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**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT
OF THE BLOCKHOUSE BLUFFS, THE GREAT HILL AND BOGARDUS HILL
CENTRAL PARK, BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN, CITY OF NEW YORK**

**THE CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY
AND THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

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A. INTRODUCTION

This report provides a detailed historical and archaeological assessment of the Blockhouse Bluffs, the Great Hill and Bogardus Hill in the northern part of Central Park in the Borough of Manhattan, City of New York. It supplements an earlier preliminary historical and archaeological evaluation of the Park to the north of the 97th Street Transverse carried out by this consultant in the summer and fall of 1990 (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990). This document serves primarily as a means of providing supporting information for the accompanying set of annotated 1": 20' scale maps which graphically depict the archaeological sensitivity of the project area (Figures 1-4).

The area under study is located in the northwest corner of Central Park and is bounded approximately by Central Park West, Central Park North (110th Street), Montayne's Rivulet and the line of 101st Street, if the latter were to be extended across the Park. The actual limits of the area under study are defined by the 50-foot contour line, except to the west where the Park wall serves as the border. Beginning close to the intersection of Central Park West and 101st Street, the 50-foot contour skirts the northern rim of The Pool, runs between the West Drive and Montayne's Rivulet, then runs parallel to and west of the northern loop of the East Drive, finally crossing the West Drive in the northwest corner of the Park and turning west to meet the Park wall along Central Park West near 109th Street.

This assessment has been undertaken by Hunter Research, Inc. under contract to the Central Park Conservancy, Inc. in connection with the latter agency's development of restoration and rehabilitation plans for the northern section of the Park. This particular study was designed to provide additional information on the potential for archaeological resources relating to the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 and to identify and evaluate the impact of late 19th and 20th-century (i.e. Park-era) land use on earlier archaeological deposits.

The preliminary documentary research conducted during the initial study indicated that this portion of Central Park was extensively fortified during both the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 and also contained associated military encampments during the Revolutionary period. The most notable historic feature still surviving above ground in this area is the stone block house built in 1814 on the bluffs in the north-central portion of the current study area. Another potentially significant archaeological resource within the study area is the site of the Borrowe Farmstead, the nucleus of which was established around 1800 on the southern extension of the Great Hill known as Bogardus Hill. Several dwellings and shanties, some with associated outbuildings, were also present within the study area during the 19th century prior to the creation of the Park.

B. METHODOLOGY

The primary work tasks required for this study were the performance of additional archival research into pre-Park land use and a review of maps, documents and other materials relating to the formation of the Park and subsequent Park-related modifications (e.g., landscaping, utilities installation, construction of recreational facilities).

Additional historical research into pre-Park land use concentrated on an examination of primary documents dating from the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 and primary and secondary materials relating to the pre-Park history of farmsteads in the northwestern portion of the Park. The former group of documents included British military records of the Revolutionary War (notably, regimental orderly books and officers' diaries and journals) and maps, plans and construction specifications relating to the fortifications erected for the defense of New York during the War of 1812. With regard to historical materials pertaining to early farmsteads in the area, various pre-1860s land records (deeds, mortgages, etc.), newspaper advertisements (see below, Appendix 1) and published secondary sources (e.g., Stokes 1916-28) were examined in an effort to ascertain more detailed information regarding the location of potential farm-related archaeological resources. Particular attention was given to the Borrowe Farmstead, since this was the only major pre-Park farm whose nucleus lay within the study area.

In researching the history of land use and land alteration since the creation of this section of Central Park in the late 1850s and early 1860s, various classes of research materials were consulted. The writings and plans of both Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux were examined for information on landscaping actions undertaken during the formation of the Park in an effort to assess the impact of these actions on earlier archaeological resources. The Annual Reports of the Board of Commissioners of the Central Park (later known as the Annual Reports of the Department of Parks, City of New York) from 1857 through 1931 were reviewed for information relating to ground disturbing activities within the Park, not only during the initial construction phases, but also in subsequent years when numerous modifications were made. A detailed topographic map of the Park, surveyed in 1935, proved to be of particular value in understanding changing land use within the Park (City of New York Department of Parks 1935a). Finally, miscellaneous construction drawings and cartographic materials were studied which related to various landscaping, drainage, utility installation and recreational projects that have been undertaken within the Park over the past century or more.

Following completion of the research tasks, historical and land use data were correlated with the results of the earlier historical research and field inspection carried out in 1990 (no fieldwork was conducted as part of the current study) and plotted on to the 1982 series of 1": 20' topographic maps covering the Park. Assessments of archaeological sensitivity were then made based on historical information, land modification data and present-day topography, using a four-tier evaluation system (see below, Section D). It is the cartographic expression of evaluation, as shown in Figures 1-4, which forms the principal end product of the current study.

This report should be regarded as a supplement to the earlier report produced in connection with the preliminary assessment of the northern end of the Park to the north of the 97th Street Transverse (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990). Relevant sections of the gazetteer compiled for the earlier report are included in this report as Appendix 2 and contain both historical and field data. With the exception of a group of Revolutionary War era redoubts and an associated encampment whose locations have been re-evaluated (see below, Section 3), the same identification numbers assigned to historic sites during the initial phase of work have been used for this supplementary study. Thus, as before, each pre-Park historic site has been assigned its own unique identification number based on its location within the city grid that was superimposed over the Park on the maps prepared by the Common Council of the City of New York in 1856 (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990:Volume 2, Illustrations 53-55). The first three digits of each site identification number reflect the block number within this grid. The remaining digits indicate a sequential numbering system within each block.

C. SUMMARY OF LAND USE HISTORY

1. Prehistory:

The prehistory of the Harlem Creek vicinity is poorly understood. While the approximate alignments of the principal Indian trails that ran through the area and some of the Indian names for topographic features are fairly well known, there is considerable confusion over the precise locations of Native American occupation sites. Unfortunately, owing to the intensity of 19th- and 20th-century urban development, our understanding of aboriginal settlement and land use patterns in this section of Manhattan is unlikely to progress much beyond that already achieved in the early part of this century when historians first began considering the prehistory of Manhattan in serious fashion (e.g., Beauchamp 1900; Riker 1904; Bolton 1905; Hall 1905; Hall 1911; Stokes 1916-1928; Parker 1922).

It is known that the major aboriginal trail running north-south across Manhattan Island generally followed the course of the later Boston Post Road (also known as Kingsbridge Road) through what is today the northern section of Central Park. It has been documented that in the project vicinity at least three different areas of flats bordering Harlem Creek were recognized by local Indian groups: Muscoota to the north of the Creek; Conykeekst or Conymokst directly to the east; and Rechawanis along the Creek's southern bank. In general, however, locational information concerning actual prehistoric sites in the area is sketchy. At least two, and perhaps as many as four, aboriginal occupation sites have been identified close to the study area but their precise location is unclear (Riker 1904; Bolton 1905; Hall 1911; Parker 1922; New York State Museum Site Maps and Files).

On environmental and topographic grounds, the floodplain fringe and the rim of the bluffs overlooking Harlem Creek would have been attractive to aboriginal peoples intent on exploiting the food resources of the floodplain itself. The bluff-top locations contained within the project area offered a good view across the valley to the north, an important factor in tracking game and monitoring the movements of other aboriginal groups. It is unlikely that horticulture was ever practiced in this area due to the barren and rocky nature of the terrain.

2. Revolutionary War Era Fortifications and Encampments:

The bluffs on either side of Montayne's Rivulet (and specifically the Great Hill area on the west side of this drainage) served three purposes in the British defense of New York City during the Revolutionary War. In the fall of 1776 a north-facing British defense line was constructed here prior to the capture of Fort Washington and the expulsion of American forces from Manhattan. Subsequently, until their abandonment in 1783, these fortifications were maintained as part of the extensive in-depth defensive system developed around New York Bay by the British Army. Throughout the war, the area was also used for the winter quartering of both British and Hessian units. Unfortunately, because of the relative imprecision of contemporary mapping, and the lack of specific locational detail in the available documentary sources, ambiguities remain about the location and extent of most of the features known to have existed here during the Revolutionary War era.

