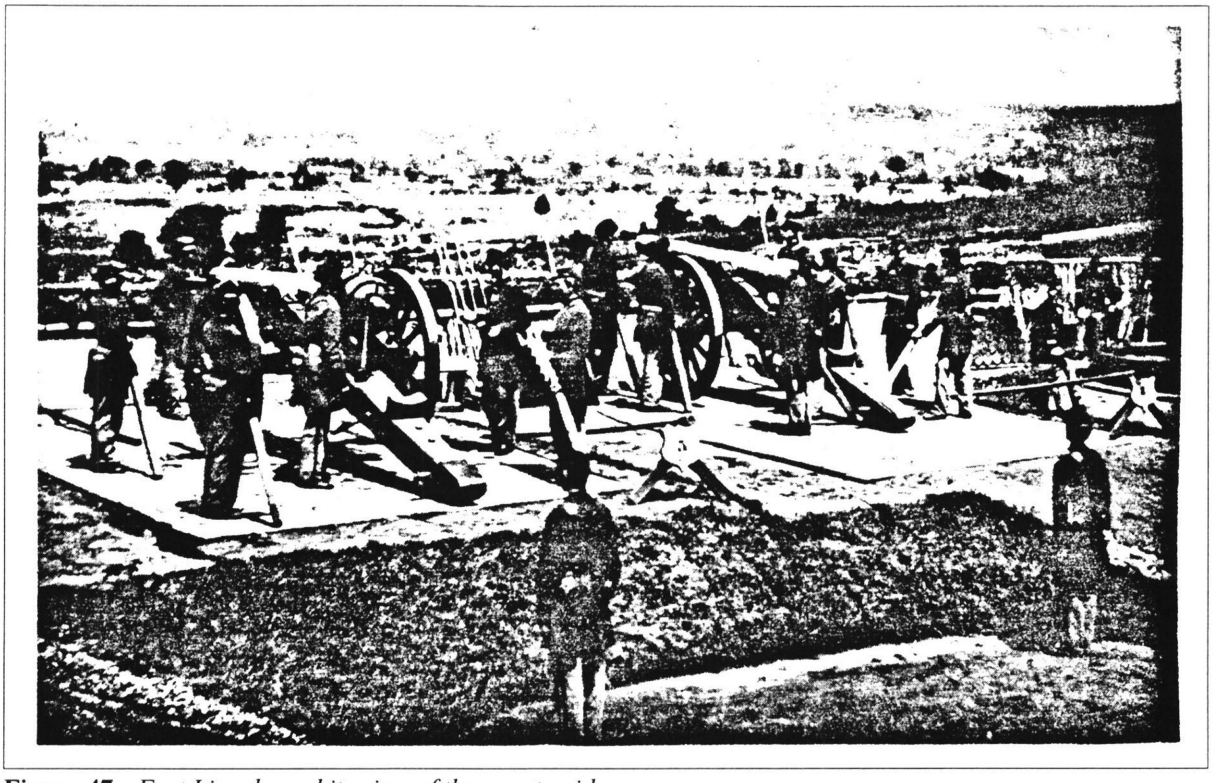


Figure 47 - *Fort Lincoln and its view of the countryside*

At Fort Richardson, Chaplain Edward Walker noticed the:

> *...gorgeous sunrises and sunsets, lovely days and nights, and ever changing, ever charming views from the summit of the hill.*[247]

After the war, the McMillan Commission, established in 1901, proposed a regional park system which would memorialize the fort sites by maintaining them as park lands and relinking them with a scenic road. The sites were to be developed for recreation and to provide expansive overlooks for viewing the city.[248] The 1902 McMillan Commission report to Congress, called *The Improvement of the Park System of the District of Columbia,* said:

> *The views from these points are impressive in proportion to their commanding military positions, and they are well worth acquirement as future local parks, in addition to any claim their historical and military interest may afford....*

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[247] Ibid., p. 86.

[248] Melder, p. 218.

> *With the forts indicated on the map - Stevens, Totten, Slemmer, Bunker Hill, and Thayer - and with such other small parks and view points as may be selected later, a northern park circuit of great interest would thus be formed, having views off into the country in contrast with the principal inner circuit of larger parks, presenting views chiefly south toward the city.*[249]

Of the sections east of the Anacostia, the author wrote:

> *With the Anacostia and Potomac below and the city of Washington spread out beyond and the hills of Virginia in the distance, these are the most beautiful of the broad views to be had in Washington...* [The forts can be linked together] *into a drive comparable in beauty with that along the Potomac Palisades, but utterly different in character.*[250]

In 1930, the Capper-Cramton Act authorized appropriations for land acquisition for parks and playgrounds in the "...environs of Washington."[251] The newly formed National Capital Park and Planning Commission worked towards implementing the proposed scenic drive, while planning for the city's future.

A 1937 book called *Washington: City and Capital* said:

> *A recently inaugurated project of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission is a parkway which will link together the sites of a number of the more important forts that defended Washington during the Civil War. These forts occupied high points within the District, and their sites consequently afford excellent views of the city. This circumstance will make the Fort Drive, when finished, one of the outstanding scenic drives of the Capital. On some of the sites ruins of the old forts remain.*[252]

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[249] Moore, p. 111.

[250] Ibid. p. 111-112.

[251] 71st Congress, No. 284, *An Act for the acquisition, establishment, and development of the George Washington Memorial Parkway along the Potomac from Mount Vernon and Fort Washington to the Great Falls, and to provide for the acquisition of lands in the District of Columbia and the States of Maryland and Virginia requisite to the comprehensive park, and playground system of the National Capital*, 1930. p. 1.

[252] *Washington: City and Capital*, p. 593.

In 1965 a report to the Commission said:

> *Of great significance to the visitor to the National Capital and of recurring value to those who live here are the many majestic views of the inner city afforded from the topographic eminence in the Fort Park System.*[253]

The views people enjoy and cherish today as a part of our heritage were also valued in the 1860's and at the turn of the century, as is evidenced by the previous quotes and by the following one from a soldier's letter. He was in Washington, D.C., with his company, traveling on the way to meet his regiment, and he wrote to his mother about his experiences:

> *I told the boys a little while ago that I was bound to go around and see the sights; they were afraid because there were guards stationed at the doors, but I got out a good way....I first walked to the Capitol and went up into the dome....From the top of the dome I saw Long Bridge, Arlington Heights, General Lee's house, and Fort Albany....I looked at everything important in the city, and saw sights I never expected to see, and which I may never see again.*[254]

2. Contributing Features

One of the most outstanding remaining views to the city is from the Fort Stanton area of National Capital Parks-East. While the view is not from the fort itself but from park land, it offers a visitor an idea of the expansiveness of the view that existed at the time of the Civil War and is therefore a contributing feature.

Many other views to and from the forts and batteries have been blocked by vegetation and development. But not all of these views are necessarily permanently blocked; many of them could be opened up with selective clearing of vegetation or other management techniques that could be recommended in a cultural landscape report. While the original view could never be replicated exactly due to modern development, the line of sight could be opened up to give one an idea of the reach of the views. Although it is rarely possible to wholly 'restore' a viewshed, there could be other views and vistas, that if cleared, might contribute to the significance of the sites.

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[253] Tuemmler, p. 22.

[254] Carter, p. 79.

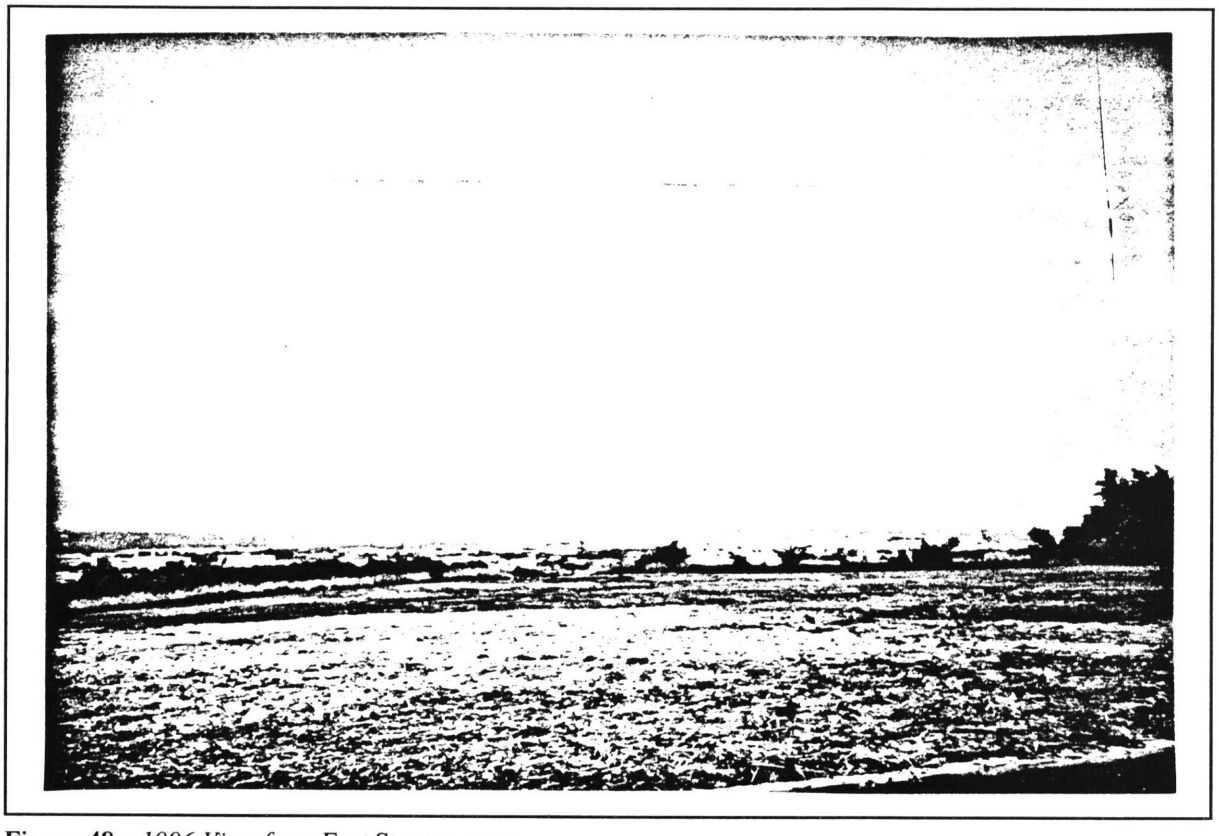


Figure 48 - *1996 View from Fort Stanton area*

F. CIRCULATION NETWORKS

1. Historically

The entire Civil War defense system for Washington, D.C. formed a circle thirty-seven miles round; and over thirty-two miles of military roads, in addition to the public roads, connected the defenses and served as a means of communication from the interior of the defensive lines and from point to point.[255]

