National Park Service

Cultural Landscape Inventory

2024



Mission 66 Park Developed Area

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

Allyson Brooks Ph.D., Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

September 6, 2024

Theresa Langford
US National Park Service

In future correspondence please refer to:
Project Tracking Code: 2024-06-04371
Property: Mission 66 Park Developed Area
Re: Section 110 Review

Dear Theresa Langford:

Thank you for contacting the Washington State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) regarding the above-referenced Cultural Landscape Inventory and updated determinations of eligibility. This action has been reviewed on behalf of the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) under provisions of Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended). Our review is based upon the *National Park Service Cultural Landscape Inventories 2024: Mission 66 Park Developed Area, Fort Vancouver National Historic Site*, dated August 8, 2024, and the accompanying Historic Property Inventories.

We concur with the results of the Cultural Landscape Inventory and determinations of eligibility within the eligible Fort Vancouver Mission 66 Developed Area. Please see the attached table for individual resource/feature concurrence.

Should additional information become available, our assessment may be revised. Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Maddie Levesque, M.A
Architectural Historian
(360) 819-7203
Maddie.Levesque@dahp.wa.gov

Feature Name	Feature Contribution	HPI Number
Visitor Center Area	Contributing	N/A
Park Operations Area	Contributing	N/A
Honey Locusts	Contributing	N/A
Mature conifers	Contributing	N/A
Clipped hedges	Contributing	N/A
Specimen Trees	Contributing	N/A
Norway Spruce	Contributing	N/A
Arborvitae	Noncontributing	N/A
Foundation plantings	Noncontributing	N/A
Trees and shrubs around the Hujun Maru monument	Noncontributing	N/A
Japanese Maple	Noncontributing	N/A
Conifers in parking area islands	Noncontributing	N/A
Shrub screen around the utilities	Noncontributing	N/A
Visitor Center Access Road	Contributing	N/A
Visitor Center Parking Area	Contributing	N/A
Visitor Center Concrete Sidewalk	Contributing	N/A

Employee Area Access Road	Contributing	N/A
Non-historic Walkways	Noncontributing	N/A
Visitor Center	Contributing	717383
Maintenance Shop	Contributing	734326
Residence #1	Contributing	734328
Residence #2	Contributing	734329
Picnic Shelter	Noncontributing	734330
Playground	Noncontributing	734331
Utility Shed	Noncontributing	734332
View from Visitor Center to Fort Vancouver	Contributing	N/A
Visitor Center flagpole	Contributing	N/A
British anchor exhibit	Contributing	N/A
Park Sign near Evergreen Blvd and Visitor Center Access Rd	Contributing	N/A
Boundary Fence	Contributing	N/A
Park Sign near Visitor Center	Noncontributing	N/A
Japanese cargo ship monument, Hojun Maru	Noncontributing	N/A
Wood Fence	Noncontributing	N/A

Bollards along Access Road	Noncontributing	N/A
Wood Slat Benches	Noncontributing	N/A
Picnic Tables	Noncontributing	N/A

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Introduction

Cultural Landscapes in the Cultural Resources Inventory System

CRIS is the National Park Service's database of cultural resources on its lands, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. The set of CRIS records for cultural landscapes is referred to as CRIS-CL. CRIS-CL records conform to a standardized data structure known as the Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI).

The legislative, regulatory and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CRIS are as follows: Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act, NPS Management Policies (2006), Director's Order 28 (Cultural Resources) and Director's Order 28a (Archeology).

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory (CLI)
The CLI is the data structure within CRIS used to document and evaluate all potentially significant landscapes in which NPS has or plans to acquire any enforceable legal interest. Each CRIS-CL record is certified complete when the landscape is determined to meet one of the following:

Landscape individually meets the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation; or,
Landscape is a contributing element of a property that is eligible for the National Register; or,
Landscape does not meet the National Register criteria.

Cultural landscapes are varied in type and include historic sites, historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes, and historic ethnographic landscapes; however, a cultural landscape also may fit within more than one type. Those cultural landscapes eligible for the National Register have significance in the nation's history on a national, state, or local level, as well as integrity.

The legislative, regulatory and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are as follows:

The *National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)),* which states that "Each Federal agency shall establish…a preservation program for the identification, evaluation, and nomination to the National Register of Historic Places…of properties…"

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(a), which states that "…Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall prepare an assessment of the current status of its inventory of historic properties required by section 110(a)(2) of the NHPA…No later than September 30, 2004, each covered agency shall complete a report of the assessment and make it available to the Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Secretary of the Interior…"

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(c), which states that "each agency with real property management responsibilities shall, by September 30, 2005, and every third year thereafter, prepare a report on its progress in identifying…historic properties in its ownership and make the report available to the Councill and the Secretary…"

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation Programs Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998, which provides under Standard 2 the guidance that follows: "An agency provides for the timely identification and evaluation of historic properties under agency jurisdiction or control and/or subject to effect by agency actions (Sec. 110 (a)(2)(A) and Sec. 112."

*Management Policies 2006. 5.1.3.1 Inventories, which states that "*The Park Service will (1) maintain and expand the following inventories…about cultural resources in units of the national park system…Cultural Landscape Inventory of historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes,…and historic sites…"

Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22 issued pursuant to Director's Order #28, which states that "As cultural resources are identified and evaluated, they should also be listed in the appropriate Service-wide inventories of cultural resources."

General Information

Cultural Landscape Inventory Name	Mission 66 Park Developed Area
Cultural Landscape Inventory Number	975379
Park Alpha Code	FOVA
Park Org Code	9430
Property Level	Landscape

Landscape Description

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

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

The Fort Vancouver Mission 66 Park Developed Area landscape is an intact example of a Mission 66 era national park development. The overall site plan, building exteriors, vehicular and

pedestrian circulation routes, entrance sign, flagpole, parking area, and the spatial organization of these features and their design intent were all part of the master plan. Many of these landscape features remain intact. Embodying the principles of Mission 66 Modern architecture, all the buildings and landscape features possess physical integrity through location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Furthermore, the Mission 66 style is still evident in the remaining landscape characteristics and features, which include: natural systems and features, spatial organization, land use, vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures views and vistas, and small-scale features.

The National Park Service Mission 66 era and development is included in the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Historic District, which was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in January 2007. In this nomination, the Mission 66 features are contributing to the Historic District. The Mission 66 Park Developed Area cultural landscape is significant at the state level under Criterion A for its association with park master planning during the Mission 66-era and Criterion C for its distinct Mission 66-era Modern style architecture and site design.

Landscape Hierarchy Description

Mission 66 Park Developed Area is a cultural landscape with no component landscapes and is one of four cultural landscapes within Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. The other three cultural landscapes are Fort Vancouver, East Barracks/Parade Ground, and McLoughlin House. The Mission 66 Park Developed Area reflects the Mission 66-era development of the site and has a concentration of historic buildings and landscape features that relate to the nationwide movement to expand and update visitor services in national park's during the 1950s and 1960s, spearheaded by the National Park Service. The physical appearance of the Mission 66 Park Developed Area landscape today reflects the transition of Fort Vancouver Historic Site into an established national park. The result is a collection of Mission 66-era buildings and infrastructure overlooking the historic Army barracks and Fort Vancouver archeological sites that reflect earlier periods of land use within the boundaries of the historic site.

Landscape Type

Historic Designed Landscape

Historic Site

Site Plan

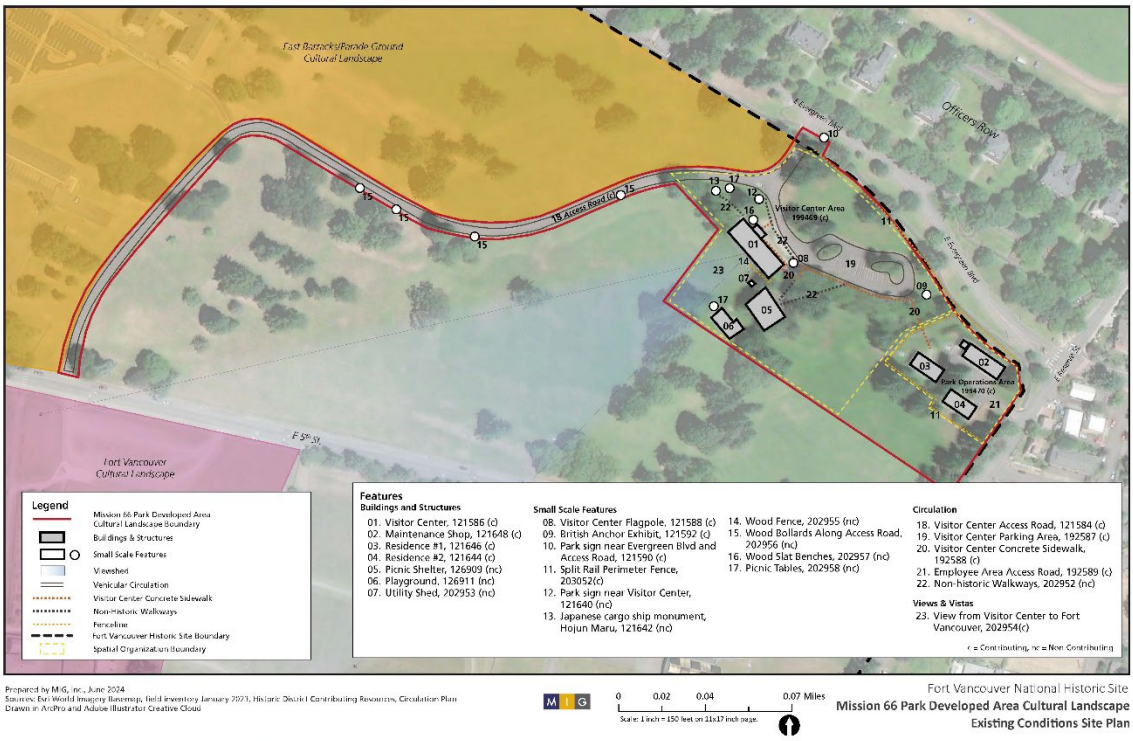


Figure 1. Site Plan – Mission 66 Park Developed Area CLI boundary showing the existing landscape features and context of the site within the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. Larger version in Supplemental Information section. (Field Inventory, January 2023)

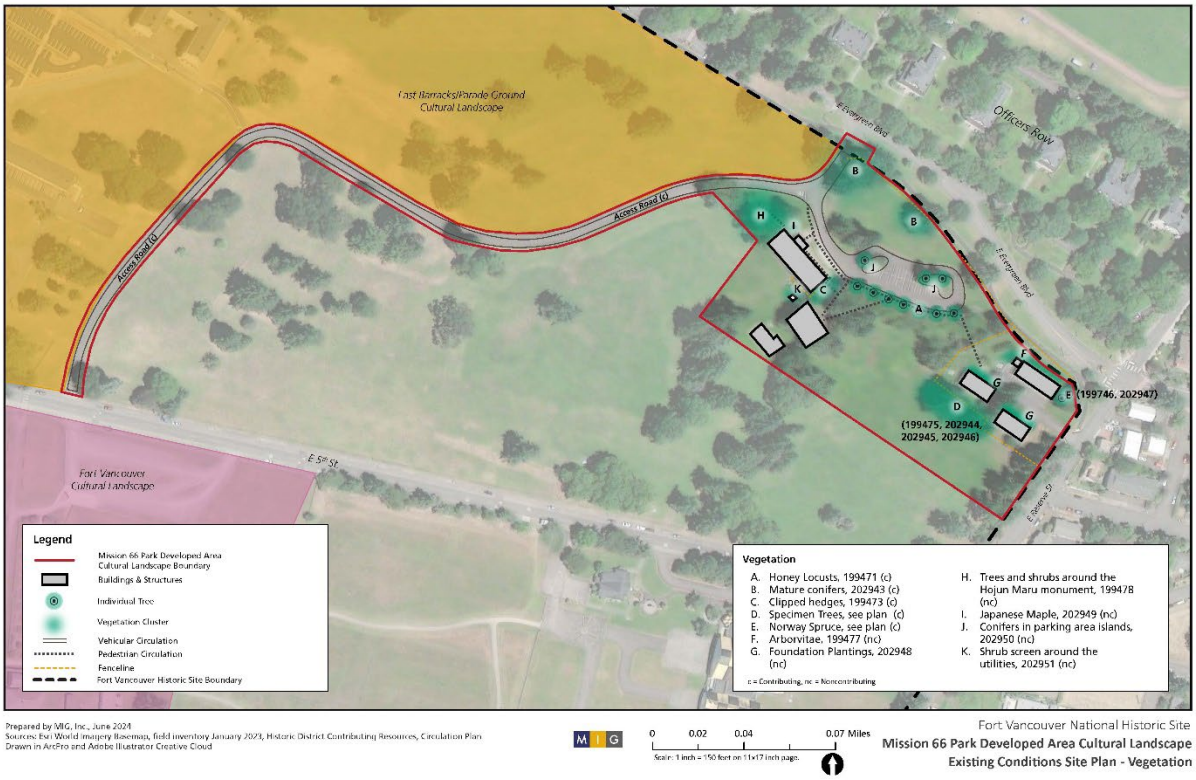


Figure 2. Site Plan – Mission 66 Park Developed Area CLI boundary showing the existing vegetation features and context of the site within the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. Larger version in Supplemental Information section. (Field Inventory, January 2023)

Other Names

Name	Type
Mission 66 Park Developed Area	Current
Fort Vancouver	Both Current and Historic
Fort Vancouver National Historic Site	Both Current and Historic
Park Headquarters	Historic
Visitor Center	Both Current and Historic

Concurrence Information

Park Superintendent Concurrence

Yes

Park Superintendent Concurrence Date

09/28/07

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative

The certified CLI was initially completed by the NPS in 2007. A revised CLI was updated in 2023 by MIG (Laurie Matthews, Eleanor Cox, and Emma-Quin Smith). The MIG team completed field work January 9 – 13, 2023. Field work included verification of existing conditions and conducting additional limited research to support landscape feature analysis and treatment recommendations.

Revisions

Revised By

Laurie Matthews, Eleanor Cox, Emma-Quin Smith

Type of Revision

Addition/Deletion of Landscape Characteristic or Contributing Feature

Change in Acreage

Revision Concurrence Date

09/06/2024

Revision Concurrence

State Historic Preservation Officer

Geographic Information

Area (Acres)

7.5 acres

Boundary Description

The boundary follows the Park Development Management Zone established in the General Management Plan (2003), with the additions of the Access Road corridor that connects the core of the Mission 66 Park Developed Area to the Fort Vancouver reconstruction, and the park entrance sign located on E. Evergreen Boulevard. This boundary contains all the contributing features associated with the Mission 66 development.