The British landing on the east side of Manhattan on September 15, 1776 was followed immediately by the capture of New York City. At the Battle of Harlem Heights on the 16th, the American forces were, however, able to deter a British advance into the northern part of Manhattan for another two months, and the opposing forces created defensive positions during that period. The British front line, including the current study area, extended from the Hudson River on the west to the marshes of Harlem Creek on the east. The American forward positions lay on Harlem Heights a short distance to the north, while extensive fortifications were developed in and around Fort Washington (in the area of present-day West 183rd Street and Fort Washington Avenue, about five miles to the north).

A. Fortifications

Construction of the British defenses in the Great Hill area commenced as early as September 20, 1776 when fascines were ordered to be delivered to "Major Musgrove's advanced post to the left [i.e., west] of McGowens House" (British Regiment of Foot Guards). A chain of redoubts was then planned to cover the entire line, the system being completed by the middle of October and shown on the Mackenzie sketch map dated October 12, 1776 (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990:Volume 2, Illustration 4). This map is inconsistent with other British maps of the area in showing only four redoubts. Other maps (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990:Volume 2, Illustrations 8, 10, 11 and 13) consistently show five redoubts, and five had certainly been planned as early as September 24.

A defensive system of this period consisted of several elements. The redoubts themselves were intended primarily as gun positions. They could take various forms, and the term was not used with great precision. Smith (1779) defines a redoubt as a "small work made in a ravelin, of various forms", a ravelin being "two faces, forming a salient angle... by the soldiers most commonly called half-moons". He also notes that square redoubts were sometimes constructed, and both types were clearly employed on the New York line. These were all essentially earthwork fortifications, reinforced with fascines and other timber revetting, and their construction would have entailed considerable excavation in the vicinity to obtain sufficient material for walls up to eight feet thick.

Around each redoubt the vegetation was removed to provide a clear field of fire. Trees were felled and laid at some distance from the redoubt in such a way as to form an obstacle to a massed infantry attack, a technique known as abatiss. Robertson ordered this to be undertaken on the New York line in September, and it is probably represented on the Mackenzie map by cross-hatching around the redoubts and on the slope to the north.

Additional measures were taken to strengthen the line. On the western side a continuous defensive line was built from close to the shore to a small square structure known as Rock Redoubt at the Jones's property. V-shaped outworks, called fleches (arrows) were placed at various points in front of the main line of redoubts, including two placed "near McGown's" on October 1. These may be the defenses at McGown's Pass itself.

The tactical situation changed after the British storming of Fort Washington on November 16. From this time until their abandonment in November 1783, these defenses formed part of a much more extensive system of fortifications on Manhattan and the adjacent islands and mainland. McGown's Pass was an important signalling post, and the other redoubts appear to have been maintained and possibly augmented by additional gun batteries (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990:Volume 2, Illustration 8).

The precise location of the redoubts and associated works cannot be established from the cartographic and documentary materials consulted for this study. In the previous report it was suggested that the three eastern redoubts (originally identified as 694-3, 809-4 and 809-5) lay on the northern side of the Great Hill, close to the War of 1812 Blockhouse and immediately above the steeper slopes which drop down to the lower ground around Harlem. Closer examination of the cartographic material makes it plain, however, that the redoubts were placed further south, on the gently-domed summit of the hill. Since the redoubts were probably designed to break up massed infantry attacks across open ground through the use of grapeshot and musketry, this location makes rather better sense than that suggested in the earlier report.

Two of the British maps (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990:Volume 2, Illustrations 10 and 11) provide topographical detail which can be related with some confidence to identifiable landscape elements. From these it is apparent that only the two easternmost redoubts (now identified as 806-5 and 806-6) lie within the project area. The square redoubt shown on the Mackenzie map of October 1776 might also have been constructed here and later replaced by the more conventional structures shown on the later maps. It seems more likely, however, that the Mackenzie map is inaccurate in this respect, and failed to show one of the redoubts.

The revised conclusion is therefore that two redoubts were placed just to the north of the summit of the Great Hill, lying about 500 apart. They may have lain within the disturbed area on the actual summit, but it is considered quite possible that they were located off the crest and slightly to the north, in areas apparently largely undisturbed by later landscaping.

B. Encampments

On October 21, 1776 it was noted that "several hutts built of mudd within pistole shotte of the redoubts" were to be pulled down, and it was ordered that "no hutts of wood or mudd are on any account to be permitted within musket shott of any works" (17th Regiment). Throughout the British occupation there are references to British and Hessian troops being encamped close to or at McGown's Pass. The following are representative documentary references (for others, see Hunter Research, Inc. 1990:Volume 1, D-301 thru D-304):

- May 1778: Encampment on the left [i.e., west] of the redoubts of McGown's near Jones's (Jones 1972).

- September 1781: "...daily expecting orders to march to our camp as laid out (which has on account of dearth of water been postponed) at McGow's Pass" (Von Krafft quoted in Hill 1911:416-417).

- Winter 1779-80: "...the Mounted Jaegers on the Plantation of McGowan and the Regiment Mirbach in the huts there" (Tustin 1979:182).

These references suggest several locations for encampments during the British occupation. A short-term encampment was established on the south side of the Great Hill in the Autumn of 1776, and this may be the one related to the "hutts" mentioned at that time (see above). Troops camped both to the east and west of McGown's Pass, and a distinction was drawn between the "Plantation of McGowan" (probably the Mount St. Vincent area) and huts nearby. It is unclear whether the "huts" and "barracks" mentioned are one and the same or represent different types of structure.

The only contemporary cartographic source which suggests the location of one of these encampments is the British Headquarters Map of 1782 (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990:Volume 2, Illustration 11). This shows a rectangular area on the north side of Montayne's Rivulet which appears too large and symmetrical for a non-military establishment and is probably a semi-permanent encampment. In the earlier assessment this site was assigned the following identification numbers: 692-2, 693-1, 805-1, 806-1 and 807-1. In the current study, which attempts a more refined locational assessment, this encampment has been assigned the following identification numbers: 691-1, 692-2, 693-1, 805-1 and 806-1.

None of the Revolutionary War sources throw light on the well-documented discovery in 1864 of at least 16 hut foundations on the north slope of the Great Hill, close to the area now suggested as the location of the 1776 redoubts (Board of Commissioners of the Central Park 1865:8-9 [site identification number 807-1a thru 1p]). It seems unlikely that this encampment dates to the War of 1812, as suggested at the time of discovery, and a Revolutionary War context is favored here. An occupation during 1780 and 1781, when American attacks on New York were anticipated and renewed defensive measures were taken by the garrison and citizens (Klein and Howard 1983), seems most probable for this archaeological material.

Archaeological resources relating to the British Revolutionary War era encampments in the McGown's Pass area can therefore be anticipated in at least two general areas on the Great Hill. In addition to the known site on the north side of the Great Hill, there is a strong possibility of further important evidence surviving on the southeastern slopes, on either side of West Drive to the northwest of Montayne's Rivulet (Figures 2 and 3).

3. The War of 1812 Fortifications:

Only one feature from this period, the stone blockhouse (site 809-2), is known to have been constructed in the study area. This structure is located on the rim of the bluffs to the north of the Great Hill, overlooking the Harlem Plain. The history and physical character of the blockhouse have been described in some detail in the previous report (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990:Volume 1, D-315 thru D-319). A review of both primary and secondary sources dealing with the War of 1812 defenses on Manhattan has produced no evidence for other military structures, such as continuous linear entrenchments or walls, on the west side of Montayne's Rivulet.