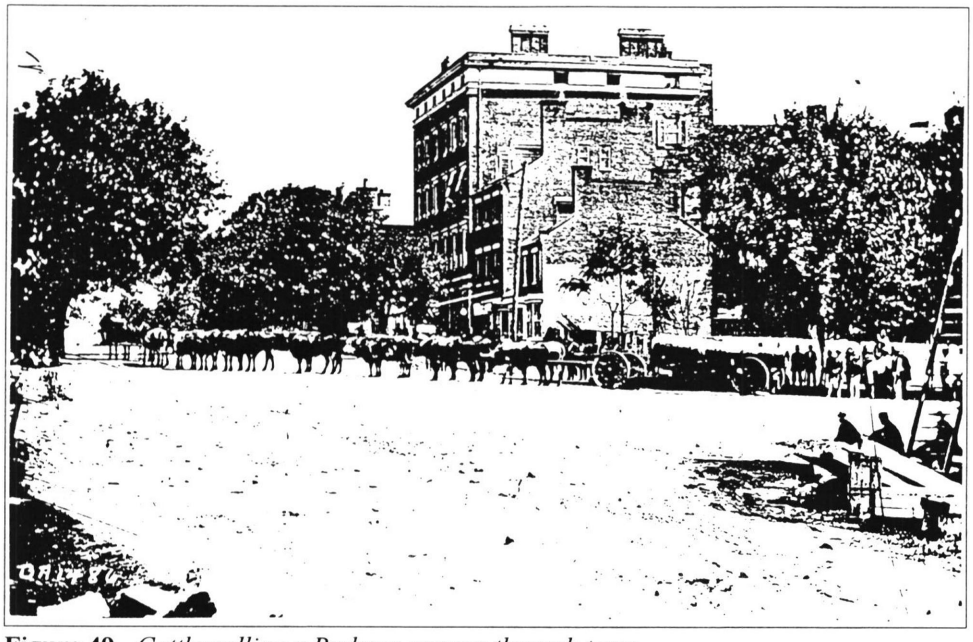


Figure 49 - *Cattle pulling a Rodman cannon through town*

Many roads were made of dirt. In the dry periods, dust covered everything and in the wet periods, mud. As one soldier wrote lightheartedly from Camp Vermont in 1862:

> *We have had four days of rain and I have the facts for an essay on Virginia* ***mud****, whenever I get time to write it, and I assure you it is a* ***deep*** *subject....The foot planted in the red salve alluded to, is lifted with some difficulty, and comes up a number of sizes larger and three or four pounds heavier.*[256]

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[255] McClure, p. 1.

[256] Benedict, p. 73. (Emphasis by soldier.)

The primary modes of transportation at the time were by horse or on foot. Some soldiers arrived in the city by train or on board a ship.

Prohibiting Confederate access to the city was the primary goal of the defenses; therefore, securing circulation routes became a top priority in the design and location of the defenses. Forts guarded transportation ways, such as roads and bridges, and some forts prevented entrance to the city by water or through valleys.

Per Barnard's report, two main roads led into the countryside between the Anacostia River and Rock Creek. These were Seventh Street and the Baltimore and Washington turnpike. The Anacostia was spanned by two bridges, one near the Navy yard and one, called Benning's Bridge, two and a half miles upstream.[257] "The Anacostia is navigable (of course) for ships of war up to the Navy Yard."[258] The Potomac river was spanned by Chain Bridge, by the Potomac Aqueduct that carried the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal over the river, and by Long Bridge which originated from the foot of Fourteenth Street.[259] The defenses protected all these sites.



Figure 50 - *Long Bridge (14th Street) and Railroad Bridge over the Potomac with boards pulled up*

[257] Barnard, p. 3.

[258] Ibid. (The "of course" is Barnard's comment.)

[259] Ibid.

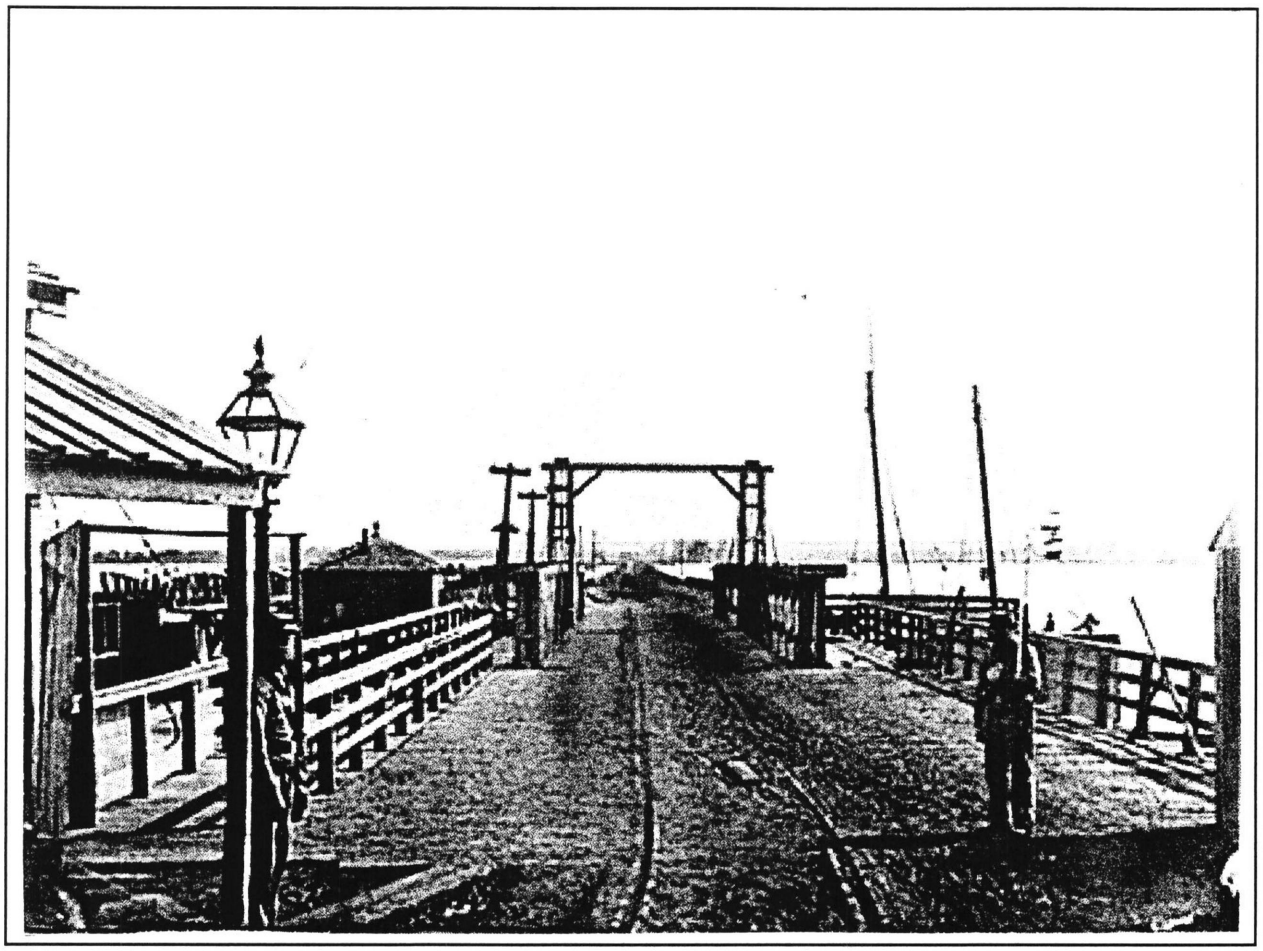


Figure 51 - *Long Bridge as seen from the city in May 1865*

As Barnard said in his report:

> *The first directions given to our labors were to secure roads, not merely as the beaten highways of travel from the country to the city, but as in general occupying the best ground for an enemy's approach. Thus the site of Fort Pennsylvania* [Fort Reno] *was early in August, selected on the heights of Tennallytown* [sic], *commanding the three roads* [Rockville, River, and Brookville Roads], *...which unite at that place... Fort Stevens, commanding the Seventh Street road, and, in connection with it, Forts Totten and Slocum, were almost simultaneously commenced, as also Fort Lincoln, commanding the Baltimore turnpike and the Baltimore railroad. As speedily as possible thereafter the intervening works, Forts DeRussy, Bunker Hill, Saratoga, Slemmer, and Thayer, were interpolated.*[260]

[260] Ibid., p. 13.

Later he explained that Fort Ward defended the Leesburg and Alexandria turnpike and lateral roads. (Barnard's report from page 20-31 describes specifically what each fort protected.)

Overlooking the Potomac, Fort Marcy protected Chain Bridge because the Union was concerned that the bridge would give the Confederates an easy route across the river. The bridge planks were pulled up on Long Bridge, with enough boards left to allow a single line of people to cross on foot.[261] Fort Foote and Fort Washington, located on the Potomac, shielded the city from a water attack. As a defensive measure "...Rock Creek running through a deep ravine...[was] rendered impassible by the felling of the timber on each side...."[262]

In 1902 the Commission of the Improvement of the Park System recommended that the fortification sites be used as parks and that a scenic drive, encircling the city, connect them.[263] The commission worked towards acquiring land for the proposed drive linking seventeen fortifications. An account in the 1937 *Washington Post* said;

> *Coming ever closer to realization is the long-dreamed of scenic drive linking the forts and batteries that defended the Capital from attack during the Civil War. Beginning west of Georgetown, and ending below Anacostia, or vice versa, the encircling Fort Drive will cover 23 1/2 miles, and touch the sites of 17 fortifications.*[264]

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[261] McClure, p. 10.

[262] Barnard, p. 112.

[263] Tuemmler, p. 2.

[264] Christine Sadler, *The Washington Post, 'One More Mile and the District will have a Driveway Linking Forts,'* Sunday, October 10, 1937. (RCP)