The cultural landscape boundary begins in the northeastern-most point of Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, 70 feet south of the corner of Evergreen Boulevard and East Reserve Street and set back 20 feet west of East Reserve Street. Generally following the Park Development Management Zone established in the General Management Plan in 2003, the boundary heads southwest approximately 180 feet. It then turns at a 90-degree angle, heading northwest about 730 feet. The boundary makes another 90-degree angle and heads northeast until it reaches about 10 feet southwest of the visitor center building. The boundary then makes a 90 degree turn west to the edge of the Access Road. The boundary then follows the southern/eastern edge of the Access Road, fifteen feet from the centerline, as it S-curves toward the Fort Vancouver reconstruction until it reaches East 5th Street. The boundary turns back toward the Mission 66 park developed area paralleling the western/northern edge of the road, fifteen feet from the centerline, until it reaches the Mission 66 park developed area. The boundary turns northeast where it meets Evergreen Boulevard, capturing the entry drive and park entrance sign before it resumes its course along the Park Development Management Zone boundary. Once it reaches a point 70 feet south of E. Evergreen Boulevard, the boundary turns southeast and parallels the edge of the road to its point of origin.

Latitude/Longitude

Geometry	Latitude	Longitude	GeoDatum	Elevation (Meters)	Position Source	Position Accuracy
Point	45.626904	-122.656484	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.626858	-122.656249	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.62677	-122.656273	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.625872	-122.654317	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.6257	-122.654245	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.625047	-122.654618	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.625762	-122.657253	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.626231	-122.656964	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.626431	-122.657387	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.626615	-122.656713	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.624608	-122.661931	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.624606	-122.661753	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.626269	-122.660885	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.626179	-122.660827	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.625978	-122.658887	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.625878	-122.658871	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.626621	-122.655826	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.62625	-122.65515	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.626127	-122.654971	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.625961	-122.65458	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.626518	-122.657461	1983 NAD			Not Avail

Point	45.62543	-122.661649	1983 NAD			Not Avail
Point	45.625386	-122.661516	1983 NAD			Not Avail

Regional Landscape Contexts and Narratives

Physiographic

Mission 66 Park Developed Area is located within the physiographic zone of the Portland/Vancouver Basin, the northern most section of the Willamette Valley lowlands, a narrow area between the Klamath Mountains to the south, the Coast Range to the west, and the Cascade Mountains to the east and north. This landscape is associated with mixed coniferous/deciduous forests and interspersed with large clearings of prairie terraces. Fort Vancouver National Historic Site occupies a series of broad, relatively flat river terraces above the north bank of the Columbia River—within an area that formerly contained native prairie.

Cultural

Mission 66 Park Developed Area resulted from development by the NPS in the mid-1900s to facilitate visitor orientation and interpretation for Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. Visitors can get information, view exhibits, and speak to park rangers or volunteers during their visit to the park. Parking is available for the public, including residents of the local area who frequent the park and use it as a public open space and recreation area.

Political

Mission 66 Park Developed Area is located within Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, located in Vancouver, Washington which is in Clark County. Fort Vancouver National Historic Site encompasses a complex and multi-layered history of the Pacific Northwest. It includes landscapes developed by the Hudson's Bay Company, the US Army, and the NPS. Mission 66 Park Developed Area is owned by the NPS.

Regional Landscape Context Graphics

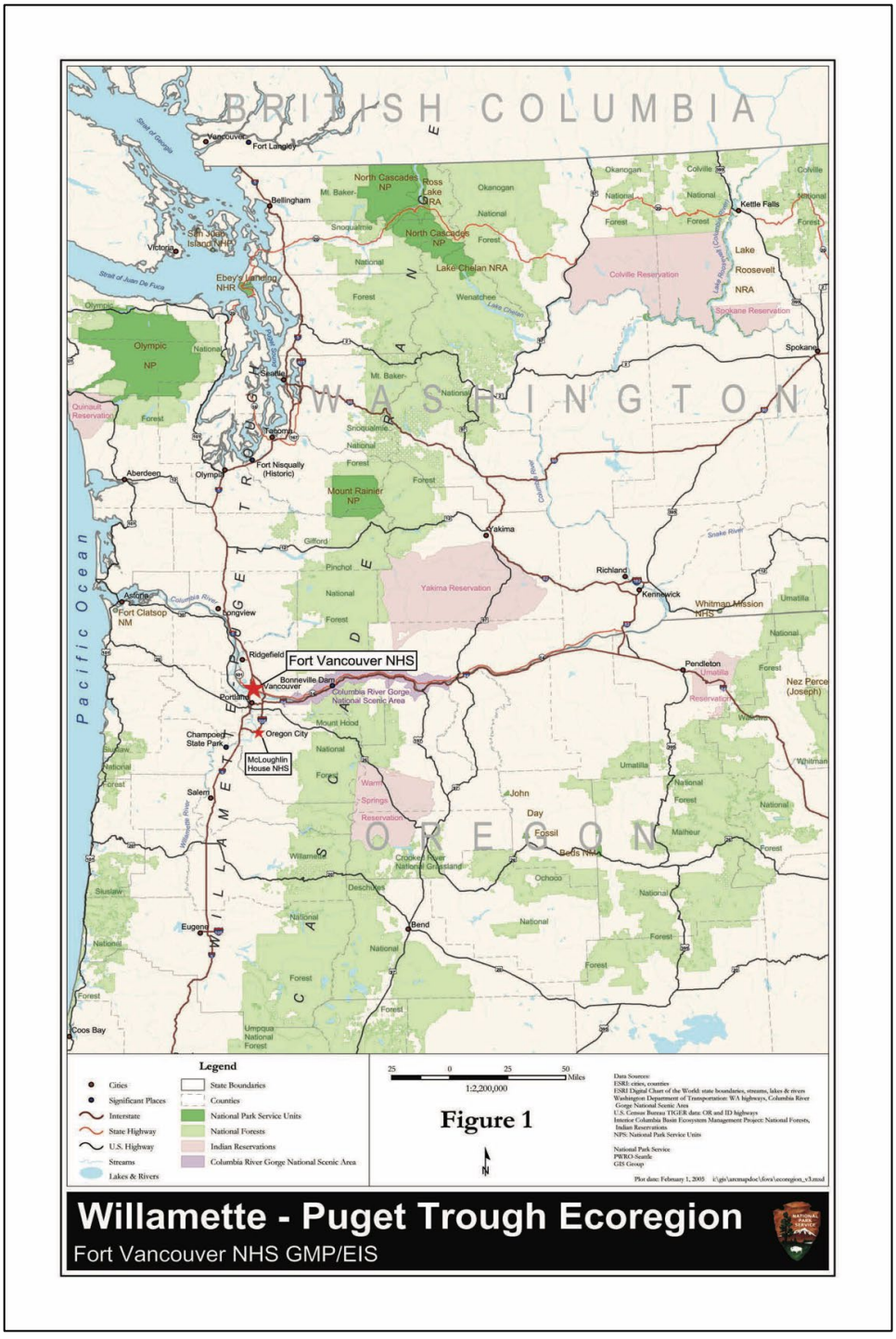


Figure 3. Map of the Willamette – Puget Trough Ecoregion showing the location of Fort Vancouver NHS within that region, including its location within the Portland/Vancouver metropolitan area, and its relationship to the Coast Range, Cascades Range, and Columbia River watershed. (General Management Plan 2003)

Location Map Graphic Information

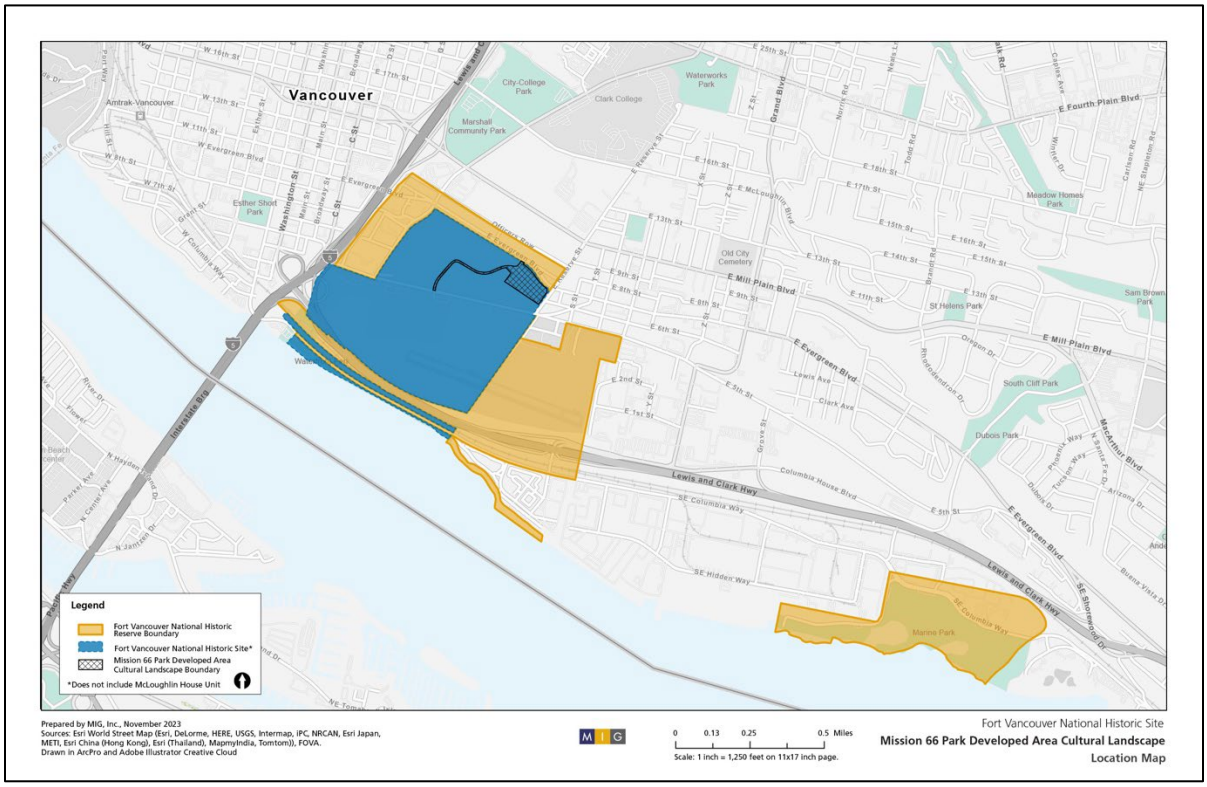


Figure 4. The yellow areas represent the Fort Vancouver Historic Reserve while the blue areas are the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. The Mission 66 Park Developed Area landscape is in the northeastern portion of Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. (MIG 2023)

State and County

State

Washington

County

Clark

Management Information

Management Category

Should be Preserved or Maintained

Management Category Date

09/28/2007

Management Category Explanatory Narrative

The Management Category for the Mission 66 park developed area is "Should be Preserved and Maintained" since it is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Management Agreements

Management Agreement	Other Management Agreement	Management Agreement Expiration Date	Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative
None			

Legal Interests

Legal Interest Type	Fee Simple Reservation Expiration Date	Other Organization/Agency	Legal Interest Narrative
Fee Simple			East Barracks/Parade Ground is owned by the NPS.

Adjacent Lands Information

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute?

Yes – Adjacent lands do contribute.

Adjacent Lands Explanatory Narrative

Views to the south (toward Fort Vancouver cultural landscape) contribute to the landscape.

Uses Information

Functions and Uses

Major Category	Category	Use/Function	Historic Use	Current Use	Primary Use
Government	Government Office	Maintenance Facility	Yes	No	No
Government	Government Office	Visitor Contact (Visitor Center)	Yes	Yes	Yes
Recreation/Culture	Museum (Exhibition Hall)	Exhibit	Yes	Yes	No
Recreation/Culture	Outdoor Recreation	Playground	No	Yes	No
Recreation/Culture	Recreation/Culture-Other	Recreation/Culture-Other			
Landscape	Leisure-Passive (Park)		Yes	Yes	No
Landscape	Functional Landscape	Vehicular Circulation	Yes	Yes	No
Landscape	Scenic Landscape	View	Yes	Yes	No
Domestic (Residential)	Multiple Dwelling	Multiple Dwelling-Other	Yes	Yes	No

Public Access

Other Restrictions

Public Access Explanatory Narrative

Most of the site is open to the public. The exceptions are that the visitor center is only open during visiting hours, and the employee housing area is restricted to NPS employees.

Associated Ethnographic Groups

Ethnographic Study Status

Yes – Restricted Information

Ethnographic Explanatory Narrative

The landscape of Fort Vancouver National Historic Site is associated with over three dozen Tribes and indigenous groups. The park's consulting parties are listed below in alphabetical order.[1]

Ethnographic Groups

Ethnographic Group	Type
Burns Paiute Tribe	Both Current and Historic
Cayuga Nation	Both Current and Historic
The Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation	Both Current and Historic
Coeur D'Alene Tribe of the Coeur D'Alene Reservation	Both Current and Historic
Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation	Both Current and Historic
Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians	Both Current and Historic
Coquille Indian Tribe	Both Current and Historic
Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians	Both Current and Historic
Cowlitz Indian Tribe	Both Current and Historic
Chippewa-Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy's Reservation (MT)	Both Current and Historic
Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde	Both Current and Historic
Office of Hawaiian Affairs	Both Current and Historic

[1] List provided by Fort Vancouver National Historic Site in 2023.

Ka Aha Lahui O 'Olekona Hawaiian Civic Club of Oregon and Southwest Washington (KALO HCC)	Both Current and Historic
Kalispel Indian Community of the Kalispel Reservation	Both Current and Historic
Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe	Both Current and Historic
Nez Perce Tribe	Both Current and Historic
Nisqually Indian Tribe	Both Current and Historic
Fort Bidwell Indian Community of the Fort Bidwell Reservation of California	Both Current and Historic
Pit River Tribe	Both Current and Historic
Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribes of the vFort McDermitt Indian Reservation	Both Current and Historic
Oneida Indian Nation	Both Current and Historic
Onondaga Nation	Both Current and Historic
Quinault Indian Nation	Both Current and Historic
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes	Both Current and Historic
Seneca Nation of Indians	Both Current and Historic
Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe of the Shoalwater Bay Indian Reservation	Both Current and Historic
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation	Both Current and Historic
Confederated Tribes of Siletz	Both Current and Historic
Skokomish Tribal Nation	Both Current and Historic
Spokane Tribe of Indians	Both Current and Historic
Tonawanda Band of Seneca Indians	Both Current and Historic
The Tulalip Tribes of Washington	Both Current and Historic
Tuscarora Nation	Both Current and Historic

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation	Both Current and Historic
The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs	Both Current and Historic
Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation	Both Current and Historic

National Register Information

Documentation Status

Entered – Documented

Documentation Narrative Description

A previous National Register listing associated with this landscape was the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site listed on October 15, 1966 (NRIS #66000370), with additional documentation provided on May 23, 1972. The 1966 listing was an administrative listing, completed according to the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act. The 1972 nomination focused primarily on Hudson's Bay Company resources and did not provide adequate documentation of the Mission 66 resources within the National Historic Site's boundary. The documentation was updated again in 2006-2007 as part of the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Historic District.

