A Public Unaware:

Leveraging Historic Importance to preserve and reuse Fort Hancock

A review of Sandy Hook's military history and National Historic Register status(s) with recommendations to the Committee and the NPS for applying the National Register status and its statutory requirement for historic preservation at Sandy Hook to frame and advance preservation and reuse goals

2 Aug 2013As of 2 Aug 2013

Historic Context Working Group

Members:

- Lillian Burry
- Mary Eileen Fouratt
- Tim Hill
- Mike Holenstein
- Guy Hembling
- Dan Saunders
- Dr. Howard Parish
- Shawn Welch coordinator
- Pete McCarthy NPS Support
- Purpose Provide detailed information and historic context analysis to support Fort
 Hancock 21st Century Committee fact finding, analysis, deliberations and recommendations
- The Committee established the Historical Context Working Group to (1) review the military history of Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook and present it to the Committee, and (2) develop proposals for integrating the mission and reuse of military facilities into reuse plans for Fort Hancock and the Park's interpretation at Sandy Hook.

Purpose and Baseline

- <u>Purpose</u> National Historic Register <u>Landmark</u> status is the primary justification for the restoration,
 preservation and interpretation of the buildings of concern to the Fort Hancock 21st Century Committee.
 - The public is essentially unaware of the National Historic Register status of Sandy Hook.
- Clearly articulating the National Historic Register Landmark status to the <u>public</u>, prospective <u>partners</u> (via the REFI and other documents), <u>NPS leadership</u> and <u>Congress</u> will better frame the importance of and urgency for preserving the Historic District, which is the "town" of Fort Hancock.
- <u>Baseline Information</u>
 - In 1980 The Fort Hancock and the Sandy Hook Proving Ground Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Historic District of 459 acres included "90 significant historic buildings and 13 Batteries dating from the last quarter of the 19th through the first half of the 20th centuries...a vital defense installation for New York city from the Civil War period through the 1950's and 60's Cold War." The District encompassed much of that portion of the northern tip of Sandy Hook that was managed by the National Park Service.
 - In 1982, The Fort Hancock and the Sandy Hook Proving Ground Historic District was nominated and ultimately designated as a **National Historic Landmark**. The National Historic Landmark nomination expanded the area of the Historic District to encompass the entire Sandy Hook peninsula.
 - The Chief of Military History, US Army, wrote to the FH21 Committee and DFO in April 2013 recommending the adding of "Fort Hancock" back into the name of the Sandy Hook unit based upon historic documentation and importance to the US Army's history.

The <u>Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook Proving Ground National Historic Landmark</u> is the <u>ONLY</u> National Historic <u>Landmark</u> within Gateway National Recreation Area.

What is a National Historic Landmark?

- ✓ <u>National Historic Landmarks</u> are the historic sites with the <u>highest level of significance</u> and receive the <u>highest level of protection</u> in the federal review process. *
- ✓ Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requires that federal agencies consider the effect of their actions on historic properties. *
- ✓ When federal projects have an adverse effect on historic properties, the <u>regulations require</u> that federal agencies consult with the respective State Historic Preservation Office and Interested and Consulting parties on ways to avoid, reduce, or mitigate adverse effect son historic properties. *
- ✓ In the case of <u>National Historic Landmarks</u>, that consultation is <u>elevated</u> <u>automatically</u> to include the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the <u>Secretary of the Interior</u>. *
 - There are <u>88,812</u> National Register listed <u>Historic Buildings, Sites and Districts</u> in the <u>USA</u>
 - There are 5,532 National Register listed <u>Historic Buildings</u>, <u>Sites and Districts</u> in New York
 - There are <u>1,647</u> National Register listed <u>Historic Buildings, Sites and Districts</u> in New Jersey
 - A total of <u>2,507</u> sites have been designated as <u>National Historic Landmarks</u> in the USA.
 - A total of <u>271</u> sites have been designated as <u>National Historic Landmarks</u> in New York.
 - A total of <u>57</u> sites have been designated as <u>National Historic Landmarks</u> in New Jersey.

The <u>Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook Proving Ground National Historic Landmark</u> is in the <u>TOP 3%</u> of National Historic Register properties and districts.

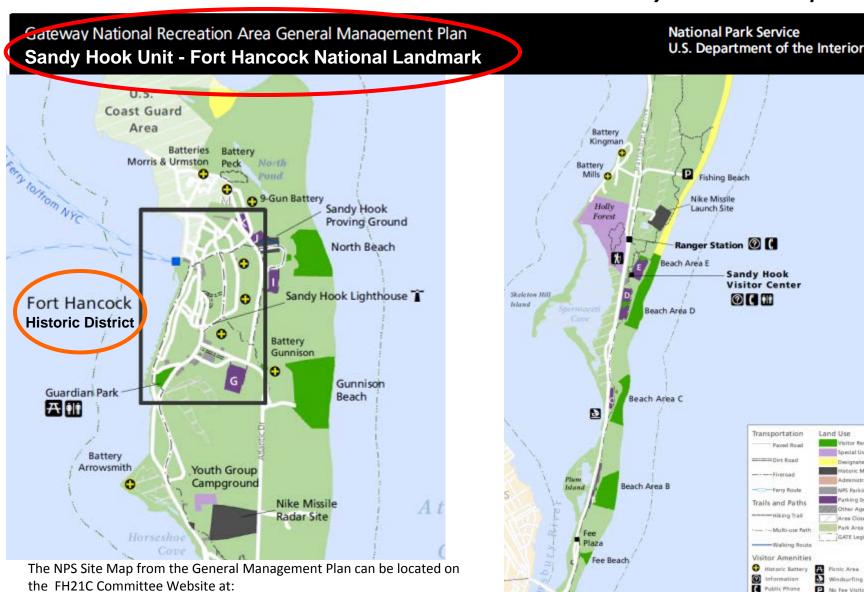
Historic Context Working Group

Recommendations

- 1. The Committee and NPS should emphasize the <u>Fort Hancock National Historic Landmark</u> with the <u>Sandy Hook Unit</u> in common NPS public documentation and maps for clarity
 - Apply the <u>Fort Hancock National Historic Landmark</u> designation to frame the greater <u>Sandy Hook Unit</u>
 - Apply the Historic District designation to frame the "main post" section of Fort Hancock as a subset of the greater "Fort Hancock National Landmark and Sandy Hook Unit of Gateway National Recreation Area"
 - Emphasize Fort Hancock Historic District (FHHD) specifically as a "small town" that supported the overall installation (the "Landmark") and that it offers the same "life support, education, cultural and recreation opportunities" to a renewed public presence as it did during its service to the Army
- 2. The Committee should reflect the Historic Landmark and Historic District designations in all future products (such as the REFI) to highlight the high significance (<u>Top 3% of Historic Register Sites</u>) and importance of preservation and reuse, highlighting how the "District" is a subset of and supports the larger "Landmark" and garners its importance from the overall "Landmark" designation.
- NPS should ensure both the National Historic District and the National Historic Landmark designations
 are correctly nested and identified on all maps, documents and signs describing Sandy Hook.
 - NPS create a brochure to synthesize the history of Sandy Hook and the Historic Landmark (Fort Hancock) and develop a plan for a broad dissemination to inform the public of the rich history so contained and legal protection mandates
- 4. NPS should ensure the General Management Plan (GMP) fully describes and ascribes the Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook Proving Ground National Landmark status to the entirety of the Sandy Hook Unit.