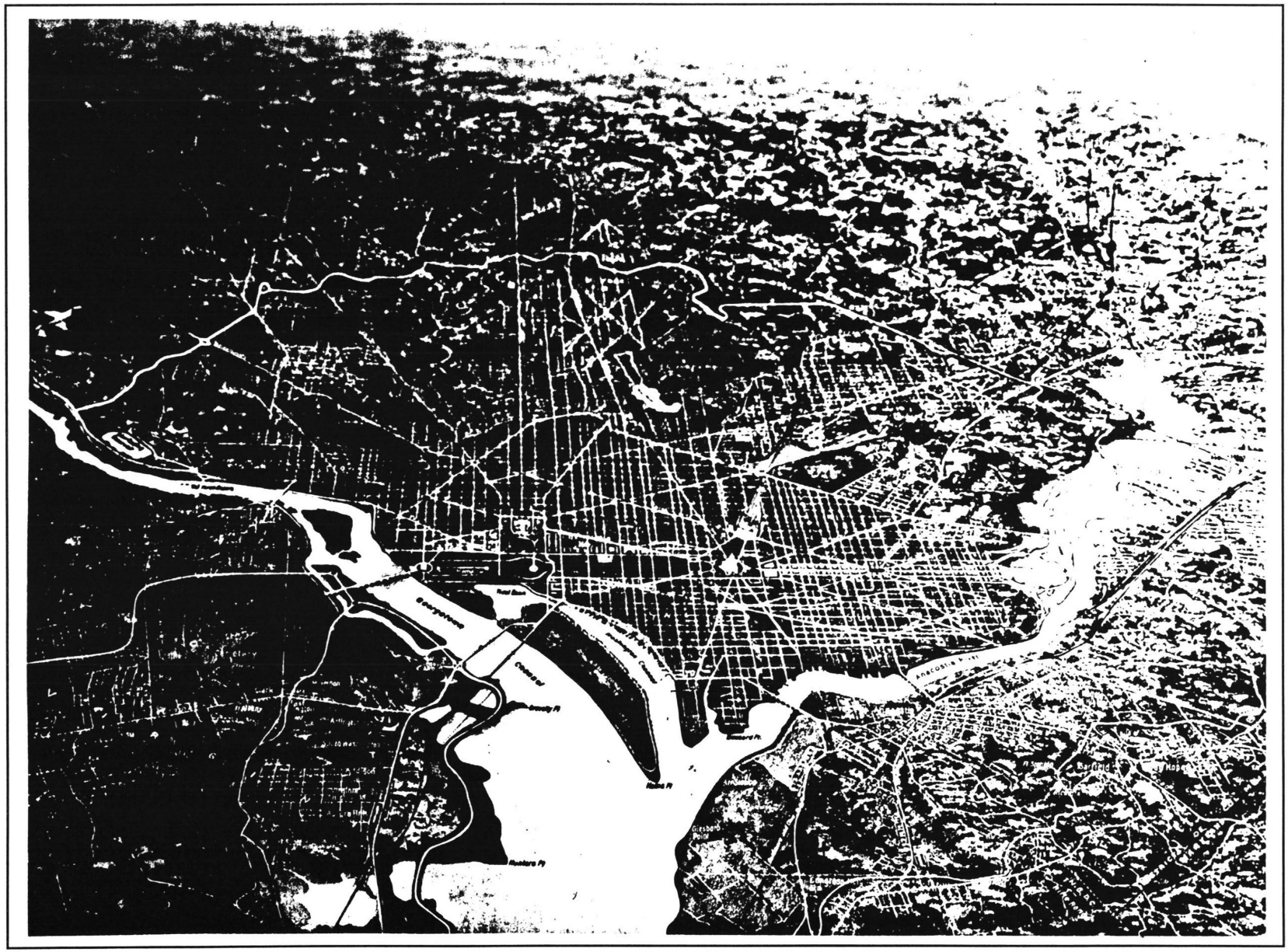


Figure 52 - *1932 Perspective of city with line drawn showing proposed location of the Fort Circle Drive*

This plan was carried forward by the National Capital Planning Commission through the early 1960's - with many of the fort sites being acquired and placed under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service by the 1930's. In 1965, due to conditions ranging from economic to social, the determination was made to propose a biking/hiking trail to connect the sites instead of building a road.[265]

Fortification sites themselves are now accessible by car, bike, and pedestrian walkways. Some of the sites have their own parking areas, and other sites are only reached by parking on a public street and walking along a dirt trail through the gorge (fort entrance) much as the soldiers might have done over a hundred and thirty years ago. [266]

2. Contributing Features

Currently some of the roads and bridges that the fortifications protected or that were built to improve the defenses, while not made up of the original materials, are in close approximate locations and are still in use today with the same names, for example, Military Road, Glebe Road, and Chain Bridge. Some of the names have changed; for example, the Leesburg and Alexandria turnpike is now Leesburg Pike/Route 7.

These roads and bridges are tangible evidence of the need for clear military communication and as such are considered contributing features. The green spaces connecting the fort sites could also be considered contributing features of the landscape from the era of the fort drive plan - as the lands were acquired to allow for the building of the drive.

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[265] Fort Circle Parks Master Plan, National Park Service, 1965, general reference.

[266] Currently none of the defense sites meet either the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards or the American with Disabilities Act Guidelines.

G. VEGETATION RELATED TO LAND USE

1. Historically

During the Civil War, the land around the forts was cleared of trees for a mile or two in front of the works, leaving little or no vegetation. For example, Barnard reported that at Fort Scott over 200 acres of trees were cut down.[267] At the site of Fort Runyon the soldiers "...proceeded to level to the ground a fine peach orchard of three hundred trees."[268]

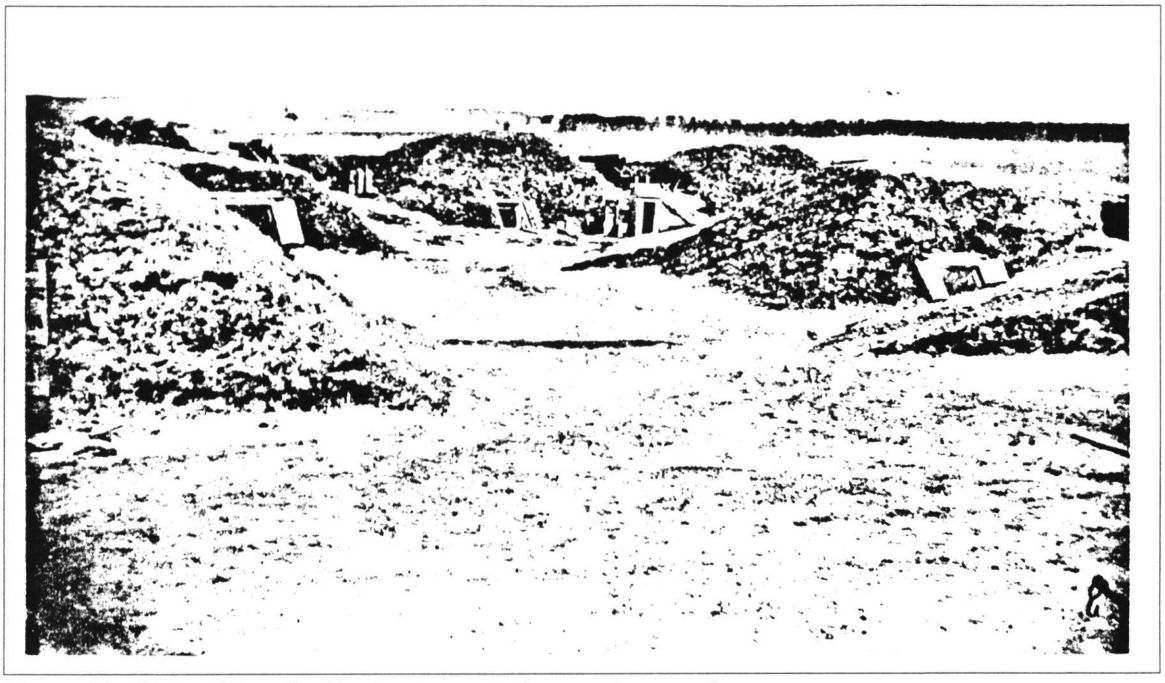


Figure 53 - *View of Fort Greble showing typical vegetation at a fort*

A spokesman for the First Connecticut Heavy Artillery said:

> *The work of clearing the grounds around Fort Richardson continued until we had been over fully ten acres of what had been Virginia forest, but when our work was completed the ground was as smooth as a hall floor, and then the company streets were laid out and arranged very much after the manner of a well laid out flower garden.*[269]

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[267] Barnard, p.10.

[268] Cooling and Owens, p. 90.

[269] Cooling, p. 87.

Brazilla Merrill, a soldier located at one of the defense camps, wrote to his wife about the countryside:

> *I will sum it up by saying desolation and ruin. There seems to be plenty of men, guns, cannon, music* [sic], *horses, wagons, and mules and tents in sight, which is about all that can be seen.... The fences are gone and the country around here is all stumped over and trod down.*[270]

The fallen trees were used to build the forts and camps. They were also used to form an abatis, a barricade of dead trees around the forts. However, as Barnard wrote in his report:

> *Newly-felled forests form in themselves a most impervious obstacle to the attack of lines in rear of them, but not a very durable one. The fallen timber is too valuable to be allowed to remain long on the ground where, indeed, it would be speedily burned up.*[271]

Tom Aldrich, stationed at Camp Seward in Arlington noted:

> *'This is a hard looking country, I can tell you. There is nothing left here, not a fence nor hardly a house.' George Newcomb agreed, 'It is a sad looking country about here,' he wrote, 'the timber (is) all cut down and the land grows up to brush.' Oscar Wilber observed, 'Where we are the farms look very desolate. Nothing has been raised on them since the war. I guess it is cut up very bad with rifle pits.'*[272]

Keeping the lines clear was an on-going process. A June 1864 inspection report noted that the average height of the brush in front of the works had reached eight feet. On July 28, 1864, General Hardin, commander of the defenses north of the Potomac, wrote that some of the brush had been cleared on the northern line and estimated the average brush height at five feet.[273]

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[270] Dunkleman, p. 11.

[271] Barnard, p. 33.

[272] Dunkleman, p. 11.

[273] Brown, *Forts DeRussy, Stevens, and Totten*, p. 11.



Figure 54 - *Trees at Fort Stevens*

As evident from pictures taken during the time period, living trees were located in at least one fort - Fort Stevens. The trees may have been planted to improve aesthetics and/or to serve as shade for relief from the hot summer sun.

In 1863, one soldier wrote a letter about the benefits of having vegetation around his camp near Fairfax:

> *In the rear, the lines of tents extend into a fine grove of pines, which kindly protect us from all winds from the east.... A regimental order forbids the cutting of trees within 200 yards of the camp and ensures to us the protection of our tall evergreens. The ground has been cleared and leveled and the underbrush cut away from under the trees.*[274]

Today, with natural succession, trees and understory plants at the forts and batteries have regrown. The vegetation is predominantly deciduous, consisting of a variety of trees

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[274] Benedict, p. 112.

(predominately oaks, maples, and beech), shrubs, and groundcovers. Many of these sites are covered with exotic species such as Ailanthus and honeysuckle. A few threatened and endangered species also exist in these areas, including pink ladyslipper orchid.

At some of the sites, selective vegetation management is taking place. The management involves removing dead or dying trees at some sites, while at others understories are cleared to allow views of the remaining walls. Fort Stevens and a few others are maintained with grass on the earthworks. Open grass-covered areas are used for recreation at several fort sites.

2. Contributing Features

The fortification sites were originally cleared with the goal of security, not aesthetics. And in fact, as a deliberate and intended part of the design, vegetation was consciously removed from the areas. The fort and battery walls were often sodded, but it is unknown if any of the original grasses remain. Therefore there are no original contributing vegetative features.

However, now the sites form a green ring around the city and are currently home to some of the city's last remaining open spaces. The connection of the green ring may be more visible on a map than on the ground, but the individual lush open spaces form an integral part of the city's communities.

H. ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES

1. Archeological Elements

After the war, the wood which formed the fort and battery walls was sold off. Forts, lacking maintenance and wood supports, began decaying.[275]

One book on the history of Washington, D.C. says, "As late as the 1920's, the forts were still fruitful locales for surface archeology, yielding military buttons, buckles, and other wartime trophies."[276]

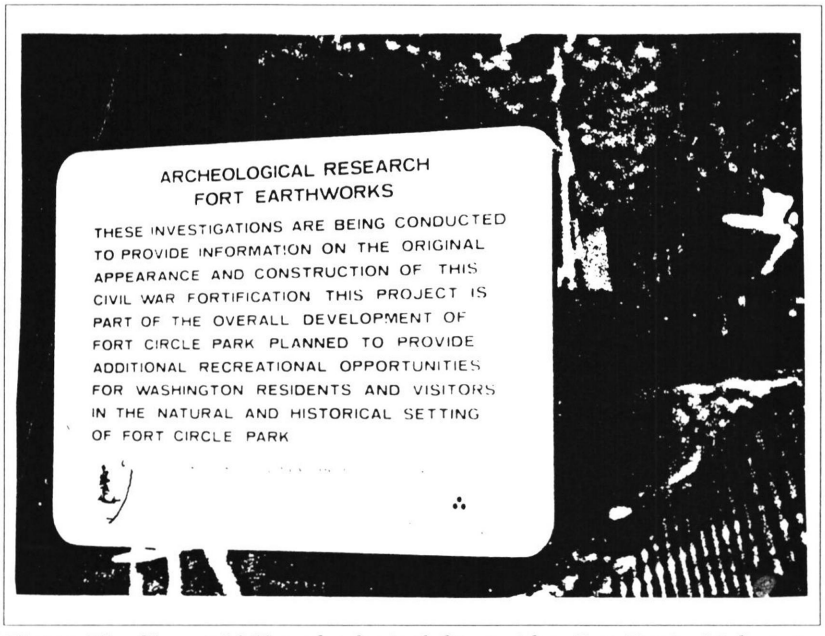


Figure 55 - *Sign at 1968 archeological dig at either Fort Davis, Mahan, or Dupont*

There have been at least six archeological studies of different areas of the Civil War defense system. These have included studies on Forts Reno, Mahan, Dupont, Davis, Lincoln, and Washington.

Many of the sites which were held privately have been replaced by the expanding city. Clear examples of these are Forts Runyon and Albany. It is evident that, if one overlays an historic

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[275] Miller, p. 41. (See the *Site History* section in this report for a quote from a 1883 newspaper report regarding the state of the fortifications eighteen years after the war's end.)

[276] Frederick Gutheim, Consultant, *Worthy of a Nation, the History of Planning for the National Capital*, National Capital Planning Commission, (Smithsonian Institute, 1977), p.196. The tone of this quote gives some idea of the need to continue educating people to the fact that collecting artifacts on Federal property is illegal.

map on a current map, both forts, if they existed now, would be right on route 395, between the Pentagon and the Pentagon City Mall. Throughout the metro area, remnants of fortifications may exist in backyards or by shopping malls or on unbuilt land.[277] Battery Bailey exists as a park in Maryland. Forts Marcy, Ward, C. F. Smith, Ethan Allen, Willard and Freedom Hill and some rifle pits are the only features in Virginia administered as national, state, or local parks.

The fort and battery sites have often been the target of archeological vandalism, and some of the subsurface features may have been damaged. Two specific examples of this are Forts Steven and Greble.

Fort Stevens was greatly disturbed prior to and during the Civilian Conservation Corp reconstruction in the thirties, and the potential for undisturbed resources in that area of reconstruction is probably slim.

In 1893 Fort Greble had already been disturbed by domestic and agricultural activity.[278] And a 1991 *Addendum to the Historic Resources Survey of Forts Carroll and Greble* said that an archeological report for the D.C. Department of Recreation recounted that, "...deep features such as wells or privies would contain the only intact archeological deposits that might survive in the area of the recreational fields."[279] Then the *Historic Resources Survey* went on to say, "this assessment of archeological potential also applies to the area enclosed within the visible embankments of the fort."[280]

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[277] Known remnants on private lands include a site in Alexandria where a well is located in one homeowner's back yard and a powder magazine in another's.

[278] Goodwin, p.17.

[279] Ibid.

[280] Ibid.



Figure 56 - *Well at Fort Marcy*

2. Contributing Features

Archeological resources are pieces of "...evidence of the activities and habits of the people...."[281] They can add greatly to our knowledge of a time period. Therefore, any archeological features that remain in the Washington, D.C. area Civil War defense sites would be contributing features. However, partially due to collecting, the integrity of the archeological resources at the sites varies. The Battleground National Cemetery is intact (see the *Structures* section for a discussion of extant surface features), while fortification surface features appear to have been disturbed. Some subsurface features may remain at the defense and camp sites that can contribute to our understanding of the pre-history and history of the sites.

[281] National Register Bulletin #30, p. 15.

I. STRUCTURES

1. Fortifications

The forts and batteries themselves are unifying identifiable components in the historic landscapes of the Civil War defenses of Washington. The forts and batteries are different sizes and shapes as was necessitated by their respective topography, layout, and different defense objectives. However, when looking at plans of the structures side by side, it is evident that the geometry of all the forts and batteries is similar. That is because the army followed D. H. Mahan's guide, *A Treatise on Field Fortifications*, when designing and building the fortifications.[282]

Barnard recorded that:

> ...[the] *works varied in size from Fort Runyon, Lyon, and Marcy, of which the perimeters were 1,500, 939, and 736 yards to Fort Bennett, Haggertry, and Saratoga, with perimeters of 146, 128 and 154 yards.*[283]

On some sites, it is still possible to discern historic structures, including the walls, bombproofs, embrasures, dry moats, and parapets. The following is a description of a fort and an explanation of the terminology. The forts:

> *...were constructed by manual labor using pick, shovel and heavy carpenter tools. A ditch was dug around a paced-off perimeter, the dirt being piled up to the inside, forming an embankment termed a parapet. Behind the parapet on wooden platforms were placed the guns, some of which fired over the parapet. This configuration is called a barbette. If a cut is made in the parapet, the configuration is called an embrasure.* [There would also be] *...a space through the parapet that is level with the fort 'floor.' This was the gorge (entrance) and would be found on the side facing Washington. Within all forts were powder magazines; in many forts were wells, quarters, guardhouses and bombproofs; the later being used as limited living quarters and as protection during siege... The wells were hand-dug, some to a depth of over 200 feet, and were eight to ten feet in diameter and curbed with brick, stone, or wood.*[284]

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[282] Cooling and Owens, p. 6.

[283] Barnard, p. 15.

[284] Miller, p. 7.

The fort walls that were not held in place by wood were generally covered with sod to keep the sides from eroding. The *Regulations for Care of Field-works and Government Garrisons* stated:

> *The garrison can greatly improve the work by sodding the slopes of the parapet, and those of the ramps and banquettes, or by sowing grass seed on the superior slope.... The grass-covered or sodded portions of the parapets, traverses, magazines, etc., should be occasionally watered in dry weather, and the grass be kept closely cut. Early in the spring and late in the autumn they should be covered with manure.*[285]

Yet, as today, often the clay sides of the forts were barren of grass.[286] The earth-works had to be constantly maintained. To protect the parapets the *Regulations for Care of Field-works and Government Garrisons* explicitly said:

> *No one shall be allowed to walk on the parapets, or move or sit upon the gabions, barrels, or sandbags that may be placed upon them. When injuries occur to the earthworks, they should be repaired as quickly as possible....*[287]

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[285] Cooling and Owens, p. 244.

[286] Cooling, p. 141

[287] Cooling and Owens, p. 242. (p. 239 of Cooling and Owens' book explains that *Gabions* were bottomless, cylindrical wicker baskets filled with earth and used in field fortifications.)

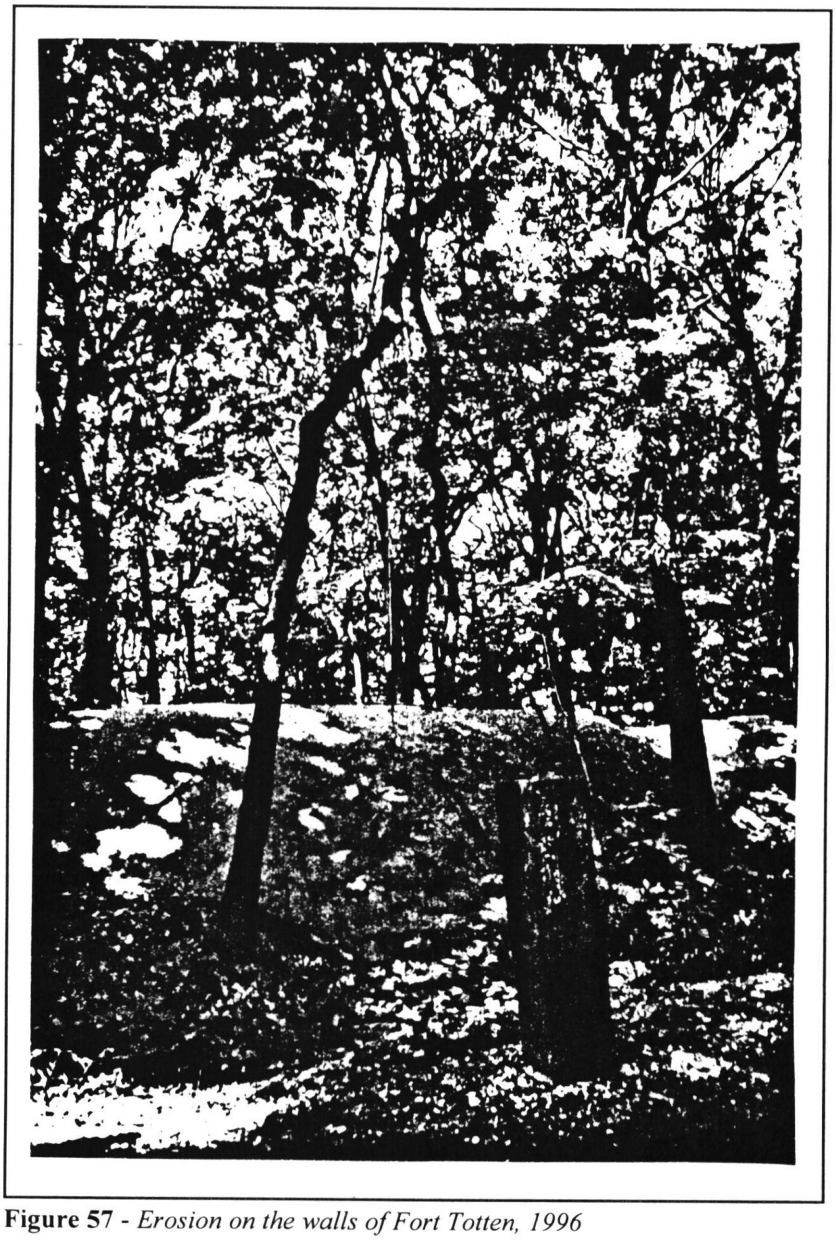


Figure 57 - *Erosion on the walls of Fort Totten, 1996*

Even when the forts were built, the earthworks were maintenance intensive and, today, due to the fact that the wood and gabion supports are missing and due to erosion caused by nature and human use, the fortifications are decaying. However, even though they are no longer military crisp and well-defined, many historic remnants of the fortifications are still visible through the brush at many National Park Service, state, and local sites.