Concurrence Eligibility

Eligible – Keeper

Date

01/05/2007

Narrative

The Mission 66 Park Developed Area (1954-1966) is described in the National Register Nomination for the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Historic District, determined eligible by the Washington State Historic Preservation Officer in July 2004. This historic district was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in January 2007 after being approved by the Keeper.

National Register Significance Level

State

National Register Significance -- Contributing/Individual

Contributing

National Register Classification

District

Statement of Significance

The Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Mission 66 Park Developed Area is a cultural landscape that was designed and built as part of the NPS Mission 66 program. It is located within the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Historic District (VNHR). Listed in January 2007, the VNHR is a complex historic district that spans four historic development eras between 500 BCE – 1966 CE. The Mission 66 Park Developed Area landscape is described in the nomination for the period that spans 1954 to 1966. The period of significance for the Mission 66 Park Developed Area cultural landscape covers the years during which the NPS designed and constructed the Mission 66 development. In the 2007 nomination, the Mission 66 Park Developed Area development was found regionally significant at the state level under Criterion A for its association with park master planning during the Mission 66 era and Criterion C for its distinct Mission 66 era Modern style architecture and site design.

The Modern Movement style formed the basis for architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, and construction during the National Park Service's "Mission 66 program" (1956-1966). The program was the largest construction program in the history of the agency. This phase was intended to conclude with the celebration of the National Park Service's 50th anniversary in 1966. A Multiple Property Documentation Form (MPD) for Mission 66 Resources was developed by the NPS to help identify Mission 66 resources that may be eligible for listing in the National Register. It was certified by the Keeper in 2015. The form lists Mission 66 resource property types including but not limited to: visitor centers, administration buildings, park employee housing, structures (interpretive kiosks, entrance signs, etc), park roads and trails, and historic districts. The description of property types is followed by considerations for eligibility for each type and a list of National Park units that include Mission 66 resources. Although Fort Vancouver Historic Site is not included in the list, the buildings and structures located within the Mission 66 Park Developed area were previously evaluated and determined historically significant in a prior MPD from 2004 that looked at parks within the Pacific West Region under Criterion A because they were entirely planned and constructed during the Mission 66 era (1955-1966).

The years of neglect brought about by the economic climate during World War II left many of the NPS facilities in substandard condition. After the war, visitation within the national parks increased dramatically. In addition, visitors were arriving in personal automobiles that the parks

were generally ill-equipped to accommodate. Conrad Wirth, NPS Director during the Mission 66 era, believed that development would control public access and prevent deterioration of park resources and pursued a policy that some historians have called the "paradox of protection by development" (Sellars 1997, 181). The Visitor Center and associated development of buildings and structures at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site were designed and constructed as a part of this larger NPS initiative.

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

The 1955 master planning process and construction of the 1961 development at Fort Vancouver National Historic Site were executed as part of the Mission 66 program. Referencing the draft MPD registration requirements for guidance, the Mission 66 Park Developed Area are eligible under Criterion C since they embody the distinctive characteristics of Mission 66 architecture. In search of economical design and construction techniques, the NPS moved away from the earlier rustic style architecture that required intensive labor and expensive building materials (large timbers and stone) and adopted a simpler modern style of architecture that emphasized new materials (inexpensive steel, concrete, and glass) and machine production.

The Mission 66 Park Developed Area was extraordinarily important to the overall development of the Vancouver National Historic Site because the Mission 66 era master plans provided guidance for all development on the upper terrace and for interpretation of the reconstructed Fort Vancouver site. Due to the small size of the historic park and due to the lack of previous NPS development, the 1955 master plan was important in determining the entire layout of the park and design of all the buildings and structures on the upper terrace. The 1955 master plan was critical in determining how visitors would experience the historic resources within the park through the

alignment of roads, placement of parking areas and the Visitor Center, and removal of some US Army era buildings and roads. Careful attention was given to creating the best views of and access to the Fort Vancouver site and to screen views of the maintenance and residential areas that were part of the development.

Four buildings, the overall site plan, vehicular and pedestrian circulation routes, entrance sign, flagpole, parking area, outdoor exhibit, and the spatial organization of these features and their design intent were all part of the master plan, remain completely intact, and reflect the values and the goals of the Mission 66 program. These resources have exceptional significance on a state level and contribute to our understanding of the historic land uses and evolution of the VNHR. All the buildings and landscape features embody the principles of modern architecture, and possess physical integrity through location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. Minor changes have been made to the vegetation, a non-intrusive addition added to the maintenance building, and minor alterations made to the exterior of the Visitor Center and one residence. The view from the Visitor Center to the reconstructed fort has also been partially obscured. Today, the Mission 66 development retains a high degree of integrity. The policies that influenced Mission 66 design and planning are still evident at the park today and continue to influence the ways that visitors use the site.

National Register Significance Criteria

Criterion A: Event

Criterion C: Design/Construction

National Register Periods of Significance (with Historic Context Themes)

Start Year/Era and End Year/Era	Historic Context Theme	Subtheme	Facet
1954/CE – 1966/CE	Expressing Cultural Values	Architecture	NPS Mission 66
1954/CE – 1966/CE	Expressing Cultural Values	Landscape Architecture	NPS Mission 66

National Register Areas of Significance

Category	Subcategory (only for Archeology and Ethnic Heritage)	Narrative
Architecture		
Landscape Architecture		

National Historic Landmark

Status

No

World Heritage Site

Status

No

National Natural Landmark

Status

No

NRIS Information (with Other Certifications)

NRIS Name

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

NRIS ID

66000370

Other Name

Vancouver National Historic Reserve

Primary Certification Date

01/15/2007

State Register Documentation

Identification Number

CL058

Name

Vancouver National Historic Reserve Historic District

Listed Date

06/24/2004

Narrative

The Mission 66 Park Developed Area is a cultural landscape located within the boundaries of the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Historic District.

Chronology & Physical History

Chronology

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

Physical History

PREHISTORIC/CONTACT NATIVE AMERICAN ERA, 500 BCE-1824 CE

Indigenous peoples lived and interacted with the Columbia River landscape in and around the current Fort Vancouver National Historic Site for thousands of generations prior to the establishment of the Hudson's Bay Company post in 1824. Based on archeological, ethnohistorical, ethnobotanical, and the oral traditions of many of the region's Indigenous people, the lower Columbia River area supported a diverse and thriving pre-contact population. Prior to the onslaught of introduced diseases, Indigenous populations in the area were some of the highest in the Pacific Northwest with permanent village sites located at numerous key locations from the mouth of the Columbia all the way into the lower Columbia River Gorge area.

The traditional lifeways of the region's Indigenous peoples were intrinsically linked to the Columbia and its major tributaries. The area supported an abundance of seasonally reliable resources that were utilized by Indigenous peoples for thousands of years. The rivers provided fish, eel, and other important aquatic resources. The adjoining riparian and upland environments provided other necessary food and fiber resources. The spiritual, cultural, and economic lifeways developed and maintained by the original inhabitants of the area were reflective of this diversity and abundance of resources.

The Columbia and its tributaries uniquely positioned the lower Columbia River people as arbiters of a vast pre-contact trade network with goods moving between the Pacific Coast on the west all the way to the Rocky Mountains on the east. Likewise, similar trade networks bringing valuable resources and goods from the north and south contributed to the importance of the area. These pre-contact trade systems relied heavily on the river corridors as transportation networks for the movement and exchange of goods.

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY FORT VANCOUVER ERA, 1824 CE – 1860 CE

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

The published journal of Captain James Cook's voyages to the Pacific Northwest sparked a European and American race to the Pacific coast of North America to exploit the vast fur riches and the developing Chinese market for these furs. Among the earliest of these new adventurers

were a former lieutenant in the British Navy, John Meares, and an English trader named William Douglas. Under the flags of England and Portugal, Meares and Douglas established a post at Nootka, Alaska in 1788, which was later challenged by Spanish naval forces. Later that year, Americans Robert Gray and John Kendrick, financed by a Boston syndicate interested in the fur trade, arrived in Northwest waters. In 1792, Gray passed through the entrance to a great river, which he named for his vessel, the Columbia. During this same year, George Vancouver discovered and explored Puget Sound in what is now Washington State. Following Lewis and Clark's 1804-1806 overland expedition to the Pacific, American John Jacob Astor organized the Pacific Fur Company. In 1811, this firm established a fur trading post near the mouth of the Columbia River, Fort Astoria, later followed by other posts in the region. The Pacific Fur Company operated in competition with a Canadian firm, the North West Company, a powerful fur trading firm based in Montreal.

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

On the east side of the Rockies during this period, the North West Company was engaged in a battle with its powerful rival, the Hudson's Bay Company. The latter firm had been established by a charter granted in 1670 by Charles II to his cousin Prince Rupert and Rupert's associates. The contract included instructions to work for the discovery of the Northwest Passage and to find trade in furs and other commodities. It also conveyed ownership and a trade monopoly of a vast territory drained by the waters running into Hudson Bay in North America. In March of 1821, the HBC and the North West Company merged. The charter and name of the HBC were retained, as was the organization of its London headquarters, which directed operations through a Governor and Committee. Under the union, North America was divided into two districts: the Northern

Department of Rupert's Land, covering all country north of the boundary with the United States and west of the west shore of Hudson Bay to the Pacific Ocean, including New Caledonia (now British Columbia); and the Southern Department of Rupert's Land, covering the territory east of the Northern Department's boundaries, including Lake Huron and Lake Superior. Each was to be managed by a governor appointed from London, and two councils, comprised of the HBC partners, field agents, and chief factors, who were generally responsible for districts within each department and who managed the posts or fur brigades.

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

In the fall of 1824, soon after his arrival at the mouth of the Columbia River, Simpson ordered the abandonment of Fort George, an HBC post on the southern banks of the Columbia River, and the construction of Fort Vancouver on the north side of the Columbia. Land north of the river was in territory that was still possible for the British to hold and to which supplies for interior posts could be delivered directly from the sea, rather than overland. Fort Vancouver would provide a means of retaining land north of the Columbia River under British dominion. In the summer of 1824, Great Britain and the United States suspended boundary negotiations, which, while leaving the ultimate settlement of the dispute in doubt, resulted in the HBC determination to exploit the trade potential in the Pacific Northwest and to reinforce Great Britain's claim to the territory in dispute, the area between the 49th parallel and the lower Columbia River.

In addition to locating the post on the north bank, according to McLoughlin, Simpson directed his

subordinates to find a place where "…we could cultivate the soil and raise our own provisions" (Waite 1881, 46). The site nearest the Columbia deemed suitable was a low-lying plain that projected into the Columbia River about six miles upriver from its confluence with the Willamette River. The site was known to Euro-Americans as the Jolie Prairie or Belle Vue Point. About sixty feet above the plain, which appeared to have rich agricultural potential, rose a second terrace of densely wooded land, which offered a commanding view and enough height to establish a defensive position against Native American tribes.

Fort Vancouver was soon to become the HBC's administrative headquarters west of the Rocky Mountains and assured Great Britain's preeminence in the region for the next twenty years. From the post, a great network of fur trading posts in the Pacific Northwest Region was established, largely successful in beating back American competition for furs and trade. Ironically, it was also Fort Vancouver, under the aegis of its long-time administrator, Chief Factor John McLoughlin, that offered aid and assistance to an ever-increasing influx of American immigrants who would eventually overrun the region and lead to the establishment of the US-Canadian boundary at the 49th parallel.

Main Depot of the Columbia Department

Immediately after Simpson's return to Fort George, a party was dispatched to start construction of Fort Vancouver. A stockade was built about a mile from the riverbank on the bluff overlooking the river plain. On March 18, 1825, Simpson recorded in his journal: "The Fort is Well picketed covering a space of about 3/4ths of an acre and the buildings already completed are a Dwelling House, two good Stores an Indian Hall and temporary quarters for the people" (Merk 1931, 124). It appears that the quarters for employees consisted of tents and structures made of other non-permanent materials: Botanist David Douglas, who arrived at the new post on a collecting trip for the Horticultural Society of London in April of 1825, was housed in a tent and, later, a bark hut near the river. Fur trapper Jedediah Smith, who arrived at the post at the end of 1828, noted the Fort had "...a fine garden, some small apple trees and vines" (Rich 1947, 68-69). On March 19, 1825, everyone at the new post gathered at sunrise to watch a flag raising ceremony at which Simpson proclaimed the name of the new post, Fort Vancouver. After the dedication Simpson departed for the east, leaving Chief Factor John McLoughlin in charge of the new establishment.

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

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

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

east and west; to its mills six miles to the east; to its employee and riverfront activities, west and south of the stockade; and to overland routes connecting the post with the outside world.

During the years after 1829, the posts maintained by the HBC through Fort Vancouver included Fort George (reoccupied in 1829), Chinook or Pillar Rock, Cape Disappointment, Fort Umpqua, Fort Nez Perces, Fort Boise, Fort Hall, Fort Okanagan, Fort Colville, Kootenai Post, Flathead Post, Coweeman, and later, Champoeg in the Willamette River valley. Under the HBC's later subsidiary, the Puget's Sound Agricultural Company, two additional posts were supervised from Fort Vancouver: Cowlitz Farm and Fort Nisqually. McLoughlin established trading relationships with regional native tribes. Important figures in the relationship between the local Chinookan tribes included Chief Casino and Chief Comcomly who were competing rivals for the HBC's favor.

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

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

Fort Vancouver's Influence on Settlement

In 1848, Henry Williamson and others platted a town site on his claim west of the stockade at Fort Vancouver, naming it Vancouver City. By 1850, the Federal census listed 95 houses in the newly established Vancouver County, of which Vancouver City was the county seat. In the ensuing decade, town development included two schools, a ferry service, saloons, boarding houses, a courthouse, a livery stable, dance hall and theater, and other buildings. In 1857, the

town was incorporated, and in 1859, it was a serious, although unsuccessful, contender for the Washington Territorial capital. With an increase in the number of American ships entering Oregon, the development of reliable money, the increase in merchants and manufacturers, and concomitant number of available goods in the territory, the HBC's monopoly was effectively broken.

