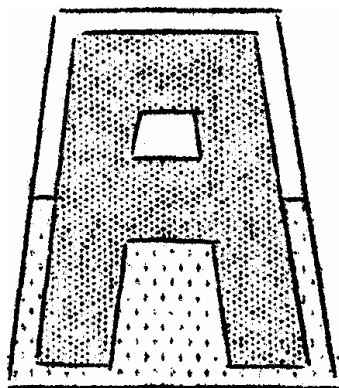


HISTORY OF FORT WADSWORTH



TRICENTENARY 1663-1963

HEADQUARTERS FORT WADSWORTH

Staten Island 5, New York

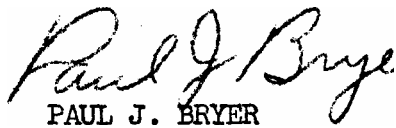
FORT WADSWORTH 1663-1963. . . A History. . .

Fort Wadsworth has the distinction of being the oldest continually-manned installation in the United States and this year marks the 300th Anniversary of its continuous use.

The military history of this old fort is a part of the ebb and flow of our Nation's past, from its birth to the current day. It begins when the Dutch purchased Staten Island in 1626 from the Indians. Settlement of the Island began slowly and it was 1632 before an attempt was made to establish a community. In 1636 an enterprising Dutchman built the first block fort on the heights now occupied by Fort Wadsworth; this was subsequently destroyed by the Indians in 1655. The Dutch, however, rebuilt the block house in 1663 only a few yards from the previous ill-fated fort, and this date marks the beginning of the uninterrupted use of this post as a military installation.

Through the colonial period, and the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Civil War and the Spanish-American War, and World War I, the Fort continued to expand, occupying a prominent position in the defense of the vital New York Harbor from its defense post on the heights overlooking the Narrows. During World War II, old Fort Tompkins served as a lookout post for ships using the New York Harbor. More recently this station was used as the site of the Missile Defense Command of the New York Metropolitan area.

I am proud to present you with this copy of a special tricentenary edition of the history of Fort Wadsworth from 1663 to 1963.



PAUL J. BRYER

Colonel, Infantry Commanding

HEADQUARTERS FORT WADSWORTH

Staten Island 5, New York

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HISTORY OF FORT WADSWORTH

INTRODUCTION

For 300 years Fort WADSWORTH has looked to the sea its guns were trained on the Narrows, defending the approaches to New York Harbor and the vast industrial complex that lays at the water's edge. This defensive mission was basically the same in 1636, when a couple of men guarded the first tiny Dutch blockhouse fort, as it was three centuries later, when several hundred soldiers manned the huge seacoast guns on the heights, and the anti-aircraft artillery of Post World War II period.

Geography pre-destined for Fort Wadsworth a vital military role Situated high on the wooded bluffs overlooking the Narrows, control of the fort assured its master strategic control of the New York area. This basic principle has helped Fort Wadsworth become the oldest continuously manned position in the United States. The Indians grasped the principle in the early days of colonization when, from a lookout point on the fort's present site, they watched Henry Hudson¹ s "Half Moon" sail into New York Harbor. It was also borne in mind by the Dutch, English, and American governments, all of whom garrisoned troops here.

One of Staten Island's historians, Ira K. Morris, says In his memorial study: "The Dutch had a fort on the heights of the Narrows (now Fort Wadsworth), during their control; the English enlarged and strengthened it; the State of New York increased its importance during the "War of 1812, and the National Government has from time to time added to its importance, until now it is one of the strongest points of defense in the whole country," Thus, continues the historian, the scene of the little Dutch blockhouse and trading-post of 1614, and later, the castle-like forts of 1812 has become one of the most important military posts on the continent."

DISCOVERY AND SETTLEMENT

Fort Wadsworth has been defended by Indian, Dutchmen, Englishmen, and American. But it was an Italian, Giovanni Verrazzano, carrying the flag of a French king, Francis 1, who first discovered its present site* Verrazzano entered the Narrows in 1524, and anchored overnight opposite the hills on which the Fort now stands. The next morning, however, a violent gale drove him out to sea.

Not until 1609 were the Narrows again penetrated. On September 11, Henry Hudson, serving under the Dutch East India Company, discovered New York Harbor and began to investigate its upper reaches. Later explorers learned that as soon as Hudson sailed past the Narrows into the harbor the Indians erected look-out towers on the highest point of the Post and at Todt Hill, in the middle of the Island. From these stations, signals were to be sent to all the neighboring tribes to rally and repel the intruders. Hudson named this Island Staten Eylandt (island of the States), in honor of the Netherlands governing body, the States-General. The Dutch purchased Staten Island to 1626 from the Aquehounga Indians, a branch of the Raritan tribes. Settlement proceeded slowly, and it was 1632 before David Pietersen de Vries first attempted to establish a community. It was de Vries who, in 1636, built the first block fort, defended by one or two men, on the heights now occupied by Fort Wadsworth. De Vries also constructed a signal station on the hill, the first to be built by while men in North America,

The first permanent settlement came in 1641 at Oude Dorp (Old Town) just south of Fort Wadsworth and within walking distance. But the colony and de Vries¹ block fort and signal station, were destroyed by

the Indians in 1655. The 1655 massacre was triggered by a Dutchman, Hendrick Van Dyck, former attorney-general of New Amsterdam. Van Dyck, on rising one morning, discovered a squaw in his garden stealing peaches) in a moment of anger he seized his gun and shot her, killing her instantly," In retaliation, the Raritan tribes dispatched 1, 900 Indians in 64 canoes to Staten Island, killing 22 of the 90 inhabitants and carrying most of the survivors into captivity,

Three years later the Dutch settlers build a new colony, Nieuwe Dorp, on the site of the present Miller Army Air Field, by 1663 another blockhouse had risen, near the present Fort Tompkins and only a few yards from de Vries' ill-fated fort. This date marks the beginning of the uninterrupted use of this post as a military Installation, although it was first used in 1636, Only 20 feet square, the wooden defense was guarded by six, or at most, ten men, armed with a grand-total of two rifles This Dutch garrison proved inadequate to stave off an attack by the Duke of York's huge fleet in the following year, and control of the region fell to England.

COLONIAL PERIOD

The British clearly recognized the strategic value of the positions straddling the Narrows. In 17 07, they levied a tax of 3, 000 pounds on the Justices of Richmond County, to defray the cost of fortifying New York City. Parts of the funds were channeled into the construction of additional blockhouses along the Narrows.

With the start of the Revolutionary War, the Staten Island garrison again came into prominence. It is almost certain that Fort Wadsworth was used by General George Washington's men as a look-out and signal post. The entry for April 25, 1776 in the General's log book, which he kept for the Continental Congress to record his war expenditures, shows an item of 16 pounds, 10 shillings, "To the Expn. of myself and party recctg. the sevl, landing places of Staten Island." A week after Washington's reconnoitering mission, he sent a detachment of men to the heights overlooking the Narrows to keep watch for the arrival of the British fleet. The troops were posted on what was then "Signal Hill". To communicate with New York City, they used a primitive version of the telegraph, Black and white kegs or large balls were hoisted on the old flagstaff to signal the approach of enemy vessels. Early in July, 1776, General Howe -landed without opposition an English army of 9, 000 men on Staten Island, Shortly afterwards his brother, Lord Howe, sailed into New York Harbor with a large fleet, and landed 20, 000 more troops on the Island. Lord Howe, commanding the combined armies, crossed the Narrows a month later. A small garrison later reinforced, was left on the Island. One of the Briton's first jobs during the fall of 1776 was the rebuilding of Staten Island's defenses, including the fortresses on this site. The British occupied the Island until 1783.

At the end of the Revolution, the Fort earned another distinction although a rather dubious one: it was the target for the last British shot of the War. On Evacuation Day, 25 November, 1783, a large civilian crowd gathered on the heights, near the present Fort Tompkins quadrangle to jeer at the British as they sailed out of the Harbor. The crew of one British gunboat, smarting from their defeat and resenting the Staten Islanders' derision, fired a shot into the crowd. But the ball fell short, and no one was injured.

THE WAR OF 1812

After the Revolutionary War the Islanders levied taxes to restore damaged fortifications. They renamed this part of the Island Fort Richmond. By 1808 four garrisons protected Signal Hill: Fort Richmond

at the edge of the Marrows, Forts Morton and Hudson on the slopes of the hill, and Fort Tompkins, on the peak of the hill.

Despite restoration efforts, the Island's defenses were scarcely adequate as the War of 1812 drew near. In 1808, the same year the four forts were reconstructed, all of Staten Island had only 164 guns. New York's Governor Daniel D. Tompkins, frequent benefactor and idol of the Islanders, and later a Vice-President of the United States, appropriated \$25, 000 for further fortification of the Narrows. With the outbreak of war, several artillery companies manned the batteries on the Island, and 500 militiamen arrived at Fort Richmond in August 1812. Two weeks later the Narrows defenses reached a maximum when 12 companies of volunteers arrived. But they were relieved from duty in November when news of the victories of the "Constitution" over the "Guerriere" and of the "Wasp" over the "Frolic" belatedly reached New York.

Early in 1813, several British vessels were sighted off Sandy Hook. The Fort swung into action. As one historian describes it, the furnaces for heating the cannon balls were made ready. The telegraph, consisting of a number of white and black balls or kegs hoisted in a preconcerted manner, gave signals easily seen from New York." But the batteries' state of readiness, and defensive precautions that had been taken, saved New York from assault; and the British ships were deterred and steered clear of the Narrows guns.

Still further precautions were taken. In June, 89 additional cannon were mounted at Forts Richmond and Hudson. The 24th US Infantry arrived in the late fall, bolstered by a regiment of New York volunteers. And in April, 1814 Governor Tompkins secured another \$50,000 to complete Forts Tompkins and Richmond. Until then, Tompkins had been only a series of temporary earthworks. Historians report that on its completion in May, the cornerstone was laid with great ceremony. A special steamboat was engaged and the band captured when the "Macedonian" was taken supplied the music." Red sandstone was used to rebuild the two outposts; Fort Tompkins resembled old Castle Williams, currently used as the Governors Island stockade, in its architectural style. Fort Richmond was half-moon shaped.

Governor Tompkins pressed for more improvements and in October, 1814, another \$50,000 was appropriated. The blockhouse and earthworks at Prince's Bay were strengthened, and the caliber of the cannon at the Forts along the Narrows was increased. By 1815, the shores near the present Fort bristled with 900 cannon, including 25 thirty-two-pounders, each weighing one-and-a-half tons, 44 twenty-four-pounders, 4 eighteen-pounders and 7 nine-pounders.

News of the Treaty of Ghent, concluding the War of 1812, did not reach New York until 11 February 1815, although the peace was made 24 December 1814. The celebration on Staten Island took the form of a national salute from the guns at Fort Richmond, followed by a 'feu de joie' from the infantry with an extra ration of liquor.