Example Sandy Hook Map Update

Fort Hancock National Landmark at Sandy Hook - Option A



http://forthancock21stcentury.org/yahoo site admin/assets/docs/Sandy

Hook.260110627.pdf

Designated Fishing Area

storic Military Site

Parking by Permit

Other Agency Parking

GATE Legislative Boundary

Pienic Area (III) Restrooms

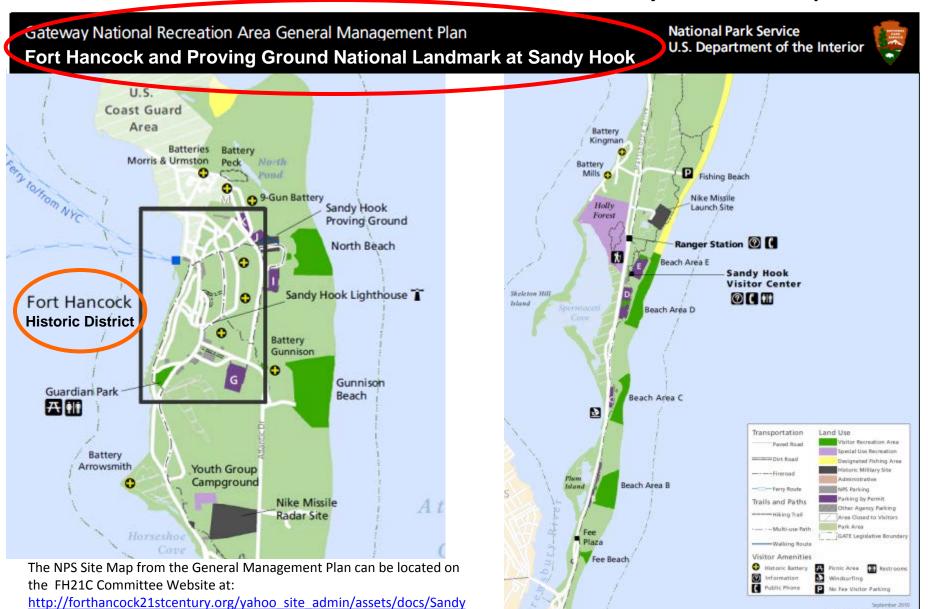
Produced By: Natalyo Apostolos

No Fee Visitor Farking

Windsurfine

Example Sandy Hook Map Update

Fort Hancock National Landmark at Sandy Hook - Option B



Hook.260110627.pdf

Produced By: Natalyo Apostolos

Example Sandy Hook Map Update

Fort Hancock National Landmark at Sandy Hook - Option C

Gateway National Recreation Area General Management Plan Fort Hancock National Landmark at Sandy Hook Coast Guard Area Batteries Battery Morris & Urmston Sandy Hook Proving Ground North Beach Sandy Hook Lighthouse T Fort Hancock **Historic District** Battery Gunnison Gunnison Guardian Park Beach **#** Battery Arrowsmith Youth Group Campground Nike Missile Radar Site

The NPS Site Map from the General Management Plan can be located on the FH21C Committee Website at:

http://forthancock21stcentury.org/yahoo_site_admin/assets/docs/Sandy Hook.260110627.pdf

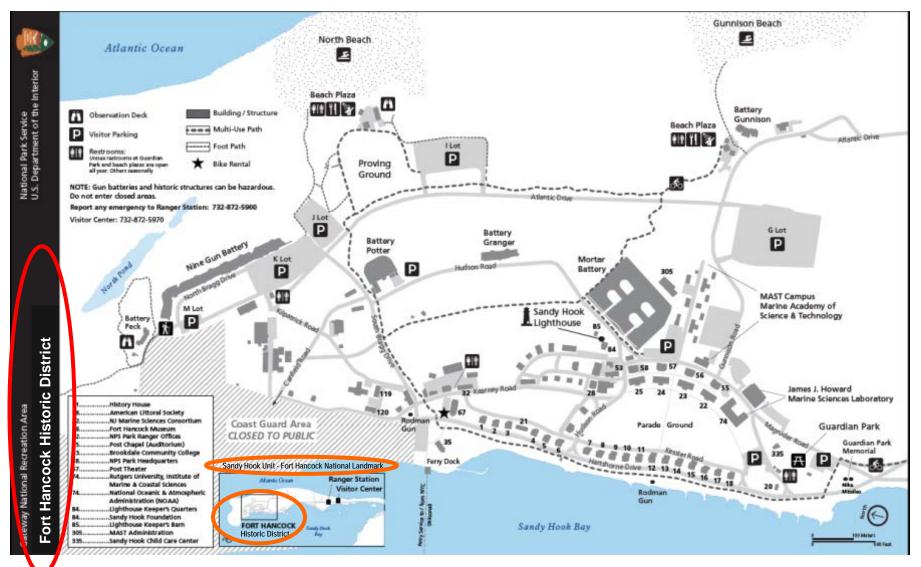
U.S. Department of the Interior Battery Kingman Battery Mills O P Fishing Beach Nike Missile Holly Forest Ranger Station 🕡 🚺 Beach Area E Sandy Hook **Visitor Center** @ C !!! Beach Area D Beach Area C Transportation Payed Road Dirt Road Designated Fishing Area storic Military Site Beach Area B Parking by Permit Trails and Paths Other Agency Parking GATE Legislative Boundary -Walking Noute Visitor Amenitie Picnic Area 🔝 Restrooms

National Park Service

Produced By: Natalyo Apostolos

Example Fort Hancock Map Update

Fort Hancock Historic District



The Current NPS Site Map from the General Management Plan can be located on the FH21C Committee Website at: http://forthancock21stcentury.org/yahoo site admin/assets/docs/Fort Hancock Tear Off Map.260105636.pdf

Historic Context Working Group

Recommendations

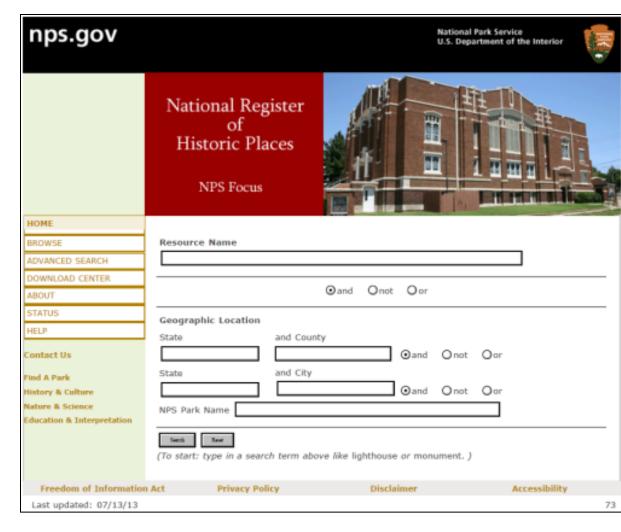
- 5. The NPS should identify the significance of the Historic Landmark status when building and presenting President's Budget justification material for congress for one time capital investment in restoration of historic structures within the Committee's purview.
- 5. NPS should reinstate an appropriate museum within the Fort Hancock Historic District (FHHD) that supports the original intent of the enabling legislation (interpretation of Sandy Hook's history) and the intent of the former Army/NPS facility on main post Fort Hancock (i.e., FHHD). This will provide:
 - A resource to <u>Partners</u> that are re-using selected main post buildings
 - A physically accessible source of information for <u>Partners</u> and the <u>Public</u> that is greater than "sign post level" detail related to the history of the greater Fort Hancock (the Historic District and Landmark) and other key facets of the Sandy Hook peninsula.
 - Provides the ability for the <u>Partners</u> and the <u>Public</u> to see rare historic artifacts and documents directly related to the history of the Sandy Hook peninsula within the Fort Hancock/Sandy Hook boundaries
 - Provisioning of a small gift shop within the Museum, similar to the previous museum gift shop run by Eastern National, will further support <u>partners</u>, the <u>public</u> and historic <u>interpretation</u>.

National Register of Historic Places Designations

- Sandy Hook contains several National Historic Designations:
 - The Fort Hancock U.S. Life Saving Station Historic <u>DISTRICT</u>.
 - The Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook Proving Ground Historic <u>DISTRICT</u>
 - The Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook Proving Ground Historic <u>LANDMARK</u>
- The most significant and encompassing designation is the <u>LANDMARK</u>.
- The <u>LANDMARK</u> designation applies to the entire Sandy Hook peninsula.
- Each of these designations can be found on NPS websites .
 - Detailed information is found on the NPS National Register of Historic Places pages
 - These documents are over 50 pages each, well researched and foot noted.
 - These documents were the primary justifications for the Secretary of the Interior to confer National Landmark status to Fort Hancock and the whole of Sandy Hook.