In 1846, Chief Factor McLoughlin was forcibly retired from his duties with the HBC, and administration of the post was lodged in a board of management, which for several years included Chief Factors Peter Skene Ogden and James Douglas. In 1849, three years after the signing of the Treaty of Oregon, which established the boundary between Great Britain's territory and the United States at the 49th parallel, the HBC moved its main depot to Fort Victoria in British Columbia. Despite this shift, the financial center of the HBC's operations west of the Rockies remained at Fort Vancouver. Its stores and mills were still operating at that time, shipping goods and materials south to supply the influx of miners responding to the discovery of gold at Sutter's Fort, and also making some sales to the US Army, which arrived at the site in the spring of 1849.

The US Army

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

The departure of the HBC in 1860 left the entire site to the control of US interests. The US Army quickly razed the HBC Fort and Fort Vancouver Village for development of the Quartermasters Depot (primarily around the Fort Vancouver Village). Over time, the Quartermasters Depot was also dismantled, with the removal of deteriorating buildings and construction of Interstate 5 in the 1950s along the western boundary of the Reserve. Since the late 1940s, excavations within the HBC Fort site have helped to inform a partial reconstruction of the Fort.

Reconstruction of the Fort began in 1966, based on work by NPS archeologists, historians, and historical architects. The proposal to reconstruct the HBC Fort was initially supported by local organizations, but the NPS resisted the idea. They felt that such a reconstruction was not appropriate for a national park site. However, public pressure persisted and by 1966, Congressional monies were appropriated for reconstruction of the HBC Fort through Congresswoman Julia Butler Hansen's continued support of the park. In the end, the adopted reconstruction plan modeled, as closely as possible, the historic character of the original Fort buildings. Construction of the stockade was completed in 1973. Eleven buildings have since been reconstructed. These buildings include: the Bastion (built in 1972), the Bake House (built in 1974), the Chief Factor's House (built in 1976), the Kitchen (built in 1976), the Wash House (built in 1976), the Blacksmith Shop (built in 1981), the Indian Trade Shop (built in 1981), the Fur Warehouse (built in 1992-94), the Carpenter Shop (built 1977), the Jail (built in 2000), and the Counting House/New Office (built in 2003).

US ARMY VANCOUVER BARRACKS ERA, 1849 CE – 1946 CE

Settling the Territory

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

During its early years, the Barracks' role was to protect American settlers and to support United States occupation of the Oregon Territory. With the increasing numbers of land-hungry immigrants from the United States, Native American tribes in the west began to take action to protect their lands. Settlers in the Oregon Country had formed a provisional government in the years between 1837 and 1843. At first the government dealt with issues relating to land claims

and community security. Later, its members drafted a code of laws, elected community officers and, ultimately, petitioned the United States to extend its jurisdiction over the country. Marcus Whitman, a missionary who had been helped by the Hudson's Bay Company Chief Factor John McLoughlin in establishing his mission near the current town of Walla Walla, Washington, traveled to Washington D.C. in 1842 to lobby officials for Forts to protect settlers enroute to the Oregon Country. In 1846, Congress authorized President James Polk to create a regiment to establish military reservations along the Oregon Trail, but the regiment was diverted to participate in the war with Mexico and was not released from its duties there until 1848. In 1848, Congress passed a bill establishing the territory of Oregon, sparked in part by the news of the murder of Whitman, his wife, and twelve others at his mission at the hands of Native Americans in 1847. In 1849, US Army troops were sent to the North Pacific Coast where they established "Camp Vancouver." The Department of the Pacific Division, headquartered in California and under the command of Brevet Major General Persifor Smith, administered the new post.

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

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

On October 31, 1850 the US Army formally proclaimed the establishment of a military reservation of about four square miles. This claim included the HBC stockade and the land and improvements about two miles to the east and west of it. The announcement stated the reservation was "subject only to the lawful claims of the HBC," as guaranteed by the Treaty of 1846 (P.S. Ogden May 28, 1850, no pagination). That year the post was given the official title of "Columbia Barracks." The extent of the military reservation immediately raised political and policy questions, prompting Washington D.C. to reconsider its size. In October of 1853, the Secretary of War was obliged by an act of Congress to reduce the reserve to 640 acres, subject to the claims by the HBC as guaranteed by the 1846 treaty. By the spring of 1860 the US Army had leveled almost all the HBC structures outside the stockade. In May, the HBC removed the last of their goods and left for their Victoria headquarters. By 1869, maps of the Vancouver Barracks showed no trace of the structures that had comprised the HBC's stockade: the stockade site was contained within a large, fenced pasture.

Post Hudson's Bay Company

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

War Activities

During World War I, Vancouver Barracks became the principal site of the Spruce Production Division of the US Army Signal Corps. The Spruce Mill helped the war cause by producing badly needed lumber for airplanes and facilitated the expansion of the Pacific Northwest lumber industry.

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

World War II to the Present

Increasing military activity because of the outbreak of World War II in Europe led to plans to construct a new, 750-bed hospital on the north end of the military reserve at Vancouver Barracks. The facility was designed to serve military personnel throughout the Pacific Northwest. It was completed in April of 1941. After December of 1941, Vancouver Barracks came under the control of the Ninth Service Command, with headquarters at Fort Douglas, Utah. The post then served as a staging area for the Portland Subport of Embarkation, and as a training center. In January 1943, the US Army's first training center for Quartermaster units began at Vancouver Barracks.

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

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

Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington.

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

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

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, MISSION 66 ERA, 1954 CE – 1966 CE

Mission 66 Program

Mission 66 was a high profile, ten-year nationwide initiative aimed at modernizing the Park Service and accommodating changing visitation patterns. The program was so named because it would conclude in 1966 and commemorate the Service's fiftieth anniversary year. The years of neglect brought about by the economic climate of the war years left many of the Park Service facilities in substandard condition. The Service not only had inadequate housing for its own staff, it was also completely unprepared to meet the demands of the new influx of visitors introduced by a higher post-war standard of living and the automobile. The lack of adequate facilities in the parks was widely publicized. Popular magazines ran articles about the state of the parks, with some observers suggesting that a typical trip to a National Park would be an experiment in "discomfort, disappointment, even danger" (Stevenson 1955, 57). It was commonly felt that the public faced an "overuse of the deteriorating and outdated infrastructure in the parks, resulting in injuries, complaints, and damage to the parks, and a generally unfulfilling experience for tourists" (Madrid 1998, 16). Mission 66 was conceived as a billion-dollar program to improve park facilities, increase staffing, and plan expansion of the system. When the NPS was established in 1916, it put forth two basic concepts to define development of land for public use. The first NPS Director Stephen Mather argued for tourism development to attract people to the parks and in turn generate public and congressional support to ensure the parks' survival. NPS Director during the

Mission 66-era, Conrad Wirth, argued in the same vein as Mather. He believed that development would control public access and prevent deterioration through what was termed the "paradox of protection by development" (Sellars 1997, 181). Wirth believed:

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

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

Mission 66 Architecture

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

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

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

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

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

Not only did the exterior of the Visitor Center make a visual statement, but it was also functionally innovative as well. The Visitor Center combined interpretative facilities, museums and exhibits alongside administrative offices and public rest areas. More ambitious projects

included sales counters, concessionaire space and auditoriums. Most structures incorporated the new technology of audio/visual presentations. A larger base of public information was broadcast from the Visitor Center. Physical aids such as publications, recordings, and dioramas, along with a well-trained staff, increased the personal service given and enabled a customized approach for each park. With Mission 66, Conrad Wirth had forecast the building of 100 new Visitor Centers across the National Park System. At the end of the program 114 innovative Mission 66 Visitor Centers had been built.

In addition to facilities for visitors, an important goal of the Mission 66 program was to provide standardized housing for NPS personnel. The Mission 66 program identified a critical need for employee housing in the parks, thus making construction of affordable and efficient housing a high priority. During Mission 66, the NPS constructed over 1,000 units of two-bedroom duplexes and three-bedroom houses at many of the parks around the nation. These buildings were based on standard floor plans that facilitated efficient construction and used the same design ethic and philosophy as employed in the Visitor Centers.

Development of Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

Before the Mission 66 program began to take form, Congress passed legislation on June 19, 1948 that established Fort Vancouver National Monument. The Monument incorporated 90 acres of land associated with the Hudson's Bay Company's Fort and US Army Parage Gound. In 1961, the status of the Monument was elevated to a National Historic Site for significance of its archeological remains and their association with the HBC Fort Vancouver and Euro-American settlement of the Pacific Northwest.

The Vancouver National Historic Reserve was established by Congress in 1996 (Public Law 104-333, Sec. 502), and encompasses approximately 366 acres of public lands. The current partners in the Historic Reserve are the National Park Service, the City of Vancouver, and the State of Washington (the US Army is a former partner but no longer has land holdings within the Reserve). It was established as the result of recommendations made by the congressionally chartered Vancouver Historical Study Commission in 1993. The Reserve partners maintain full authority and management responsibilities for their individual areas but work cooperatively on resource management and visitor services. Many legislators contributed effort to the

establishment of Fort Vancouver as a Park unit including Representatives Russell Mack, Julia Butler Hansen, Don Bonker, and Jolene Unsoeld. However, Julia Butler Hansen was an instrumental public figure during the Mission 66 era of the park.

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

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

Fort Vancouver Mission 66 Master Plan

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

In July 1955, a Mission 66 Master Plan was developed and included plans for buildings, new

roads, walkways, and parking areas with an emphasis placed on the visitor. The narrative of the plan explained the goals of the plan was to improve visitor experience on the site.

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

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

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

The Plan also addressed needs for better circulation. The existing roads were thought to interrupt the historic scene and, moreover, allowed parking within the parade ground. The proposed

Mission 66 roads eliminated these perceived faults by establishing a new access road to the proposed Visitor Center and located parking at the Visitor Center and Fort site. The road systems and parking areas were designed to provide a smooth flow of traffic into the park, to the Visitor Center, to the Fort site, and back.

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

Groundbreaking ceremonies took place in August 1960. First, corridors for roads, parking, and utilities were established, then buildings completed. NPS Western Office of Design and Construction had planned to push finishing touches for the roads and walkways into fiscal year 1961. However, the first Park Superintendent, Frank Hjort, and Director Wirth lobbied to complete construction within the 1960 fiscal year. In the end, construction was contained within a 12-month period, from August 1960 to August 1961. This is an example that illustrates Wirth's strong belief in the ideals of cost efficiency.

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



Figure 5. 1960 view of the Mission 66 Park Developed Area site under construction with the parking lots and roads roughed in. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 1063, FOVA #1402. Photographer: Frank A. Hjort. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)



Figure 6. 1962 Aerial view after visitor center and residences constructed. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 1071, FOVA # 1407. Photographer Vanity Fair Artists, 1115 Main Street Vancouver Washington. Copyright unknown: copy held in the Fort Vancouver archives, but permissions for reproduction cannot be granted.)



Figure 7. March 18, 1962, view of the Visitor Center shortly after construction with the roads, parking lot, and flagpole in place. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 834, FOVA #1031. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives)



Figure 8. 1962 Mission 66 sign near Mission 66 Park Developed Area. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. [null], FOVA #1762. Copyright unknown: copy held in the Fort Vancouver archives, but permissions for reproduction cannot be granted.)



Figure 9. 1963 view of west side of visitor center with newly planted shrubs (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 808, FOVA #1008. Photographer: William R. Sampson. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)



Figure 10. 1963 view of east side of visitor center with newly planted shrubs (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 3038, FOVA # 1696. Photographer: William R. Sampson. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)



Figure 11. 1963 view of southeast corner of visitor center with newly planted shrubs around the foundation and lawn in the foreground (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 3039, FOVA #1697. Photographer William R. Sampson. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)

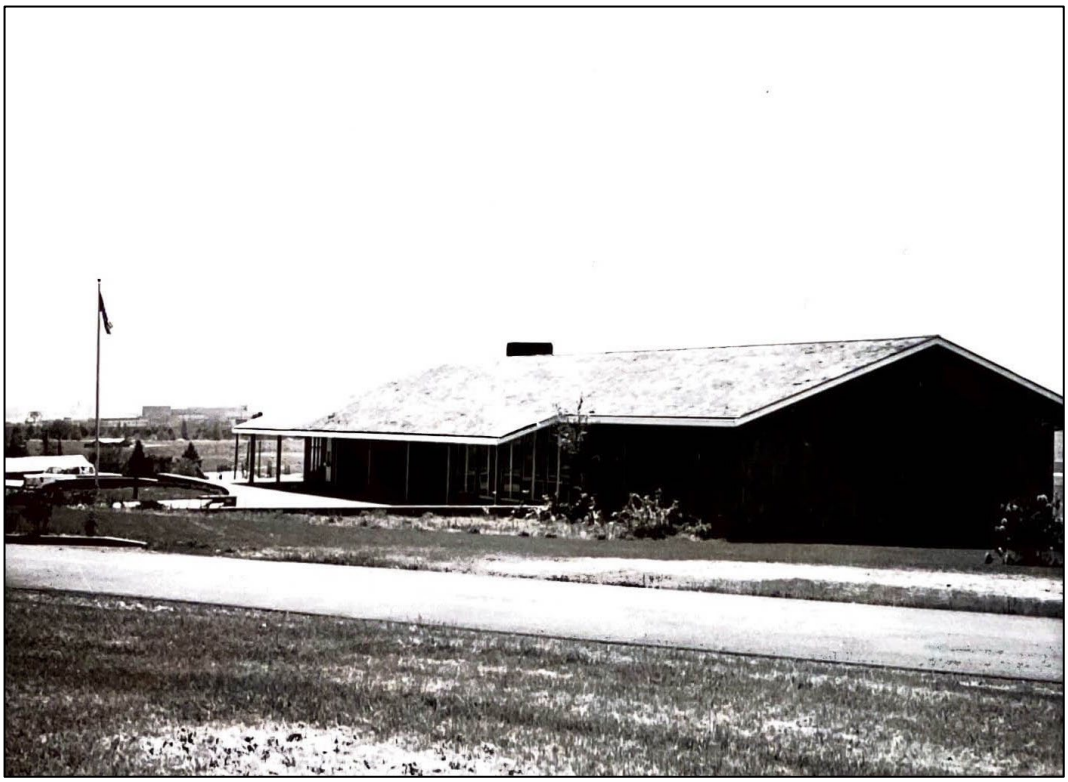


Figure 12. 1963 photo of front of visitor center with entrance road in the foreground. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 3041, FOVA #1699. Photographer: William R. Sampson. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)