PEACETIME DECLINE

A graphic memoir of the Post in 1830 was drawn by a member of one of Staten Island's old families, Julia H. Scofield, who lived on the edge of the reservation. In the 30 May 1895 edition of "Staten Islander", a gazette, she writes: "The old red sandstone fort which stood on the present site of Fort Wadsworth had many attractions. We loved to cross the rickety old bridge which spanned the grass grown moat, and entering the low portal to find our way to the damp and darksome casemates, listening to the echoes our voices woke in

fear and trembling. There we would break off the long stalactites that hung like snowy icicles from the roof. Within the area enclosed by the Fort was an old Block House, built of huge logs fast falling into ruin. Another attraction was an uncovered, deep and dangerous well, the terror of our caretakers, but in which we delighted to throw pebbles and listen to hear them strike the water some hundred feet below. Leaving the old Fort and going south-ward we reached the Telegraph station standing on a high bluff—do not be startled at the seeming anachronism, for this was long before the days of electric telegraphs. The one which I remember was a telegraph of ten removable arms, each signifying a numeral which would be seen both at Mew York and Sandy Hook. The next object of interest on our way was a row of dilapidated barracks, the upper floor of which had been a mess room and where an ancient maiden lady told me she had danced at the 'Peace Ball' given by the officers of the Garrison in 1814. Next we came to the lighthouse, and then much further south than it is now. West of the lighthouse on a rising ground stood a pretty cottage that we were told had been the officers¹ quarters in the time of the war." The ruin and disrepair of 1830 mentioned by Miss Scofield accelerated, until Forts Richmond and Tompkins were declared unfit for use in 1835. Rusted guns, decayed carriages, and rotted wood followed disuse and neglect. An account of the Forts in 1835 comes from a New York publication, "National Trades Union". In an article entitled, "A Visit to Fort Richmond and Tompkins," the author says: "On the 17th instant the writer availed himself of an invitation from Commissary-General Arcularius, to accompany him and Captain Shaw to inspect the above-named forts, located at the Narrows, on the Staten Island side. This is a very important and strong military post. There our State expended, about the period of the late war (1812), upwards of \$500, 000 in erecting breastworks and fortifications.

"In the half-moon battery there are twenty-five thirty-two pounders and two twenty-fours. My friend informed us of what, I could hardly realize, that these noble cannons, with but one exception, were fabricated in our own country upwards of forty years ago. They have a rough exterior, but are pronounced by him to be excellent guns. The carriages must have cost a great sum; by their appearance they are well made, but have been left exposed to the storms, the weather and sprays of the sea until they have sunk to the floor by decay and under the weight of their burthen. The iron work about them is good yet. The floor or platform, on which they are placed, had yielded to the destroying elements, and there is nothing now fit for use in or about the works, except the interior of the barracks and a few implements for the service of the gun. There is not a single piece that could be used with effect, if the safety of the city depended upon a single shot!

"A great quantity of thirty-two pound shot scattered about the fort rusting and corroding away, invites pilferers to help themselves, and enough embraced the invitation and bore away many a shot and sold them for old metal. The Commissary-General secured the embrasures, gathered upward of six-thousand thirty-two pound shot (worth at least \$8,000), secured them in the old magazines, and has as far as the means allowed by him the niggard policy of our State, placed the public property there-about in a much safer condition,

"The General pointed out to us one piece of cannon, whose history is very interesting. It formerly held a position in and looked out of old Fort Amsterdam, afterward called Fort George, on the Battery, at the

lower end of this (New York) city. It is a double thirty-two pounder and was used by the subjects of George II."

FORT WADSWORTH EXPANDS

The Federal Government decided to purchase the decaying Narrows outposts," being now required by the United States for the purpose of constructing and maintaining proper defenses for the protection of the harbor of New York," according to the letters patent recording the sale. Authorizing legislation was passed in 1836, but formal purchase of the premises was made 15 February 1847. For a tract of 47.5 acres, the Government paid \$33, 284.87.

The old red sandstone forts were torn down and the material sold. Construction of the outposts which still stand today. Fort Tompkins and Battery Weed, was begun in 1814. It took 14 years to complete them and the first troops were garrisoned on 8 August 1861.

The Richmond County Gazette of 7 May 1862, describes Forts Richmond (the present Battery Weed) and Tompkins; "These defenses of our harbor are being daily strengthened by all the means and applications of modern warfare. "Fort Richmond mounted between 140 and 150 cannon, nearly all in place. It was garrisoned by quite a strong force of soldiers from the 5th Regiment New York Volunteers Artillery; Col. Graham daily practices with the large guns," Tompkins, the account continues, is in a fair state of progression, "and besides these fortifications there are two powerful batteries, Battery Hudson and Battery Morton, one of which is located near the lighthouse" On 7 November 1865, Fort Wadsworth's present name was established by War Department General Order No. 161. The order specifies, "The military post on Staten Island, New York Harbor, now known as Fort Richmond, will hereafter be called Fort Wadsworth, in memory of the gallant and patriotic services of Brigadier General James S. Wadsworth who was killed, at the head of his command, in the Battle of the Wilderness, Virginia, May 6, 1864" General Wadsworth was also cited for bravery in the Battle at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where a statue of him was erected by New York State and dedicated in 1911. Before the War Department re-named it, this Post bore several titles, all referring to its use for signaling before the era of electric telegraphy These include "Signal Hill" "Flagstaff", "The Telegraph", "Look Out" and "Clifton and Telegraph Stage".

In accordance with General Orders 66, War Department, dated 24 November 1897, the name Fort Wadsworth was extended to the garrison at the edge of the water. An on 14 February 1902, the War Department issued General Orders 16, revoking General Orders 66 and applying the name Fort Wadsworth to all the fortifications located on the military reservation on the west side of the Narrows. These Orders also directed that the stone fort at the waters edge be named "Battery Weed, in honor of Captain Stephen H. Weed, 5th U.S., Artillery, Brigadier General, United States Volunteers, who was killed in the Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, July 2, 1863."

During the years between the Civil War and World War One, the Fort expanded nearly threefold. The major expansion took place between 1892 and 1901. To the original reservation of less than 90 acres, the Government added several private properties it had purchased, giving Fort Wadsworth a total tract of 226.5 acre's. Fortifications were modernized. "The effect" of the expansion, report a chronicler, "has been to form a considerable, somewhat park-like area in which, during the time of peace, one may take pleasant walks."

While the area east of New York Avenue was occupied by the reservation prior to 1892, the Government acquisitions added a large plot to the west of the Avenue. The Post followed the pattern of normal garrison life toward the end of the century. A report by the Surgeon-General's Office on hygiene and living conditions in the Army gave this account in 1875:

"The men occupy four dormitories casemates in Fort Tompkins, averaging ten men and beds in each. The casemates are comfortably warmed by large anthracite coal-stove in each, lighted by candles at night. Air space ample; each occupant has five-hundred cubic feet". Until the end of World War One in 1918, Fort Wadsworth remained a coast artillery post of the first magnitude, one of the continents strongest garrisons. One author, writing in 1935 said; From the Civil War too shortly before the World War this post was one of the most heavily armed forts. Now after advent of long range guns and airplanes, it has become an infantry post with only a small C.A.C. (Coast Artillery Corps) detachment. The artillery unit maintained the heavy cannon still in commission at the time.

Between Wars

Fort Wadsworth assumed a new look between the wars. Most of its barracks, roads, administration buildings, and training fields were erected during the 1920's and 30's. Long bleak, brown, wooded barracks of the Works Projects Administration and the Civilian Conservation Corps mushroomed, housing men who assisted the Army Engineers with their face lifting chores. Infantry units from the famed 1st Division--first overseas during World War I, first to hit the Normandy Beaches in the second World War, and then the Big Red One in gyroscope from Germany after a decade of patrol---made up the major complement of troops during this period. Elements of the 16th Infantry Regiment were here during the 1920's, followed in the early thirties by the Second and Third battalions of the 18th Infantry. Both regiments boasted of battle records dating back to Shiloh in the Civil War, Santiago and Manila during the Spanish American War, and Meuse-Argonne, St Michiel, ad Aisne-Marne during World War One. And both were destined to leave Fort Wadsworth just before World War Two to play a tremendous part in the African and European combat theaters. A detachment from the 5th Coast Artillery Regiment maintained the guns overlooking the Narrows. Units from the Quartermaster Corps and the Medical Department completed the Post's inter-war garrison.

The year 1925 marks the jumping-off point for a cycle of major construction which lasted over a decade-and-a-half. In that year the Post Engineers began working on a Parade Ground. Three major obstacles had to be overcome before the broad, level, grassy field could take shape; swamps, hills, and trees. The Engineers drained the swamp, leveled them off, and filled them in. Drainage was a particularly difficult job—a pipe had to be run from the field to the opposite side of New York Avenue, connecting with a sewage system. Both pipe and sewer were virtually on the same level, but a fractional difference enabled the Engineers to clear the water from the field and fill it in. The huge oak trees lining the field had to be cut down, and the stumps dynamited. The noncommissioned officer in charge of the project, Master Sergeant Ed Crawley, recalls that one stump, blasted more than 100 yards through the air, came crashing through the roof and porch of an officer's residence. By 1927, however, the Parade Ground was completed, and grass was planted on it. Bounded by New York Avenue and a dirt road called "The General's Road", the Parade Ground was dominated by "The General's House", an old wood frame building which perched on hill above

it. The house, intact from the day it was purchased as part of the old Joseph B. Whitney estate in 1898, was used as the Commanding General's residence until the beginning of World War Two.

Modern concrete infantry barracks were begun in 1929 • Two sets of battalion barracks, each designed to house 602 men, were finished by 1931 at an initial cost of \$675,727.49. The Engineers erected a large brick stable, with a capacity of 51 animals, to hold the Army's mules and Horses In 1932, a Post Theater was build by Federal prisoners, under the supervision of Army Engineers. The prisoners were quartered at the old Fort Tompkins Quadrangle while they were working ton the structure.

In 1935, a group of W.P.A. laborers arrived on Post, moving **into** specially-build wood plank barracks at the western end of New York Avenue. They were followed by the 390th Veterans Company of the C.C.C., who occupied an encamped on the western section of the reservation. The W.P.A. accounted for the front and back gates of Fort Wadsworth, garages, several guardhouses, the Officers¹ Club, a handball court behind the infantry barracks, and several roads. It was also W.P.A. labor that constructed the old Post Exchange in 1938. C.C.C. workers are credited with building part of the sea wall, and with some limited forestry work around the reservation,

MILLER ARMY AIRFIELD

On 1 October 1931, Miller Field officially became a sub-post of Fort Wadsworth. Serving as a station for Army troops, an emergency landing field and maintenance area for land and sea planes, a training site and armory for air units of the New York National Guard, and later, the locale of 90mm antiaircraft guns and radar equipment, the field covers some 214 acres. It is located three miles southwest of Fort Wadsworth, In New Dorp, Staten Island.

Miller Field was authorized in 1917 as an Aero Coast Defense station. The Government considered it an ideal location for land and sea planes, and spent \$420,041.48 to purchase the acreage from the George W. Vanderbilt estate in 1919. Construction on the field began in the year it was purchased. The field was named under General Order 1, 1920, in memory of Captain James E. Miller, who was killed in action 8 March 1918, near Aisne, France Miller had been serving with the 95th Aero Squadron on the Soissons sector.,

During the 1930 the base was the home of the 1st Tank Company. Its hangars sheltered Admiral Byrd's planes briefly in 1933, when the planes were serviced at Miller Field before Byrd's expedition to the North Pole. An Italian seaplane created a stir at Miller in the mid-30 when it landed there after a trans-Atlantic flight.