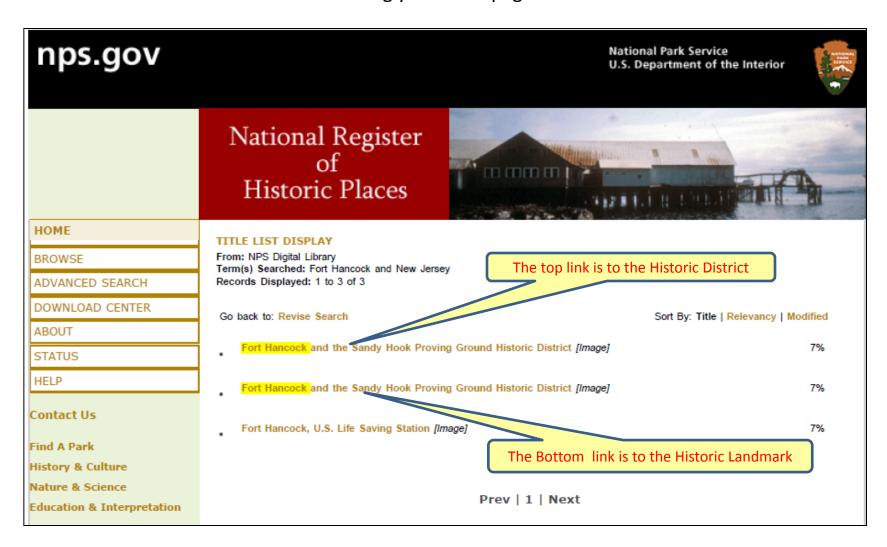
Finding National Historic Districts and Landmarks

- The National Register of Historic Places is on-line and contains key information on each approved nomination to the register.
- To find a nomination and additional detailed information on Historic Districts and Historic Landmark sites, the webpage at the right must be accessed.
- There are two different NPS search pages related to historic sites.
- The one at right will retrieve key National Register documentation.
- The other NPS search webpage will reveal status reports and summation pages only.
- There are over 88,000 sites, buildings and districts listed on the Register.
- Only ~2,500 landmarks are listed.



Finding National Historic Districts and Landmarks

The results of a search for Fort Hancock will bring you to the page below:



What is a Historic District?

• The basic definition of a Historic District is:

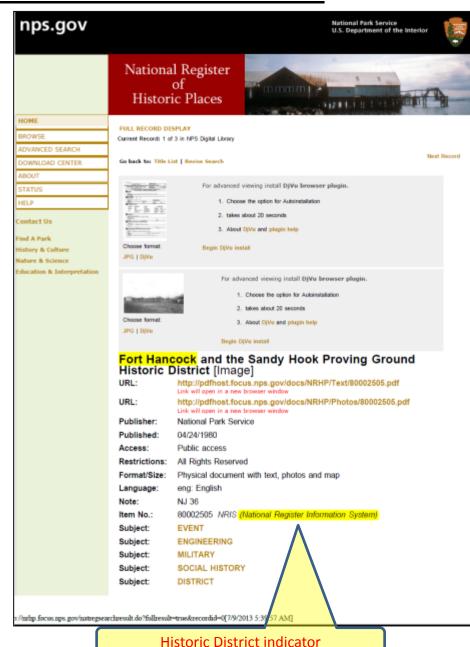
A district possesses a significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, structures, or objects united historically or aesthetically by plan or physical development

The NPS further states:

A district derives its importance from being a unified entity, even though it is often composed of a wide variety of resources. The identity of a district results from the interrelationship of its resources, which can convey a visual sense of the overall historic environment or be an arrangement of historically or functionally related properties. For example, a district can reflect one principal activity, such as a mill or a ranch, or it can encompass several interrelated activities, such as an area that includes industrial, residential, or commercial buildings, sites, structures, or objects. A district can also be a grouping of archeological sites related primarily by their common components; these types of districts often will not visually represent a specific historic environment.

National Historic District Documentation

- The webpage to access the Historic District nomination information is at the right.
- Two URLs are located on this page as well as additional nomination information.
- One URL provides the Historic District nomination package (detailed description of the site).
- The other URL provides photographs of the Historic District buildings.
- This page is only accessed as the result of a search. The link to the page changes each time a search from the search page is performed.
- It is very easy to miss the differences in these two pages.



National Historic District Documentation

- When the top URL is opened, a PDF document package of the Historic District Nomination is opened.
- The top of the first page of the Historic District document is pasted below.
- The Historic District appears to have been approved on 24 April 1980 and posted to the Register.

form No. 10-306 (Rev. 10-74)					
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	FOR NPS USE ONLY				
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACE INVENTORY NOMINATION FORM	CES RECEIVED OCT 1 0 1979 APR 2 4 1980				
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES					
	SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS TYPE ALL ENTRIES COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS				
HISTORIC Fort Hancock and the Sandy Hook Proving AND/OR COMMON	Ground Historic District				
Fort Hancock					
2 LOCATION NJ 36 STREET & NUMBER					
Sandy Hook, State Route 36	NOT FOR PUBLICATION				
armi marris	£, CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT				
CITY. TOWN y , y/ , and weemi					
Highlands fart Hancack and weinity of	COUNTY CODE				

Key Points in National Historic District Nomination

The overarching language of the Historic District Nomination follows:

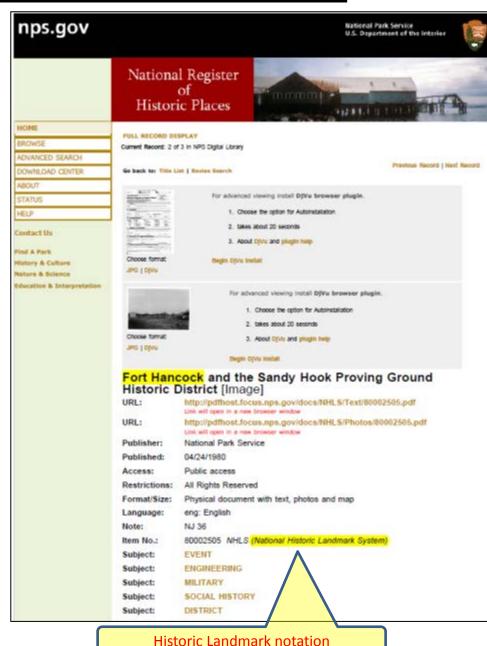
Fort Hancock and the Proving Ground Historic District, located at Sandy Hook, New Jersey, is part of the Sandy Hook Unit of Gateway National Recreation Area. A section (97.1 acres) at the north-western part of the Hook, which is under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Coast Guard, is historically part of the Fort Hancock and Proving Ground Area, but is not part of the Historic District. The District extends from the entrance of Fort Hancock (see enclosed USGS map and Site Plan of Fort Hancock) to the boundary line between the Coast Guard and the District, making a total of approximately 380 acres. It contains 90 significant historic buildings and 13 Batteries dating from the last quarter of the 19th through the first half of the 20th centuries. These structures reflect the history of the U.S. Army's Ordnance Department Proving Ground and Fort Hancock Military Reservation, a vital defense installation for New York City from the Civil War period through the 1950's and 60's Cold War.

There are eight significant sites (79 acres) south of Fort Hancock, which are located outside the contiguous boundary of the District: Nike Radars; Nike Silos; Battery Kingman, Battery Mills, Battery Arrowsmith; Radar Equipment Site; and TNT Igloos and the Water Treatment and Pumping Plant Station Complex.

- The nomination separates a portion called the "Fort Hancock Historic District" from the overarching Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook. The contiguous portion of the district is essentially the Main Post area. Many facilities and fortifications outside of the contiguous section are also part of the district. The District excludes the US Coast Guard Station and the majority of the acreage of the entire Fort Hancock area.
- A Historic District is focused on buildings and structures which is a subset of the entire location which is the "installation" known as Fort Hancock.