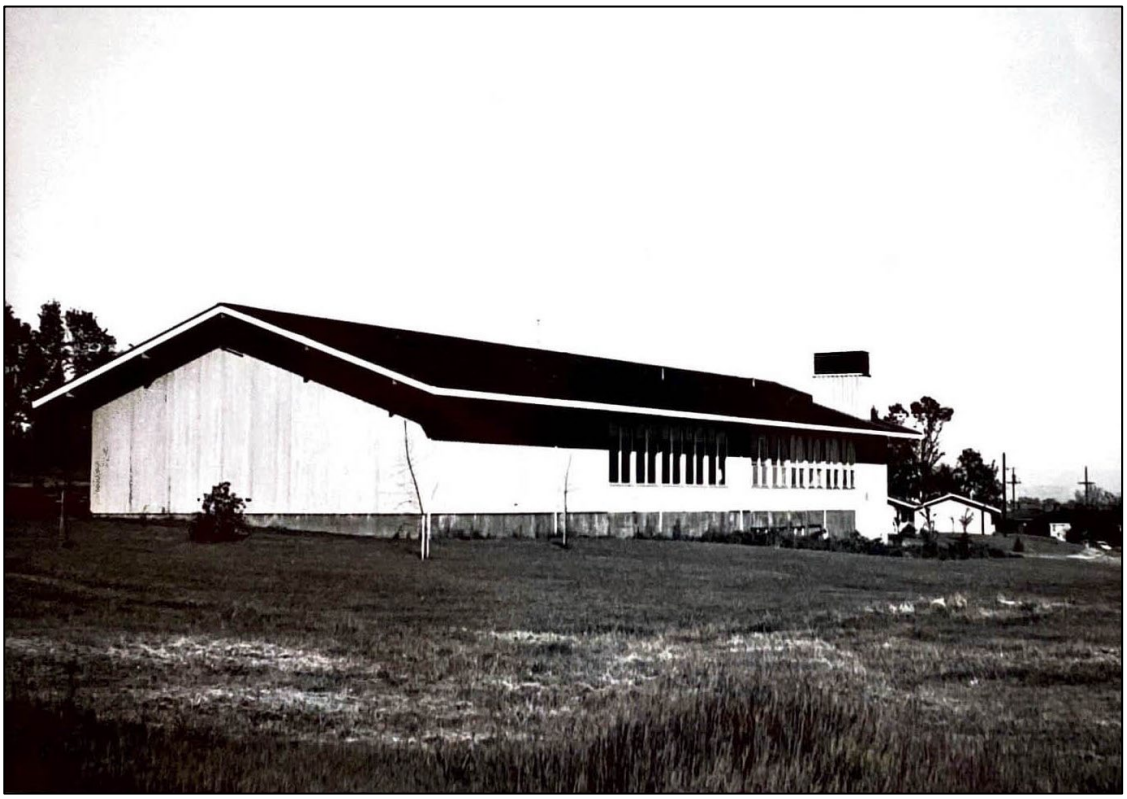


Figure 13. 1963 view of the west and south facades of the visitor center with one of the residences in the background. Lawn and some new tree plantings surround this side of the main building. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 3042, FOVA #1700. Photographer: William R. Sampson. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)



Figure 14. 1965 view of retaining wall and planting located between the wall and the entrance road. Though faint, some small shrubs appear planted along the base of the wall behind the lawn. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 5077, FOVA #1579. Photographer: Tom Doyle. Copyright unknown: copy held in the Fort Vancouver archives, but permissions for reproduction cannot be granted.)



Figure 15. 1965 view of eastern façade of visitor center with more established shrubs and tree plantings with a glimpse of the south side of the retaining wall and steps. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 3011, FOVA # 1691. Copyright unknown: copy held in the Fort Vancouver archives, but permissions for reproduction cannot be granted.)



Figure 16. 1966 photo in the direction of the view towards where the Fort was reconstructed showing a few trees in the lawn south of the visitor center. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 786, FOVA #987. Photographer: Davis. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)



Figure 17. 1968 view of lawn and trees that border the south side of the parking lot (not visible) with the visitor center in the background. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 908, FOVA #624. Photographer: Clark. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)



Figure 18. 1968 view of visitor parking lot with the visitor center in the background. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. [null], FOVA #937. Photographer: Clark. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)



Figure 19. 1968 view of the Mission 66 Park Developed Area from across E. Evergreen Blvd. showing a grouping of evergreen trees and fence on the left, and a speed limit sign on the right of the entrance road leading to the visitor center. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 762, FOVA #965. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)

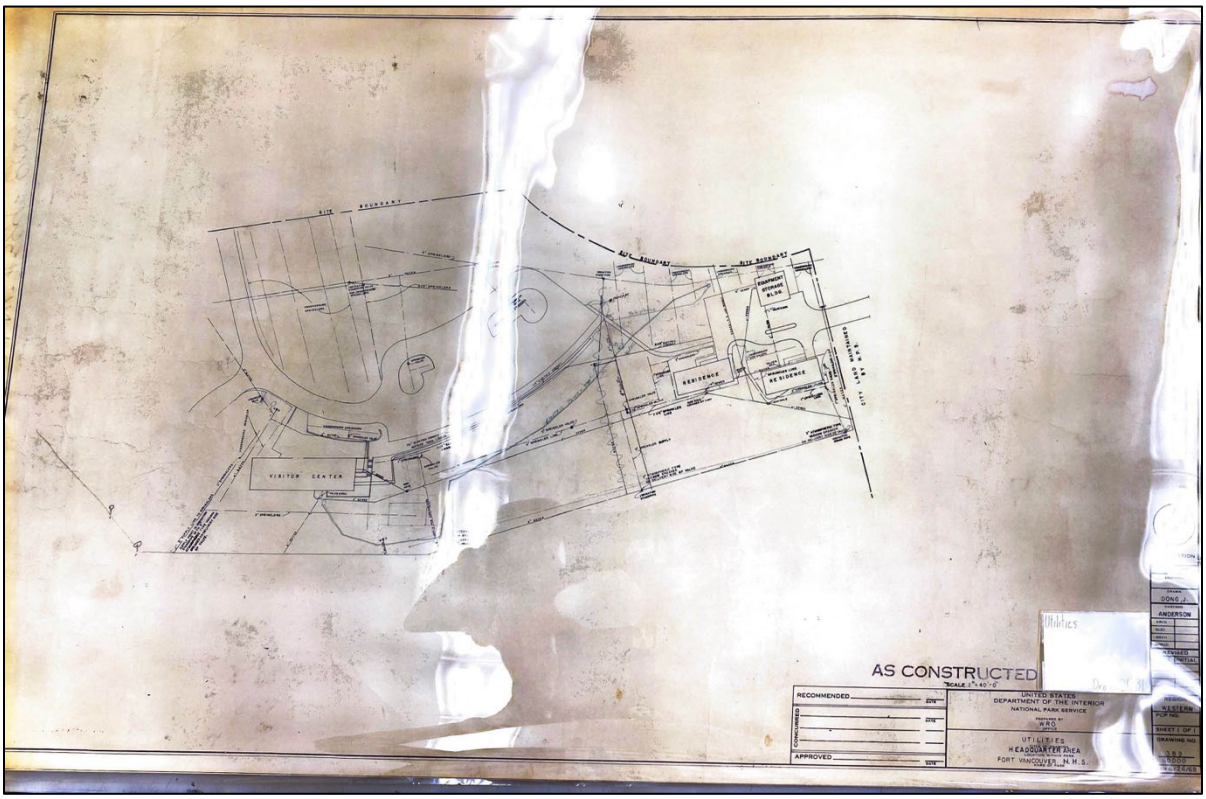


Figure 20. 1968 as-constructed plan of Mission 66 Park Developed Area (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Map Drawer 26: Utilities Maps, 1946-2003. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)



Figure 21. 1969 view of the Access Road with the East Barracks in the background. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 784, FOVA #985a. Photographer: Clark and Davis. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)



Figure 22. 1968 view of southern end of Access Road where it meets East 5th Street (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. [null], FOVA #925. Photographer: Clark. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)



Figure 23. 1973 view of one of the eastern most residence and the road leading into the residential complex. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 836, FOVA #1033. Photographer: Gillespie. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)



Figure 24. 1973 view of the parking lot, sidewalk and line of deciduous trees that curve towards the visitor center. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 962, FOVA #1036. Photographer: Gillespie. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)



Figure 25. 1973 view of residences (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 998, FOVA #1037. Photographer: Gillespie. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)

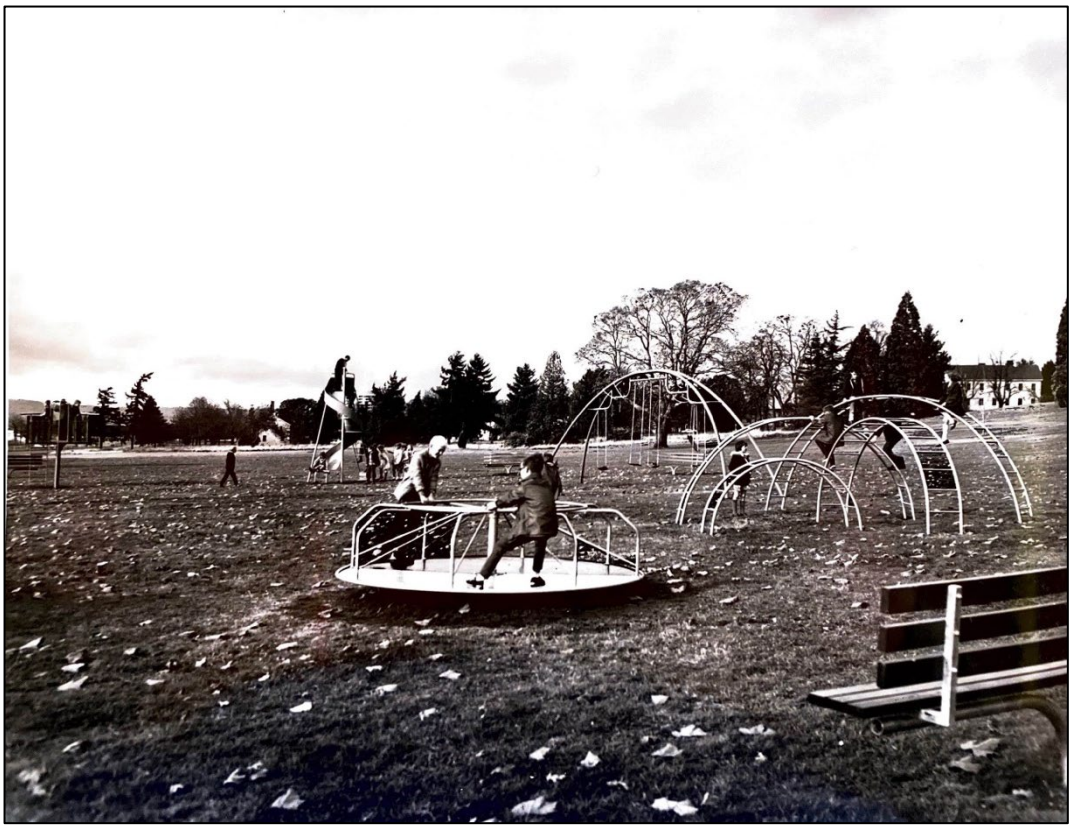


Figure 26. 1974 view of playground, which was replaced. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 4014, FOVA #835b. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)



Figure 27. 1976 view of concrete stairs and railing leading from the visitor parking lot to the lawn south of the visitor center. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 5070, FOVA #1572. Photographer: Gillespie. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)



Figure 28. 1976 view of the lawn area south of the visitor center parking lot with the deciduous trees curving around the parking lot in the midground of the photo. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 5071, FOVA #1573. Photographer: Gillespie. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)



Figure 29. 1976 view of the southeastern corner of the visitor center with more mature foundation plantings of pruned and shaped shrubs and a small pine tree in the foreground. A three-rail fence separates the area near the foundation with the lawn area in the foreground. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 3030, FOVA # 1710. Photographer: Gillespie. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)

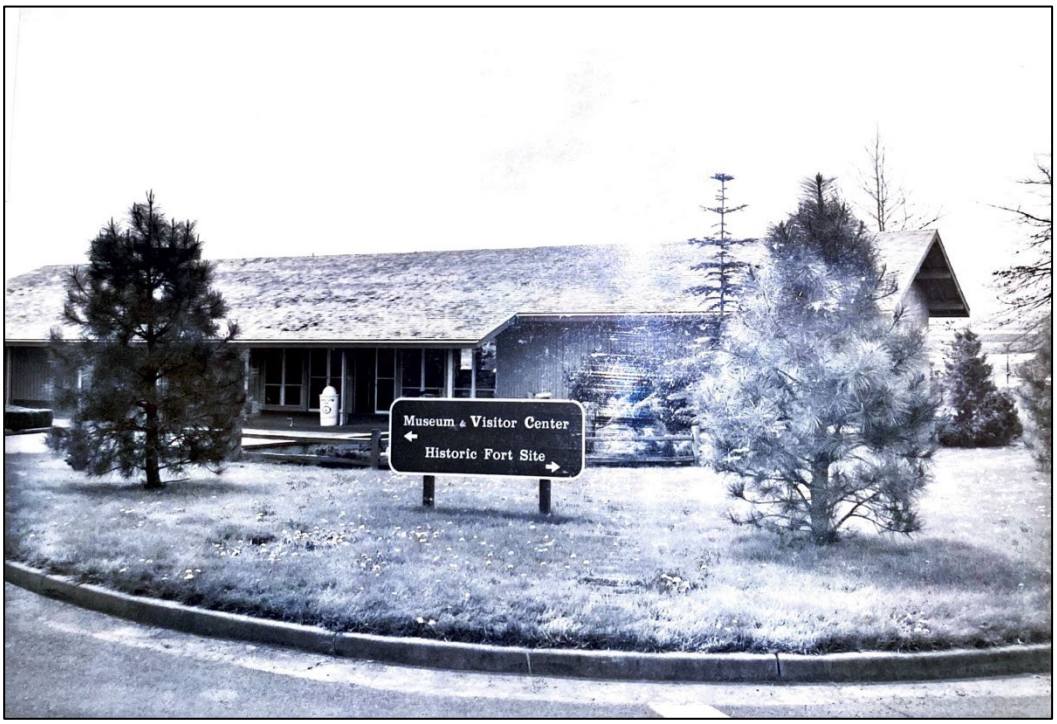


Figure 30. 1977 view of more mature tree and shrub plantings surrounding the northwest corner of the visitor center with a directional sign in the foreground. Both the vegetation and the sign have been removed and replaced. (Fort Vancouver National Historic Site Archives, Inv no. 963, FOVA #910. Copyright owned by the NPS; original document held in the Fort Vancouver archives.)