Research for the current study subsequently sought to identify additional specific details relating to the construction of the blockhouse and its original appearance. Unfortunately, time and budget constraints precluded extensive research and it became apparent that the location of detailed information on the blockhouse will require an archival investigation on a much larger

scale than has been possible under the current study. In an effort to better direct future research, a number of published primary sources were examined (e.g., Tomkins 1902), and knowledgeable individuals were consulted on the location and nature of additional primary materials. A more exhaustive and systematic examination of records in the National Archives and Library of Congress might succeed in unearthing further details on the design and construction specifications of the blockhouse, although this task is likely to be time-consuming and could ultimately be unrewarding. Examination of the Federal Army Lists and Company Day Books in the National Archives may prove fruitful, while the indexes of the Library of Congress would be a logical starting point for identifying other relevant materials in this latter repository.

4. The Borrowe Farmstead:

Additional primary historical research was undertaken to obtain fuller documentation of the Borrowe farmstead, the nucleus of which lay on Bogardus Hill at the southern end of the Great Hill (sites 804-1 thru 804-5). The early history of this property has been summarized by Stokes (1928 IV:116) and was covered in this firm's report on the preliminary historical and archaeological assessment of the northern end of Central Park (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990:Volume 1, D-286 thru D-289). There is no indication of structures on this property within the present Central Park boundaries prior to Samuel Borrowe's purchase of the first tract in 1796 (Table 1).

**TABLE 1
BORROWE FARMSTEAD: SUMMARY OF OWNERSHIP**

Reference	Date	Grantor	Grantee
33/313	12/13/1749	Teunis E. Van Hyese	George Dyckman
43/297	3/2/1786	[sheriff sale]	John Jones
59/9	1/7/1796	John Jones	Herman Le Roy
69/121	7/19/1796	Herman Le Roy	Samuel Borrowe (northern portion)
69/125	11/18/1799	Herman Le Roy	Samuel Borrowe (southern portion)
189/201	4/4/1825	[mort. foreclosure]	Joseph Sands
328/490	5/1/1835	Heirs of Joseph Sands	Orsamus Bushnell
339/5	5/26/1835	Orsamus Bushnell	Archibald Watt

The Herman Le Roy farm originally extended from the Hudson River east to the Harlem Commons, including all of the property which would later comprise the Borrowe farmstead. A February 6, 1796 map drafted by Casimer T. Goerck, the city surveyor, subdivided the Le Roy property into eleven tracts (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990:Volume 2, Illustration 16). On July 19, 1796 Samuel Borrowe, a physician of New York City, purchased lots 3 and 7 for 1,368 pounds, 10 shillings, 5 pence "current money" (New York City Deeds 69/121). Lot 7 is located west of Central Park, outside the present study area, and is not contiguous with the Borrowe farmstead. Lot 3, an 11.13-acre parcel located almost entirely within the future bounds of Central Park, became the northern portion of the Borrowe farmstead.

On November 18, 1799 Samuel Borrowe also purchased lot 4 of the Le Roy property for \$2,500 (New York City Deeds 69/125). This parcel was also located primarily within the future bounds of Central Park and comprised the southern portion of the Borrowe farmstead. According to the deed descriptions, the Borrowe property was bounded on the north by the land of Valentine Nutter, on the east and south by Low Benson, and on the west by land conveyed to "Goodeve and Brown."

Although there is no direct evidence, it seems likely that the Borrowe family began construction of residential and agricultural structures soon after obtaining the property. A subsequent document (discussed in detail below) mentions a "small house" located on the northern tract (lot 3) and a "large house" situated on the southern tract (lot 4). Since Borrowe obtained the northern tract more than three years before he obtained the southern tract, it is quite possible that the family lived in the "small house" for a few years until the "large house" was constructed.

On April 24, 1823 Samuel Borrowe and his wife Sarah mortgaged the property to Charles Mowatt for an unknown amount. This transaction is noted in the tract report as mortgage 193/122 (New York City Municipal Archives, Tract Report #6). However, examination of the New York City mortgages indicates that this reference is incorrect; perhaps the document was erroneously recorded as a deed. In any event, a foreclosure was initiated within two years. The mortgage had apparently been reassigned in the meantime because the complainant was listed as Walter Charming and both Samuel Borrowe and Charles Mowatt were listed among the defendants (New York City Deeds 189/201). An equity court settlement dated March 21, 1825 ordered the property to be auctioned on April 4, 1825 to satisfy the debt. The judgement included the requirement that the sale be advertised for two weeks in two New York City newspapers.

The New York Evening Post dated Monday, March 28, 1825 contained two items related to the Borrowe property. A notice signed by Thomas Bolton, Master in Chancery, announced the upcoming sale of the property. The chancery announcement included a full legal description of the property but made no reference to any structures. Of much greater interest is an advertisement placed in the same newspaper by Borrowe himself attempting -- unsuccessfully as it turns out -- to sell the property by April 1, 1825.

Borrowe's advertisement (Appendix 1) described a very well-established farmstead, stating that the property includes two houses, stables, a coach house, a barn, and an ice house. The larger house was located in the western portion of Block 804 (Figure 1; site 804-5) and was still extant when the city obtained the property in 1856. The main portion of the "large house" was a two-story block measuring 40 by 34 feet. This structure contained five rooms, five fireplaces, a hall measuring 12 by 40 feet, a large kitchen, and a cellar. The 1825 advertisement did not mention the southern addition depicted on the 1856 map, indicating that this wing post-dated the period of Borrowe ownership.

The "small house" mentioned in the 1825 advertisement was almost certainly the structure located near the center of Block 806 (Figure 1; site 806-4). The main portion was described in 1825 as a two-story building 22 feet long and 14 feet wide with three fireplaces and a cellar kitchen. A 1 1/2-story wing of unspecified dimensions "communicated with" the main portion of the house. This description is very similar to the structure depicted on the 1856 map.

The entire Borrowe farmstead was purchased at auction by Joseph Sands for the sum of \$9,000 on April 4, 1825 (New York City Deeds 189/201). Ten years later his heirs sold the property to Orsamus and Mary Bushnell (New York City Deeds 328/490).

By the time of the condemnation proceedings for Central Park, the Borrowe farmstead had been subdivided between several owners (Table 2). The southern portion, including the "large house," was owned by John P. Howard, who was paid \$29,870 for "houses and lots." Block 805 had been subdivided between at least a dozen owners, but no buildings were noted. Block 806, including the "small house" was owned by John Paine, who received \$23,845 for "houses and lots."

TABLE 2
COMPENSATION PAID FOR STRUCTURES WITHIN STUDY AREA
(Commissioners of Estimate & Assessment, 1856, 1863)

<u>Block</u>	<u>Lot</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Compensation</u>
690-696				[no structures within project area]	
802				[no structures within project area]	
803			Mary G. Pinckney	[no compensation for structures]	
804	1-64	1856	John P. Howard	Houses and lots Houses and part of street	\$29,870.00 \$1.00
805				[no structures within project area]	
806	1-64	1856	John Paine	Houses and lots	\$23,845.00
807				[no structures within project area]	
808	1-64	1863	Mary Pinckney	Lots House House	\$75,200.00 \$200.00 \$85.00
809	1-64	1863	Courtland Palmer	Lots House House House	\$75,005.00 \$750.00 \$200.00 \$85.00
810				[no structures within project area]	

Although the "small house" was apparently demolished soon after the park property was purchased, the "large house" remained intact for a number of years and was reputed to have been occupied by Frederick Law Olmsted during a portion of his tenure as the Superintendent of the Park (uncited newspaper 1858). The 1870 Annual Report of the Central Park Commissioners noted that "The old house at the Great Hill, which was rapidly falling into decay, has been newly roofed" (Board of Commissioners of the Central Park 1870:11). A circa 1875 photograph indicated that the main portion of the house was a two-story, five-bay block with a center hall and a gable peak over the center bay (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990:Volume 2, Illustration 92). This appearance is quite consistent with the description provided in the 1825 advertisement. The later wing appears as a smaller vernacular two-story, two-bay structure with a gable roof and a large central chimney.