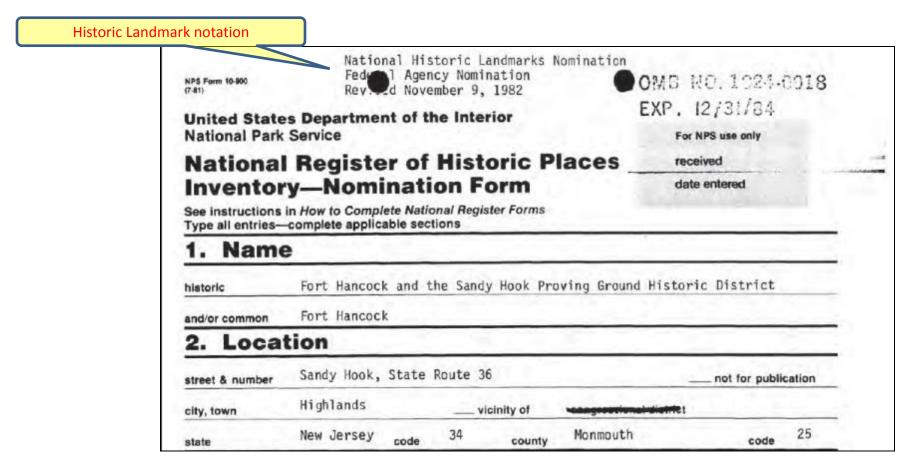
National Historic Landmark Documentation

- The webpage to access the Historic Landmark nomination information is at the right.
- Two URLs are located on this page as well as additional nomination information.
- One URL provides the Historic Landmark nomination package (detailed description of the site).
- The other URL provides photographs of the Historic District buildings.
- There are two differences to this page form the Historic District page.
- One is the top URL accesses the Historic Landmark nomination
- The other is the notation that indicates this is the Historic Landmark system information
- This page is only accessed as the result of a search. The link to the page changes each time a search from the search page is performed.



National Historic Landmark Documentation

- When the top URL is opened, a PDF document package of the Historic LANDMARK Nomination is produced.
- The two forms look very similar, and one must be very careful to see the differences between the District and Landmark nomination forms.



Key Points in National Historic Landmark Nomination

The Historic Landmark Nomination as submitted in 1982 follows:

Fort Hancock and the Proving Ground Historic District, at Sandy Hook, New Jersey, is part of the Sandy Hook Unit of Gateway National Recreation Area. A section (97.1 acres) at the north-western part of the Hook, which is under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Coast Guard, is historically part of the Fort Hancock and Proving Ground Area, and is part of the Historic District. The District includes the entire area of Sandy Hook including all National Park Service, United States Coast Guard, United States Army and State of New Jersey Property. It contains approximately 110 significant historic buildings and 16 Batteries dating from the last quarter of the 19th through the first half of the 20th centuries. These structures reflect the history of the U.S. Army's Ordnance Department Proving Ground and Fort Hancock Military Reservation, a vital defense installation guarding New York City from 1895 through the 1950s and 60s Cold War era until 1974.

- This document states all of Sandy Hook, to include the US Coast Guard Station, Army Reserve (which operated some historic facilities at Fort Hancock into the 1990s), State of New Jersey and other tenant organizations constituted the entire Landmark.
- The Landmark name is "FORT HANCOCK AND SANDY HOOK PROVING GROUND HISTORIC DISTRICT" and the date of addition to the register as a historic landmark is 17 Dec 1982.
- NPS list of New Jersey National Landmarks: http://www.nps.gov/nhl/designations/Lists/NJ01.pdf



This material can be located on the NPS Website at: http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/www.nps.gov/history/nhl/www.nps.gov/history/nhl/whatis.htm and the brochure can be found at http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/whatis.htm and the brochure can be found at http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/whatis.htm and the brochure can be found at http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/whatis.htm and the brochure can be found at http://www.nps.gov/history/nhl/publications/Brochure.pdf

Key Findings (1 of 5)

- Sandy Hook has served military purposes beginning in the late 1600s.
- Government and Military ownership prevented development of the Sandy Hook peninsula beyond that required for effective defensive fortifications (gun and missile batteries), support facilities and the Sandy Hook Proving Ground.
- The buildings that the FH21 Century Committee are charged with developing recommendations for viable reuse and preservation were all built and operated during the time when the Military Reservation was an active Army installation named "Fort Hancock".
- The naming of the Sandy Hook Military Reservation as "Fort Hancock" in 1895 coincides with the start of construction of these buildings.
- Fort Hancock and Proving Ground Historic District is listed as a National Historic Landmark.
 - This is the <u>second highest level</u> of <u>historic designation</u> in the United States of America.
 - The highest level is <u>National Monument</u> there are 108 designated.
 - Fort Hancock and Proving Ground Historic District is the <u>only</u> Landmark in Gateway.

Key Findings (2 of 5)

- The public is generally unaware of the two historic designations, their significance, and that Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook are essentially the same geographic location within the designation "National Historic Landmark".
- NPS is charged directly in GNRA enabling legislation to inventory and evaluate all sites with potential historic and cultural significance and develop programs for restoration and interpretation.
- The Historic Landmark designation makes Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook at large the most significant historic property in Gateway. By the standards of the Historic Preservation Act, the preservation and interpretation of the Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook Proving Ground Landmark (all of Sandy Hook Unit) should be the top NPS preservation priority within Gateway.
- National Historic Landmarks are nationally significant historic places designated by the Secretary of the Interior because they possess exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the heritage of the United States. Federal projects that affect <u>National Historic</u> <u>Landmarks are held to a higher standard of review to ensure that the significance of the</u> <u>resource is protected</u>. *

^{*} Source: Daniel Saunders, Administrator & Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer New Jersey Historic Preservation Office

Key Findings (3 of 5)

- The administrative legislation requires NPS to specifically name the "World War Veterans Park at Miller Field".
 - An NPS naming citation <u>World War Veterans Park at Miller Field</u> is found on the Entrance Sign and at http://www.nps.gov/gate/planyourvisit/thingstodostatenisland.htm



- A congressional attempt to rename Great Kills as "World War II Veterans Memorial Park at Great Kills" was unsuccessful due to the lack of a military connection to the specific location. http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CRPT-106srpt212/html/CRPT-106srpt212.htm
- The Army formed a museum in 1968 and the NPS maintained that museum until approximately 2008. The NPS currently does not appear to have plans to reopen the museum at Fort Hancock and its building is now available for re-use.

NPS GNP map of Sandy Hook - Key Findings (4 of 5)



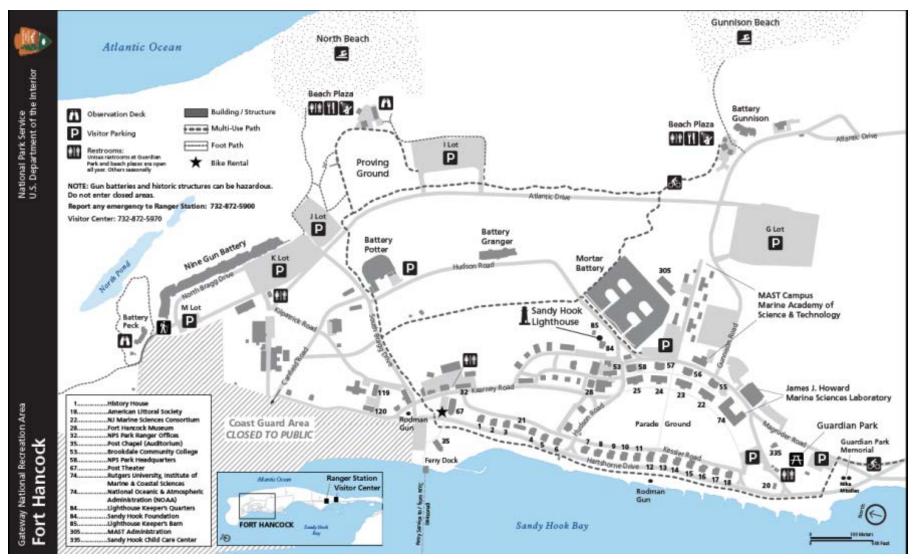
The NPS Site Map from the General Management Plan can be located on the FH21C Committee Website at:

http://forthancock21stcentury.org/yahoo site admin/assets/docs/Sandy Hook.260110627.pdf