Analysis & Evaluation

Analysis and Evaluation Summary

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

NATURAL SYSTEMS AND FEATURES

The natural systems of the site were considered when planning for the Mission 66 development. The park and the design team decided to utilize the topography of the site, represented by a series of river terraces that rise up from the banks of the Columbia River, to site the new cluster of buildings and structures at an elevation that would provide a visual overview of the park unit from the visitor center toward the HBC Fort site.

SPATIAL ORGANIZATION

Mission 66 Park Developed Area continues to reflect the careful organization of the buildings and roads to create an orchestrated visitor experience, to provide visitors with an orientation of the park's resources, and to keep the impact of development on the landscape to a minimum. As a result, buildings were sited close to one another to minimize the area of disturbance, with careful consideration of the visitor experience. The Visitor Center was the key element of the Mission 66 Park Developed Area that was designed to set the stage for the park visitor's experience by providing amenities, exhibits, and views to the HBC Fort site below. The Visitor Center remains a centralized facility that includes multiple visitor and administrative functions. Park operational buildings, although sited relatively close to the eastern side of the Visitor Center, were effectively separated from the visitor experience using carefully planned circulation and vegetation patterns. Roads and parking areas were carefully situated to maintain important views as visitors

approached the Visitor Center from the reconstructed Fort and from the Visitor Center toward the HBC Fort site on the lower river terrace below. These spatial relationships between the buildings and structures, circulation features, and the natural topography are still intact and contribute to the cultural landscape.

LAND USE

Historic land uses associated with the cultural landscape included interpretive programs related to the HBC Fort reconstruction, visitor amenities (restrooms, parking, drinking fountains), administrative offices, maintenance facilities, and employee housing. These uses remain in place overall, with some modifications. Offices are still located in the Visitor Center but accommodate the interpretive staff and Friends of Fort Vancouver group instead of administrative staff. The residences are used for housing, and the former maintenance shop is used as the costume shop. The interpretive program has been expanded although the focus of the visitor interpretive experience has shifted toward the Fort reconstruction and relies less completely on the Visitor Center. Overall, the land uses continue to align with the historic intention for the area and contribute to the cultural landscape.

VEGETATION

Between 1961 and 1962, a planting plan was implemented within the vicinity of the Visitor Center. The plan shows a plant palette that was predominantly composed of ornamental plant species that complemented the suburban setting of the park facilities. Hedges were strategically placed to screen undesirable views. Many of the planting beds have been removed or altered, but several historic trees and hedges remain that help to convey the historic character of the Mission 66 Park Developed Area.

CIRCULATION

The Mission 66 master plan assumed that increased visitation would be facilitated through the rise of the private automobile and that the park would need to devise a vehicular circulation system, including park roads and parking areas, to accommodate the traffic. The new road system and parking area were meant to provide a smooth flow of traffic into the park unit, directing motorists to the Visitor Center from Evergreen Boulevard and then to the Fort Vancouver site.

Today, primary circulation routes continue to follow the same patterns that were developed in the Mission 66 Master Plan, with some modifications, and contribute to the cultural landscape.

BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES

Buildings and structures associated with the Mission 66 Park Developed Area are emblematic of NPS philosophies in the 1950s and 1960s. Following World War II, the NPS had to address a backlog of maintenance projects accumulated over the war years, and to undertake these physical improvements with a limited budget. In search of economical design and construction techniques, and drawing on contemporary architectural trends, the NPS moved away from the earlier Rustic Style architecture that required intensive labor and expensive building materials (timbers and stone) and adopted a more streamlined Modern Style architecture approached that emphasized new materials (inexpensive steel, concrete, and glass) and machine production. The Visitor Center, the two staff residences (one of which is now used for administrative offices), and a maintenance shop remain today as examples of Mission 66 design and contribute to the cultural landscape. Non-historic structures added since the period of significance include a picnic shelter and playground.

VIEWS AND VISTAS

As mentioned under Spatial Organization, the Visitor Center was intentionally built on the highest terrace in the park and oriented to face southwest to provide a view towards what was then the site of the historic fort. Today, the reconstructed fort serves a similar purpose and the viewshed is critical to that interpretive goal and a contributing feature within the Mission 66 Park Developed Area cultural landscape.

SMALL-SCALE FEATURES

Contributing small-scale features that were also designed under the Modern Style architectural approach and emphasized the visitor experience include the metal flagpole, the British anchor exhibit, and the park entrance sign located at the Visitor Center. Additional Noncontributing small-scale features have been added to the cultural landscape since the period of significance and are described in further detail below.

Integrity

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

Natural Systems and Features

Natural systems and features are the natural aspects that have influenced the development and physical form of the landscape, and can include geology, geomorphology, hydrology, ecology, climate, and native vegetation.

The natural features that most influenced the development of the Mission 66 era master plan are the river terraces that rise up from the banks of the Columbia River. The Visitor Center was placed at an elevation higher than the riverside terrace to allow views from the Visitor Center toward the historic Fort site. This view became the primary focal point from which the park resources were interpreted. Today, the Visitor Center's location on the upper river terrace continues to provide views of the Fort reconstruction and river and is a major focus of the park's interpretive program. Natural systems and features contribute to the integrity of the Mission 66 Park Developed Area cultural landscape.



Figure 31. View down the naturally sloping topography looking towards Fort Vancouver and the Columbia River (Contributing) (MIG January 2023)

Spatial Organization

Spatial organization is the three-dimensional organization of physical forms and visual associations in a landscape, including the articulation of ground, vertical, and overhead planes that define and create spaces.

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

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

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

A gently rising, curvilinear access road provided a pleasant drive through lawn and clusters of trees from East 5th Street toward the Visitor Center located on an upper river terrace. Parking was located north, behind the Visitor Center, to hide it from view as visitors approached the Visitor Center from the reconstructed Fort. The placement of the parking area north of the Visitor Center was important to allow unhindered views southward toward the HBC Fort site on the lower river

terrace below. The Visitor Center's placement at an elevation higher than the Fort site provided an opportunity for the park to interpret the relationship between the Columbia River and the HBC development.

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

Feature Name	Feature Contribution	CRIS CL Feature ID	CRIS-HS Resource Name	CRIS-HS Resource ID	CRIS-AR Resource ID	FMSS Record Number
Visitor Center Area	Contributing	199469	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Park Operations Area	Contributing	199470	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a



Figure 32. Visitor Center Area (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 199469) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 33. Park Operations Area (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 199470) (MIG January 2023)

Land Use

Land uses are the principal activities in a landscape that form, shape, and organize the landscape as a result of human interaction.

Land use within the Mission 66 Park Developed Area cultural landscape included activities typically associated with the establishment of the park's visitor and administration services. These uses included interpretive programs related to the HBC Fort reconstruction, visitor amenities (restrooms, parking, drinking fountains), administrative offices, maintenance facilities, and employee housing. The greatest concentration of these uses was located at the Visitor Center, which housed the interpretive programs, visitor amenities, and administrative offices. Some interpretation focused on the HBC Fort site, which until 1966 only included the northern wall of the stockade reconstruction. Employee housing and maintenance facilities were also included but kept separate from the Visitor Center area.

Historic land uses described above continue to occur within the character area, with some modifications. Offices are still located in the Visitor Center but accommodate the park's interpretive staff and the Friends of Fort Vancouver group instead of the administrative staff. The residences are used for housing, and the former maintenance shop is used as the costume shop. The interpretive program has been expanded as reconstruction efforts at the Fort have increased and the inclusion of the Fort Vancouver Village. As the Fort reconstruction has been further developed, the focus of the visitor interpretive experience has shifted toward the Fort reconstruction and relies less completely on the Visitor Center. However, important interpretive programs continue to occur within the Visitor Center. Overall, the land uses within the Mission 66 Park Developed Area continue to contribute to the cultural landscape.



Figure 34. Interpretive panels within the Visitor Center, overlooking the Fort Vancouver reconstruction to the south. (Contributing) (MIG January 2023)

Vegetation

Vegetation includes deciduous and evergreen trees, shrubs, vines, groundcovers, and herbaceous plants and plant communities, whether indigenous or introduced in the landscape.

Between 1961 and 1962, a planting plan was implemented within the vicinity of the Visitor Center. The plan shows a plant palette that was predominantly composed of ornamental plant species that complemented the suburban setting of the park facilities. Hedges were strategically placed to screen undesirable views. For example, a hedge was planted between the Visitor Center parking area and operations area. Planting islands were created in the Visitor Center parking area and planted with London planes (*Plantanus acerfolia*) (non-extant) to soften the visual impact of the paved parking area surface.

The vegetation plan implemented between 1961 and 1962 has been altered with the removal of some plant beds, the replacement of many shrubs, trees, and hedges around the buildings, and the addition of new vegetation. All the original foundation plantings around the residences have been replaced, except for the groundcover Japanese pachysandra (*pachysandra terminalis*). A planting bed between the two residences has been removed. A yew *(Taxus cuspidata expansa*) hedge behind the maintenance building was replaced with arborvitae (*Thuja sp.*) at an unknown date. Much of the original planting east of the maintenance building was removed during an expansion project. The boxwood hedge that used to line the seat wall in front of the visitor center has been removed and an arrangement of clipped hedges at the east end of the visitor center has been modified over time to accommodate utility and circulation improvements, although some of the individual plants are original. The boxwood hedge was removed circa 2016 around the same time that the Visitor Center entry renovations took place. Several of the original trees and shrubs west of the Visitor Center have been replaced with groupings of rhododendron (*Rhododendron sp*.) and pieris (*Pieris sp*.) that were installed in 1989, and cherry trees (*Prunus sp*.) that were installed in 2017 and 2019 with the monument honoring crewmembers of the Hojun Maru, the first Japanese cargo ship known to arrive on the North American continent. As part of that installation, the original shrubs adjacent to the Visitor Center entrance were also removed and replaced with a Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum*). The London planes that were planted in the parking area islands were replaced with conifers since the period of significance. Rhododendron and other shrubs (species unidentified) have been planted at the rear of the visitor center to screen utilities.

Individual historic plants and hedges that do remain include: a line of honey locusts (*Gleditsia triacanthos inermis*) along the southern edge of the Visitor Center parking area; a portion of a firethorn (*Pyracantha crenato-cerrata*) hedge along the eastern side of the Visitor Center; a Norway spruce (*Picea abies*), an ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica lanceolata*), and two crabapples (*Malus scheideckeri*) behind the residences; two Norway spruce east of the maintenance building; and mature conifers in the lawn area next to the entrance sign and along Evergreen Boulevard that screen the Mission 66 Park Developed Area from neighboring residences.

Because so little remains from the original planting plan, the planting plan as a whole has lost integrity. Many of the individual plants have been removed or replaced since the period of significance. However, the general function (screening, suburban feel), arrangement, and grouping of plants continues to convey the historic character of the Mission 66 Park Developed Area. Therefore, while individual plants may not contribute, the vegetation landscape characteristic as a whole remains a contributing characteristic of the Mission 66 Developed Area cultural landscape.

Honey Locusts (CRIS CL Feature ID 199471), Contributing

A historic row of seven honey locust trees (*Gleditsia triacanthos inermis*) is located along the southern edge of the Visitor Center parking area and appears to be part of the original planting plan.

Mature Conifers (CRIS CL Feature ID 202943), Contributing

There is a small grove of mature conifers (species) planted near the entrance sign along Evergreen Boulevard. Additional clusters of conifers are located along the fence line that follows the north edge of the cultural landscape. They were included in the original planting plan and appear to have been planted during the period of significance or replaced in-kind at a later date.

Clipped Hedges (CRIS CL Feature ID 199473), Contributing

There are clipped hedges including the original Firethorn hedge (*Pyracantha*) at the eastern facade of the Visitor Center. Although some of the hedges have been altered overtime, the location and texture of these plant materials were established during the period of significance.

Specimen Trees (CRIS CL Feature ID 199475, 202944, 202945 and 202946), Contributing
There is one Norway Spruce (*Picea)* (199475), one ash (*Fraxinus)* (202944), and two Crabapples (*Malus)* (202945 and 202946) behind the residences. They were planted during the period of significance.

Norway Spruce Trees (CRIS Feature IDs 199746 and 202947), Contributing
Two Norway spruce (199746 and 202947) trees are located east of Maintenance Building near E. Reserve Str. They were planted during the period of significance.

Arborvitae (CRIS Feature ID 199477), Noncontributing
An arborvitae shrub screens residences and maintenance area from parking area. The shrub was planted at an unknown date after the period of significance and replaced a former yew hedge at this location.

Foundation Plantings at the Residences (CRIS CL ID 202948), Noncontributing
Most of the original foundation plantings around the residences in the Park Operations area have been replaced. A former planting bed between the two residences has also been removed.

Trees and shrubs around the Hojun Maru Monument (CRIS CL ID 199478), Noncontributing
Most of the original trees and shrubs west of the Visitor Center have been replaced. The vegetation around the Hojun Maru monument, including *Rhododendron sp., Pieris sp.*, and *Prunus sp.*, were planted after the period of significance in 1989. Two additional cherry trees (*Prunus*) were planted in 2017 and 2019.

Japanese Maple (CRIS CL ID 202949), Noncontributing
A Japanese maple (*Acer*) is planted to the west of the Visitor Center entrance. It was planted after the period of significance, possibly circa 1989 when some of the trees and shrubs around the Hojun Maru Monument were installed.

Conifers in Parking Area Islands (CRIS CL ID 202950), Noncontributing

Mature conifers are planted in each island within the visitor center parking area. Photos from 2014 indicate that five conifers were present at that time. Currently, there is one extant conifer in the west island and two extant conifers in the east island. These trees replaced London plane trees that were specified in the original planting plan and were planted at an unknown date after the period of significance.

Shrub screen around utilities (CRIS CL ID 202951), Noncontributing

Non-historic rhododendron and other shrubs (species unidentified) have been planted at the rear of the Visitor Center to screen utilities that were installed within the lawn area after the period of significance.