Figure 58 - *Sketch of soldiers weaving gabions, from Leslie's Illustrated, Vol. 13, January 4, 1862.*

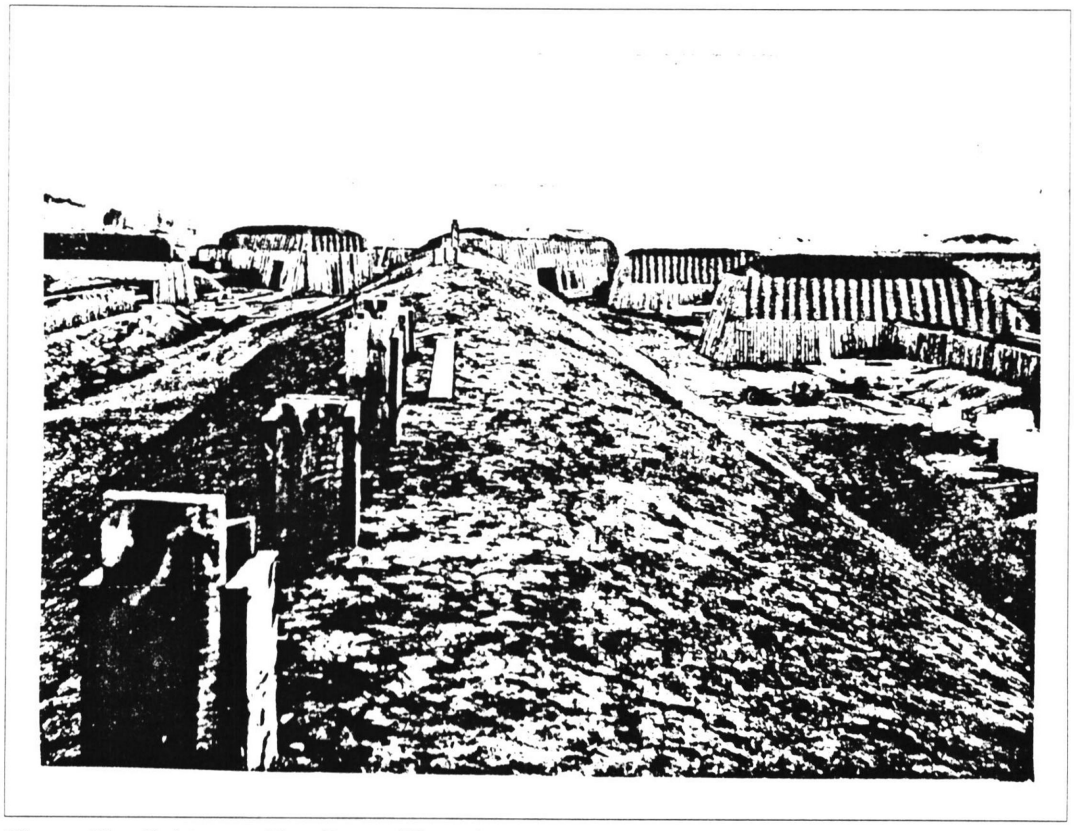


Figure 59 - *Gabions at Fort Foote (The gabions are seen primarily in the back right side of the photo, above the logs, forming the sides of the fort walls.)*

Three forts are partially reconstructed. At Fort Stevens, the Civilian Conservation Corp built a "reproduction" of a portion of the fort using logs made of concrete. In 1937, as the *Evening Star* explained, the 'bark' was dark-colored cement applied by artisans. Concrete logs were used because they would last longer than natural wood.[288] The 'reproduction' is still standing; however, the concrete is deteriorating. A portion of Fort Ward, in Alexandria, Virginia, was reconstructed in the 1960's, and Fort Freedom Hill, a small redoubt in Vienna, Virginia, was partially reconstructed with wood.

For more detailed information on typical fort construction, including earthwork widths, scarp and counterscarp slope percentages, foundation depths, etc. see the 1970 National Park Service's *Historic Structures Report for Fort Stanton, Fort Foote and Battery Ricketts.*

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[288] Bernard Kohn, *'Restored Civil War Fort is New Sightseeing Shrine,' The Sunday Star*, Sunday morning, July 4,1937, Washington, D.C. (RCP)

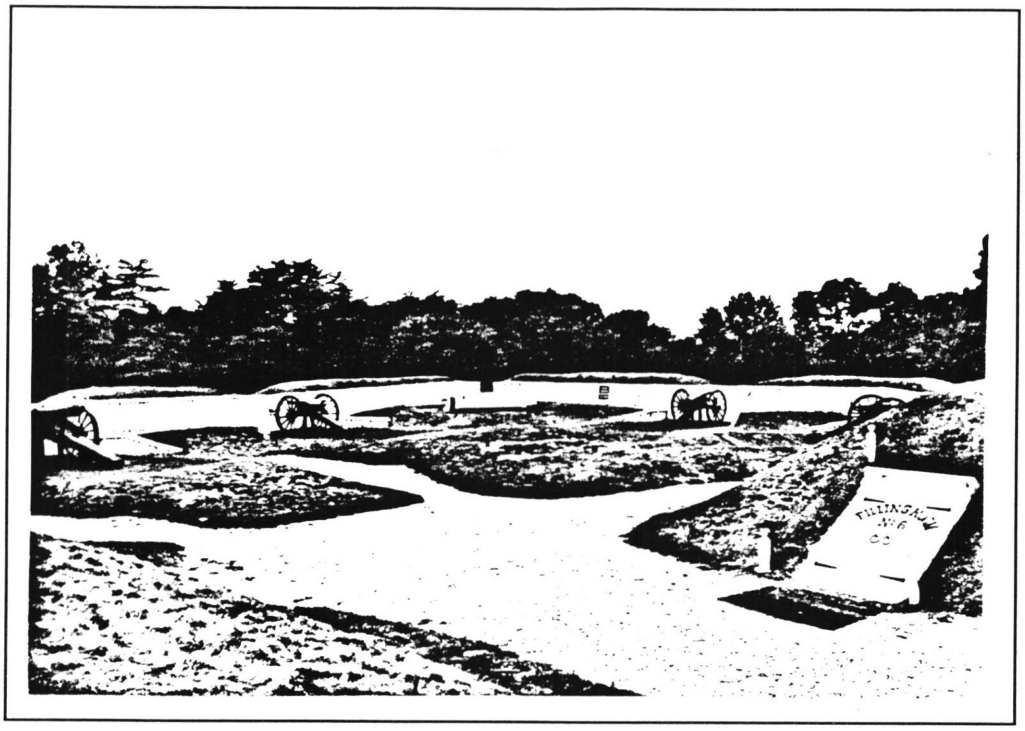


Figure 60 - *Reconstruction at Fort Ward, Alexandria, 1996*

2. Camps

Camp accommodations ranged from 'A' frame and tepee-shaped tents to wood cabins and barracks. An article on camp architecture states:

> *Lumber was easier to come by in that area. The troops prized boards for hut construction, as their use saved much labor. Once lumber was transported to the camp site, it was a simple matter to nail the boards in place to line the walls of the tent, with little of the back breaking labor associated with building log cabins.*[289]

[289] Nelson, p. 81.

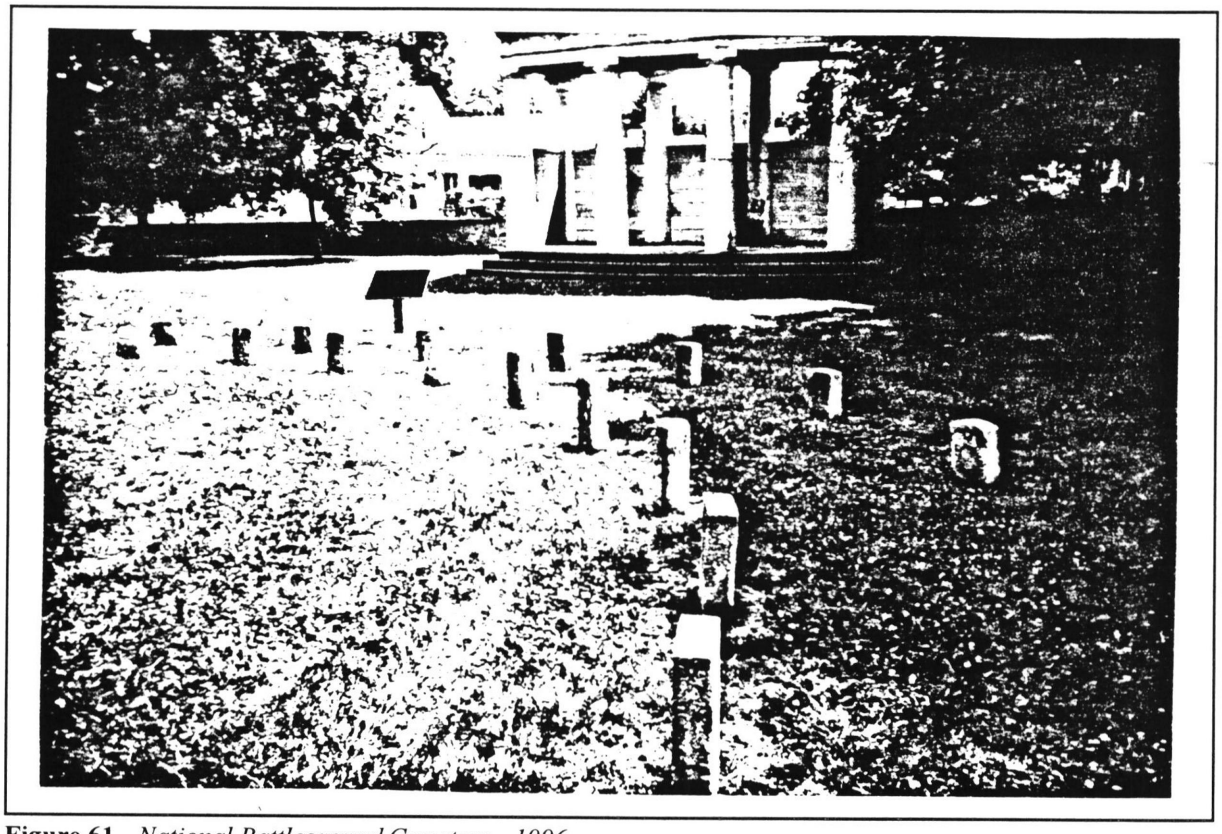


Figure 61 - *National Battleground Cemetery - 1996*

3. Battleground National Cemetery

The Battleground National Cemetery is intact, with many of its surface features extant, including the headstones, monuments, flag pole, signs, and lodge building. The gravestones are laid out in a circle, and each gravestone states a soldier's name, rank, and unit. Four granite statues stand in memory of the volunteer companies that fought at Fort Stevens. Plaques in the cemetery carry the verses from the '*Bivouac of the Dead,*' the '*Gettysburg Address*' and a statement on use regulations for the site. The caretaker's lodge is now used by the National Park Service for activities from office space to storage.

4. Contributing Features

The Battleground National Cemetery and its features are intact - see the above paragraph for the contributing features. The camps were dismantled after the war and no wood structural remnants exist. The forts and batteries and their individual structure and organizational elements are contributing features. The exact nature of the remaining fortification features would need to be determined in inventories of each individual fort and battery. However, it is clear that portions of the forts and batteries can still be identified, such as bombproofs, parapets, embrasures, fort entrances, and rifle pits.