The unusually detailed architectural and landscape description provided by the 1825 advertisement, particularly when coupled with photographic and cartographic sources, poses a number of issues for potential archaeological research. Both houses had cellars, indicating a relatively high potential for subsurface archaeological preservation. Similarly, the presence of a well has important ramifications for archaeological research, particularly if it had been abandoned and filled with refuse prior to final abandonment of the farmstead. The ice pond was undoubtedly located on Montayne's Rivulet, possibly at or near the present location of "The Pool." The detailed description, in conjunction with a limited program of archaeological testing, could provide a detailed view of the spatial configuration of the farmstead nucleus.

5. Unauthorized Land Use:

When the city began to acquire the property for the Central Park in 1853 much of the area, particularly the southern end of the Park, was occupied by squatters and/or undesirable industrial activities. According to Olmsted, the area of the future park was "a nasty place The low ground was steeped in an overflow and mush of pig-sties, slaughterhouses, and bone-boiling works, and the stench was sickening." It was estimated that some 5,000 impoverished people were living illegally within the Park boundaries in 1853. The unauthorized occupation was concentrated in an area known as "Seneca Village," described as a collection of "caves, lean-tos, and tin-can shacks" occupied by "Negroes, whites, and Indians" (Kinkead and Maloney 1941:35).

Within the current study area the condemnation maps recorded only one "shanty," (Figure 1; site 803-1). This property was owned by Mary G. Pinckney, the largest property owner within the study area at the time of condemnation (Table 2). Not surprisingly, there is no mention of this building in the actual condemnation proceedings and it is quite possible that this was an unauthorized occupation. Earlier maps indicate a number of otherwise undocumented structures within the project area and it is quite possible that some of these buildings were also "squatter shanties." It must be stressed that traditional documentary sources such as deeds and property tax records are of little use when researching unauthorized land use.

A forthcoming book, tentatively entitled The People and the Park: A Social History of Central Park by Roy Rosenzweig and Betsy Blackmar (Cornell University Press, fall 1992) will address the issue of squatter housing in considerable detail. This text should be consulted during the formulation of future research designs, particularly regarding sites that are poorly documented in traditional sources. The juxtaposing of relatively high-status sites, such as the Borrowe "large house", with squatter occupations provides an ideal opportunity to study archaeological manifestations of socio-economic differentiation.

6. The Creation of the Park:

The original Olmsted and Vaux "Greensward Plan" was selected by the Common Council of the City of New York in 1857 as the winning design for a proposed "Central Park" for the City of New York. The original northern boundary of the Park was at 106th Street but, in the early 1860s, the border was extended to the present Central Park North at 110th Street.

The Greensward Plan of 1858 included some construction details for the formation of Central Park, but little of this information concerned the northern section of the Park. References to this area around this time were few and quite non-specific, in large part because the northward expansion of the Park was still under consideration.

The strong yet irregular lines and pronounced landforms evident in the natural topography of the Upper Park were highly desirable in Olmsted's estimation. He described the effect created by the existing landscape as "the highest ideal" and "in most decided contrast to the confined and formal lines of the city". He stipulated that disturbance in this area was to be limited (Beveridge and Schuyler 1983:119). Among the early plans for this section of the Park was a proposal for a tower on Bogardus Hill. The Great Hill was said to be without trees at that time and therefore provided wonderful views of the surrounding country (Board of Commissioners of the Central Park 1857).

A primary concern of the landscape architects was the availability of drainage in the Park which was necessary for maintaining both soil fertility and satisfactory sanitary conditions. A detailed, but stylized, map of existing Park drainage had been drawn up earlier (Viele c.1850). The natural drainage was considered inadequate so the Greensward Plan specified that a new system of drains be installed. The drains were to be made of earthenware tubes of at least one inch in diameter, or of tile, to be laid at depths between three and four feet below the surface at intervals of 15 feet where not obstructed by bedrock. Deviation in the drainage route was allowed if unexpected outcrops of bedrock were encountered during trenching operations. Another technique

employed was to grade the uneven surface of the bedrock with small stone fragments to provide a flat surface on which to rest the drain (Board of Commissioners of the Central Park 1860; Beveridge and Schuyler 1983).

The Annual Reports of the Board of Commissioners of the Central Park issued during the years of active Park construction document the total lengths of drain installed in Park during that particular year, but unfortunately do not include detailed locational information. It is known, for example, that in 1859 over three miles of vitrified pipe, red drain tile and stone and tile drains were installed in the Upper Park, above 93rd Street, but no maps have been found to document their exact location (Board of Commissioners of the Central Park 1860).

In the Greensward Plan Olmsted and Vaux indicated that they wanted the Upper Park to be disturbed "as little as possible" by roads and other modifications (Beveridge and Schuyler 1983:119). The present East and West Drives were part of the original Park construction, as was a drive up the northeast slope of the Great Hill which connected the Great Hill to the West Drive. This drive is now a path. Another path, presently running north from the Great Hill, across the West Drive and onto the Blockhouse Bluffs, was also depicted on maps dating from soon after the Park's original construction period (Topographic Map of the Northern Section of Central Park c.1860).

Profiles of existing and, in some instances, proposed topography were drafted circa 1860 for various sections of the present study area, but primarily along the route of Eighth Avenue. The exact locations of these profiles is unclear, so it is not possible to compare pre-Park and current elevations in an attempt to ascertain the extent of cutting and filling actions undertaken along Eighth Avenue in the northwestern corner of the Park (Study for Drives... 1863; Plan for Extension of Central Park... 1863; Profiles of Proposed Line of Drive... 1863; Profile of VIII Avenue... c.1875; Section along 8th Avenue... 1860, c.1860; Section along 8th Avenue from Sta. 8 north... c.1860).

Some grading occurred on the Great Hill and during the course of excavations the remains of a military encampment were found on the north slope. It was documented that "the remains of these works, that so enhance the interest of this section of the Park, will, as far as practicable, be preserved" (Board of Commissioners of the Central Park 1865). The roads near the Great Hill required a grading of one foot in 18 feet (Board of Commissioners of the Central Park 1866). In general, the elevations detailed on historic topographic maps of the Great Hill show little, if any, difference with present day topography.

Not long after the completion of Central Park a book was written by Clarence Cook describing the new Park. At the time of Cook's observation the Blockhouse was already being used as a "receptacle for rubbish" and he noted that a spring had been opened up to the east of the building (Cook 1979). Surprisingly little information was found regarding the Blockhouse and its treatment as a Park feature.

7. Subsequent Park Modifications:

The first major modifications to the northern section of the Park took place in the first decade of the 20th century. In 1904, landscape work was undertaken around the Blockhouse, which included modification of slopes and the planting of 500 rhododendron trees (Department of Parks, City of New York 1905). In 1906 a new water supply system was installed in the Upper Park and 5,484 cubic yards of earth were excavated in the process. The location of this work is not clear (Department of Parks, City of New York 1907). A new entrance at 106th Street and an associated path to the Great Hill were constructed in 1909-1910, while in 1911 a new water main was installed in the northern end of the Park (Department of Parks 1910, 1911, 1912).

Another major phase of Park improvements occurred in the 1930s during the tenure of Robert Moses as the first citywide Parks Commissioner. The most important modification made in the current study area during the Moses era was the construction of a recreation area on top of the Great Hill. Three croquet courts, two "roquet" (croquet played on a hard surface) courts, a shuffle board court and a comfort station were installed in the mid-1930s. This work also included provision of additional drainage, lighting and landscaping (City of New York Department of Parks 1935b, 1935c, 1935d; Moses 1947). Many of these features were removed in the 1980s and replaced with the current landscaping configuration (E. Timothy Marshall 1991:personal communication). Elsewhere within the study area, various drainage and utility lines and paths have been added since the original creation of the Park. Many of these have subsequently been abandoned (Figures 1-4).

D. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SENSITIVITY ASSESSMENT

In general terms, the entire study area, excluding those sections where major ground disturbing activities have taken place during the Park era and areas of exposed bedrock, should be regarded as holding some potential for yielding archaeological remains. The Great Hill was both fortified and fairly intensively occupied by the British during the Revolutionary War. Bogardus Hill was the site of the nucleus of the Borrowe farmstead from around 1800 until the creation of the Park (with the Great Hill containing the site of a secondary farm dwelling and outbuildings). The Blockhouse Bluffs, to this day, is occupied by a stone blockhouse erected during the War of 1812. Various other structures and cultural features (dwellings, shanties, lanes, etc.) were formerly present within the study area during the first half of the 19th century. Archaeological traces of original Park features (e.g., paths, drains), long since abandoned or removed, may also survive within the study area. Any of the above cultural entities may still provide some form of archaeological expression.

It should be noted that in comparison with other sections of the Park further to the south, the northern section received relatively little major landscaping treatment in the late 1850s and early 1860s. The natural character of this area (and much of its cultural overlay) was quite clearly perceived to be in harmony with Olmsted and Vaux's view of the Park. Indeed, most of the ground disturbing activity appears to have occurred as a result of subsequent park improvements during this century. Accordingly, there would seem to be substantial areas where little or no significant land alteration has taken place. Indeed, a recent soil survey undertaken in the northern end of the Park indicates that little soil disturbance or "mixing by man" occurred in much of this area (Warner and Hanna 1982).

The series of four accompanying maps (Figures 1-4) summarize graphically at a scale of 1 inch: 20 feet the archaeological sensitivity of the study area. Four categories of sensitivity -- highly sensitive, sensitive, disturbed and bedrock -- have been employed in evaluating the potential archaeological significance not only of individual resources, but also of intervening areas.

A "highly sensitive" rating has been assigned to resources of specific historical interest where there is good reason to suspect that part or all of the resource in question may still be present in an intact, buried form. The following resources have been assigned this rating (in approximate order of priority): the sites of two Revolutionary War era encampments (sites 691-1/692-2/693-1/805-1/806-1 and 807-1a thru p); the sites of two Revolutionary War era redoubts (sites 806-5 and 806-6); the War of 1812 blockhouse (site 809-2); the sites of at least two dwellings and various outbuildings associated with the Borrowe farmstead (sites

804-2 thru 804-6 and 806-4); the site of a magazine on the Blockhouse Bluffs (site 808-1); and the sites of several dwellings, shanties and outbuildings (sites 695-2, 803-1, 808-2, 808-3, 809-1, 809-3 and 809-6).

In most instances, localized zones of high sensitivity have been delimited for a 25-foot area beyond the corners of documented historic structures. This zone represents a reasonable estimate of the extent of archaeological deposits associated with these structures. It also allows for a margin of error both in the original mapping of each structure and in the transference of the original information to the project base maps. These highly sensitive zones have been drawn to exclude areas of adjacent bedrock (see below, for treatment of bedrock areas). Somewhat larger zones of high sensitivity have been accorded the two encampments and two redoubts dating from the Revolutionary War era, since a greater mapping error may be anticipated for these resources.

With regard to appropriate strategies as to how to proceed with future archaeological investigation of the highly sensitive zones, the consultant recommends placement of a 25-foot grid over each resource and the systematic excavation of two-foot square shovel tests at 25-foot intervals. Testing grids should aim to maximize coverage of each resource and, where appropriate, individual grids should be integrated within a larger over-arching system of coordinates. Shovel tests should be excavated, and artifacts recovered, by cultural stratum. All excavations should be conducted manually and recorded in accordance with current professional standards. The application of geophysical prospecting techniques may be appropriate in some cases (notably, the encampment sites) and is discussed in greater detail below.

It should be noted that a more specific archaeological assessment of and recommendations for the War of 1812 blockhouse were included in the report on the earlier investigation of the northern section of the Park (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990:Volume 1, D-315 thru D-319). In particular, the interior of the blockhouse, the blockhouse masonry, and the areas to the southwest and southeast of the structure merit close archaeological attention, since valuable information relating to the construction and subsequent modifications of the structure may be recovered. Rather than employ a fixed subsurface testing interval for the blockhouse area, the consultant recommends the use of larger excavation units, judiciously placed to answer specific research questions and to take account of bedrock outcrops.

A "sensitive" rating has been assigned to all areas where there presently exists no documentary evidence for historic structures, the potential for prehistoric resources remains untested, there are no bedrock outcrops, and there is no known evidence of ground disturbance. Encompassed within this category of "sensitive" are broad stretches of Park. Because of the overall archaeological sensitivity of the study area, these areas require systematic subsurface testing in order to make a definitive statement concerning the presence or absence of archaeological resources. A similar strategy is proposed for these areas as for the highly sensitive zones, but using a 50-foot as opposed to a 25-foot grid as a basis for testing. Some flexibility should be permitted in the testing strategy adopted for sensitive areas. For example, testing along transects may be a more suitable approach in some instances, while the degree of slope is also a factor that should be taken into account (i.e., steep slopes could be selectively tested using a wider testing interval).

A "disturbed" rating has been assigned to areas which have experienced some form of subsurface ground disturbance based on clearcut cartographic or documentary evidence. This designation has been applied to areas irrespective of whether or not they contain the sites of documented historic resources. Two large zones have been rated in this fashion: most of the summit of the Great Hill; and the northwestern edge of the Park. In both instances, cartographic and documentary materials show clear evidence of extensive ground modification. The Great Hill was the site of several recreational facilities, while a ravine was constructed and numerous utility lines were installed along the northwestern edge of the project area. On the summit of the Great Hill, the site of the Borrowe "small house" (possibly the original Borrowe dwelling), has been classified as highly sensitive, rather than disturbed, as this structure was cellared and may remain partially intact below the zone of disturbance. No further archaeological investigation is considered necessary for those areas that have been classified as disturbed.

"Bedrock" has been assigned its own category, largely because of the manner in which it is depicted on the 1982 topographic maps which form the base for Figures 1-4. Comparison of actual field conditions with mapped conditions shows that, while the overall delimitation of bedrock outcrops is fairly accurate, there are many areas within the bedrock zones where expanses of soil, some quite large, still exist, but have not been mapped. Indeed, in many ways, the earlier topographic maps surveyed in 1935 (City of New York Department of Parks 1935a) give a truer impression of the bedrock conditions. While the exposed bedrock itself can be considered archaeologically "insensitive", the soil pockets may well retain some archaeological potential and are assessed as being of equivalent sensitivity to those areas where no prehistoric or historic sites have so far been documented (see above).

Rather than recommend no further archaeological investigation for all bedrock areas as shown on the 1982 topographic maps, it is instead recommended that patches of soil with reasonable archaeological potential be examined through shovel testing. In most instances, a single test will suffice to establish whether these patches of soil are likely to yield cultural materials.

From the standpoint of economy of effort and long-term management of archaeological resources, a strong case may be made for initiating a comprehensive, all-inclusive program of subsurface investigation that addresses all highly sensitive and sensitive areas, and soil patches within bedrock outcrops, on the Blockhouse Bluffs, the Great Hill and Bogardus Hill. Certainly, in this way the optimum information yield would be achieved, and once implemented such a program would not be necessary again in the future. On the other hand, if for whatever reason, financial or otherwise, such an all-encompassing approach is not considered feasible, the assessment offered above can serve as a blueprint for dealing with archaeological issues in piecemeal fashion as and when specific improvements are formulated within this section of the Park.