Feature Name	Feature Contribution	CRIS CL Feature ID	CRIS-HS Resource Name	CRIS-HS Resource ID	CRIS-AR Resource ID	FMSS Record Number
Honey Locusts	Contributing	199471	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Mature conifers	Contributing	202943	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Clipped hedges	Contributing	199473	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Specimen Trees	Contributing	199475, 202944, 202945, 202946	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Norway Spruce	Contributing	199746, 202947	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Arborvitae	Noncontributing	199477	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Foundation plantings	Noncontributing	202948	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Trees and shrubs around the Hojun Maru monument	Noncontributing	199478	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Japanese Maple	Noncontributing	202949	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Conifers in parking area islands	Noncontributing	202950	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Shrub screen around the utilities	Noncontributing	202951	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a



Figure 35. Honey Locusts along southern edge of Visitor Center parking area (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 199471) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 36. Mature Conifers near the Entrance Sign, along Evergreen Boulevard. (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 202943) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 37. Clipped Hedges, including original Firethorn hedge, at the east end of the Visitor Center. (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 199473) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 38. Specimen Trees behind residences, viewed from west. (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 199475) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 39. Norway spruce trees located at the east end of the maintenance building. (Contributing, CRIS Feature IDs 199746 and 202947) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 40. The Arborvitae that separates the employee residences and maintenance shop from parking area. (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 199477) (NPS, 2024)



Figure 41. Foundation plantings at the employee residences (Residence #1). (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 202948) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 42. Trees and shrubs around the Hojun Maru monument. (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 199478) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 43. Japanese Maple in front of the visitor center. (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 202949) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 44. Conifers within the parking area islands. (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 202950) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 45. Shrub screen around the utilities behind the Visitor Center. (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 202951) (MIG January 2023)

Circulation

Circulation refers to the spaces, features, and applied material finishes that constitute systems of movement in a landscape.

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

Visitor Center Access Road (CRIS CL ID 121584, CRIS HS ID 367629), Contributing
Originally built as a single-lane road, an important aspect of Mission 66 road development was careful consideration of its alignment to enhance the visitor experience and to showcase the park resources from the automobile. Reflecting this goal, the Visitor Center Access Road was aligned to wind from the Visitor Center (the starting point of the interpretive program) to East 5th Street through a pastoral setting of open lawn and mature trees, providing glimpses of the Fort through the trees. Although the main road through the site provided a leisurely auto tour of the grounds and showcased the setting, the construction of the Visitor Center and Access Road also involved the removal of historic roads in the parade ground associated with the US Army era. The Access Road includes vehicular pull-outs (demarcated by wood and metal bollards) at intervals along the road to accommodate two-way traffic. Gates at the north and south ends of the road allow vehicular access to be managed.

Visitor Center Parking Area (CRIS CL ID 192587, CRIS HS ID 167640), Contributing
To accommodate vehicles once the visitors arrived at their destination, parking areas were established both at the Visitor Center and at the Fort site near both ends of the Access Road (although the NPS did not begin reconstruction of the Fort until 1966). The parking area at the Fort site was a looped road that was moved and reconfigured in the early 1990s and is not located within the cultural landscape boundary. At the Visitor Center, the asphalt paved parking area was placed north of the building so as not to interfere with views from the Visitor Center to the Fort

site. It is designed as a loop road with parking spaces on the north and south sides of the parking area.

Visitor Center Concrete Sidewalk (CRIS CL ID 192588, CRIS HS ID 367675), Contributing
Starting with a paved plaza and seat wall in front of the Visitor Center entrance, a concrete sidewalk extends along the southern edge of the parking area. The sidewalk extended from the Visitor Center to the eastern edge of the parking area, providing a walkway for visitors moving to and from their automobiles. The sidewalk was also the formal path that connected the Visitor Center and the employee area near the east end of the parking area. The sidewalk departed from the parking area to descend a slope to the employee housing area, passed by a historic hedge (non-extant) that served to discourage the public from entering the area. The plaza and the seat wall were modified in the 1990s with new paving and an extended seating area with a bench and a universally accessible ramp at the east end, but the plaza retains the overall form and function of the original design.

Employee Area Access Road (CRIS CL ID 192589, CRIS HS ID 367662), Contributing
This road was constructed to provide access to the employee area from East Reserve Street. This road was accessed from a separate entrance to deter visitors from entering the employee area.

Non-historic Walkways (CRIS CL ID 202952), Noncontributing
Modifications to the historic circulation pattern include the installation of a pathway from the Visitor Center entrance to the Japanese cargo ship monument at the west end of the building that was installed in 1989. Additionally, a concrete sidewalk was added in front of the Visitor Center to facilitate temporary parking for visitor drop off. Walkways located between the parking area and picnic shelter are also thought to post-date the historic period since they do not appear on the 1968 as-built plans.

Today, the circulation system as a whole continues to follow the same patterns that were developed in the Mission 66 Master Plan. Therefore, circulation features and patterns support the integrity of the Mission 66 Park Developed Area and contribute to the cultural landscape.

Feature Name	Feature Contribution	CRIS CL Feature ID	CRIS-HS Resource Name	CRIS-HS Resource ID	CRIS-AR Resource ID	FMSS Record Number
Visitor Center Access Road	Contributing	121584	Fort Vancouver NHS Visitor Park Road	367629	n/a	n/a
Visitor Center Parking Area	Contributing	192587	Fort Vancouver NHS Visitor Center Parking area	367640	n/a	n/a
Visitor Center Concrete Sidewalk	Contributing	192588	Fort Vancouver NHS Path, VC to Utility Area	367675	n/a	n/a
Employee Area Access Road	Contributing	192589	Fort Vancouver NHS Utility Area Access Road	367662	n/a	n/a
Non-historic Walkways	Noncontributing	202952	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a



Figure 46. Visitor Center Access Road, looking west/southwest towards E. 5th Street. (contributing, CRIS CL ID 121584) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 47. Visitor Center Parking Area (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 192587) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 48. Visitor Center concrete sidewalk, looking east towards the employee housing area. (contributing, CRIS CL ID 192588) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 49. Employee Area Access Road (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 192589) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 50. One of the non-historic walkways added after the historic period in front of Visitor Center (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 202952) (MIG January 2023)

Buildings and Structures

Buildings are elements constructed primarily for sheltering any form of human activity in a landscape, while structures are elements constructed for functional purposes other than sheltering human activity.

Buildings and structures associated with the Mission 66 Park Developed Area are emblematic of NPS philosophies in the 1950s. Following World War II, the NPS had to address a backlog of maintenance projects accumulated over the war years, and to undertake these physical improvements with a limited budget. In search of economical design and construction techniques, and drawing on contemporary architectural trends, the NPS moved away from the earlier Rustic Style architecture that required intensive labor and expensive building materials (timbers and stone) and adopted a more streamlined Modern Style architecture that emphasized new materials (inexpensive steel, concrete, and glass) and machine production. Common aspects of modernist architecture in the parks were the use of simple, geometric forms, and restrained use of architectural details. These modern buildings were generally characterized by low massing, horizontal lines, surfaces of earth tone colors, and minimal architectural ornamentation. To further increase affordability, the NPS produced standard architectural plans for employee housing and other park infrastructure that could be mass-produced service wide.

Built between January and August of 1961, four buildings within the Mission 66 Developed Area reflect the elements typical of modernistic architecture of the Mission 66 era. The Visitor Center, the two staff residences, and a maintenance shop remain today with some alterations. These buildings and their subsequent modifications are described below.

The original buildings within the developed area retain their original form and arrangement. Their designs continue to convey the Modern Style architecture that was central to the Mission 66 movement. Therefore, the original buildings contribute to the cultural landscape.

Visitor Center (CRIS CL ID 121586, CRIS HS ID 367271), Contributing

Built in 1960-1961, the Visitor Center is one-story over a partially exposed basement, rectangular-shaped, wood-frame building with a low-spreading gable roof. The foundation is concrete. The exterior is clad with Douglas fir board on board siding painted green.

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

In 2015, a renovation to the front of the Visitor Center saw the entrance to the restrooms moved inside the building, and the entry doors and roofline over the doors were modified to a front gabled portico entry system. Other exterior changes to the building have been few. The original color of the building exterior was a dark wood stain that has since been painted green. Cedar roof shakes were replaced with composition shingles in the 1980s. When utilities were converted from natural gas to electric in the early 1980s, a louvered aluminum chimney stack was removed from the roofline and two outside electric heat pumps added. Most change has occurred to the eastern façade where a security gate was added to the east entrance corner, a concrete slab was added with a bench/planter unit, and a universally accessible ramp, set of stairs and low retaining wall were all added in the early 1990s.

Maintenance Shop (CRIS CL ID 121648, CRIS HS ID 367602), Contributing
Built in 1960-1961, this is a one-story, rectangular, wood-frame utility building with a gable roof. Built on a concrete slab, the exterior is clad with Douglas fir board on board siding and composition shingles. Primary fenestration is 1/1 double-hung metal sash windows. The building has five 4-light, 16-panel wooden garage doors.

Prior to 1978, the utility building was expanded to the east, adding an additional garage. In 1979, the maintenance shop was expanded again to nearly double the original size, adding a new 36’ garage bay at the west end of the building. The expansion was undertaken with sensitivity to the original building, which still retains its original simple, utilitarian character through careful design of the additions. Another expansion occurred in 1998. The building is currently used as the costume shop for interpretive programs.

Staff Residences (CRIS CL IDs 121646, 121644, CRIS HS IDs 367311, 367389), Contributing

There are two staff residences in the Park Operations area: Residence #1 (Park Headquarters/Admin.) (CRIS CL ID 121646, CRIS HS ID 367311) and Residence #2 (CRIS CL ID 121644, CRIS HS ID 367389). Built in 1960-1961, the two residences were constructed consistent with the standard, three-bedroom house plan B developed for the Mission 66 program. The design of the residences was slightly modified to better fit into the local topography. The houses are one-story, rectangular, wood-frame construction with gable roofs. The foundations are concrete. The exteriors are clad with Douglas fir wood lapped siding. The roofs are of wood truss with composition shingles. Primary fenestration is 1/1 double-hung metal sash windows. Doors are 1-light, 1-panel wood doors. Windows and doors have simple, metal surrounds.

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

Picnic Shelter (CRIS CL ID 126909), Noncontributing

A picnic shelter was added after the end of the period of significance. It is a one-story rectangular wood framed building with a gable roof. There are sliding barn doors on the north façade and parts of the east and west facades that are opened when in use. A short concrete retaining wall is offset from the building's north façade, which also serves as its main entrance.

Playground (CRIS CL ID 126911), Noncontributing

Although the original master plan included play equipment in the lawn behind the Visitor Center, the current playground area was constructed after the end of the period of significance. It consists of two prefabricated structures, including a swing and a climbing and sliding structure. The climbing and sliding structure has triangle shaped caps which mimic forms on the corner of the reconstructed Fort Vancouver Structure. The playground is bounded by square lumber forms and the ground plane covered in wood chips.

A playground was included in the original Mission 66 Developed Area plan in the lawn area behind the Visitor Center. The playground was built and furnished with metal equipment typical of the Mission 66 program in an informal arrangement on the law. These features were removed after the period of significance, and the new playground was installed during the 1990s at its current location.

Utility Shed (CRIS CL ID 202953, CRIS HS ID 117164), Noncontributing

A small utility shed with vertical siding and a gable roof sits on a concrete slab near the southeast corner of the Visitor Center. It is painted green to match the other buildings in the cluster. Date of construction is unconfirmed, but it is likely that the shed was built when other utility improvements were installed in the area in the 1970s or 1990s.

Feature Name	Feature Contribution	CRIS CL Feature ID	CRIS-HS Resource Name	CRIS-HS Resource ID	CRIS-AR Resource ID	FMSS Record Number
Visitor Center	Contributing	121586	Fort Vancouver NHS Visitors' Center	367271	n/a	n/a
Maintenance Shop	Contributing	121648	Fort Vancouver NHS Maintenance Building	367602	n/a	n/a
Residence #1	Contributing	121646	Fort Vancouver NHS Administration Building	367311	n/a	n/a
Residence #2	Contributing	121644	Fort Vancouver NHS Employee Residence	367389	n/a	n/a
Picnic Shelter	Noncontributing	126909	Mission 66 Park Developed Area Picnic Shelter	n/a	n/a	n/a
Playground	Noncontributing	126911	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Utility Shed	Noncontributing	202953	Utility Shed	1172164	n/a	n/a



Figure 51. Visitor Center from entrance to Visitor Center Access Road off Evergreen Blvd. (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 121586) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 52. Maintenance Shop viewed from E Reserve St. (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 121648) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 53. Residence #1 viewed from the southwest. (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 121646) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 54. Residence #2 viewed from the south. (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 121644) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 55. Picnic shelter. (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 126909) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 56. Playground. (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 126911) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 57. Utility Shed, looking northeast. (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 202953) (MIG January 2023)

Views and Vistas

A view is the expansive and/or panoramic prospect of a broad range of vision that may be naturally occurring or deliberately contrived. A vista is a controlled prospect of a discrete, linear range of vision, which is deliberately contrived.

View from Visitor Center to Fort Vancouver (CRIS Feature ID 202954), Contributing

The Visitor Center was built in this location and oriented to face southwest to provide a view towards what was then the site of the historic fort. Prior to its reconstruction, this vantage and viewpoint allowed the NPS to describe what was present during the HBC Era. Today, the reconstructed fort serves a similar purpose and the viewshed is critical to that interpretive goal. Over time some trees have grown within the viewshed, which limits the framed view from the Visitor Center to the reconstructed fort.

Feature Name	Feature Contribution	CRIS CL Feature ID	CRIS-HS Resource Name	CRIS-HS Resource ID	CRIS-AR Resource ID	FMSS Record Number
View from Visitor Center to Fort Vancouver	Contributing	202954	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a



Figure 58. View from the rear of the Visitor Center towards the reconstructed Fort. (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 202954) (MIG January 2023)

Small-Scale Features

Small-scale features are elements that provide detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns in the landscape.

Contributing small-scale features include those that were designed under the Modern Style architectural approach and emphasized visitor experience. They include the flagpole, the British anchor exhibit, and the park entrance sign located near the Access Road's intersection with East Evergreen Boulevard. Additional noncontributing small-scale features have been added to the cultural landscape since the period of significance and are described in further detail below.

Visitor Center Flagpole (CRIS CL ID 121588, CRIS HS ID 614751), Contributing
The flagpole was part of the original design for the Visitor Center and has remained in its original location since 1961.

British Anchor Exhibit (CRIS CL ID 121592, CRIS HS ID 367800), Contributing
The British anchor was found in 1960 when the Army Corps of Engineers dredged the Columbia River along the shoreline of the current Reserve. The anchor was installed as an outdoor exhibit at the eastern end of the Visitor Center parking area and remains in the original location. The anchor is a catalogued museum object and may someday be moved into a location that is protected from the elements for preservation. Because the anchor exhibit was installed during the Mission 66 period of significance, underscores the Mission 66-era goal of site interpretation, and remains in its original location, it is contributing.