World War II

With the approach of World War Two, Fort Wadsworth's mission changed once again First Division infantrymen, including one battalion of the 16th Infantry and two battalions of the 18th Infantry were transferred to other sites in the metropolitan area for training purposes. Little actual infantry training was done here and the battalions stationed at Wadsworth usually moved to Fort Dix for summer maneuvers. By 27 February 1941, the infantry units were cleared from the Post. Early in March, Fort Wadsworth was controlled by Coast Artillerymen for the first time since 1919 • At the same time, the 1205th Service Command Service Unit, provisionally organized in December, 1940, was officially designated and stationed here. After 22 years, the 1205th (now the 1205th US Army Garrison, is still at Fort Wadsworth. The troops immediately began intensive training for their new dual mission-coastal and antiaircraft defense. Several

command post exercises emphasized communications networks, mine planting, and defense of vital installations. In giving a critique on one of the exercises. Lieutenant General Hugh. Drum, First Army Commanding General, stressed the new role of troops as active soldiers, no longer caretakers.

Relief from the pressures of all-out training came on 7 June 19¹¹ when a ceremony was held on the Parade Ground for Chilean Ambassador Senor Don Rodolfo Michels and his staff. The Chilean Ambassador visited the grave of Chilena, world champion military mount which was buried on the Wadsworth reservation after its death on 30 November 1940. Chilena, a Chilean Army horse, had captured world honors in the jumping competition at Madison Square Garden just before it broke its neck in a fall.

Early in June, troop transports carrying the 16th infantry steamed past Fort Wadsworth, enroute to a new training camp. Within a year, the 16th and the 18th were shipped overseas, beginning a journey that carried them through Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Sicily, Normandy, the Rhineland, the Battle of the Bulge, and finally, Central Europe. A few days later, the Post log book records the departure of the transport West Point⁹ from New York Harbor, bearing German and Italian consular personnel to their homelands.

Supplies and equipment began pouring into Fort Wadsworth to aid in its task. Late in 1941, many of the heavy seacoast guns were dismantled and sold for scrap. Most of these were replaced during the early years of the War with searchlight batteries and anti-aircraft artillery, including three-inch guns. Several 155 mm guns were emplaced. The "General Ord" a mine planter, arrived for the use of the Post's mine battery. The unit helped lay an extensive submarine net across the Narrows. Completed 1944, the net stretched from Miller Army Airfield to Swinburne Island near the Narrows, and on to the main channel. A gap was left in the channel, and the net picked up again on the Brooklyn side of the Narrows, near Fort Hamilton, and extended to the Rockaway's. A signal pole, to be used by the Harbor Entrance Control Post here, was raised on the parapet of Fort Tompkins. Erected in eight hours, the pole was equipped with radio antennae and signal halyards. The Harbor Entrance Control Post composed of Army and Navy detachments responsible for checking vessels entering and leaving New York Harbor, remained here until 1946. Several powerful anti-aircraft portable searchlights and power plants were set up, tested and manned. The Posts batteries engaged in long firing practices.

In October, the area-wide "Interceptor" exercises began. A hostile "Black Fleet" with air and mosquito boat components attacked all the harbor defenses from Sandy Hook to the Narrows. Joint Army and Navy groups were responsible for protecting the installations, while searchlight crews from the anti-aircraft batteries spotted the invaders. The Post log book reports: Mosquito boat attack made at 7:45 PM in two waves Repulsed."

The garrison went on an emergency basis on 7 December, with the outbreak of World War Two, Guards were posted and the batteries manned 24 hours a day. Within a week after the start of hostilities, element of two Coast Artillery (Anti-aircraft Artillery) Regiments poured into Wadsworth—the 61st C.A. (A.A.) and the 197th C.A. (A.A.) Batteries from these regiments fanned out in defensive positions throughout the metropolitan area. But neither of these Coast Artillery units was here for long. Three weeks after they arrived, the 61st troops shipped out for Fort Hancock, New Jersey, The log book entry for 6 January 1942 reads "Even a Post Diary is entitled to a bit of philosophic speculation as to another—and less pleasant—destination," An another destination it was, for by the end of the War, the 61st was credited with ground

combat in the European-African-Middle Eastern Theater. The 197th left the Post a week later, headed for Fort Dix.

The 213th C.A. (A.A.) moved in to replace the outgoing regiments, and began to assemble and man 90-mm antiaircraft guns. The 213th and the 245th C.A. a National Guard Regiment from Brooklyn took part in the first functional firing of all active batteries on the Post in thirty years. Batteries Catlin, Turnbull, Mills, and Dix fired their seacoast and antiaircraft guns during the exercises.

Before long, the 213th began preparations for departure. Movement of the regiment presented the Post Quartermaster with his biggest headache. Between 18-21 July 1942, well over 600,000 pounds of personal gear, supplies, and heavy guns were assembled, gutting the parapets of Fort Tompkins. Both civilian and Army trucks were requisitioned to transfer the equipment to the docks. The 213th eventually went overseas participating in the Algeria-French Morocco, Naples-Foggia, and Rome-Arno campaigns.

Two Military Police Battalions were activated and organized at Wadsworth, and later shipped out. The 731st left the Post toward the end of 1942 preceded earlier in the year by the 716th M.P. Battalion. After three years of distinguished service, the 716th returned to Wadsworth in October, 1945, moving back into the same barracks it had occupied when it was first activated. The 716th served as an honor unit in the burial rites for President Franklin D. Roosevelt at Hyde Park, New York, on 15 April 1945. It also furnished the Honor Guard for the reception of General Jonathan Wainwright in 1945 after his release from a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp, and for General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower's arrival in New York during the same year. After spending several months here upon its return the Battalion moved to Fort Dix.

Thus, in the early years of the War, the missions of the Post were three-fold. First, several units were organized, activated, and equipped here, given some training, and shipped to other posts prior to overseas assignments. Second, most of Wadsworth's 3,500 troops were responsible for coastal and antiaircraft defense and third, some 12,000 to 15,000 manning gun positions throughout Staten Island and shore points along the New Jersey coast, in addition to several Military Police Escort Guard Companies, were supplied and serviced by the 1205th. But the Post fulfilled several other jobs. For over a year, it quartered an Italian Service Unit, composed of 25 officers and 250 enlisted men, all Italian prisoner-of-wars. Commanded by Brigadier General John M. Eager, the unit arrived at Fort Wadsworth 20 March 1944. It was one of nearly 200 volunteers units formed throughout the United States during that year. Over 38,000 of the 52,000 Italian POW's in this country volunteered to work for the units and were soon contributing one million man-days of labor per month to the Allies' war effort against Germany. In return for their work, the Italians were paid eighty cents a day, which was then standard pay for prisoners engaged in hard labor. The Service Unit remained here until August 1945, when it was transferred to Camp Patrick Henry, Virginia, for repatriation. All through the War, other groups of prisoner—including Poles, Czechs, and Belgians were sent to Miller Field before they were relocated in work or concentration camps.

Early in 1945, Fort Wadsworth was crowded with all Miller Field troops when they were moved to make room for the incoming 1247th Hospital Trains Group. Over 2,000 enlisted men and 165 officers from the Group encamped at Miller Field.

POST WAR PERIOD

War end brought more changes and a birthday – to Fort Wadsworth. Since its official naming dates from 7 November 1865, its anniversary is celebrated on that date. In 1945, the Post boasted 80 years of official service, and over three centuries of military tradition. The year 1945 also saw the transfer or deactivation of most of the M.P. Escort Guard Companies stationed here during the War. The 716th M.P. Battalion returned for a few months, and then was off again for a new assignment. Fort Wadsworth briefly became a separation center, and over 600 men, official record jackets under their arms, bade farewell to the service at the Posts main gate. A Classification and Assignment¹ Detachment was established, processing during the last three months of the year over 5,000 replacements for service command installations.

The quiet years set in around 1946, the years when the most common log book entry was, "Usual garrison duties." One exception is recorded in December 1947, however, when a snowfall of blizzard dimensions hit Staten Island. After 20 inches of snow carpeted the Island, stranding hundreds of civilians at the St. George Ferry Terminal on their way home from work; eight Army trucks were summoned to the rescue. All civilian transportation had been halted, and, as the log book reports, as gentleman "**** from S.I. Assembly called and requested transportation as a riot might occur in the terminal."

In 1948, Fort Wadsworth became the home of New York City first and only – trailer camp. Multiplying from one to nearly 40 families, the camp owed its growth to two factors: high-rent housing in the metropolis, and serviceman natural desire to be with his family. The camp is unique in New York because the city code prohibits the use of trailers as living quarters within the city limits. Only its construction on Government property protects Fort Wadsworth's colony, Constructed on the site of the tar-paper barracks which had sprung up during World War.

One camp boasted 36 trailer spaces with water and electric power outlets, and a pipe link to the Wadsworth sewage system. A chemical warfare training building, moved to the camp in its entirety from another part of the Post *was* used as a central heating and sanitation structure. Although most its inhabitants were Wadsworth and Miller Field personnel, the camp has been home to men in the Marines, Air Force, Navy, and Coast Guard as well, However, all good things must come to an end sometime, and this camp is scheduled to be closed in 1965.

Several units arrived on Post for duty during this period, including the 21st Signal Operations, Company, the 1267th S.U. (First US Army Signal Service Unit), and the 24th Signal Service Battalion. The 34th Antiaircraft Artillery Brigade arrived in 1950 from Fort Bliss, Texas, shortly to be replaced by the 102d AAA Brigade, a New York National Guard unit,

KOREAN WAR

When the Korean War erupted in June 1950, Fort Wadsworth was used briefly as a basic training station, as well as an antiaircraft defense site. Some 100 Selective Service draftees arrived early in 1951 from Fort Dix reception center for an eight-week infantry training cycle, and they were soon drilling on the Parade Ground and slashing through the Staten Island woods on tactical marches. But the facilities here proved inadequate for training recruits, and Fort Dix soon assumed Wadsworth's burden,

When in 1952, the Government directed that Federal units replace National Guard outfits in the antiaircraft defense of primary continental targets, the 102d AAA Brigade, a National Guard unit, was transferred from Fort Wadsworth. The 52 AAA Brigade, a distinguished World War Two unit, was reactivated, reorganized, and permanently assigned here on 13 June 1952.

NEW HORIZONS

In 1951 the big word was "NIKE". It has been the big word ever since. For it was Nike – the radio-controlled supersonic antiaircraft guided missile capable of tracking down and destroying enemy bombers – that more than ever before in its history made Fort Wadsworth one of our nation's most important military posts. Through late 1953 and into 1954, Brigade officers and Army Engineers studied areas in New York, Long Island, and New Jersey to be used as Nike launching sites under the command of the 52d AAA Brigade. Often accompanied by the protests of local citizens, who felt an Army installation in the middle of their own town would depreciate real estate values, sites were chosen and construction begun.