J. CONCLUSION

The nation's capital and its environs are rich in Civil War resources. The historic circular fort system within the District of Columbia and sections of Virginia and Maryland still protects Washington, not from external aggression but from inappropriate development that could adversely impact the low scale buildings and green open spaces that define the unique visual character of the nation's capital. Just as important, many physical remnants of the Civil War defenses are available to further our understanding of our nation's great struggle to define and achieve a strong and unified democracy.

IV. Inventory Form

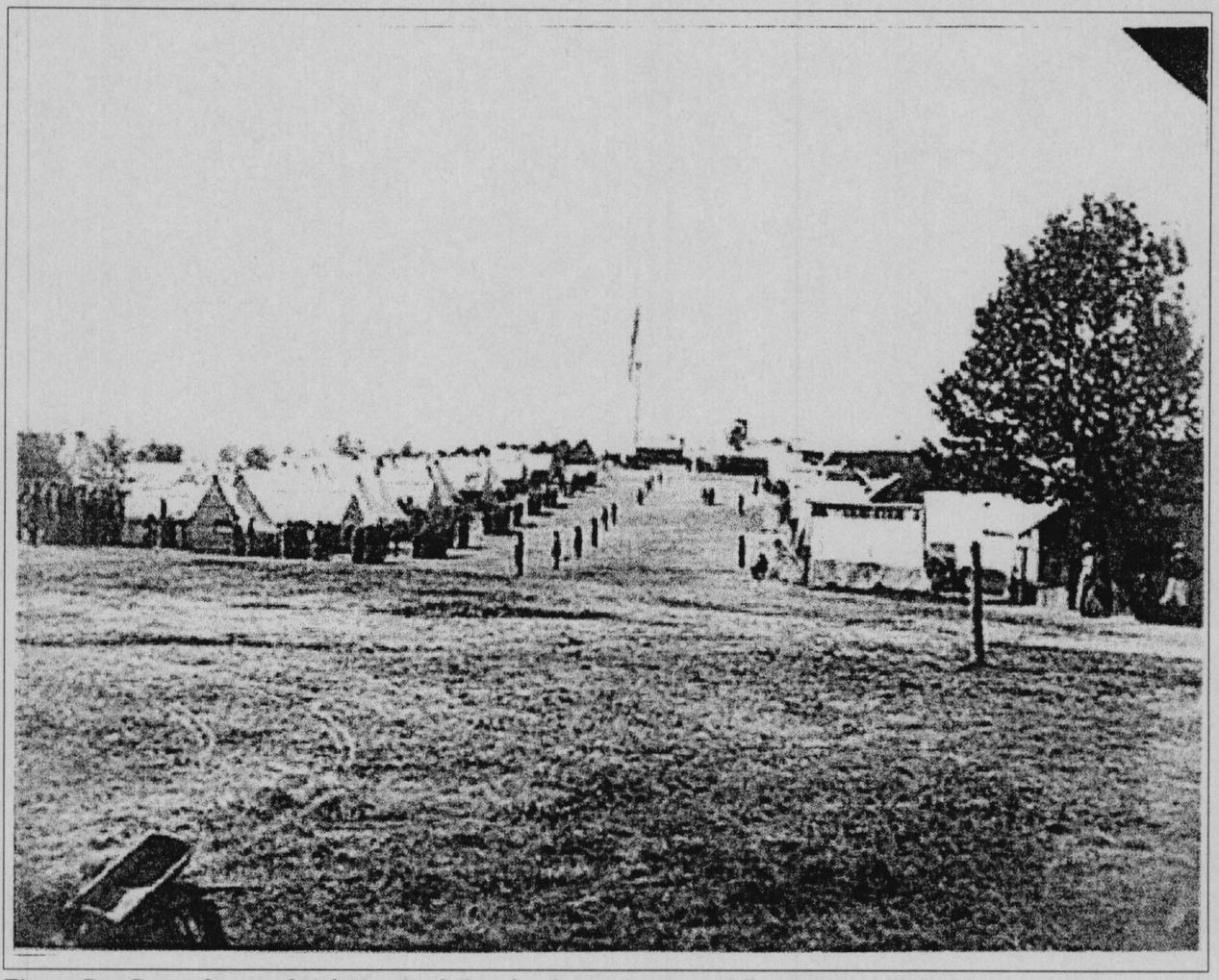


Figure D - *General view of 13th New York Cavalry Camp, Prospect Hill, Virginia, July 1865.*

IV. Inventory Form

The Inventory Form was developed by cultural landscape program managers from five regions. Before the development of the form, there was no way for everyone to collect comparable information and record it in a consistent way. The goal of the information collected in the database is to better understand the diverse cultural landscapes that contribute to the National Park Service (NPS).

The information relating to the Civil War Defenses of Washington, D.C. which will be added to the NPS database is as follows:

A. INVENTORY SUMMARY

1. Completion Status:

Date: September 1996 Recorder: Jacqui Handly

2. Inventory Description:

a. This cultural landscape inventory documents the overall cultural landscape in Washington, D. C., Maryland, and Virginia related to the Civil War defenses of Washington. The individual fort and battery sites described formed an integral unit for defending the city. For historic perspective, the forts and batteries in Washington, D.C., Maryland, and Virginia that are not under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service are included in the inventory to reflect their part in the whole defense system. Their histories are interrelated with the sites under NPS jurisdiction.

3. Inventory Included a Site Visit - Yes:

a. Visits were made to many of the component sites.

B. GENERAL LANDSCAPE INFORMATION

1. Property Level:

a. Landscape: Inventory completed for the overall landscape which makes up the Civil War Defenses of Washington, D.C..

2. Site Name(s):

b. Historic: Civil War Defenses of Washington (1860's Army)
Fort Drive (1902 McMillan Commission proposal)
Fort Boulevard (1924 Congressional charge)
Fort Drive (1930's Nat. Cap. Park & Plan. Com.)
Fort Park System (1965 NCPC proposal)
Fort Circle Parks (1968 - present NPS)

c. Current: Civil War Defenses of Washington (The site name is in the process of being changed from Fort Circle Parks.)

3. CLI Number: 46,000

4. Component Landscape Numbers - not a part of a CLI.

5. Site Identification:

a. Park Alpha Code: ROCR, GWMP, and NACE. (The NPS sites are in three parks. ROCR = Rock Creek Park; GWMP = George Washington Memorial Parkway; and NACE = National Capital Parks-East.)

b. System Support Office: National Capital Area.

c. States: Washington, D.C., Maryland, and Virginia.

d. Counties: Arlington, Fairfax, and Alexandria, Virginia; and Prince Georges and Montgomery, Maryland.

6. Site Location:

a. USGS Quad: The sites cross over four quad maps -- *Washington West, Washington East, Alexandria, and Anacostia.*

7. Cultural Landscape Boundary Description:

a. The landscape area forms a linear band spanning thirty-seven miles encircling Washington, D.C..

8. Boundary UTMS: For the UTMS coordinates of each fort and battery site, see the List of Classified Structures.

9. Cultural Landscape Size (acres):

a. More than 130 acres. The exact boundaries for these sites have not been determined. For example, the Fort Dupont structure lies within a larger park area, and the historic boundary line has not been delineated.

10. Cultural Landscape Description:

a. During the Civil War, fortifications were built to protect the Nation's Capital, Washington, D.C.. The defenses consisted of sixty-eight enclosed forts and batteries and 93 un-armed batteries connected by rifle pits. The entire defense system formed a thirty-seven mile band around the city. The only battle that took place at the fortifications was Confederate General Jubal Early's attack on the Union army at Fort Stevens in 1864. Over twenty of the Civil War defense sites are under the jurisdiction of the NPS. The sites are home to remaining earth-works and are used for recreation and interpretive activities.

11. Cultural Landscape Contexts:

a. Physiographic: The sites straddle the Piedmont and Coastal Plain regions.

b. Political: The sites form a band around D.C. going through many jurisdictions in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C..

c. Cultural: The Civil War fortifications were constructed on land which was originally farmland, woodland, meadows, and privately owned homes. After the war was over, many sites reverted to their original owners and have since been lost to development. Other sites remained in government ownership and today are administered by the NPS.

12. Assessment of Overall Condition of Landscape:

a. Poor - The sites are in poor condition.

i. The forts were all virtyally dismantled and have been exposed to disturbance by natural and human forces over the years.

13. Assessment of Overall Level of Impact Severity:

a. Moderate - There is a moderate level of impact.

i. Based on the analysis of historic and current land use management, the resources will be significantly damaged or irretrievably lost if protective action is not taken within five years.

ii. The situation caused by the impact of humans and natural elements is potentially threatening to visitor and staff safety.

14. Immediate Threats to Landscape:

a. Impending Development: A separate NPS planning effort is underway for the Civil War defenses of Washington, D.C.. Recommended treatment and management techniques for the earthworks and appropriate recreation and interpretation activities will be addressed.

b. Adjacent Lands: The views from the forts, where remaining, are under threat by the potential for continuing adjacent development.

c. Other: Heavy recreation use is creating an impact on the landscape. (For example, mountain-bike riding on the earth walls is causing erosion.)

15. Adjacent Lands Contribute to the Significance of the Landscape and are Considered in the Inventory:

a. Yes - The *Site History Narrative* includes a discussion of campsites, freedman's villages, forts, and other significant sites outside the NPS boundaries because their histories are interrelated with the Civil War sites under NPS jurisdiction.

C. SITE PLAN

See the plans pictured earlier in this document.

D. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

1. Landscape Type:

a. Designed: The fortifications as a whole were designed to protect the city following specific army guidelines.

b. Historic Site: The sites were associated with the Civil War, specifically the defense of Washington, D.C. and the emancipation of slaves.

2. Land Use:

a. Historic Land Use: Civil War army defenses.

b. Current Land Use: NPS park sites: recreation, interpretation, and occasional archeological studies and special events.

3. Significant Physical Changes and Uses of the Landscape:

Map	Date	Event
	Pre- 1608	Use of Rock Creek, Potomac and Anacostia Rivers by Native Americans.
	prior to 1791	Colonization - farming and plantations; some small towns develop
Yes	1791	Confluence of the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers declared location for new capital: Washington, D.C.
Yes	May 1861	Defenses built in Arlington and Alexandria
Yes	After July 22, 1861	Defenses expanded in Virginia and around the original city boundaries of Washington, D.C.
Yes	1864	Battleground National Cemetery established
	1865	War ends; some forts revert back to private owners
	1901+	Olmsted Jr., for the McMillan Commission, proposes scenic fort drive.

Map	Date	Event
	1925	Publicly owned fort lands transferred to federal Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks
	1930 - 1965	National Capital Park and Planning Commission continues pursuing the Fort Drive concept which includes acquiring fortification sites and land for parks.
	1933	Publicly owned forts transferred to the NPS
	March 12, 1936	Major Edward R. Cambell buried at Battleground National Cemetery - last Civil War veteran eligible for interment.
	1937	CCC reconstructs Fort Stevens
	1959	NPS acquires Fort Marcy
	1960's	Fort Ward reconstructed by City of Alexandria
Yes	1968	NPS Fort Circle master plan proposes connecting bike/pedestrian trail instead of a drive.
	1969	Fort Freedom Hill, a partially reconstructed advance fort located in Vienna, Virginia, acquired by Fairfax County.
	1977	Fort Freedom Hill restored.
	1978	Fort Willard (near Bell Haven country club), acquired by Fairfax County.
	1995	Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission stabilizes Battery Bailey and opens it to the public.
	1995	Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation purchases the site of Fort C. F. Smith and begins planning efforts.