Finally, it is strongly recommended that consideration be given to mounting a carefully designed program of geophysical prospecting in conjunction with any further archaeological investigation. Geophysical survey techniques are non-destructive to archaeological resources and can frequently assist in guiding subsurface testing. The use of three complementary instruments -- a soil conductivity meter, a soil resistivity meter and a metal detector -- is suggested in this instance, since geological conditions, signal interference and vegetation effectively rule out other techniques such as magnetic survey and ground penetrating radar. The two encampment sites on the Great Hill, in particular, would lend themselves to geophysical examination, and the recommended instruments could be employed usefully elsewhere on the Great Hill and Bogardus Hill, as trees, undergrowth and bedrock permit.

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1814 Copy from Valentine 1856.

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1782 Map on file, Public Record Office, London, England.
- Plan of Drains and Water Pipes from 77th to 110th St., sheet 3.
c.1910 Plan on file, Municipal Archives of the City of New York, New York.
- Plan of the City, Environs and Harbour of New York, exhibiting all the fortifications which have been constructed for the defence of Said City against both a Land and Naval attack
1814 From the Swift Report.

- A Plan of the Fortifications at McGowans Pass
 1814a From the Swift Report.
- 1814b From the Swift Report.
- Plan of the Works at McGowan's Pass
 1814 Map on file, National Archives and Record Administration
 (Cartographic and Architectural Branch), Washington, D.C.
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 Philadelphia.
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 [c.1875] Plan on file, Municipal Archives of the City of New York,
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 c.1860 Plan on file, Municipal Archives of the City of New York,
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[1778] Orderly Book, Aug 7 To Dec 25 1778. On Microfilm, New-York Historical Society.

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C.1863 Plan on file, Municipal Archives of the City of New York, New York.

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Streets and from V to VIII Ave.]
C.1860 Plan on file, Municipal Archives of the City of New York,
New York.
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New York.
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C.1860 Map on file, Municipal Archives of the City of New York,
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Park West
1908 Plan on file, Municipal Archives of the City of New York,
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Circumjacent Country
1775 Map on file, Clements Library, University of Michigan,
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[c.1860] Plan on file, Municipal Archives of the City of New York,
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1814 Copy from Lossing 1868:974.

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1814 Copy from Valentine 1856.

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1814 Copy from Valentine 1856.

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c.1849 View on file, Sisters of Charity Archives, Mount St.
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1814 Copy from Valentine 1860.

Works near McGowans Pass, 1814

1814 Copy from Valentine 1856.

APPENDIX 1
SALE NOTICE - BORROWE FARMSTEAD

New York Evening Post, Monday, March 28, 1825

FOR SALE

The subscriber offers for sale his Farm and Country Seat at Bloomingdale, between 6 and 7 miles from City Hall, adjoining the seat of Mr. John Clendining. The 8th avenue passes through the farm, which consists of between 30 & 40 acres of land, the greater part under cultivation; the remainder is covered with thrifty young forest trees, sufficient to supply a family with fuel.

There are on the premises two Houses, stables, Coach House, Barn, Ice House, &c. The large house is 40 feet by 34, two stories high, built in the best manner by day's work; it is filled in with brick, lathed and plastered, walls hard finished. There are five rooms (four communicate) five fire places, a hall 12 by 40 feet, large kitchen, cellar and six pantries. The small house is 22 feet in length and 14 in depth, two stories high, three fire places, cellar kitchen, and a wing one story and a half high, which communicates with the house. There is a large orchard of best engrafted apple trees; a great variety of pears cherries and smaller fruit; a large garden; a pump and well of excellent soft water, and an ice pond. This farm will admit of being divided into five parts, each part having an eligible site for a house. If the property is not sold by the first of April, it will be rented either the whole, or divided into two parts. Apply to the proprietor, 101 Chamber street.

S. Borrowe

APPENDIX 2
SITE GAZETTEER

The site records contained in this appendix are excerpted from "A Preliminary Historical and Archaeological Assessment of Central Park to the North of the 97th Street Transverse" (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990). In several instances, sites are cross-referenced to other records that are not contained in this appendix. The reader should refer to the 1990 report for the relevant information.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 691-1 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 10

Site Name: Revolutionary War Camp Zone

Site Type: military camp

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selected):

Mackenzie 1776	[]	Colton 1836	[]
Sauthier 1776b	[]	Jones 1851	[]
Sauthier 1776c	[]	Common Council 1856	[]
British War Office 1782a	[]	Viele 1856a	[]
British War Office 1782b	[]	Bacon 1856	[]
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	[]	Bagley 1860	[]
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	[]	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	[]
Bridges 1811a	[]	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	[]
Renwick 1814a	[]	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	[]
Randel 1819-20	[]		[]

Historical Detail:

See 696-2 and 804-5 for land ownership data; see 807-1 for data relative to the various encampments in the Harlem area during the Revolutionary War and 592-2 for data relative to the encampments in the area during the War of 1812

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 100-118' ASL

Vegetation: light woodland

Topographic Assessment: none offered

General Description: This area was not examined in detail in the field.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: for a fuller discussion of this camp zone, see 807-1

Recommendations: see 807-1

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 692-2 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 10

Site Name: Revolutionary War Camp Zone

Site Type: military camp

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selected):

Mackenzie 1776	[-]	Colton 1836	[-]
Sauthier 1776b	[-]	Jones 1851	[-]
Sauthier 1776c	[-]	Common Council 1856	[-]
British War Office 1782a	[-]	Viele 1856a	[-]
British War Office 1782b	[-]	Bacon 1856	[-]
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	[-]	Bagley 1860	[-]
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	[-]	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	[-]
Bridges 1811a	[-]	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	[-]
Renwick 1814a	[-]	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	[-]
Randel 1819-20	[-]		

Historical Detail:

See 696-2 and 804-5 for land ownership data; see 807-1 for data relative to the various encampments in the Harlem area during the War of 1812

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 90-103' ASL

Vegetation: lightly wooded

Topographic Assessment: none offered

General Description: This area was not examined in detail in the field.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: for a fuller discussion of this camp zone, see 807-1

Recommendations: see 807-1

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 693-1 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 6

Site Name: Revolutionary War. Camp Zone

Site Type: military camp

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selected):

Mackenzie 1776	[]	Colton 1836	[]
Sauthier 1776b	[]	Jones 1851	[]
Sauthier 1776c	[]	Common Council 1856	[]
British War Office 1782a	[]	Viele 1856a	[]
British War Office 1782b	[]	Bacon 1856	[]
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	[]	Bagley 1860	[]
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	[]	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	[]
Bridges 1811a	[]	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	[]
Renwick 1814a	[]	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	[]
Randel 1819-20	[]		

Historical Detail:

See 696-2 and 804-5 for land ownership data; see 807-1 for data relative to the various encampments in the Harlem area during the Revolutionary War and 592-2 for data relative to the encampments in the area during the War of 1812

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 100-118' ASL

Vegetation: light woodland

Topographic Assessment: none offered

General Description: This area was not examined in detail in the field.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: for a fuller discussion of this camp zone, see 807-1

Recommendations: see 807-1

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 695-2 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 2

Site Name: Forrest Cabin Site

Site Type: dwelling

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selected):

Mackenzie 1776	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colton 1836	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jones 1851	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Council 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Viele 1856a	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bacon 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagley 1860	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bridges 1811a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renwick 1814a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	<input type="checkbox"/>
Randel 1819-20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Historical Detail:

See 594-6 and 696-2 for land ownership data
- within lot No. 22 from the division of the Harlem
Common Lands of 1691 (Illustration 2)
c.1815 - 100 acre property owned by Valentine Nutter
(Illustration 37; same ownership in 1819-20 - see
Illustration 45)
1860 - small rectangular cabin shown on land now owned by
George J. Forrest (Illustrations 63 and 66)

Site ID #: 695/2 Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 75' ASL

Vegetation: not known

Topographic Assessment: none offered

General Description: The existence of this site was unknown at the time of fieldwork (it was identified late during the analysis phase of the project).