One of the chief difficulties posed by Nike was a knotty community relations problem. Sites mushroomed in heavily populated areas, and in quiet residential districts of smaller townships. Through lecture and interviews, the mission of Nike was disseminated. Newly aware that these men who stand by the deadly missiles 24 hours a day, seven days a week, are our final outpost of defense from nuclear attack, the public finally accepted and even welcome the Nike battalions as permanent neighbors. While the Brigade's Nike sites sprang up and troops were sent to service the missiles. Fort Wadsworth involved in another development which portend great changes for the Post. Early in 1955 a \$220,000, 000 bridge linking Staten Island and Brooklyn was authorized by the Federal Government • The 12-lane double-deck suspension bridge, a scheduled 2, 5 miles long, including approaches, would stretch from Fort Hamilton on the Brooklyn side to Fort Wadsworth on the Staten Island side,

With the completion of the "Missile Master System" at Highlands, New Jersey, the 52 Brigade transferred all its activities to the Highlands Air Force Base, Fort Wadsworth is now awaiting the next development in its long history, the arrival of its latest tenant the II US Army Corps which will make its headquarters here in June 1963 .

What the future hold for Fort Wadsworth no one knows, however, this much is sure, the Post is always ready and able to serve its country in the future as it has done so ably in the past.

HISTORY OF MILLER ARMY AIRFIELD

During World War I, it was decided, to establish an Air Coast Defense for the protection of vital localities situated on or near the extended Coast Line of the United States. New York being the premier port of embarkation, both for troops and supplies, it was natural that one of the Air Service Stations to be used in the Coast Defense project should be in the vicinity of this metropolis. Various localities were considered before a final decision was reached, none of which fulfilled the required conditions. Finally, a tract of land was found with combined facilities permitting the use of both land and sea planes; the land planes for the defense of New York City and the sea planes for coastal defense. The plot of land selected was located in the town of New Dorp, Staten Island (Borough of Richmond), New York City.

Its situation was ideal for the defense of New York City, being about 10 miles there from in an air line and about three miles southwest of Fort Wadsworth. It was easily accessible to New York City by automobile, bus or train from New Dorp to St. George, Staten Island, and thence by Ferry to the Battery in New York City.

It was admirably located for the defense of the entrance to New York Harbor as all ships entering or leaving the harbor via Ambrose Channel must pass within five miles of this site.

As this tract of land fulfilled all the essential conditions, it was purchased for the Federal Government by authority of the Secretary of War, The Honorable Newton D. Baker, as of November 12, 1919, although the date of sale as noted in the deed was March 12, 1919 • The land was purchased from Edith S. and William K. Vanderbilt, to whom was paid \$420, 041.48.

The tract was known as the Vanderbilt Estate, having been purchased **by** Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt in 1843 who conveyed it to his son, William H. Vanderbilt on February 26, 1855.

The history of this tract dates back to 1677 when the land came into the possession of one John Daly who is believed to have been a British soldier, as a Royal survey was made for him in that year. The Daly tract composed the Southeast portion of the present post which contains the Elm Tree Beacon. This Beacon derived its name from an immense Elm Tree which stood on the site of the old lighthouse and on which ships entering or leaving the harbor would get their bearings.

Daly held the land for approximately eight years, then conveyed it to Paulus Richards on October 13, 1685, taking a lease on it for a period of seven years. The ultimate disposition of the land is not recorded but it must have been acquired by William Britton, the owner of the Northwestern portion of the present post, as Britton conveyed both the Daly and Britton portions to Hendrick Van Lawa in 1719. The land passed in 1748 to Johannes Simonson, who willed it to James Egbert in 1797. On the death of James Egbert, it was conveyed by the partitioners of his estate to Richard Conner, Jr., on September 19, 1831. From Richard Conner, Jr., the land was transferred through various owners and finally possessed by Walter Livingston who conveyed it to Cornelius Vanderbilt by gift, thence by will to George W. Vanderbilt and finally through his heirs, Edith S. and William K. Vanderbilt, it came into the possession of the United States Government. At the time of transfer to the Government, the estate had a number of buildings located on it, some of which were permitted to remain as part of the post. The old Vanderbilt house known as the "Mansion," and the old Water Tower, were demolished in June 1936 to permit extension of the landing field to the north.

Though temporarily delayed due to the signing of the Armistice, construction of the post was authorized by the Secretary of War on May 22, 1919 • Much difficulty was encountered in getting firms to bid on the work. Contracts were finally let but it was not until November 17, 1919 that work on the project commenced. After many delays due to weather, labor conditions, railroad strikes, etc, the construction project was completed and final payment on a total construction cost of \$1, 335, 144, and 69 was made June 30, 1921. On July 20, 1921, the completed project was transferred to the Air Service, being accepted by Major Henry Abbey, Jr., A, S., who became the first Commanding Officer of the new army post.

Under date of December 30, 1919, the Secretary of War directed that the field be named MILLER FIELD in memory of CAPTAIN JAMES ELY MILLER who was killed in action March 9, 1918, about four kilometers north of Corbeny, France, while serving with the 95th Aero Squadron on the Soissons sector.

The name, "MILLER FIELD," was published to the Army in Section II, General Orders Number 1, War Department, dated January 5, 1920.

Captain James Ely Miller, born March 24, 1883, at New York City, was the son of Charles Addison and Mary Miller. He graduated from Yale University in the class of 1904. While attending Yale, he was a member of the University Crew, the Football Team, the Chapel Choir and Glee Club, as well as the Junior and Senior Societies. After graduation, he entered the Knickerbocker Trust Company and became manager of its 34th Street Branch and a Vice President of the Columbia Trust Company.

In 1908, he married Gladys Kissel, daughter of Rudolph H. Kissel of Morristown and New York. At the time of his death, he was survived by his wife and one daughter.

Captain Miller first enlisted as a private in Squadron A, Cavalry, National Guard of the State of New York; was honorably discharged December 8, 1911; Commissioned 1st Lieutenant, 1st Battalion, Signal Corps, New York National Guard, July 1, 1916; accepted 1 July 1916 and was Honorably Discharged on February 6, 1917.

He accepted appointment as Captain, Aviation Section, Signal Officers Reserve Corps, May 5, 1917; was assigned to active duty in War Department orders of May 10, 1917; reported at Governors Island, New York, May 15, 1917, for duty with the 1st Reserve Aero Squadron, and participated in aerial flights from May 16, 1917 • In War Department orders of July 13, 1917, he was ordered to Fort Wood, New York to take command of the Signal Corps Detachment and left the United States July 23, 1917, under orders to proceed to France and report to the Commanding General, U.S. Troops, for duty. In orders of August 28, 1917, Headquarters, A.E.F., he was directed to proceed from Paris, France and report to the Commandant of Aviation, French Army, for a period of four to seven days, to observe French Aerial observation and reconnaissance work at the front. On October 4, 1917, he was ordered to Paris to report to the Commanding General, Line of Communications, for assignment to duty and station. He was assigned to the Third Aviation Instruction Center; engaged in the organization of the unit; and was assigned as Commanding Officer of the station October 28, 1917. Under dates of November 5th, 14th and 27th, 1917, he was appointed a member of a Board of Officers directed to meet at Issoudun, France, for the purpose of examining such officers as might be ordered to appear before it to determine their fitness for appointment as Junior Military Aviators, Under the date of February 14, 1918, Captain Miller was ordered to Villeneuve (Marne) for permanent duty in connection with aviation, and, on February 20, 1918, took command of the 85th Air

Squadron which squadron had left Issoudun for the front on February 16, 1918, He was killed in action March 9, 1918.

The details of the engagement in which Captain Miller met his death are as follows: On March 9, 1918 at about 3: 20 PM, Major Davenport Johnson and Captain Miller flew from Coincy on a patrol over the lines. A report from Major Johnson shows that they flew from Coincy and at 4: 20 PM, at a point above the lines opposite Juvincourt of Damary, attacked two German planes, one of which descended in a tail spin until lost to view. They returned above our lines, continued West until Corbony was reached at about 4: 40 PM, at an altitude of 3500 meters. When about four kilometers behind the German lines, north of Corbony, they attacked two German planes. Major Johnson had fired about twenty-five cartridges at the highest plane when his machine gun broke. Captain Miller continued the fight, firing a number of shots, the German machine spiraling down with Captain Miller following him. "Captain Miller went into a tailspin at 3200 meters, came-out of it after about two turns, after which the German machine was above him spiraling down firing at him. Captain Miller made about 4 tailspins of about two or three turns until I lost sight of him at about 1000 meters, just above the forest which is about four kilometers due north of Corbony and just west of Berrieux. I followed down until about 2500 meters but as my machine gun was broken, could do nothing; so returned to Coincy arriving at 5:05 PM. From the way Captain Miller would come out of the tail spins, he seemed to have control of his machine and I do not think he was killed but was forced to land behind the German lines. (Report of Major Johnson,)

Captain Miller was thus "the first aviator serving with an American Unit to be killed in Combat in France." The above is part of the inscription on the bronze memorial tablet placed on the front wall of Headquarters Building. This tablet was presented by his mother and dedicated November 11, 1924,

Upon Miller Field being turned over to the Air Service on July 20, 1921, it was made a sub-post of Mitchell Field and was garrisoned by Flight "A," 5th Squadron, Air Service, commanded by First Lieutenant William C. Moore, Air Service, who was later killed in an air accident while serving in the Philippine Islands. Lieutenant Moore ceased to be the Commanding Officer of Miller Field, July 31, 1921, and the records do not show who was in command between that date and March 30, 1922, when it ceased to be a sub-post of Mitchell Field and became a sub-post of Fort Wadsworth. The change in status actually took place on March 1, 1922, on the relief of the Air Service Troops by the Howitzer Company, 22nd Infantry, under the command of Captain John E. Tiedeman. On March 29, 1922, the First Engineers, Captain Clarence N. Iry. Engineer Corps, Commanding, arrived at Miller Field from Coblenz, Germany, remaining until July 1922. On June 1, 1922, the 1st Signal Company, Captain Alexander E. Withworth, Commanding, arrived at Miller Field from Camp Dix, N.J., for station until September 2, 1922. Prior to this date, the post had been commanded by Major Spencer B. Aiken, S.C. and Captain Alexander E. Withworth.S.C. On September 2, 1922, the 1st Tank Company, Captain H. W. Bolan, Infantry, (Tanks) commanding, arrived for station, Captain Bolan taking command of the post. During this month, the 1st Ordnance Company also arrived, for station • The 1st Tank Company and 1st Ordnance Company, together with 102d Observation Squadron, New York National Guard Air Service, under the command of Major Kenneth P. Littauer, N.Y.N.G., formed the garrison; the National Guard Air Service having been given the use of the hangars as an armory.

Colonel Chauncey B. Humphrey, Infantry, assumed command of the post in October 1922, and Miller Field ceased to be a sub-post of Fort Wadsworth, becoming an independent post.

On October 1, 1931, the post again became a sub-post of Fort Wadsworth.

ORDERS NAMING THE POST

GENERAL ORDERS)

WAR DEPARTMENT

Number 161)

Adjutant General's Office

Washington, November 7, 1865

The military post on Staten Island, New York Harbor, now known as Fort Richmond, will hereafter be called Fort Wadsworth, in memory of the gallant and patriotic services of Brigadier General JAMES S. WADSWORTH, who was killed, at the head of his command, in the battle of The Wilderness, Virginia, May 6, 1864.

By order of the Secretary of War:-

E. D. TOWNSEND Assistant Adjutant General,

General Wadsworth was born in Hew York, and appointed to the Army from the same state. His record is as follows:-

Volunteer Aid-De-Camp to General McDowell, July 6, 1861; Brigadier General of Volunteers August 9, 1861; Brevet Major General of Volunteers, May 6, 1864, for gallant conduct at the battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania and The Wilderness, Virginia.