4. Site History Narrative: See *Site History Narrative.*

5. National Register Status:

a. Nineteen of the NPS Civil War defenses of Washington are listed as significant on the National Register of Historic Places.

i. The landscape documentation is inadequate. Under the name "Fort Circle Parks," the Civil War Defenses of Washington were nominated to the National Register on September 1978. The nomination needs to be supplemented with information regarding the components and character of the landscape for all the sites. Battleground National Cemetery had a separate nomination form.

ii. The date of the National Register Nomination Form: 1978.

6. National Register Classification: District and Site.

7. National Register Significance Level: State.

8. National Register Significance Criteria: "A" - The definition of category "A" is as follows:

a. The Civil War defenses are "associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history." (As quoted from the National Register Bulletin.)

9. Historical Context(s):

a. Washington, D.C., the Union capital, was almost completely unprotected at the beginning of the Civil War. Virginia, a rebel state, lay on one side of the city, and Maryland, a slave-owning state, lay on the other, leaving Washington in a precarious position. The defenses, built to protect the city, greatly impacted the Washington, D.C. area from cultural, social, and political perspectives. They also impacted the natural landscape. Miles of trees and many buildings were razed to construct sixty-eight enclosed forts and armed batteries, and ninety-three unarmed batteries. Rifle pits connected the forts and batteries in a thirty-seven-mile band around the city. The extensive fort system discouraged the Confederacy from attacking the city. Confederate Jubal Early's assault in July 1864 engaged ten forts, but the main

battle was at Fort Stevens. This was the only battle at the forts. The protection of the fort system attracted escaping slaves, who were emancipated upon reaching the forts. Many of the freed slaves settled nearby and provided services to the forts.

10. Statement of Significance:

a. The statement of significance as quoted in the National Register Nomination is as follows:

At the opening of the Civil War in 1861, the Union Capital was virtually without protection, the city not having been threatened since the invasion by the British in 1814. The circle of forts thrown up around the capital during the war represents, collectively, an important remnant of the war. Although combative action was only seen at one of the forts, Fort Stevens, in July 1864, the circle doubtless played an important dissuasive role in the protection of that city which symbolized the Union and its cause.

b. The period of significance noted on the National Register form is 1800-1899.

11. National Historic Landmark Status: This site has no landmark status.

12. World Heritage Site Status: This site has no World Heritage site status.

13. List of Primary Contributing Features:

a. The forts, batteries, rifles pits, bombproofs and associated smaller features, including archeological resources, all contribute to the larger cultural and historical landscape. The exact nature of the remaining features would need to be determined in inventories on each individual fort, battery, cemetery, and camp. However, remains of fort and battery walls are still apparent although overgrown. At some sites, bombproofs, parapets, embrasures, fort entrances, and rifle pits can all be identified. Some of the roads that the forts protected are still in use today, including Military Road. Battleground National Cemetery is intact. (See Appendix, the first section called *Fortification Names and Historic Locations,* for a listing of the defense sites administered by the NPS.)

b. Today the NPS sites form a scenic circle of green space around the northwestern and northeastern half of the city which is a significant contributing feature of the defenses of Washington. Green open spaces, including those associated with the fortifications, are also important preservation elements in the National Capital Planning Commission's *1983 Comprehensive Plan* for the Nation's Capital.

14. List of Noncontributing Features:

a. The noncontributing features include parking lots, trash cans, picnic tables, recreation fields, non-historic trails and roads, community gardens, and interpretive waysides, and similar evidence of contemporary activity.

E. POTENTIAL ETHNOGRAPHIC VALUE

1. Ethnographic Survey has been conducted: No.

a. Values are potentially present but are unidentified or unassessed.

2. Groups potentially associated with landscape historically and/or currently:

Historic	Current
Native Americans	Descendants (?)
European settlers	Descendants (?)
Freed slaves (called freedman)	Descendants (?)

3. Description of known Ethnographic Value: probably little or none.

F. DOCUMENTATION

1. Overall Assessment of Documentation of the Cultural Landscape: The existing level of documentation for the cultural landscape is poor.

a. Identification: Although the information is sufficient to associate the resource with a historic context current conditions of specific sites have not been documented.

b. Evaluation: Information exists which clearly documents that the resource meets the National Register of Historic Places criteria for a cultural landscape, as is evident by the fact that it is already on the National Register, but component landscape sites have not been evaluated.

c. Treatment: Some generic information exists on proposed treatment strategies, but more detailed analysis will need to be done in a cultural landscape report.

2. Documentation Checklist:

NPS Documents	Date	Adequately Address Landscape
Bibliography of Fort Circle Parks Source Material, Rock Creek Park	May 1995	Not specifically but includes 7 pages of topical information, vertical files, library holdings and maps. Close examination of materials may yield more information about the landscape.
National Capital Parks - East Statement for Management	Jan. 1994	Yes (The Statement for Management adequately covers the landscape. It includes sections on visitation, purpose and significance, legislation, natural resources, and major issues.)
Rock Creek Statement for Management	Jan. 1994	Yes (For a Statement for Management the landscape is adequately covered. For each fort there is a section with 1 or 2 sentences on management approaches from the natural, cultural, historic, and recreational perspectives, and brief notes on major issues and influences.)
Battleground National Cemetery Park Site Bulletin	Revised 1994	No (Discusses the history of the site, rather than layout design features.)
Fort Circle 'Park' Brochure	1993	No (Includes only two pages discussing the history of the forts. Also includes a good section describing the fort structures.)
Historic Resources Survey: Addendum to the 1970 Historic Structures Report Forts Carroll and Greble, Washington, D.C.	1991	Yes (Information includes use of land before Civil War, impact on land by forts, and some use after the war.)

NPS Documents	Date	Adequately Address Landscape
Historical and Archeological Study of the George Washington Memorial Parkway.	1990	No (Briefly touches on forts in Arlington.)
List of Classified Structures	1978 - updated 1990	No (However, considering the sheer number of sites, the LCS is adequate in itself. Due to the nature of the LCS, there is no overall significance or landscape context discussed, rather just a listing of each site.)
Rock Creek Statement for Management	1985	No (Only lists fort names.)
A Preliminary Report of the 1984 Excavations at Fort Reno Park	1984	No (Archeological study.)
A Preliminary Archeological and Historical Survey of a portion of Fort Reno Park in Wash., D.C.	1983	No (Archeological study.)
The Fort Reno Community	1981	No (A good discussion of the evolution of the community.)
Interpretive Prospectus	1971	No (It does not include any discussion of the overall impact the defenses had on the landscape of the city or the countryside, and it does not have any information on the emancipation of slaves in relationship to the Civil War sites.)
Fort Circle Parks East Resource Management Plan	1971	Yes (For each fort site, as well as the connecting links, there is a section on: history, vegetation, historic features, access and circulation, neighborhood use, problems, and recommendations.)
Historic Structures Report: Forts Carroll and Greble, Washington, D.C.	June 1970	No (Good information on the fort structures including details such as the size of the officers' quarters, cost of labor to build the forts, and copies of historic maps and photos.)
Historic Structures Report: Fort Stanton, Fort Foote, and Battery Ricketts	May 1970	No (Good information on the fort structures including the width of parapets, depth of concrete footers, and size of guns.)

NPS Documents	Date	Adequately Address Landscape
Forts DeRussy, Stevens, and Totten: General Background	1968	No (Good information on the forts' structures down to the detail of percent slopes of parapets, width of ditches, and type of armaments.)
Fort Circle Parks Master Plan	1968	Yes (Adequately addresses each fort from the perspective of evaluating its current (1968) condition and making treatment recommendations. The 108-page plan includes only a few paragraphs on the history of the forts.)
Excavations at Fort Lincoln	1968	No (Archeological study.)
Archeological Research - Fort Earthworks: Forts Davis, Mahan, and Dupont	1968	No (Archeological study.)
General Background: Fort Mahan, Chaplin, Dupont, and Davis	1967	No (Includes maps and photos.)
Proposed Bicycle Route: Fort Circle Parks	1967	No (A general proposal.)
Archeological Investigations: "Old Fort" area Fort Washington	1958	No (Archeological study.)
The Defenses of Washington	1957	No (Includes one page of history and forty-eight pages of good historic photos and plans.)
Guide leaflets for the Tour of Historic Civil War Defenses	1938	No (Very little text - introductory paragraph with photos.)

3. National Park Service Graphic Documentation:

Map Type	Description
Topography	GIS data, at 1:24,000, is available at the National Capital Area System Support Office.
Aerial Photos	Black and white ortho-aerial photos are available at the National Capital Area GIS System Support Office.

G. MANAGEMENT

1. Existing Management Category: "B" - The definition of category "B" is as follows:

a. The landscape should be preserved and maintained because it meets the following criteria. The landscape:

i. meets National Register of Historic Places criteria as a historic landscape and district,

ii. is compatible with the park's legislated significance, and

iii. has a continuing or potential purpose that is appropriate to its traditional use or function.

2. Approved Treatment: The 1968 Master Plan is the most recently approved treatment document for the Civil War Defenses of Washington, D.C..

Treatment Recommended (interpretive strategies were also recommended)	**Completed**	**The National Park Service 1968 Master Plan made treatment recommendations for the following:**
Stabilization	No	Forts Mahan, Chaplin, and Totten, and Battery Kemble
Preservation	No	Fort DeRussy
Rehabilitation	No	Stabilize and rehabilitate Battery Ricketts and Fort Stanton
Restoration	No	Fort Dupont, partial restoration of Forts Stevens, Davis, Greble, and Carroll
Neglect	N/A	Forts Reno, Bayard, Slocum, and Bunker Hill

3. Management Agreement:

a. The NPS gives out special use permits on some of the Civil War sites for events ranging from family reunions to science fairs.

b. The District of Columbia has requested and been given special use permits to hold summer day camp activities at Forts Dupont and Stanton.

4. National Park Service Legal Interest (Ownership Rights) in the Cultural Landscape:

a. The NPS ownership rights in the Civil War defenses of Washington that are under NPS jurisdiction are fee simple. This means that the NPS owns all the rights and titles to the properties it possesses.

b. Many of the original Civil War defense sites are not in the NPS system, and the NPS has no legal interest (ownership rights) in them. (Quite a few of the latter have been lost to development.)

5. Public Access to Site:

a. Unrestricted: The sites are currently unrestricted. Permits are given to the D.C. Department of Recreation for recreational opportunities and to groups for special events.

H. ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION

See *Analysis and Evaluation* Section.