U.S. Department of the Interior Battery Kingman Battery P Fishing Beach Mills O Nike Missile Holly Launch Site Forest Ranger Station 🕡 🖪 Beach Area E Sandy Hook **Visitor Center** @ C !!! Beach Area D Beach Area C 4 Transportation Payed Road Dirt Road Designated Fishing Area storic Military Site Beach Area B Parking by Permit Trails and Paths Other Agency Parking GATE Legislative Boundary -Walking Noute Visitor Amenitie Picnic Area 🔝 Restrooms No Fee Visitor Farking Produced By: Natalyo Apostolos

National Park Service

NPS public map of "Fort Hancock" - Key Findings (5 of 5)



Key Tenents of Recommendations

- 1. Aligned with the Historic District and Historic Landmark status
- 2. Effectively provide a vehicle to educate the public about these important designations.
- 3. Strongly supported by historic documentation
- 4. Within the framework of authority granted to NPS under its enabling legislation
- 5. Support the intent of preserving the significant buildings and features that are the charge of the Fort Hancock 21st Century Federal Advisory Committee
- 6. Are low/no cost over time (digital publishing is a huge cost savings over traditional paper)
- 7. Can be implemented over time as opposed to all at once (i.e., sign replacement)
- 8. Provide resources and understanding to the public and prospective partners of the overall relationship of Sandy Hook and Fort Hancock to the Nation's defense needs over more than two centuries
- 9. Include the historic <u>Sandy Hook</u> name within any overarching recommendation so as not to disorient the public at large and to maintain the clear relationship of the Historic Landmark and the Sandy Hook name.

Historic Context Analysis

Backup Material

Next Steps

- Continue to gather important historic documents to better frame the linkage and history of the entire Sandy Hook Peninsula.
- Explore options to garner an awareness of the public's general knowledge of Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook and their historic and cultural relationship.
- Update the Committee on relevant findings at the 2 August FH21C meeting.
- The Working Group will develop and present options to the full Committee not later than October that:
 - Frame the historic Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook relationship using source documents.
 - Outline capabilities and restraints as they impact the development of recommendations.
 - Provide recommendation(s) to the full committee that support the primary reason for the reuse of the main post cantonment area – that these are all historic buildings IAW the provisions of the Historic Preservation Act.

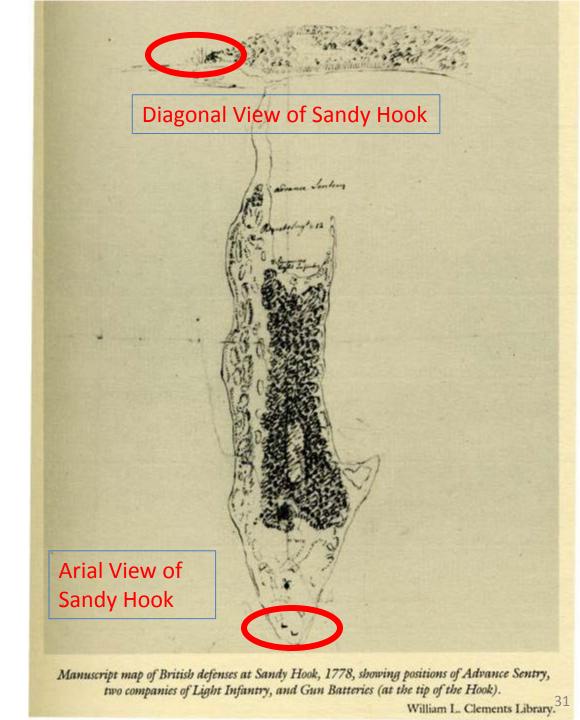
Early History (1 of 3)

- On 10 Dec 1680, Richard Hartshorne purchases all rights to "Sandy Hook" from the local Indian leaders for 13 Shillings.
- Establishment of defenses were requested in 1689 during the French and Indian Wars.
- Concerns for defenses were again expressed in 1693 and in 1711 the NY General Assembly proposed beacons to warn of enemy approach.
- The "high Lands of Never Sincks" beacon was activated in 1711 and again in 1746.
- On 16 May 1762, Robert and Esik Hartshorne transferred 4 acres of land to build the Sandy Hook Light House. This light house and eleven others were ceded to the Federal Government on 7 August 1789. This lighthouse became "The Sandy Hook Lighthouse".
- The British Army garrisoned Sandy Hook in 1778 with light infantry and gun batteries.

Early History (2 of 3)

- The British Army garrisoned Sandy Hook in 1778 with light infantry and gun batteries.
- Gun Batteries are circled in red at north end of Sandy Hook.
- Map has two views, one is a diagonal from above, the other is a plan view from directly above (traditional orientation).

This material is extracted from "<u>Another Look: At Nauvoo to the Hook</u>" by George H. Moss Jr., published 1990 by Ploughshare Press, Sea Bright, New Jersey. Citations are from page 31.



Early History (3 of 3)

- Four major land acquisitions established Sandy Hook as federal property:
 - 7 August 1789 approximately 4 acres for the lighthouse were ceded to the federal government (NJ ceded interest in 1790).
 - 1 March 1804 NJ ceded jurisdiction of northern Sandy Hook. The Federal government then acquired the property by deed from Richard Hartshorne on 26 Feb 1806.
 - 17 June 1817 NJ releases to and gives full ownership of the "...land hereinafter described and conveyed (as Sandy Hook)..." to Richard Hartshorne.
 - 17 June 1817, Richard Hartshorne and his wife deeded the remaining Sandy Hook property to the Federal Government. The boundary of this transfer was confirmed on 12 March 1846 by NJ state legislation, and all remaining property was ceded to the Federal Government by New Jersey at this time.
- In 1838 the Superintendent of Lighthouses wrote "I believe the woodland near Sandy Hook belongs to the War Department. I can give no permission for the keeper of Neversink to take posts from it for his fence."

First Fortifications and a Proving Ground

- 19 June 1817 President James Monroe visited Sandy Hook and examined it for potential fortifications improvements as a result of the War of 1812.
- First plans for a large granite fortification at Sandy Hook were drafted in 1847, with construction beginning in 1859. East section was complete on 27 Feb 1861 when work was suspended.
- 7 May 1866, Secretary of War approved further plans to continue construction of the granite fort structure. The fort was referred to as "The Fort at Sandy Hook" on Corps of Engineers maps and stationary. The fort was never completed.
- The Sandy Hook Proving Ground was formally established by General Order on 7 August 1874. The proving ground continued in operation until 1920 when operations shifted to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.
- Though operated separately under different statutory authorities, the Sandy Hook Proving Ground was a tenant of the greater Fort Hancock, sharing facilities and infrastructure while both pursued separate missions one an "operating force" mission for Defense of New York Harbor and the other a "generating force" mission for Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E).

Army General Orders

- Army orders provide documentation of the naming of Sandy Hook/Fort Hancock.
- General Order #57, 30 Oct 1895:

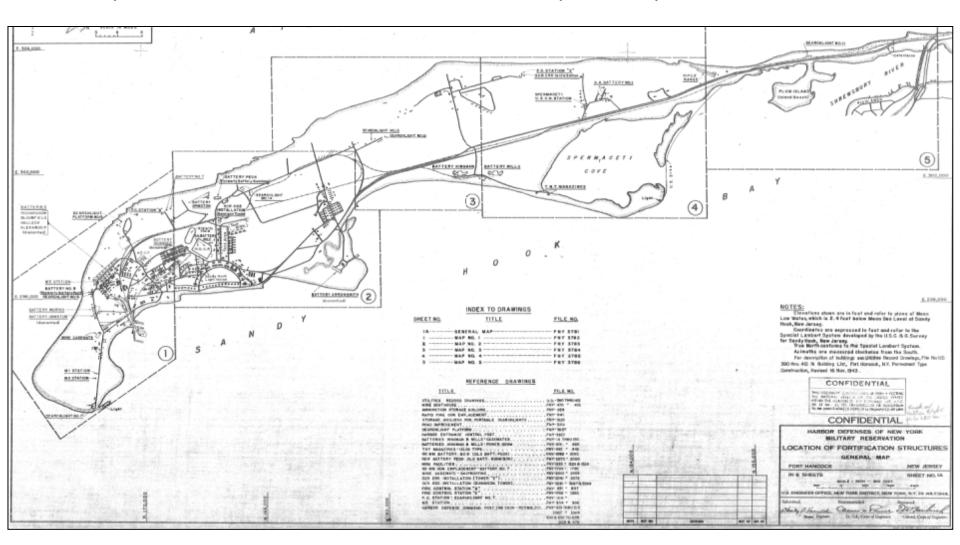
WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington, October 30, 1895. By direction of the President, the fortifications at Sandy Hook, New York Harbor, will hereafter be known and designated as Fort Hancock, in honor of the late Major-General Winfield Scott Hancock, United States Army.