He died May 8, 1864, at the battle of the Wilderness, Virginia.

ORDERS NAMING THE BATTERIES

GENERAL ORDERS)

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,

:

Adjutant General's Office, Number 66)

Washington,

November 24, 1897.

The following order has been received from the War Department:

WAR DEPARTMENT Washington, November 12, 1897.

By direction of the President, the two batteries of 10-inch guns on Staten Island near Fort Wadsworth, New York, now designated as the Clifton and Ravenna Batteries', together with any adjacent defenses yet to be built, will hereafter be known and designated as Fort Newton, in honor of the late General John Newton, Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army, who for many years was in direct charge of the works in New York Harbor.

R. A. ALGER, Secretary of War.

By command of Major General Miles:

SAM'L BRECK, Adjutant General.

Annex A 1

GENERAL ORDERS)

Number 16)

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,

Adjutant General's Office, Washington,

February 4, 1902

1. The following order has been received from the War Department and is published to the Army for the information and guidance of all concerned:

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, February 11, 1902 <

1 By direction of the President, War Department orders of November 12, 1897, published in General Orders No. 66, Headquarters of the Army, will here after apply to all of the fortifications at present located on the military reservation on the West side of the Narrows, and names to the batteries constructed thereon are given as follows:

BATTERY AYERS, In honor of Colonel Romeyn B. Ayers, 2d U.S. Artillery, Major General, United States Volunteers, who died December 4, 1888.

BATTERY BARRY, in honor of Colonel William F. Barry, 2d U.S. Artillery, Major General, United States Volunteers, and Chief of Artillery, Army of the Potomac, who died July 18, 1879.

BATTERY EMORY UPTON, In honor of Colonel Emery Upton, 4th U.S. Artillery, Major General, United States Volunteers, who died March 15, 1881.

BATTERY WEED, In honor of Captain Stephen H. Weed, 5th U.S. Artillery Brigadier General, United States Volunteers, who was killed in the Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, July 2, 1863.

Elihu Root,

Secretary of War

The specific batteries to which the foregoing names have been given will be communicated to Department Commanders by letter.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MILES:

H. C. CORBIN,

Adjutant General,

Major General. U.S. Army.

Annex A

GENERAL ORDERS)

Number 43)

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY

Adjutant General's Office, Washington,

April 4, 1900

2/22/2004

20

The following order from the War Department is published to the Army for the information and guidance of all concerned:

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington,
March 24, 1900.

By direction of the President, and under the provisions of paragraph 198, Army Regulations, names to new batteries which have recently been constructed and sites for works to be constructed along the sea-coast of the United States are hereby announced as follows:

BATTERY DUANE, In honor of the late Brigadier General James C. Duane, U. S. Army, a native of New York, a distinguished officer of the War of 1861 - 1865, and Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army, 1886 - 1888.

BATTERY HUDSON, after the old earth battery in which located.

BATTERY RICHMOND, after old Fort Richmond, now Fort Wadsworth, which was named from the County in which it was situated.

Elihu Root, Secretary of War.

BY COMMAND OF MAJOR GENERAL MILES:

H. C. CORBIN, Adjutant
General.

Annex A

GENERAL ORDERS)
Number 78

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,
Adjutant General S Office,
Washington, May 25, 1903. XXX

WAR DEPARTMENT, Washington, March 30, 1903.

2. By direction of the President, and under the provisions of paragraph 216, of the Regulations, names of sea-coast forts and batteries are announced as follows:

BATTERY BACON, In honor of First Lieutenant John D. Bacon, 6th U.S. Infantry, who died October 12, 1847 of wounds received at the Battle of Churubusco, Mexico.

BATTERY BARBOUR, In honor of Captain Philip H. Barbour, 3d U.S. Infantry, who was killed September 21, 1846, at the Battle of Monterrey, Mexico*

BATTERY DIX, In honor of Major General John A. Dix, U.S. Army, who served during the War of 1812, and the Civil War, and who died April 21, 1879, at New York City, New York,

Elihu Root,
Secretary of War.

The specific batteries to which the foregoing names have been given will be communicated by letter to the Department Commander.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL MILES:

H. C. CORBIN,
Adjutant General Major
General* US Army

Annex A

GENERAL ORDERS

Number 194

WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington, December 27, 1904,

1* Under the provisions of paragraph 198, Army Regulations, names of seacoast 'batteries are announced as follows:

BATTERY ROBERT CATLIN, In honor of Captain Retort Catlin, U.S. Army, who was wounded in action at Weldon Railroad, Virginia, August 21, 1864, and who died December 28, 1903.

BATTERY WILLIAM TURNBULL In honor of Brevet Colonel William Turnbull U.S. Army (Major, U.S. Topographic Engineers), who served with distinction during the War with Mexico, and who died December 9, 1857 •

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

OFFICIAL:

F. C. Ainsworth,
The Military Secretary.

Lieutenant General, Chief of Staffs

Adua R. Chaffee

GENERAL ORDERS

Number 20)

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Washington, January 25, 1906,

2 Under the provisions of paragraph 198, Army Regulations, names of seacoast batteries are announced as follows:

BATTERY CHARLES MILLS, In honor of Brevet Colonel Charles J. Mills, U.S. Volunteers (Captain, Assistant Adjutant General, U.S. Volunteers), who served with distinction during the Civil War, and who was killed in action at Hatchers Run, near Petersburg, Virginia, March 31, 1864»

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

OFFICIAL:

F. C. Ainsworth,
The Military Secretary,

Major General, Chief of Staff,

J, C. BATES,

Annex A

BRIEF REFERENCES TO THE PERSONS FOR WHOM THE BATTERIES ARE NAMED

BATTERY AYERS: In honor of Colonel Remeyn Beck Ayers, 2d U.S. Artillery Colonel Ayers was born in New York. He was appointed to the Military Academy from the same State July 1, 1843; graduated and appointed Brevet 2nd Lieutenant 4th Artillery, July 1, 1847; 2nd Lieutenant, 3d Artillery, September 22, 1847; 1st Lieutenant, March 16, 1852; Captain 5th Artillery, May 14, 1861; Lieutenant Colonel 28th Infantry, July 28, 1866; transferred to 19th Infantry, March 15, 1869; transferred to 3d Artillery December 15, 1870; Colonel, 2d Artillery, July 18, 1879.

BATTERY BACON: In honor of 1st Lieutenant John Danforth Bacon, 6th U.S. Infantry Lieutenant Bacon was born in Maine. He was appointed to the Military Academy from the same State July 1, 1836. He graduated July 1, 1840; appointed Brevet 2d Lieutenant, 2d Infantry July 1, 1840; 2d Lieutenant, 6th Infantry December 3, 1840 and 1st Lieutenant July 18, 1846, He died October 12, 1847 of wounds received August 20, 1847 at the Battle of Churubusco, Mexico.

BATTERY BARBOUR: In honor of Captain Philip Nordbourne Barbour, 3D U.S. Infantry. Captain Barbour was born in Kentucky. He was appointed to the Military Academy from the same State July 1, 1829. He graduated and was appointed Brevet 2d Lieutenant, 3d Infantry, July 1, 1834; 2d Lieutenant April 1, 1836; 1st Lieutenant July 7, 1837; Captain, November 26, 1845. He was killed September 21, 1846 in the Battle of Monterey, Mexico.

BATTERY PARRY: In honor of Colonel William Farquhar Barry, 2d U.S. Artillery. Colonel Barry was born in New York. He was appointed to the Military Academy from the same State September 1, 1834; graduated and appointed Brevet 2d Lieutenant, 4th Artillery July 1, 1838; 2d Lieutenant, July 7, 1838; transferred to 2d Artillery July 12, 1838; 1st Lieutenant August 17, 1842; Captain, July 1, 1852; Major 5th Artillery May 14, 1861; Lieutenant Colonel, 1st Artillery August 1, 1863; Colonel 2d Artillery, December 11, 1865. He died July 18, 1879.

BATTERY CATLIN: In honor of Captain Robert Catlin. Captain Catlin was born in Illinois. He was appointed from Washington Territory to the Military Academy July 1, 1859. He graduated June 11, 1863; was appointed 2d Lieutenant, 5th Artillery, same date; retired April 26, 1865; appointed Captain 43d Infantry, July 28, 1866; retired December 15, 1870. He died December 28, 1903, • at Washington, District of Columbia.

BATTERY DIX: In honor of Major General John Adams Dix, U.S. Army. General Dix was born in New Hampshire July 24, 1798. He was appointed an Ensign in the Army from the State of New York May 10, 1813; 3d Lieutenant 21st Infantry March 7, 1814; 2d Lieutenant March 8, 1814; transferred to Corps of Artillery August 9, 1814; 1st Lieutenant March 23, 1818; transferred to 1st Artillery June 1, 1821; transferred to 3d Artillery August 16, 1821; Captain August 30, 1825; resigned December 31, 1828; Major General of Volunteers May 16, 1861; resigned November 30, 1865, He was U.S. Senator 1845 - 1849, and Governor of New York in 1872. He died April 21, 1879.

Annex B

BATTERY DUANE: In honor of Brigadier General James Chatham Duane, Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army, 1886 - 1888. General Duane was born in New York. He was appointed, to the Military Academy from the same State July 1, 1844. He graduated and was appointed Brevet 2d Lieutenant Engineers July 1, 1848; 2d Lieutenant March 16, 1853; 1st Lieutenant July 1, 1855; Captain, August 6, 1861; Major, March 3, 1863; Lieutenant Colonel, March 7, 1867; Colonel, January 10, 1883; Brigadier General, Chief of Engineers, October **11, 1886**; retired June 30, 1888.

BATTERY HUDSON: After the old earth battery in which located.

BATTERY MILLS: In honor of Brevet Colonel Charles J. Mills, U.S. Volunteers (Captain, Assistant Adjutant General, United States Volunteers) who served with distinction during the Civil War, and who was killed in action at Hatchers Run, near Petersburg, Virginia, March 31, 1865.

Colonel Mills was born in Massachusetts. He was appointed 1st Lieutenant, 2d Massachusetts Infantry, September 5, 1862; honorably discharged, March 18, 1863; 1st Lieutenant and Adjutant 56th Massachusetts Infantry September 1, 1863; Captain, August 1, 1864; Captain, Assistant Adjutant General of Volunteers, July 25, 1864.

BATTERY RICHMOND: After old Fort Richmond, now Fort Wadsworth, which was named from the County in which it was situated.

BATTERY TURNBULL: In honor of Major William Turnbull, Topographical Engineers. Major Turnbull was born in Maryland. He was appointed to the Military Academy from the same State September 30, 1814; 2d Lieutenant, Corps of Artillery, July 1, 1819; transferred to the 4th Artillery, June 1, 1821; 1st Lieutenant, January 1, 1823; Major, Topographic Engineers, July 7, 1838. He died December 9, 1857*

BATTERY UPTON: In honor of Colonel Emery Upton. Born in Hew York. He was appointed from the same State to the .Military Academy July 1, 1856. Graduated and appointed 2d Lieutenant, 4th Artillery, May 6, 1861; 1st Lieutenant, 5th Artillery, May 14, 1861; Captain, 5th Artillery, February 22, 1865; Lieutenant Colonel, 25th Infantry, July 28, 1866; transferred to the 18th Infantry, March 15, 1860; unassigned, July 1, 1870; assigned to **1st** Artillery, December **15, 1870**; transferred to **4th** Artillery, March **16, 1877**; Colonel, July 1, 1880. He died March 15, 1881.