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: Although this site was not specifically examined in the field it has been given a rating of moderate based on general knowledge of the site vicinity.

Recommendations: If planned Park improvements involve ground disturbance in the vicinity of this site sampling of subsurface deposits should be undertaken (in the order of 5 to ten manually excavated tests). Archaeological testing should be preceded by supplementary site specific historical research into primary documents such as land ownership records.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 803-1 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 13

Site Name: Watt Shanty Site

Site Type: shanty

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selective):

Mackenzie 1776	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colton 1836	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jones 1851	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Council 1856	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Viele 1856a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bacon 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagley 1860	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bridges 1811a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renwick 1814a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	<input type="checkbox"/>
Randel 1819-20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Historical Detail:

See 804-5, 588-3, and 799-3 for additional land ownership data

- c.1815 - within 52.53 acre tract now owned by Lawrence Benson (Illustration 37; same ownership in 1819-20 - see Illustration 43)
- 1856 - two section rectangular shanty shown (Illustration 55)
 - rectangular structure shown (Illustration 56)
 - shanty owned by Archibald Watt (The opening and laying out [of] a Public Place Between 59th and 106th streets and the 5th and 8th Avenues 1856)

Site ID : 803-1

Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 65-70' ASL

Vegetation: grass, weeds, asphalt

Topographic Assessment: this area appears to have been stripped during landscaping.

General Description: There is no surface indication of this structure.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: There is a low potential for significant archaeological resources surviving at this site.

Recommendations: If planned Park improvements involve ground disturbance in the vicinity of this site, limited sampling of subsurface deposits should be undertaken (in the order of five to ten manually excavated tests). Archaeological investigations should be preceded by supplementary site specific historical research into primary documents such as landownership records.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 804-1 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 13

Site Name: Carpenter's Shop Site

Site Type: carpenter's shop

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selective):

Mackenzie 1776	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colton 1836	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jones 1851	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Council 1856	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Viele 1856a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bacon 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagley 1860	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bridges 1811a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renwick 1814a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	<input type="checkbox"/>
Randel 1819-20	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historical Detail:

Associated with 804-5

- 1856 - long, large L-shaped carpenter's shop shown (Illustration 55)
- long, large L-shaped structure shown (Illustration 56) (Viele 1856b)
- owned by John P. Howard (The opening and laying out [of] a Public Place Between 59th and 106th Streets and the 5th and 8th Avenues 1856)

Site ID #: 804-1

Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 110-120' ASL

Vegetation: light woodland and understory

Topographic Assessment: This area appears to have been unaltered except for some natural soil erosion.

General Description: There is no surface indication of this structure however topography suggests that the building had been wedged between two bedrock outcrops located southeast of the main house [see 804/5, below].

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: There is a moderate potential for significant archaeological resources surviving at this site.

Recommendations: If planned Park improvements involve ground disturbance in the vicinity of this site, systematic sampling of subsurface deposits should be undertaken (in the order of ten to 20 manually excavated tests spaced at 25 foot intervals). Archaeological investigations should be preceded by supplementary site specific historical research into primary documents such as land ownership records.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 804-2 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 13

Site Name: Chicken Coop Site

Site Type: chicken coop

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selective):

Mackenzie 1776	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colton 1836	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jones 1851	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Council 1856	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Viele 1856a	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bacon 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagley 1860	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bridges 1811a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renwick 1814a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	<input type="checkbox"/>
Randel 1819-20	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historical Detail:

Associated with 804-5

- 1856 - small square chicken house shown (Illustration 55)
- small square structure shown (Viele 1856b)
- owned by John P. Howard (The opening and laying out [of] a Public Place Between 59th and 106th Streets and the 5th and 8th Avenues 1856)

Site ID #: 804-2 Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 92' ASL

Vegetation: light woodland and understory

Topographic Assessment: This area appears to have been unaltered except by natural soil erosion.

General Description: There is no surface indications of this structure.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: There is a low potential for significant archaeological resources surviving at this site due to the ephemeral nature of the structure.

Recommendations: If planned Park improvements involve ground disturbance in the vicinity of this site, limited sampling of subsurface deposits should be undertaken (in the order of 2 to 5 manually excavated tests). Archaeological investigations should be preceded by supplementary site specific historical research into primary documents such as landownership records.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 804-3 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 13

Site Name: Barn Site

Site Type: barn

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selected):

Mackenzie 1776	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colton 1836	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jones 1851	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Council 1856	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Viele 1856a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bacon 1856	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagley 1860	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bridges 1811a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renwick 1814a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	<input type="checkbox"/>
Randel 1819-20	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historical Detail:

Associated with 804-5

1851 - rectangular structure owned by W.N. Seymour shown
(Illustration 52)

1856 - two story rectangular basement barn shown
(Illustration 55)

- rectangular structure shown (Illustration 56)
(Viele 1856b)

- owned by John P. Howard (The opening and laying out
[of] a Public Place Between 59th and 106th Streets
and the 5th and 8th Avenues 1856)

Site ID #: 804-3 Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 115' ASL

Vegetation: light woodland and understory

Topographic Assessment: This area appears unaltered except by natural erosion.

General Description: There are no clear surface indications of this structure, but the shelf-like topography in this area is suggestive of its presence.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: There is a high potential for archaeological resources surviving at this site.

Recommendations: If planned Park improvements involve ground disturbance in the vicinity of this site, intensive systematic sampling of subsurface deposits should be undertaken (in the order of 10 to 20 manually excavated tests located on a 25 foot interval grid). Archaeological investigations should be preceded by supplementary site specific historical research into primary documents such as land ownership records.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 804-4 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 13

Site Name: Barn Site

Site Type: barn

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selective):

Mackenzie 1776	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colton 1836	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jones 1851	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Council 1856	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Viele 1856a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bacon 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagley 1860	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bridges 1811a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renwick 1814a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	<input type="checkbox"/>
Randel 1819-20	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historical Detail:

Associated with 804-5

1851 - rectangular structure shown (Illustration 52)

1856 - two-story rectangular basement barn shown
(Illustration 55)

- rectangular structure shown (Illustration 56)
(Viele 1856b)

- owned by John P. Howard (The opening and laying out
[of] a Public Place Between 59th and 106th Streets
and the 5th and 8th Avenues 1856)

Site ID #: 804-4 Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 106-109' ASL

Vegetation: light woodland, understory, asphalt

Topographic Assessment: This area appears to have been unaltered or slightly filled.

General Description: There are no surface indications of this site but the topography suggests the location of the former structure. An asphalt pathway runs through part of the site.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: There is a high potential for significant archaeological resources surviving at this site.

Recommendations: If planned Park improvements involve ground disturbance in the vicinity of this site, intensive systematic sampling of subsurface deposits should be undertaken (in the order of 10 to 20 manually excavated tests located on a 25 foot interval grid). Archaeological investigations should be preceded by supplementary site specific historical research into primary documents such as land ownership records.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 804-5 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 13

Site Name: Burrowes House Site

Site Type: dwelling

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selected):

Mackenzie 1776	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colton 1836	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jones 1851	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Council 1856	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Viele 1856a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bacon 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagley 1860	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bridges 1811a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renwick 1814a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Randel 1819-20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Historical Detail:

- 1667-8 - within the large tract patented to Isaac Bedlow (Stokes 1928 VI:69)
- c.1688 - this large holding was acquired by Theunis Idens Van Huyse (Illustration 2) (Stokes 1928 VI:69)
- 1720 - Van Huyse divided up his Bloomindale estate in 1720
- he conveyed a quarter share of it to his son-in-law Abraham de la Montagne, the son of John de la Montagne and the grandson of Dr. Johannes de la Montagne (see Site 588-3) - the younger Montagne sold this property to his brother-in-law George Dyckman shortly thereafter - Dyckman had also received a share of the Van Huyse estate, with his parcel sited adjacent to the south of the former Montagne parcel - these acquisitions gave Dyckman control of the land that would later be included in Blocks 800 through 807 (Riker 1904:545,592; Stokes 1928 VI:115)
 - George Dyckman - married Catalina Van Huyse in 1712 - they moved to Bergen County in New Jersey, but returned in 1720 to occupy the properties acquired from the Van Huyse estate - George died on his homestead in Bloomingdale in 1753 (Riker 1904:545)