Appendix

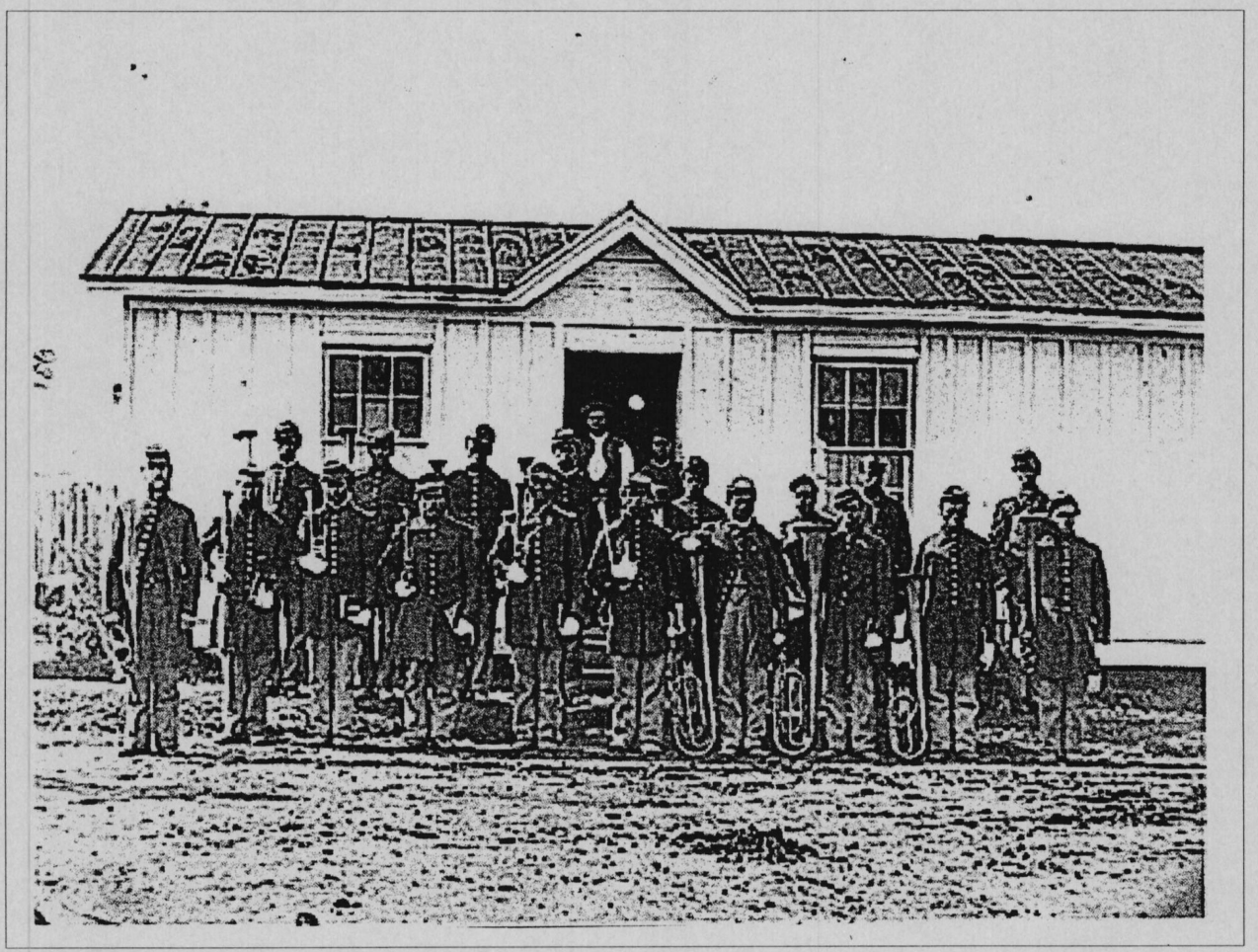


Figure E - *Band of 107th U.S. Colored Infantry at Fort Corcoran, Arlington, Virginia. November 1865*

Appendix

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A. FORTIFICATION NAMES AND HISTORIC LOCATIONS

The following is a list of the names and general locations of forts and batteries that made up the defenses of Washington, D.C. during the Civil War.

Those sites now owned by the National Park Service are listed by park location. Other forts and batteries are listed by name under either Washington, D.C., Maryland, or Virginia, depending on where they would be located, if they still existed. While most National Park Service, State, county, and city parks listed contain some degree of fortification remnants, very few of the privately owned sites contain intact fort or battery features. Regardless of their existing condition, all sites will remain under their current ownership type.

1. Civil War Sites under National Park Service Jurisdiction

a. Fortifications located in Rock Creek Park: Sites north of the Potomac and west of the Anacostia rivers

Battleground National Cemetery
Fort Bayard
Battery Bayard
Fort Bunker Hill
Battery by Bunker Hill
Fort DeRussy and trenches
Battery Kemble
Battery Kingsbury
Fort Reno
Battery Reno
Fort Stevens
Battery Sill
Fort Slocum
Battery Totten
Fort Totten and trenches
Unnamed batteries and rifle pits

b. **Fortifications located in George Washington Memorial Parkway:** Sites south of the Potomac in Virginia

Fort Marcy
Rifle pits

c. **Fortifications located in National Capital Parks-East:** Park fortifications east of the Anacostia river in Washington, D.C. (unless otherwise noted)

Battery Carroll
Fort Carroll
Fort Chaplin
Fort Davis
Fort Dupont
Ft. Foote (in Maryland)
Battery Greble
Fort Greble
Battery Mahan
Fort Mahan
Battery Ricketts
Fort Ricketts
Fort Stanton
Fort Snyder
Unnamed batteries and rifle pits (In D.C. and Maryland)
Ft. Washington (in Maryland)

2. **Civil War Sites under State, Local, or Private Ownership** (Unless ownership is specifically identified, the fortification has probably been lost to development)

   a. **Names of Fortifications which were located in Washington, D.C.**

   Battery Alexander
   Fort Baker
   Battery Cameron
   Fort Craven/Craig or Fort of Circular Form (never finished by the Union)
   Fort Gaines
   Battery Jameson
   Fort on Kennedy's Hill (never finished by the Union)
   Battery Martin Scott
   Fort Kearny
   Battery at Fort Lincoln
   Fort Lincoln
   Battery Morris
   Battery Parrott
   Battery by Fort Saratoga
   Fort Saratoga
   Battery Slemmer
   Fort Slemmer
   Battery Rossell
   Battery Smeade
   Battery Terrill
   Fort Thayer
   Battery Vermont
   Fort Wagner

   b. **Names of Fortifications which were located in Maryland**

   Battery Bailey (Administered by Maryland Park and Planning Commission)
   Battery Benson
   Fort Meigs
   Battery Mansfield
   Fort Mansfield
   Battery Runker
   Battery Simmons
   Fort Simmons
   Fort Sumner

c. Names of Fortifications which were located in Virginia

Fort Albany
Fort Barnard
Fort Bennet
Fort Berry
Fort Cass
Fort C. F. Smith (Administered by Arlington County Dept. of Parks & Recreation.)
Fort Corcoran
Fort Craig
Fort Ellsworth
Fort Ethan Allen (Administered by Arlington County Dept. of Parks & Recreation.)
Fort Farnsworth
Battery Gareshe
Fort Haggerty
Fort Jackson
Fort Lyon
Fort McPherson (never finished by the Union)
Fort Morton
Fort near Old Fairfax Road
Fort O'Rourke
Fort Reynolds
Fort Richardson
Battery Rodgers
Fort Runyon
Fort Scott
Fort Strong
Fort Tillinghast
Fort Ward (Administered by the City of Alexandria)
Fort Weed
Fort Whipple
Fort Willard (Administered by Fairfax County)
Fort Williams
Fort Woodbury
Fort Worth

B. CAMPS LOCATED IN WASHINGTON, D.C.[290]

CAMP NAME	MORE SPECIFIC LOCATION (IF KNOWN)	NOTES
Camp Anderson	Washington, D.C.	Established in 1865
Camp Barclay	Three miles north of the White House, near Columbia College on Meridian Hill	Pennsylvania volunteer Cavalry encampment. Established on December 12, 1861
Camp Barry	One mile northeast of the Capitol	Artillery encampment. Established August 1861
Camp Buford	Established for the defense of Washington, D.C.	Established in 1863
Camp Cadwallader	Kalaroma Heights - about two miles from the then center of town	Union encampment
Camp Caldwell	Washington D.C. environs	Temporary encampment
Camp Capitol Hill	On ground known as Capitol Hill	Temporary encampment
Carver Barracks	Washington, D.C.	Barracks
Cliffburn Barracks	Mount Pleasant	Depot camp and Veteran Reserve Corps Camp
Camp Cochran	Near Washington	
Camp Duncan	Eastern section of Washington, D.C.	
Camp Fenton	In Washington	Camp of instruction
Camp Fry	Temporary defense	

[290]The information in this chart is condensed from the book by Robert B. Roberts, *Encyclopedia of Historic Forts: The Military, Pioneer, and Trading Posts of the United States*, (Collier Macmillan Publishers, 1988), Washington, D.C., p. 133-141. The book includes more extensive information on each camp. In addition, there is infomation on Virginia and Maryland camps, although more research would need to be done to determine which of the camps related specifically to the defenses.

Camp Graham	Situated four miles north of Washington	
Camp Harlan	North Seventh Street	
Cantonment Holt	Near Washington	
Camp James	In or near Washington	Established in 1861
Jersey Camp	On Meridian Hill, north of Washington	
Camp Keystone	Near Tennallytown (Tenleytown), near present day American University	
Camp Lacey	In Washington	Established in 1861
Camp Lochiel	On Red Hill in Washington's Georgetown section	The Signal Camp of instruction moved into the camp
Camp Marshall		Established in 1863
Camp Meagher		
Camp Ohio	Located six miles form Tennallytown (Tenleytown)	Established in 1863
Camp Rapp	Located at "Kendall Green" in the northern suburbs of the city	
Camp Relief	7th Street, N.W. (probably near Mt. Vernon Square)	
Camp Shearer	Located near Fort Baker, east of the Anacostia River	
Camp Sprague		Established in 1861
Camp Stoneman	Giesborough Point on the Potomac	Cavalry Depot
Camp Stoneman (another camp by the same name)	On Meridian Hill, near 7th Street, N.W.	
Camp Sullivan		

Camp Tennally	In Tennallytown (Tenleytown), northwest Washington	
Washington Post	Post situated at the nation's capital, on the bank of the Potomac	
Camp Winfield Scott (Camp Scott)	Franklin Square	
MARYLAND[291]		
Camp Casey	Prince George's County in the area known as present day Cottage City	Established in 1861

[291] Ibid, p. 378.

C. PHOTOGRAPH, MAP, AND ILLUSTRATION CREDITS

COVER

Cover Figure - *Fort Lincoln* ..... cover
National Archives, College Park, Maryland, Still Picture Division, Brady Collection, Washington, D.C. file

INTRODUCTION

Figure A - *Magazine in Battery Rodgers, Alexandria, Virginia. Between 1860-1865* ..... Introduction cover
Library of Congress, Internet page Civil War Photographs. 5 of 42. No. 0761. (See section E for research specifics.)

SITE HISTORY NARRATIVE

Figure B - *Soldiers at Fort C.F. Smith* ..... Site History cover
Stanley W. McClure, *The Defenses of Washington, 1861-1865,* (National Park Service, 1957), p. 16

Figure 1 - *City of Washington in 1792* 7
National Archives, College Park, Maryland, Cartography Division

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