General Order #50, dated 27 November 1922.

- i. The Coast Defenses of Sandy Hook.
 (1) Fort Hancock, N. J. (Head- (2) Fort Tilden, N. Y. quarters).
- These two orders establish that the Harbor Defense Fortifications at Sandy Hook be known and designated as "Fort Hancock". The 1922 broadens the definition of Sandy Hook by defining the Coast Defenses of Sandy Hook to include both Fort Hancock and Fort Tilden.

Information from 1944 Harbor Defense of NY Project Plans

The map below shows Fort Hancock overall as seen by the Army in 1944.



Information from 1944 Harbor Defense of NY Project Plans

 The extract below from sheet 20 and 21 of the 1944 NY Harbor Defense (HD) Projects show that Fort Hancock, NJ had 1,676 acres, was acquired by the Army in 1806 as a US Military Reservation.

8	Fort Hancock, New Jersey.	1676	1806	U.S. Military Reservation	2-B-3
	non ourcey.			Ifeper Agerou	

 Fort Hancock, as can be seen below, was acquired by the Army before Fort Wadsworth and Fort Hamilton. It was the oldest installation in the HD of NY.

10	Ft. Wadsworth	226	1847	U.S. Military Reservation	8-B-10
11	Ft. Hamilton Fort Hamilton	189.68	1814 my Installation.	U.S. Military Reservation	8-B-11

 The number on the far right of each document "snapshot" is the order number of installations in the Harbor Defenses (HD) of NY.

Information from 1944 Harbor Defense of NY Project Plans

- There were 27 separate tracts of real property that made up the Harbor Defenses of New York.
- Of interest and included as portions of GNRA are the following tracts of real property within the 1944 defined Harbor Defenses of New York:

9	Miller Field, New York.	213.65	1919	U.S. Mili- tary Reser vation	
9.A	Swinburne Island	•561	7/6/43	Note 1	Btry Site &-B-9A
9B	Hoffman Island			Note 1	S.C. SLT 8-B-9B

14	Fort Tilden	309.9	1917	U.S. Military	8-B-14
				Reservation	

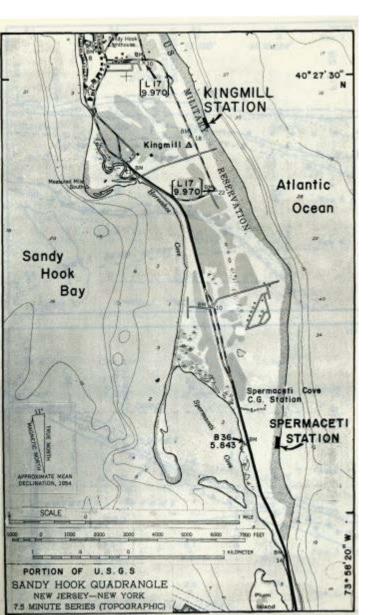
Public and For Profit Use from 1800's into the early 20th Century

- The Federal Government and specifically the War Department actively prevented public and private use of the Sandy Hook Peninsula from its purchase into the 1960s.
- Requests for a "Dock and Ferry House" in 1850, a Ferry Service in 1859 and a soldier's home in 1875 were all denied by the War Department.
- In 1879 the Secretary of War approved removal of sand, but the Sandy Hook commander disapproved the request.
- In 1879 Mr. George O. Glavis requested to build an aquarium and the Ordnance Department denied the request.
- In 1853 the New York and Sandy Hook Telegraph Company was granted a concession.
- In 1858, American Telegraph Company acquired NYSHT Company, which was then acquired by Western Union, continuing operations into the late 1800's.
- The initial request for a railroad right of way was submitted in April 1856.
 - Permission was granted by President Lincoln in March 1864 "to make and use a railroad track" on government property at Sandy Hook.
 - The Army took over the railroad in the 1890s and all public use was prohibited.

State Parks, National Parks, and an Army Museum

- State Park requests began in 1928 and a formal appeal was submitted to the War Department in 1934. The request was denied based upon defense needs.
- 8 January 1962 the State of New Jersey through an agreement with the Department of the Army obtained formal control of 460 acres to make "Sandy Hook State Park" at the entrance to the peninsula.
- 15 January 1969, Department of the Interior announced the Secretary "endorsed.... legislation establishing a national seashore for the Sandy Hook area..."
- On 24 May 1968 an official Army Museum opened in the Guard House at Fort Hancock that was dedicated to "The Preservation of the History of the Sandy Hook Peninsula"
 - The museum and most of its contents were given to the Department of the Interior when Fort Hancock was closed as an active military installation in 1976.
 - Under NPS control, the museum contained a small gift shop operated by Eastern
 National, where reproduction historic insignia, gifts and books could be purchased.

USGS and Columbia University Maps from the early 1960s



- The overall reference on both maps is "Sandy Hook" and "Military Reservation" for the entire Peninsula.
- The main cantonment area (FHHD) shows the naming "Fort Hancock" on the map at right.

Map on Right is from Technical Report No. 3, Department of Geology, Columbia University, 1962 as sponsored by the Office of Naval Research Geography Branch (US Navy). This is a USGS base map adjusted to show tidal stations.

Map on left is from Technical Report No. 4, Department of Geology, Columbia University, 1964 as sponsored by the Office of Naval Research Geography Branch (US Navy).



End of major military presence at Fort Hancock

- The 16th Air Defense Artillery Group of the Army Air Defense Command (ARADCOM) was deactivated at Fort Hancock on 15 August 1974.
- The Army formally closed Fort Hancock on 31 December 1974.
- The National Park Service officially opened at Fort Hancock on 1 January 1975 as the "Sandy Hook Unit of the Gateway National Recreation Area".
- The last Army Reserve units, which occupied buildings 24, 25, and the mess hall buildings number 55, 56 and 57, left Fort Hancock in 1981-82.
 http://archive.org/stream/historicstructur00krol/historicstructur00krol/divu.txt
- An Army Reserve History of the 1st Brigade,78th Division (exercise) cites a departure date of 11 November 1983.

http://books.google.com/books?id=tGAarOMP5VMC&pg=PA437&lpg=PA437&dq=army+reserve+at+fort+hancock+new+jersey&source=bl&ots=XD0WsrJrVM&sig=ToQcqU6xR9Rft3hKvduRh 0dsxg&hl=en&sa=X&ei=lYzZUdr-N8XF4APiu4AY&ved=0ClUBEOgBMAs#v=onepage&q=army%20reserve%20at%20fort%20hancock%20new%20jersey&f=false

Army Budget Documents from 1990s

- 1990's construction documents presented as part of the President's Budget to Congress for funding specific remediation, demolition and safety construction work as proposed under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) at multiple locations throughout what the Army referred to as Fort Hancock at Sandy Hook.
- This document excerpt shows the naming convention of Fort Hancock, Sandy Hook, NJ.

1.	COMPONENTS ARMY	FY 1991	MILITARY	CONSTRUCTIO	N PROJEC	T DATA	2. DATE 16 Sept.	1991
3.	INSTALLATION AND LOCATION Fort Hancock, Sandy Hook N.J.			4	4. PROJECT TITLE DERP-FUDS			
5.	PROGRAM ELEM	ENT 6.	CATEGORY CODE BD/DR	7. PROJECT	I	•	OJECT COST	(\$000)

A similar document can be found in the backup charts of this briefing.