Park Sign near Evergreen Blvd and Visitor Center Access Road (CRIS CL ID 121590, CRIS HS ID 367794), Contributing
The NPS sign located at the northern entrance to the Visitor Center parking area, near the intersection of Evergreen Blvd and Visitor Center Access Road, resembles a miniature version of a stockade wall with pointed timbers about four feet tall set on a concrete base. A wooden plaque with the park's name and an NPS logo is attached to the front of the sign. This sign was installed during the period of significance and is a contributing feature within the cultural landscape.

Split Rail Perimeter Fence (CRIS CL ID 203052, CRIS HS ID 1172263) Contributing

A wooden split rail fences serves as a general boundary around the cultural landscape and the Parade Ground. A three-rail fence type existed during the period of significance, and appears to have been constructed as part of the Mission 66 development. The split rail fence extends beyond the boundaries of the National Historic Site and the cultural landscape boundary, but intersects with the cultural landscape in sections. The fence encloses the Park Operations Area, delineating the Mission 66 Park Developed Area from Officers Row and the neighborhoods across Evergreen Boulevard and separating the employee housing from the publicly accessible Visitor Center and grounds.

Park Sign near Visitor Center (CRIS CL ID 121640), Noncontributing

Another park sign is located near the entrance to the Visitor Center. It consists of a metal board mounted on two square posts. Although an NPS sign existed at this location historically, this sign was installed after the period of significance and is a noncontributing feature.

Japanese Cargo Ship Monument, Hojun Maru (CRIS CL ID 121642), Noncontributing

A small Japanese monument commemorating the Japanese cargo ship, Hojun Maru, was placed by a local Boy Scouts troop in 1989 at the northwestern corner of the Visitor Center. The ship ran aground near Cape Flattery in 1832. The survivors were the first documented Japanese people to arrive on the North American continent.

Wood Fence (CRIS CL ID 202955), Noncontributing

Wood fences were installed after the period of significance around the above ground utilities near the southeast corner of the Visitor Center. This general area was installed in the 1970s after the period of significance and although the fence mimics the historic fence style it is a noncontributing feature. The concrete retaining wall which the fence borders is considered part of the Visitor Center and was built during the historic period.

Bollards along Access Road (CRIS CL ID 202956), Noncontributing

A mix of wood and metal Bollards are located along the vehicular pullouts on the Access Road. These bollards and the pullouts were added after the period of significance to accommodate two way traffic on the road.

Wood Slat Benches (CRIS CL ID 202957), Noncontributing

Wood slat benches are sited within the plaza in front of the Visitor Center. Modern Style wood slat benches were built as part of the original development but are non-extant today. These existing wood slat benches were added during improvement projects after the period of significance.

Picnic Tables (CRIS CL ID 202958), Noncontributing

Contemporary metal and plastic picnic tables are located near the playground and Japanese cargo ship monument. Modern Style picnic tables were included with the original Mission 66 development but are non-extant today. The existing picnic tables were added after the period of significance.

Feature Name	Feature Contribution	CRIS CL Feature ID	CRIS-HS Resource Name	CRIS-HS Resource ID	CRIS-AR Resource ID	FMSS Record Number
Visitor Center flagpole	Contributing	121588	Fort Vancouver NHS Visitor Center Flagpole	614751	n/a	n/a
British anchor exhibit	Contributing	121592	Fort Vancouver NHS Anchor and Chain	367800	n/a	n/a
Park Sign near Evergreen Blvd and Visitor Center Access Rd	Contributing	121590	Fort Vancouver NHS Entrance Sign	367794	n/a	n/a
Split Rail Perimeter Fence	Contributing	203052	Fort Vancouver NHS Boundary Fence	1172263	n/a	n/a
Park Sign near Visitor Center	Noncontributing	121640	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Japanese cargo ship monument, Hojun Maru	Noncontributing	121642	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wood Fence	Noncontributing	202955	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bollards along Access Road	Noncontributing	202956	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wood Slat Benches	Noncontributing	202957	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Picnic Tables	Noncontributing	202958	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a



Figure 59. Flagpole outside Visitors Center (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 121588) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 60. British Anchor Exhibit (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 121592) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 61. Park Sign near Evergreen Blvd. and Visitor Center Access Road (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 121590) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 62. Split rail perimeter fence near Evergreen Boulevard (Contributing, CRIS CL ID 203052, CRIS HS ID 1172263) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 63. Park Sign near Visitor Center (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 121640) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 64. Japanese cargo ship monument, Hojun Maru (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 121642) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 65. Wood fence around utilities behind Visitor Center (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 202955) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 66. Wood bollards along the vehicular pull-outs on Access Road (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 202956) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 67. Wood-slat benches adjacent to Visitor Center (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 202957) (MIG January 2023)



Figure 68. Picnic Tables near the playground area (Noncontributing, CRIS CL ID 202958) (MIG January 2023)

Condition Assessment

Condition

Good

Condition Date

01/12/2023

Narrative

The Mission 66 Park Developed Area landscape is in good condition. The primary concern is monitoring the vegetation and built elements for impacts related to the increase in temperatures in the summer for longer periods of time, the increase in storm intensity (both winds and precipitation amounts), and any pests or diseases that might be spurred by the changing climate. For example, a fence near the southeast corner of the Visitor Center is showing noticeable signs of deterioration and is slumping. There are trees of differing ages, both of which may experience different levels of impact from the effects of climate change. For example, young trees are more susceptible to prolonged high temperatures and drought, and mature trees are more susceptible to high winds, especially when combined with saturated soils. Also, the concrete pathway leading to the staff housing is showing some signs of uplift in areas. The parking area has a few cracks in its surface, but nothing atypical. However, there are some low spots where storm water is pooling which could increase the deterioration of the asphalt in these areas.

Impacts

Type	Impact Type – Other	Internal Source	External Source	Narrative	Date Identified
Exposure to Elements		No	Yes	The effects of storm damage was observed in some trees and shrubs, likely from high wind, snow, and ice storm events. Though most were addressed through maintenance, it is clear that there have been impacts to these resources by the increasing intensity of weather events.	1/12/23
Improper Drainage		Yes	No	Small areas of paved surfaces, namely in the parking area, are not draining well and as a result the asphalt surface will deteriorate faster.	1/12/23
Vegetation		Yes	No	Trees have grown up within the viewshed between the Visitor Center and the Fort, impacting the view.	1/12/2023

Treatment

Approved Treatments

Rehabilitation

Document

General Management Plan

Narrative

The General Management Plan (2003) calls for the Visitor Center to be remodeled to become the Vancouver National Historic Reserve Visitor Center. A Cultural Landscape Report is being completed which will update and provide further guidance for the treatment of this cultural landscape.

Bibliography and Supplemental Information

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Supplemental Information

Supplemental Information Title	Supplemental Information Narrative
Site Plans	Enlargements of two site plans, Mission 66 Park Developed Area Cultural Landscape Existing Conditions Site Map and Mission 66 Park Developed Area Cultural Landscape Existing Conditions Vegetation Map, which are included earlier in the document.

East Barracks/Parade Ground
Cultural Landscape

Officers Row

E Evergreen Blvd

18 Access Road (c)

Visitor Center Area
199469 (c)

Park Operations Area
199470 (c)

E Reserve St.

E 5th St.

Fort Vancouver
Cultural Landscape

Legend

- Mission 66 Park Developed Area Cultural Landscape Boundary
- Buildings & Structures
- Small Scale Features
- Viewshed
- Vehicular Circulation
- Visitor Center Concrete Sidewalk
- Non-Historic Walkways
- Fenceline
- Fort Vancouver Historic Site Boundary
- Spatial Organization Boundary

Features

Buildings and Structures

01. Visitor Center, 121586 (c)
02. Maintenance Shop, 121648 (c)
03. Residence #1, 121646 (c)
04. Residence #2, 121644 (c)
05. Picnic Shelter, 126909 (nc)
06. Playground, 126911 (nc)
07. Utility Shed, 202953 (nc)

Small Scale Features

08. Visitor Center Flagpole, 121588 (c)
09. British Anchor Exhibit, 121592 (c)
10. Park sign near Evergreen Blvd and Access Road, 121590 (c)
11. Split Rail Perimeter Fence, 203052(c)
12. Park sign near Visitor Center, 121640 (nc)
13. Japanese cargo ship monument, Hojun Maru, 121642 (nc)
14. Wood Fence, 202955 (nc)
15. Wood Bollards Along Access Road, 202956 (nc)
16. Wood Slat Benches, 202957 (nc)
17. Picnic Tables, 202958 (nc)

Circulation

18. Visitor Center Access Road, 121584 (c)
19. Visitor Center Parking Area, 192587 (c)
20. Visitor Center Concrete Sidewalk, 192588 (c)
21. Employee Area Access Road, 192589 (c)
22. Non-historic Walkways, 202952 (nc)

Views & Vistas

23. View from Visitor Center to Fort Vancouver, 202954(c)

c = Contributing, nc = Non-Contributing

Prepared by MIG, Inc., June 2024
Sources: Esri World Imagery Basemap, field inventory January 2023, Historic District Contributing Resources, Circulation Plan
Drawn in ArcPro and Adobe Illustrator Creative Cloud

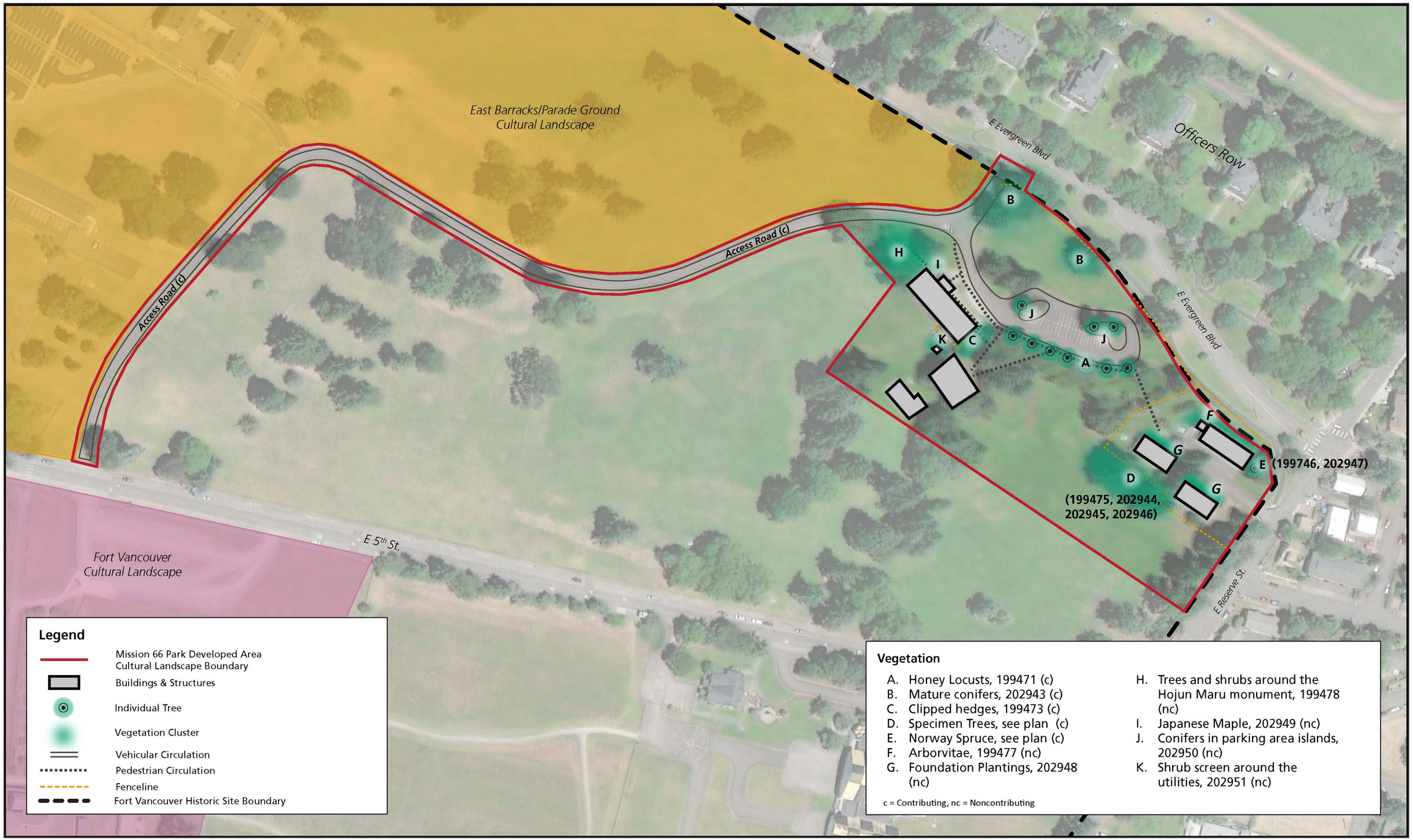
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Scale: 1 inch = 150 feet on 11x17 inch page.

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

Mission 66 Park Developed Area Cultural Landscape

Existing Conditions Site Plan



Legend

- Mission 66 Park Developed Area Cultural Landscape Boundary
- Buildings & Structures
- Individual Tree
- Vegetation Cluster
- Vehicular Circulation
- Pedestrian Circulation
- Fenceline
- Fort Vancouver Historic Site Boundary

Vegetation

A. Honey Locusts, 199471 (c)
B. Mature conifers, 202943 (c)
C. Clipped hedges, 199473 (c)
D. Specimen Trees, see plan (c)
E. Norway Spruce, see plan (c)
F. Arborvitae, 199477 (nc)
G. Foundation Plantings, 202948 (nc)
H. Trees and shrubs around the Hojun Maru monument, 199478 (nc)
I. Japanese Maple, 202949 (nc)
J. Conifers in parking area islands, 202950 (nc)
K. Shrub screen around the utilities, 202951 (nc)

c = Contributing, nc = Noncontributing

Prepared by MIG, Inc., June 2024
Sources: Esri World Imagery Basemap, field inventory January 2023, Historic District Contributing Resources, Circulation Plan
Drawn in ArcPro and Adobe Illustrator Creative Cloud

0 0.02 0.04 0.07 Miles

Scale: 1 inch = 150 feet on 11x17 inch page.

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

Mission 66 Park Developed Area Cultural Landscape

Existing Conditions Site Plan - Vegetation