BATTERY WEED: In honor of Captain Stephen H. Weed, 5th U.S. Artillery. Captain Weed was born in New York. He was appointed to the Military Academy from the same State July 1, 1850; graduated and appointed Brevet 2d Lieutenant, 2d Lieutenant Artillery July 1, 1854; 2d Lieutenant, 4th Artillery, December ..-18, 1854; 1st Lieutenant, November 16, 1856; Captain, 5th Artillery, May 14, 1861; Brigadier General of Volunteers, June 6, 1863. He was killed July 2, 1863, at the Battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

ANNEX B 2

COPIES OF DEEDS COVERING LANDS INCLUDED IN THE FORT WADSWORTH RESERVATION
LETTERS PATENT FROM THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Recorded the following Letters Patent for the he United States of America, the twenty-third day of April 1847 at 1/2 after 2: 00 P.M., Joseph Egbert, Clerk,

The People of the State of Mew York, by the Grace of Good Free and Independent - To all to whom these presents shall come. Greeting; Know Ye, that pursuant to the provisions of the Act of our Legislature entitled:

"An Act authorizing the sale to the United States of certain lands on Staten Island." Passed February 6, 1836 and agreeable to a Resolution of the Commissioners of our Land Office dated this day, and for and in consideration of the sum of thirty-three thousand two hundred and eighty-four dollars and eighty-seven cents paid into our Treasury by the United States, We have given, granted and confirmed, and by these presents do give, grant, code and confirm unto the United States of America All those two certain pieces or parcels of land situate in our County of Richmond- The First, being the lot of land which was conveyed to us by Ann Jacobson, and Catharine Vandeventer of the said County by Deed bearing date the twenty-fourth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four, by Mr. Sprong, Surveyor on the part and behalf of the said Ann Jacobson and Catherine Vandeventer, and Evert Bancker Junior Surveyor on the part and behalf of the People of the State of New York, and is butted bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a stake and stones bearing North sixty-one degrees East from the Northwest corner of the house at present occupied by Cornelius McLean, and chain and sixty-one links distance ; thence North eleven degrees West two chains and twenty-four. links to the East end of a rock three foot long; thence North seventy-nine degrees East one chain and seventy-four links; thence North ten degrees and thirty minutes West ten chains and sixty-three links; thence South sixty-nine degrees West three chains and twenty-one links along the fence; thence North forty degrees West five chains and forty-eight links;

Thus South sixty-three degrees and thirty minutes West five chains and ninety-eight links; thence North twenty-five degrees West nine chains and forty links;

thence north sixty three degrees an thirty minutes East seven chains and forty three links thence north thirty degrees West one chain and forty-five links; thence North fifteen degrees West five chains and forty-eight links;

thence North two chains and sixty six links to a rock two feet over at Begles line; thence North sixty-seven decrees East sixty-eight links to the bank; thence North sixty- seven degrees East one chain and seventy-five links down the bank to high water mark; thence South eleven degrees East five chains and forty-eight links to the flat at about twenty links from high water mark;

thence South fifty-two degrees East eleven chains and eighty links along the flat at about twenty links from high water mark; thence South sixteen degrees East five chains and eighty-four links to the foot of the bank at high water mark; thence South eight degrees East twelve chains and fourteen links along the foot of the bank; thence South seventy-nine degrees West one chain and sixty links up the bank; thence South seventy-nine degrees Vest two chains and fifty-two links to the stake and stones at the place of beginning. The whole containing about twenty-five Acres be the same more or less.

The second being the lands which were conveyed to us by John V.D. Jacobson of Southfield, in the said County and Nelethay, his wife by deed bearing date the twentieth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nine, and are described in the said deed as follows, to wit: All these parts of that certain piece or parcel of land situated at Southfield in the County and State aforesaid bounded as follows, viz; Beginning at the water on the shore of the Narrows on the Southeasterly corner of land late the property of John Bedell deceased, and running thence South sixty-four degrees fifteen minutes West five hundred, and ninety-nine foot to a cut stone set in the ground; thence South twenty-five degrees twenty minutes East two thousand three hundred and twenty feet to a stone standing in the line of Jacobson's Vault Lot; thence north sixty-one degrees and ten minute's East one hundred feet to a cut stone: South twenty-five degrees twenty minutes east one hundred and nine feet to a cut stone thence South sixty-four degrees ten minutes West one hundred feet to a cut stone set in the ground; thence South twenty-five degrees twenty minutes East fifty-seven feet four inches to a cut stone; thence North eighty-seven degrees East one hundred and eighty-four feet nine inches to a cut stone; thence South seventy-six degrees East one hundred and sixty feet more or less to the water on Bay Shore as far as the right of the said John V. D. Jacobson and Nelethay his wife extends there; thence Northeasterly and Northerly along the water or shore of the Bay and Narrows as far as their right extends to the place of beginning - Containing in addition to the lands heretofore owned by the People of the said State about twenty-two acres and an half be the same more or less - which have not heretofore been sold and conveyed to the said. People.

And also, all and every part of the said lands, tenements, and hereditaments bounded as follows; viz; Beginning at the water at the Southerly point of the land above granted and runs thence North seventy-six degrees West one hundred feet to the last mentioned Cut stone in the above boundaries; thence South twenty-five degrees twenty minutes East to the water or Bay shore - Together with all and singular the rights, hereditaments and appurtenances to the same belonging or in any wise appertaining excepting and reserving to ourselves all Gold and Silver mines; To have and to hold the above described, and granted, premises unto the said. The United.States of America forever, the same being now required, by the United States for the purpose of constructing and maintaining proper defenses for the protection of the harbor of New York, and. the jurisdiction of the same for the purpose aforesaid is hereby ceded to the said The United States of America, Provided nevertheless that this Grant and Cession shall not be so construed as to prevent or impede the Execution of any process Civil or Criminal under the authority of our said state except so far as such process may effect the real or personal property of the United States within the said tracts of land.

In testimony whereof, we have caused these our Letters to be made Patent and the Great Seal of our said State to be hereunto affixed - Witness, John Young Governor of our said State at our City of Albany the fifteenth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, and in the seventy first year of our Independence.

John Young Passed the Secretary's Office the 15th day of February 1847.

Arch d Campbell Dep. Sec. of State

ANNEX C 2

Extract from the minutes of the Commissioners of the Land Office dated February 15, 1847-

Resolved that the patent issued to the United States of America this day for the State lands at the Narrows in the County of Richmond be delivered to Henry Storms, Commissary General to be given by him to Major Richard Delafield of the United States Engineers on his depositing in the Manhattan Bank to the credit of the Treasurer of the State of New York the sum of thirty-three thousand two hundred and eighty-four dollars and eighty-seven cents.

State of New York) Secretary's Office)

I certify the preceding to be a true Extract from the minutes of the Commissioners of the land office of this State.

Given under my hand and the Seal of this Office at the City of Albany the fifteenth day of February in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and forty-seven.

Arch d Campbell Dep. Sec. of State.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

LETTERS PATENT¹.

The People of the State of New York, by the grace of God, free and independent.

To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting:

Know ye, That pursuant to the provisions of chapter two hundred forty of the laws of nineteen hundred five and in accordance with a resolution of the Commissioners of the Land Office, adopted March 25, 1909, we have granted, released and quit-claimed, and by these presents do grant, release and quit-claim unto the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, all the right title and interest which the people of the State of New York acquired through the sale for unpaid taxes, held by the Treasurer of Richmond County in the year 1896 to lot number eleven, map or page eleven, tax maps of the town of Southfield, Richmond County.

In Testimony Whereof, We have caused these our Letters to be made Patent, and the Great Seal of our said State to be hereunto affixed.

Witness, Horace White, Lieutenant Governor of our said State at our City of Albany, the 27th day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred nine.

(Signed) Horace White.

Passed the Secretary's office the 27th day of March, 1909.

(Signed) Thomas F. Fennell,

Deputy Secretary of State.

ANNEX C

DATE OF ACQUISITION OF THE SEVERAL TRACTS OF LAND IN THIS RESERVATION
ANNEX D

	Dates of Acquisition.
<u>Tract No. 1.</u> - Area 47.50 acres, from State of New York) to United States. Patent recorded in Liber 15, page 266 etc., of the deed records of Richmond County. For Act of cession see page 7 et seq	Feb.15, 1847
<u>Tract No. 2.</u> Area 5.2 acres, from Peter Jacobson) and wife to the United States. Deed recorded in Liter 34, page 628, etc., of the deed records of Richmond County)For Act of cession see page 7 et seq	Aug. 8, 1854
<u>Tract no. 3.</u> - Area 17 acres, from William H. Aspinwall and wife to United States, conveying a tract of land by metes and bounds. Deed recorded in Liber 40, Page 404,) etc., of the deed records of Richmond County. For Act of cession see page 7 et	May 28, 1856
<u>Tract no. 4.</u> Area 7.58 acres, from J. J. Alexandre and wife to the United States. Deed recorded in Liber 223, page 438, of the deed records of Richmond County. Decree of condemnation rendered November 25, 1892 and filed with the records of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York For Act of cession see page 7 et seq	Jan. 5, 1893
<u>Tract No. 5.</u> - Area 18.797 acres, from J. H. Alexandre and wife to the United States. Deed recorded in Liber 223, page 435, of the deed records of Richmond County. Decree of condemnation rendered November 25, 1892, and filed with the records of the United States District) Court for the Eastern District of New York. For Act of cession see page 7 et seq.)	Jan 5, 1893
<u>Tract No. 6.</u> - Area 9 acres, from Ellen Lee Mayo to the United States. Deed recorded in Liber 225, page 381, of the deed records of Richmond County. Decree of condemnation rendered November 25, 1892, and) filed with the records of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York. For Act of cession see page 7 et seq.	Jan. 5, 1893
<u>Tract No. 7.</u> - Area 50 acres, (includes Tracts 7, 8 and 9) from Serena P. Appleton to the United States. Deed recorded in Liber 223, page 431, of the deed records of) Richmond County. Decree of condemnation rendered November 25, 1892, and filed with the records of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York.) For Act of cession see page 7 et seq.	Jan. 5, 1893