Chief of Military History, US Army

Letter from the Chief of Military History that outlines the historic naming convention and provides recommendation to the Committee and NPS to add the name "Fort Hancock" back into the overall name of Sandy Hook.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

THE U.S. ARMY CENTER OF MILITARY HISTORY 102 4TH AVENUE FORT LESLEY J. McNAIR, DC 20319-5060

APR 1.0 2013

Chief of Military History

MEMORANDUM FOR Fort Hancock 21st Century Federal Advisory Committee and the Superintendent, Gateway National Recreation Area, ATTN: Linda Canzanelli, 210 New York Avenue, Staten Island, New York 10305

SUBJECT: Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook, New Jersey Naming Convention

- 1. The Sandy Hook Unit of Gateway National Recreational Area includes property and structures that are significant to the history of the United States Army. The entire unit while under Army control was officially designated "Fort Hancock". I encourage the Federal Advisory Committee to include a recommendation to the National Park Service to add Fort Hancock to the Sandy Hook unit's name, i.e., Fort Hancock-Sandy Hook. Given the changes brought on by Super-Storm Sandy, the timing for making this name change is most appropriate.
- 2. The U.S. Army had a presence within the current park's boundaries from the earliest days of the republic, and continuously from the Civil War through the late-Cold War. Extant structures provide evidence of the Army's role in defending the nation's seacoast with Third System and Endicott System fortifications and in protecting our airspace with anti-aircraft guns and Nike missiles. The installation was also a cradle for Army technological development as the location of the Ordnance Proving Ground from 1874 to 1919. Finally, the extant cultural resources of the main post cantonment provide a glimpse of life in a garrison community during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.
- 3. Reflecting the many connections between the Army's historical community and the National Park Service, including our mutual interest in preserving historical resources and educating the public about our nation's past, I request your favorable consideration to recommend to the National Park Service to use the actual Army name for the installation, "Fort Hancock", in the naming of the Sandy Hook unit.

ROBERT J. DALESSANDRO Chief of Military History

Enabling Legislation for GNRA – Establishment

 The following documentation from the Establishment portion of GNRA legislation identifies the units of GNRA.

(a) Composition and boundaries

The recreation area shall comprise the following lands, waters, marshes, and submerged lands in the New York Harbor area generally depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, Gateway National Recreation Area," numbered 951–40017 sheets 1 through 3 and dated May, 1972:

- (1) Jamaica Bay Unit—including all islands, marshes, hassocks, submerged lands, and waters in Jamaica Bay, Floyd Bennett Field, the lands generally located between highway route 27A and Jamaica Bay, and the area of Jamaica Bay up to the shoreline of John F. Kennedy International Airport;
- (2) Breezy Point Unit—the entire area between the eastern boundary of Jacob Riis Park and the westernmost point of the peninsula;
- (3) Sandy Hook Unit—the entire area between Highway 36 Bridge and the northernmost point of the peninsula;
- (4) Staten Island Unit—including Great Kills Park, World War Veterans Park at Miller Field (except for approximately 26 acres which are to be made available for public school purposes), Fort Wadsworth, and the waterfront lands located between the streets designated as Cedar Grove Avenue, Seaside Boulevard, and Drury Avenue and the bay from Great Kills to Fort Wadsworth;
- (5) Hoffman and Swinburne Islands; and
- (6) All submerged lands, islands, and waters within one-fourth of a mile of the mean low water line of any waterfront area included above.

Enabling Legislation - Establishment

• The boundaries are specified in legislation, and the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to make minor adjustments and then publish them in the Federal Register.

(b) Boundary revisions: notification of Congressional committees; publication in Federal Register

The map referred to in this section shall be on file and available for public inspection in the offices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, District of Columbia. After advising the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate in writing, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") is authorized to make minor revisions of the boundaries of the recreation area when necessary by publication of a revised drawing or other boundary description in the Federal Register.

Enabling Legislation - Administration

- The legislation requires the specific naming of Miller Field for all maps, records, documents, etc.
 - (2) The portion of the Staten Island Unit of the recreation area known as Miller Field is hereby designated as "World War Veterans Park at Miller Field". Any reference to such Miller Field in any law, regulation, map, document, record, or other paper of the United States shall be considered to be a reference to "World War Veterans Park at Miller Field".
- This appears to be the only tract of land with a naming convention specified in statute.
- Additionally, the principle visitor's center (a building) for GNRA is required to be named the

"William Fitts Ryan Visitor's Center".

(b) William Fitts Ryan Visitor Center; designation

(1) The Secretary shall designate the principal visitor center within the recreation area as the "William Fitts Ryan Visitor Center" in commemoration of the leadership and contributions which Representative William Fitts Ryan made with respect to the creation and establishment of this public recreation area. To inform the public of the contributions of Representative Ryan to the creation of the recreation area, the Secretary shall provide such signs, markers, maps, interpretive materials, literature, and programs as he deems appropriate. Not later than December 31, 1980, the Secretary shall take such additional actions as he deems appropriate to recognize and commemorate the contributions of Representative Ryan to the recreation area.

Enabling Legislation - Administration

- The requirement to preserve the buildings for future generations is part of the overall Historic District designation under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, As amended through 2006 (NHPA).
- In addition to the requirements of the NHPA, the enabling legislation for GNRA states the following:

(g) Sandy Hook and Staten Island Units; programs for preservation, restoration, interpretation, and utilization of sites and structures

In the Sandy Hook and Staten Island Units, the Secretary shall inventory and evaluate all sites and structures having present and potential historical, cultural, or architectural significance and shall provide for appropriate programs for the preservation, restoration, interpretation, and utilization of them.

General Order #57, 30 Oct 1895

GENERAL ORDERS,) HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

No. 57.

Washington, October 30, 1895.

The following orders have been received from the War Department:

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington, October 30, 1895. By direction of the President, the fortifications at Sandy Hook, New York Harbor, will hereafter be known and designated as Fort Hancock, in honor of the late Major-General Winfield Scott Hancock, United States Army.

> DANIEL S. LAMONT, Secretary of War.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL MILES:

GEO. D. RUGGLES, Adjutant General.

General Order #50, dated 27 November 1922 (1 of 3)

[G. O. 50.] GENERAL ORDERS. WAR DEPARTMENT. No. 50. Washington, November 27, 1922. Coast defenses, limits defined and headquarters designated .-1. Section II, General Orders, No. 62, War Department, 1908; Section I, General Orders, No. 74, War Department, 1909; Section I, General Orders, No. 176, War Department, 1910; Section II, General Orders, No. 93, War Department, 1911; Section I, General Orders, No. 38, War Department, 1912; paragraph 39, Special Orders, No. 293, War Department, 1912; paragraph 31, Special Orders, No. 76, War Department, 1913; paragraph 22, Special Orders, No. 172, War Department, 1913; paragraph 1, Special Orders, No. 8, War Department, 1914: paragraph 5, Special Orders, No. 230, War Department, 1914; paragraph 2, Special Orders, No. 164, War Department, 1915; paragraph 21, Special Orders, No. 50, War Department, 1916; paragraph 1, Special Orders, No. 267, War Department, 1916; paragraph 144, Special Orders, No. 205, War Department, 1917; paragraph 13, Special Orders, No. 150, War Department, 1918; Section III, General Orders, No. 73, War Department, 1920; and all other orders or instructions in conflict with paragraphs 2 and 3 hereof are rescinded. 2. Under the provisions of paragraph 2, AR 90-40, the limits of the several coast defenses are defined and the headquarters thereof designated as follows: a. The Coast Defenses of Portland. (1) Fort Williams, Me. (4) Fort McKinley, Me. (2) Fort Preble, Me. (Head- (5) Fort Levett, Me. quarters). (6) Fort Lyon, Me, (3) Fort Baldwin, Me. b. The Coast Defenses of Portsmouth. (1) Fort Constitution, N. H. (2) Fort Foster, Me. (Headquarters). (3) Fort Stark, N. H. c. The Coast Defenses of Boston. (1) Fort Banks, Mass. (Head- (5) Fort Warren, Mass. quarters). (6) Fort Standish, Mass. (2) Fort Heath, Mass. (7) Fort Andrews, Mass. (3) Fort Strong, Mass, (8) Fort Ruckman, Mass. (4) Fort Duvall, Mass. (9) Fort Revere, Mass. 21843*--23

General Order #50, dated 27 November 1922 (2 of 3)

[6, 0, 50.] d. The Coast Defenses of New Bedford, (1) Fort Rodman, Mass. (Headquarters). e. The Coast Defenses of Narragansett Bay. (1) Fort Adams, R. I. (Head- (3) Fort Getty, R. I. quarters). (4) Fort Greble, R. I. (2) Fort Wetherill, R. I. (5) Fort Philip Kearny, R. I. f. The Coast Defenses of Long Island Sound. (1) Fort H. G. Wright, N. Y. (3) Fort Michie, N. Y. (Headquarters). (4) Fort Mansfield, R. I. (2) Fort Terry, N. Y. g. The Coast Defenses of eastern New York, (1) Fort Totten, N. Y. (Head- (2) Fort Schuyler, N. Y. quarters). h. The Coast Defenses of southern New York. (1) Fort Hamilton, N. Y. (2) Fort Wadsworth, N. Y. (Headquarters). i. The Coast Defenses of Sandy Hook, (1) Fort Hancock, N. J. (Head- (2) Fort Tilden, N. Y. quarters). i. The Coast Defenses of the Delaware. (1) Fort Du Pont, Del. (Head- (3) Fort Delaware, Del. quarters). (4) Fort Saulsbury, Del. (2) Fort Mott. N. J. k. The Coast Defenses of Baltimore. (1) Fort Howard, Md. (Head- (2) Fort Smallwood, Md. quarters). 1. The Coast Defenses of the Potomac. (1) Fort Washington, Md. (2) Fort Hunt, Va. (Headquarters). m. The Coast Defenses of Chesapeake Bay. (1) Fort Monroe, Va. (Head- (2) Fort Wool, Va. quarters). (3) Fort Story, Va.

[G. O. 50.]

n. The Coast Defenses of the Cape Fear.

(1) Fort Caswell, N. C. (Headquarters).

o. The Coast Defenses of Charleston,

(1) Fort Moultrie, S. C. (2) Fort Sumter, S. C. (Headquarters).

p. The Coast Defenses of Savannah.

(1) Fort Screven, Ga. (Head- (2) Fort Fremont, S. C. quarters).

q. The Coast Defenses of Key West,

(1) Key West Barracks, Fla. (2) Fort Taylor, Fla. (Headquarters).

r. The Coast Defenses of Pensacola.

(1) Fort Barrancas, Fla. (2) Fort Pickens, Fla. (Headquarters). (3) Fort McRee, Fla.

s. The Coast Defenses of Mobile.

(1) Fort Morgan, Ala. (Head- (2) Fort Gaines, Ala. quarters).

t. The Coast Defenses of Galveston,

(1) Fort Crockett, Tex. (Head- (2) Fort San Jacinto, Tex. quarters). (3) Fort Travis, Tex,

u. The Coast Defenses of San Diego.

(1) Fort Rosecrans, Calif. (2) Fort Pio Pico, Calif. (Headquarters). (3) San Diego Barracks, Calif.

v. The Coast Defenses of Los Angeles.

(1) Fort MacArthur, Calif. (Headquarters).

10. The Coast Defenses of San Francisco.

(1) Fort Miley, Calif. (2) Fort Baker, Calif.

(4) Fort Winfield Scott, Calif.

(3) Fort Barry, Calif.

(Headquarters). (5) Fort Funston, Calif.

w. The Coast Defenses of Puget Sound.

(1) Fort Worden, Wash, (4) Fort Casey, Wash, (Headquarters). (5) Fort Ward, Wash,

(2) Fort Flagler, Wash.

(6) Fort Townsend, Wash,

(3) Fort Whitman, Wash,

General Order #50, dated 27 November 1922 (3 of 3)

[G. O. 50.] y. The Coast Defenses of the Columbia. (1) Fort Stevens. Oreg. (3) Fort Canby, Wash, (Headquarters). (4) Grays Harbor, Wash. (2) Fort Columbia, Wash. (5) Willipa Bay, Wash. z. The Coast Defenses of Honolulu. (1) Fort Ruger, Hawaii. (3) Fort De Russy, Hawaii. (2) Fort Armstrong, Hawaii. aa. The Coast Defenses of Pearl Harbor, (1) Fort Kamehameha, Ha- (2) Fort Weaver, Hawaii. waii. ab. The Coast Defenses of Manila and Subic Bays. (1) Fort Mills, P. I. (4) Fort Frank, P. I. (2) Fort Drum, P. I. (5) Fort Wint, P. I. (3) Fort Hughes, P. I. ac. The Coast Defenses of Balboa, (1) Fort Amador, Canal Zone. (2) Fort Grant, Canal Zone. ad. The Coast Defenses of Cristobal. (1) Fort De Lesseps, Canal (3) Fort Sherman, Canal Zone. Zone. (2) Fort Randolph, Canal Zone. 3. The headquarters of each of the coast defenses in the Hawaiian, Philippine, and Panama Canal Departments will be designated by the commanding officer of the department concerned. Any change in the headquarters of one of these coast defenses will be reported by letter to The Adjutant General of the Army. [A. G. 323.53 (9-28-22).] BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR: JOHN J. PERSHING. General of the Armies. Chief of Staff. The Adjutant General. WASHINGTON : GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1922

Fiscal Year 1991

<u>Army Budget Document for</u> Fort Hancock Remediation

This document serves an example of the Army's continued use of the location naming convention of Fort Hancock for work performed across the Sandy Hook peninsula as presented for funding to Congress with the 1991 President's Budget justification documents.

Notice the naming convention of "Fort Hancock, Sandy Hook, NJ" in the installation and location block of the form.

1. COMPONENTS					m D3.03	2. DA	TE
ARMY FY 19	91 MILITARY	CONSTRUCT	T				ерс. 1991
3. INSTALLATION AND LA	4. PROJECT TITLE						
Fort Hancock, Sandy Hook N.J.			DERP-FUDS				
5. PROGRAM ELEMENT	5. PROGRAM ELEMENT 6. CATEGORY 7. PROJ			ECT NUMBER 8. PROJECT COST (\$000			
	CODE CON/HTW CO2		003205		713		
	9. CO	ST ESTIMA	TES				
ITEM			U/M	QUAI	YTITY	UNIT COST	COST (\$000)
CONSTRUCTION COST CONTINGENCIES (10%) CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT COST SUPERVISION & ADMINISTRATION (8%)							553 55 608 49
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION CWE							657
DESIGN (6%)							40
FEASIBILITY COST							16.
					2		
SITE INVESTIGATION/DATA GATHERING REAL ESTATE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/LOCAL COOPERATION CULTURAL RESTORATION INVESTIGATION LABORATORY SUPPORT ENVIRONMENTAL/REGULATORY COMPLIANCES HEALTH, SAFETY & QA/QC PLAN PROJECT MANAGEMENT					5 1 2 6		
TOTAL IMPLEMENTATION COST				_			713

- 10. DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION
- 10.1 Removal and disposal of thirty three (33) underground storage tanks and one (1) aboveground storage tank including disposal of contents.
- 10.2 Test and analysis of tank contents, soil and borings.
- 10.3 Backfill and site grading of any area disturbed by tanks removal.
- 10.4 Removal and disposal of two (2) 5 gal. containers.
- 10.5 Removal, treatment and disposal of approximately 20,000 gal. of lead contaminated water from missile silo.

Finding National Historic Districts and Landmarks

National Monuments:

Total of 108 National Monuments

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of National Monuments of the United States

National Historic Landmarks

Total of 2,507 Landmarks as of March 2013

http://www.nps.gov/nhl/designations/listsofnhls.htm

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List of U.S. National Historic Landmarks by state

National Historic Sites and buildings:

88,441 total listings 1,677,773 total contributing resources 1,176 properties listed in Fiscal Year 2012

List of all sites research page: http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/research/

http://www.nps.gov/nr/

http://www.nps.gov/nr/about.htm

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National Historic Sites (United States)