<p><u>Tract No. 8.-</u> Area Tracts No. 8 and 9) 14 acres. From Josef a De La Serna De Hegewisch and husband to the United States, conveying a tract of land by metes and bounds. Deed recorded in Liber 216, page 534 of the deed records of Richmond County.</p> <p>For Act of cession see page 7 et seq.</p>	<p>March 4, 1892</p>
<p><u>Tract No. 9.-</u> From Adolfo Hegewisch and wife to the United States, conveying a tract of land by metes and bounds. Deed recorded in Liber 216, page 538, of the deed records of Richmond County. For Act of cession see page 7 et seq.)</p>	<p>March 14, 1892</p>
<p><u>Tract No. 10.-</u> Area 6.25 acres, from Sarah Schuyler Martin to the United States. Deed recorded in Liber 240 page 374, of the deed records of Richmond County. For Act of cession see page 7 et seq.</p>	<p>Feb. 1, 1895</p>
<p><u>Tract No. 11.-</u> Area 7 acres, from Joseph B. Whitney and wife to the United States, conveying a tract of land by metes and bounds. Deed recorded in Liber 259, page 574, of the deed records of Richmond County For Act of cession see page 7 et seq.</p>	<p>March 11, 1898</p>
<p><u>Tract No. 12.-</u> Area 6.72 acres, from Elizabeth D. Ockerhausen et al. to the United States. Deed recorded in Liber 264, page 402, of the deed records of Richmond County. For Act of cession see page 7 et seq.</p>	<p>Aug. 30, 1898</p>
<p><u>Tract No. 13.-</u> Area 7.725 acres, from Joseph B. Whitney) and wife et al. to the United States. Deed recorded in Liber 282, page 109, of the deed records of Richmond County. For Act of cession see page 7 et seq.</p>	<p>Oct. 18, 1900</p>
<p><u>Tract No. 14.-</u> Area 5.09 acres, from Adeline Haxtun and wife to the United States. Deed recorded in Liber 285, page 387, of the deed records of Richmond County. For Act of cession see page 7 et seq.</p>	<p>Feb. 14, 1901</p>
<p><u>Tract No. 15.-</u> Area 3.9 acres, from Henry Mouquin and wife to the United States. Deed recorded in Liber 288, page 10, of the deed records of Richmond County. For Act of cession see page 7 et seq.</p>	<p>Oct. 2, 1901</p>
<p>From information contained in book entitled "U. S. Military Reservations, National Cemeteries and Military Parks, Etc", prepared in the office of the Judge Advocate General, U. S. Army, Revised Edition 1916, it appears that no additions were made to the Fort Wadsworth Reservation after 1901. This book gives the acreage of this Post as 226 but does not definitely state from whom the entire 226 acres were obtained. The statement is made that the acreage on May 26, 1880, was about 90 acres.</p>	
<p>ANNEX D 2</p>	

LAWS OF CESSION OF LAND BY STATE TO THE UNITED STATES DEFINING JURISDICTION

Jurisdiction of the first described, purchase was authorized to be ceded with title by an Act of the State Legislature, passed February 6, 1836, which provides as follows;

"Section 1. The commissioners of the land office are hereby authorized to sell to the United States of America, upon such terms as they may think proper, so much of the land upon Staten Island belonging to the State of New York, heretofore used for military purposes, as may be required by the government of the United States to construct and maintain proper defenses for the protection of the harbor of New York."

"Section 2. The jurisdiction over such land as may be sold by virtue of the first section of this act, from and after such sale, shall be ceded to the United States of America, for the purposes for which such land shall have been sold. But such jurisdiction shall not be construed so as to prevent or impede the execution of any process, civil or criminal under the authority of this State, except so far as such process may affect the real or personal property of the United States within the said tract of land." (Passed February 6, 1836. Rev. Stats. of N.Y. 8th ed., Vol. 1, page 170).

For deed, in pursuance of said Act, see No. 1 herein ("Letters Patent from the State of New York, etc." February 15, 1847).

Jurisdiction was also ceded by acts of the State Legislature, passed April 15, 1857; April 18, 1861; February 20, 1862; for water covered lands May 7, 1860; for additional lands May 6, 1893 and February 14, 1896, which acts provide as follows:

Section 2. The consent of the State of New York is **also** given to the purchase by the United States, of all, each and every portion of that tract of land on Staten Island, in the County of Richmond, New York, now owned by William. H. Aspinwall, who is to convey the same to the United States; said land lying mainly between the land of the United States and New York Avenue, for purpose of building and maintaining thereon forts, magazines, arsenals, and other necessary structures, with their appendages."

Section 3. The jurisdiction of the State of New York, in and over the said property referred to and set forth in the second section hereof, shall, be, and the same is hereby, ceded to the United States, subject to the restriction hereinafter mentioned."

"Section 4. The said consent is given, and the said jurisdiction ceded upon the express condition that the State of New York shall retain a concurrent jurisdiction with the United States in and over the said property, so far **as** that all civil, criminal and other process, which may issue under the laws **or** authority of the State of New York, may be executed thereon, in the same way and manner as if such consent had not been given, or jurisdiction ceded, except so far as such process may affect the real or personal property **of** the United States."

"Section 5. The said property, when acquired by the United States, shall be and continue forever thereafter exonerated and discharged from all taxes, assessments, and other charges, which may be levied or imposed under the authority of this state; but the jurisdiction hereby ceded, and the exemption from taxation hereby granted, shall continue in respect to said property, and to each portion thereof, so long as the same shall remain the property of the United States, and be used for the purposes aforesaid, and no longer."
(Passed April 15, 1857. Rev. Stats. of New York, 8th ed. Vol. 1, page 189.)

"Section 6. The jurisdiction hereby ceded shall not vest in any respect to any portion of said property until the United States shall have acquired the title thereto, by purchase or otherwise."

For Act of the State Legislature, passed April 18, 1861, see Fort Hamilton.

"Section 1. The last paragraph of the seventh section of the act entitled*** (above Act of April 18, 1861) is hereby amended so as to read as follows: For the purpose of building and maintaining thereon batteries, forts, magazines, wharfs, and other necessary structures, with their appendages, adjacent to Fort Hamilton, Kings County, Long Island, and adjacent to Fort Tompkins, in the town of Southfield, County of Richmond, Staten Island," (Passed February 20, 1862.)

See also Fort Hamilton for Act of February 20, 1862, as to condemnation proceedings for jurisdiction over water covered lands; see Act of the State Legislature passed May 7, 1860, as set out under caption of "Fort Weed."

By Patent of the Governor of the State of New York, dated May 26, 1880, title to and jurisdiction over the premises described in the Act of May 7, 1880, were granted and conveyed to the United States, subject to the terms of the said act and the limitations contained therein. Patent recorded May 26, 1880, in Book of Patents No. 44, page 604, etc., of the records of Patents in the Office of the Secretary of State of New York.

Jurisdiction over the additional lands was ceded to the United States, by acts of the State Legislature, passed May 26, 1893, and February 14, 1896, which acts provide as follows:

"Section 1. The consent of the State of New York is hereby given to the acquisition by the United States of the following described tracts or parcels of land upon the payment of the taxes now due thereon, namely: All those certain tracts or parcels of land, situated, lying and being in the village of Edgewater, in the town of Southfield, in the County of Richmond, and State of New York, adjacent to the military reservation of Fort Wadsworth on Staten Island, as follows; to wit; One certain tract of land containing about fourteen acres, and the land and land under water lying in front thereof, and between ordinary high water mark of New York Bay and the pier and bulkhead line established by the United States, and four certain adjacent tracts of land, containing in the aggregate about eighty-two acres, and about four and eight hundred and fifty-five one thousandths acres of land and land under water, lying in front of that portion thereof, that borders on the shore of New York Bay, and between ordinary high water mark of said New York Bay and the pier and bulkhead line established by the United States; and it is hereby provided that the United States may erect fortifications, barracks, and other buildings thereon for the defense of New York Harbor, and the United States shall have, hold and occupy

said lands thus acquired, and shall exercise jurisdiction and control over the *same* and every part thereof, subject to the restrictions hereinafter mentioned."

"Section 2. The jurisdiction hereby ceded shall vest when plats and descriptions of the said lands thus acquired, shall have been filed in the Office of the Secretary of State of the *State* of New York; such jurisdiction shall continue no longer than the United States shall own such lands, and such consent is given and jurisdiction ceded upon the express condition that the State of New York shall retain concurrent jurisdiction with the United States In and over such lands so far as that all civil, and criminal process, duly issued under the laws of said *State*, for acts done or offenses committed within said State, may be freely and fully executed on and within the said lands, except so far as such processes may affect the real or personal property of the United States."

"Section 3. So long as such lands thus acquired shall remain the property of the United States, and no longer, the same shall be and continue exonerated from all taxes, assessments, and other charges which may be levied or imposed under the authority of this State." (Passed May 6, 1893, Laws of New York, 1893 Vol. 2, page 1423.)

Jurisdiction over the tracts received from Elizabeth D. Okerhauson, Joseph B. Whitney, Adeline Haxtun, and Henry Mouquin respectively, was ceded by the Governor, under the provisions of the General Act of Cession, under dates of October 24, 1898, December 19, 1900, May 9, 1901 and December 19, 1901.

See also General Act of Cession, and Act entitled "Act to Release to the United States, etc." dated March 12, 1903.

Revocable Licenses: License, April 11, 1896, to the Staten Island Electric Railroad Company to construct, maintain and operate an electric street surface railroad on so much of Richmond Avenue as lies within or abuts upon the reservation.

License, September 30, 1901, to the Treasury Department to occupy for a light-keeper's dwelling a tract of land 100 by 125 feet near the intersection of New York and Richmond Avenues. (Location changed by Letter of the Secretary of War to the Secretary of Commerce and Labor, November 5, 1903; accepted by the latter February 15, 1904.)

JURISDICTION OVER NEW YORK AND RICHMOND AVENUES

Endorsement on letter of Commanding Officer asking for information concerning jurisdiction over New York and Richmond Avenues.

(1803) 5th Indorsement. C.

WAR DEPARTMENT

JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D.C. October 11, 1905.

Respectfully returned to the Military Secretary. The Jurisdiction over the lands acquired for the enlargement of the military reservation of Fort Wadsworth, New York, rests on the Acts of the State Legislature, approved May 26, 1893, and February 14, 1896, and upon certain Governor's deeds ceding jurisdiction under the general act of April 17, 1896. By the first two acts, consent

ANNEX E- 3

was given to the purchase of certain parcels of land, and in the purchase there under the lands were described as including portions of New York Avenue and of Richmond Avenue; so that upon such purchase, pursuant to the consent of the legislature, the United States acquired jurisdiction over the entire tract purchased, including that portion of the same within the limits of **said** Avenues.

The Governor's deed of December 19, 1900, ceding jurisdiction under the general act of April 17, 1896, over the tracts of land acquired by deed, dated October 18, 1900, from Joseph B. Whitney, **et. al., after** describing the premises as bounded by Richmond Avenue, Sea Avenue, and Tompkins Avenue adds "together with the one-half of Sea, Richmond and Tompkins Avenues adjoining said premises. The deed purports to release to the United States of America the jurisdiction of the State of New York upon and over the said parcel of land above described ---, -. "the United States to hold, possess, and exercise such jurisdiction subject to the terms and conditions of said act of the Legislature of the State of New York." There is no specific **act of** cession of jurisdiction over the Avenues referred to within.

Geo. B. Davis, Judge Advocate General.

GENERAL ACT OF SESSION

"Section 1. The consent of the State of New York is hereby given to the purchase by the government of the United States, and under the authority of the same, of any tract, piece or parcel of land from any individual or individuals, bodies politic or corporate within the boundaries of this State, situate upon or adjacent to the navigable waters thereof, for the purpose of erecting thereon light-houses, beacons, light-house keeper's dwellings, works for improving navigation, post offices, custom-houses, fortifications, and all deeds, conveyances or other papers relating to the title thereof, shall be recorded in the office of the register or county clerk of the county where the said lands **are** situated."

"Section 2. Whenever the United States is desirous of purchasing or acquiring the title to any tract, piece or parcel of land within the boundaries of this state for any of the purposes aforesaid, and cannot agree with the owner or owners thereof as to the purchase thereof, or if the owners of any of said lands are unknown, infants, of unsound mind, or nonresidents, or if for any other reason a perfect title can not be made to said lands, or any part thereof the United States by any agent authorized under the hand and seal of any head of any executive department of the government of the United States, is authorized to apply to the Supreme Court of the state, in and for the county within which the said lands are situated, to have the said lands condemned for the use and benefit of the United States, under the provisions of the statutes of this state applying to condemnation of lands."

"Section 3. Whenever the United States by any agent authorized under the hand and seal of any head of an executive department of the government of the United States, shall cause to be filed and recorded in the office of the secretary of the State of New York, certified copies of the record of transfer to the United States of any tracts or parcels of land within the state, which have been acquired by the United States for any of the purposes aforesaid, together with maps or plats and descriptions of such lands by metes and bounds,

ANNEX E 4

and a certificate of the attorney-general of the United States that the United States is in possession of said lands and premises for either of the works or purposes aforesaid, under a clear and complete title, the governor of the state is authorized, if he deems proper, to execute in duplicate, in the name of the state and under its great seal, a deed or release of the state ceding to the United States the jurisdiction of said tracts or parcels of land as hereinafter provided."

"Section 4. The said jurisdiction so ceded shall be upon the express condition that the state of New York shall retain a concurrent jurisdiction with the United States on and over the property and premises so conveyed, so far as that all civil and criminal process, which may issue under the laws or authority of the state of New York, may be executed thereon in the same way and manner as if such jurisdiction had not been ceded, except so far as such process may affect the real or personal property of the United States."

"Section 5. The said property shall be and continue forever thereafter exonerated and discharged from all taxes, assessments and other charges, which may be levied or imposed under the authority of this state; but the jurisdiction hereby ceded and the exemption from taxation hereby granted, shall continue in respect to such property so long as the same shall remain the property of the United States, and be used for the purposes aforesaid, and no longer."

"Section 6. One of the deeds of leases so executed in duplicate shall be delivered to the duly authorized agent of the United States, and the other deed or release shall be filed and recorded in the office of the secretary of state of the State of New York; and said deed or release shall become valid and effectual only upon such filing and recording in said office.

"Section 7 The secretary of state shall cause to be printed in the session laws of the year succeeding file in his office of said deed, a statement of the date of the application of the United States for said deed and a copy of the description of the lands so conveyed or ceded, together with the date of the recording of said deed in the office of the said secretary of state."

"Section 8. This act shall not apply to the county of Orange." (Approved April 17, 1896. Laws of New York, 1896, Vol. 1, p. 377.)

ANNEX E 5

The proposed location of the Verrazzano-Narrows Bridge and approaches **would** place the west terminus through the central portion of Fort Wadsworth. The Staten Island Toll Plaza and approach to the bridge necessitates the taking of some property from the post. The area lost consists of an easterly-westerly strip, roughly bisecting the site into two segments, the unity being maintained by sufficient easements through the Outgrant providing adequate roadways passing under the elevated bridge approaches to maintain adequate traffic circulation between the two portions*

Of the total existing land area of 226 acres, the Outgrant parcel for the bridge approaches consists of 23.47 acres (Parcel "A"). An additional area of 1.06 acres (Parcel "B") is taken for widening of Lily Pond Avenue on the westerly boundary of the post. Bordering each parcel is a 50 foot wide buffer strip. This restricted-use area totals 7.1 acres adjacent to Parcel "A", and 1.3b acres adjacent to Parcel "B". The net unrestricted usable area for the post is therefore reduced from 226 acres to 193 •01 •

EXTRACT

CONTRACT HO. DA-30-075-ENG-7931 THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA with THE PORT OF NEW YORK
AUTHORITY and TRIBOROUGH BRIDGE AND TUNNEL AUTHORITY

The Secretary of the Army, under and by virtue of the authority vested in him by Title II, First War Powers Act (50 USC 611) as amended and Executive Order 10210, 2 February 1951 and Title 10 USC 2668 hereby grants to The Port of New York Authority, a body corporate and politic created by compact between the States of New Jersey and New York, with the consent of Congress of the United States, with its principal office at 111 Eighth Avenue in the Borough of Manhattan, City, County and State of New York, hereinafter designated as the grantee, an easement for a right of way for road, street and bridge purposes over, across, in and upon lands of the United States and described as follows:

PARCEL A: All those certain lots, pieces, or parcels of land situate, lying and being in the County of Richmond, City and State of New York, being a part of the Fort Wadsworth Military Reservation, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point designated as Point 24 on a certain map of Fort Wadsworth entitled "Master Plan for Re-development - Reservation Boundary Map," drawn by Madigan-Hyland, dated 1 June 1956 and bearing File No. 7072-323 in the Office of the District Engineer of the New York District of the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, and being Drawing No. 18-04-02, Sheet 3 of 29, which point is marked by a monument designated as Monument "E" on said map; running thence (1) N 66°52'19" E more or less, along a course parallel to and distant 108.50 feet northerly from a line drawn between two monuments designated as Monument "A" and Monument "B" on said map, a distance of 802.25 feet more or less, to a point in the easterly exterior line of Fort Wadsworth Reservation, said exterior line being the U. S. Pierhead and Bulkhead Line;

ANNEX F

thence (2) along said exterior line and the U.S. Pierhead and Bulkhead Line 'S 9°00' E, more or less, 223.77 feet more or less, to a point; thence (3) through lands of said Reservation S 66°52'19" W, more or less, 747.63 feet, more or less, to a point which *is* in a line drawn in continuation of course (14) hereinafter described, said course (3) being parallel to and distant 217.00 feet southerly from course (1) hereinbefore described; thence (4) at right angles to course (3) S 23°07'41" E more or less, 27.50 feet to a point; thence (5) at right angles to course (4) S 66°52'19" W more or less, 1, 273.77 feet to a point; thence (6) S 82°21' W more or less, along a course which forms an interior of 1 (164 31' 19" with course (5), a distance of 540.48 feet more or less, to a point in the westerly line of lands of said Fort Wadsworth Reservation, said point being distant 461.7 feet more or less, measured along a coarse having a bearing of N 28°43'10" W, from a monument in said exterior line, said monument being in the northerly line of Richmond Avenue, also known as McClean Avenue; thence (7) along said westerly exterior line of said Reservation N 28°43'10" W 345.00 feet more or less to a monument; thence (8) S 65°11'10" W 197.50 feet to a monument in the easterly line of Tompkins Avenue; thence (9) at right angles to Tompkins Avenue, S 61°41'20" W 30.00 feet to a monument in the westerly exterior line of said Reservation and In the center line of Tompkins Avenue; thence (10) still along said exterior line and along the center line of Tompkins Avenue N 28°18'40" W 775.00 feet more or less to & point in said line; thence (11) through the lands of Fort Wadsworth Reservation S 69°07'15" E more or less, along a course which forms an interior angle of 199°52'45" with course (12) hereinafter described, a distance of 1, 194.00 feet more or less, to a point; thence (12) S 89°00' E more or less, along a course which forms an interior angle of 204°07'41" with course (13) hereinafter described, a distance of 365.32 feet, to a point; thence (13) N 66°52'19" E more or less, and parallel to course (1) hereinbefore described, a distance of 933.40 feet, to a point; thence (14) at right angles to course (13) S 23°07'41" E more or less, 27.50 feet to the point or place of beginning.

Containing 23.47 acres, be the same more or less.

PARCEL B: Beginning at a point formed by the Intersection of the Southerly side of McClean Avenue as adopted by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment of the City of New York on March 1, 1935, and the easterly side of Lily Pond Avenue, as formerly established, the said point of beginning having the coordinate values of S 21532.227 W 5786.856 in a system established by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey for the Borough of Richmond, and running thence (1) N 66°36'41" E, along the said southerly side of McClean Avenue 36.86 feet to the easterly side of Lily Pond Avenue as shown on Map NO 2840 entitled "Map Establishing a Change in the Lines and Grades of Lily Pond Avenue- from McClean Avenue to Seaside Boulevard in Section 13," dated June, 30, 1955 and filed in the office of the President of the Borough of Richmond; thence (2) S 31°28'00" E along the said easterly side of Lily Pond Avenue as shown on said Map NO. 2840, 1044.18 feet to a point; thence (3) Southerly along a curve to the right having a radius of 69.35 feet, and tangent to the preceding course, along the said easterly side of Lily Pond Avenue, as shown on said Map No. 2840, 88.34 feet to the said easterly side of Lily Pond Avenue as formerly established; thence (4) N 30°49'26" W, along the said easterly side of Lily Pond Avenue as formerly established, 1115.72 feet to the said southerly side of McClean Avenue as adopted, which is also the said point or place of beginning; being the westerly strip of lands of the United States Government Military Reservation at Fort Wadsworth lying in the bed of Lily Pond Avenue as shown on said Map No. 2840.

Containing 1.06 acres, be the same more or less.

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Reserving to the grantor rights of passage and re-passage and of maintenance over, upon and across three certain roads under the bridge to be constructed and which said roads intersect the property described in Parcel A, together with the right to construct, use and maintain, utilities and other facilities in the bed of said roads, separately described as follows:

PARCEL I - NEW YORK AVENUE: Beginning at a point in the thirteenth course of the above description of Parcel A, said point being distant 371.51 feet more or less measured along said course from the starting point of said course; running thence (1) along said thirteenth course N 66°52'19" E more or less, 100.58 feet to a point in same; thence (2) S 29°17'41" E more or less, 273.58 feet more or less, to a point in the fifth course of said description of Parcel A; thence (3) along said fifth course S 66°52'19" W more or less, 100.58 feet to a point in same; thence (4) S 29°17'41" W more or less, 273° 58 feet more or less; to the point or place of beginning.

Containing 0.61 acres, be the same more or less.

PARCEL II - HUDSON ROAD: Beginning at a point in the first course of the above description of Parcel A, said point being distant 337° 20 feet more or less measured along said first course from the starting point of said first course; running thence (1) along said first course N 66°52'19" E more or less, 51.03 feet to a point in same; thence (2) S 11°36'E more or less, 221.47 feet more or less, to a point in the third course of said description of Parcel A; thence (3) along said third course S 66°52'19" W more or less, 51. 03 feet to a point in same; thence (4) N 11°36'W more or less, 221.47 feet more or less to the point or place of beginning.

Containing 0.25 acres, be the same more or less.

PARCEL III FORT WEED ROAD: Beginning at a point in the first course of the above description of Parcel A, said point being distant 545.32 feet more or less measured; along said first course from the starting point of said first course; running thence (1) along said first course N 66°52'19" E more or less, 53.06 feet to a point in same; thence (2) S 3°33' 41" E 145.06 feet to a point; thence (3) S 48°33'41" E 28.00 feet to a point; thence (4) S 23°48'15" W 80.58 feet more or less to a point in the third course of said description of Parcel A; thence (5) along said third course S 66°52'19" W more or less, 73.22 feet to a point in same; thence (6) N 23°48'15" E 97.50 feet to a point, thence (7) N 48°33'41" W 12.14 feet to a point; thence (8) N 3°33'41 W 148.00 feet more or less to the point or place of beginning.

Containing 0.29 acres, be the same more or less.

ANNEX F 3