- Dyckman settled on the western part of the former Van Huyse lands - sometime before 1726 he sold the eastern section of this holding (including Blocks 800 through 807) to Lawrence Kortwright, Sr. (Stokes 1928 VI:116)
- 1726 - Lawrence Kortwright, Sr. dies, with this property passing to his son Lawrence Kortwright, Jr. and daughter Eve Kortwright Benson (the wife of Adolph Benson) - the new owners divided their joint holding, with Lawrence Kortwright, Jr. receiving what would be Blocks 804 through 807 - he eventually sold this property to Humphrey Jones, who incorporated it as part of his large Hudson River estate this holding later passed to Nicholas Jones (Illustration 8) (Stokes 1928 VI:116)
- 1786 - the Jones estate is purchased by John Jones in sheriff's sale that resulted from a law suit in which Nicholas Jones was successfully accused of reneging on various financial responsibilities (Stokes 1928 VI:116)
- 1796 - John Jones sells the family estate (including Blocks 804 and 807) to Herman Le Roy (Stokes 1928 VI:116)
 - Le Roy immediately subdivided his new holding - those portions of the property that would later be included within Central Park (Blocks 804 and 807) were designated as Lot No. 3 (11+ acres) and Lot No. 4 (17+ acres) - the development of what became the Burrowes property occurred with the sale of these two lots (Illustration 16) (Stokes 1928 VI:116)
- 1811 - "Burrows" structure shown, with a long land running westward to provide a connection with the Bloomingdale Road (Illustration 17)
 - "Barrow" structure and lane shown (Illustration 18) (Bridges 1881c)
 - Burrowes a physician (Stokes 1928 VI:85)
- 1814 - "Burrows" structure and lane shown (Illustration 20)
 - structure and land shown (Illustration 23)
- c.1815 - this 26.18 acre property owned by Samuel Borrowe (Illustration 37)
- 1819-20- large nearly square hipped-roof structure shown on the Samuel Borrowe property - a suggestion of a cupola is visible at the peak of the roof (Illustration 44)

- 1836 - structure and landscaped grounds depicted (Illustration 50)
- 1851 - large irregularly-shaped structure owned by W.N. Seymour shown - served by a drive connecting with 8th Avenue (Illustration 51)
- 1856 - large two section, two-story frame structure with basement shown - the smaller south wing has a "Stoop" along its west facade (Illustration 55)
 - large two section structure shown - property known as "Mount Prospect" - the area to the east of the building complex is cultivated (Illustration 56) (Viele 1856b)
 - this property is now owned by John P. Howard (The opening and laying out [of] a Public Place Between 59th and 106th Streets and the 5th and 8th Avenues 1856)
- 1858 - the Great Hill is also referred to as Bogardus Hill - Frederic Law Olmsted is reputed to have utilized this house during a portion of his tenure as the Superintendent of the Park (Uncited newspaper 1858)
- 1863 - the Burrowes House is visible on the far left background as a two section gable-roofed building sited prominently on the Great Hill (Illustration 81)
- 1864 - the dwelling is shown on the map published by the Central Park Commissioners in 1864 (Illustration 81)
- 1865 - shown again (Illustration 86)
- 1869 - the building was noted in the Annual Report of the Central Park Commissioners for 1869 - "The old house at the Great Hill, which was rapidly falling into decay, has been newly roofed" and plans for its future use are being considered (Thirteenth Annual Report....1870:11)
- c.1875 - a photograph of the building shows it to have been a fine two section Federal dwelling with a two-story five-bay main block exhibiting a center hall and a gable peak over the center bay - the building's second section was a smaller vernacular two-story two-bay structure with a gable roof and a large central chimney (Illustration 92)
- c.1900 - noted in 1911 in a discussion of the Burrowes House that "the old buildings were not removed until about ten years ago" (Hall 1911:478-90)

Site ID #: 804-5 Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 130' ASL

Vegetation: undergrowth, scattered trees

Topographic Assessment: This area appears to be unaltered with possible fill in the structure's basement location.

General Description: There are no clear surface indications of this structure, but the vegetation and topography suggest the location of the house on the summit of the hill. There is a depression that may indicate the basement and a growth of locust trees may be on the lines of the foundation.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: There is a high potential for significant archaeological resources surviving at this site.

Recommendations: If planned Park improvements involve ground disturbance in the vicinity of this site, intensive systematic sampling of subsurface deposits should be undertaken (in the order of 20 to 50 manually excavated tests located on a 25 foot interval grid). Archaeological investigations should be preceded by supplementary site specific historical research into primary documents such as land ownership records.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 804-6 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 9

Site Name: Burrowes Dwelling or Outbuilding? Site

Site Type: dwelling or outbuilding

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selected):

Mackenzie 1776	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colton 1836	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jones 1851	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Council 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Viele 1856a	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bacon 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagley 1860	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bridges 1811a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renwick 1814a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	<input type="checkbox"/>
Randel 1819-20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Historical Detail:

Associated with 804-5

1811 - structure shown (Illustrations 17 and 18)
(Bridges 1811c)

c.1815 - on 26.18 acre property owned by Samule Borrowe
(Illustration 37)

1819-20- small rectangular strucutes with gable roof shown
(Illustration 44)

Site ID #: 804-6 Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 84' ASL

Vegetation: undergrowth, scattered trees

Topographic Assessment: This area was probably disturbed by the installation of the Park wall.

General Description: There are no surface indications of this structure.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: There is a minimal potential for significant archaeological resources surviving at this site.

Recommendations: No further historical or archaeological investigations are considered necessary for this site.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 805-1 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 10

Site Name: Revolutionary War Camp Zone

Site Type: military camp

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selective):

Mackenzie 1776		Colton 1836	
Sauthier 1776b		Jones 1851	
Sauthier 1776c		Common Council 1856	
British War Office 1782a		Viele 1856a	
British War Office 1782b		Bacon 1856	
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a		Bagley 1860	
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b		Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	
Bridges 1811a		Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	
Renwick 1814a		Unnamed Topo. c.1865	
Randel 1819-20			

Historical Detail:

See 696-2 and 804-5 for land ownership data; see 807 for data relative to the various encampments in the Harlem area during the Revolutionary War and 592-2 for data relative to the encampments in the area during the War of 1812

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 806-1 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 10

Site Name: Revolutionary War Camp Zone

Site Type: military camp

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selective):

Mackenzie 1776	[]	Colton 1836	[]
Sauthier 1776b	[]	Jones 1851	[]
Sauthier 1776c	[]	Common Council 1856	[]
British War Office 1782a	[]	Viele 1856a	[]
British War Office 1782b	[]	Bacon 1856	[]
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	[]	Bagley 1860	[]
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	[]	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	[]
Bridges 1811a	[]	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	[]
Renwick 1814a	[]	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	[]
Randel 1819-20	[]		[]

Historical Detail:

See 696-2 and 804-5 for land ownership data; see 807 for data relative to the various encampments in the Harlem area during the Revolutionary War and 592-2 for data relative to the encampments in the area during the War of 1812

Site ID #: 806-1

Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 110 - 129' ASL

Vegetation: grass

Topographic Assessment: A large part of the Great Hill summit appears to have been stripped.

General Description: There is no surface evidence of this encampment.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: for a fuller discussion of this camp zone, see 807-1.

Recommendations: see 807-1

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 806-5* **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 6/10

Site Name: Revolutionary War Redoubt Area

Site Type: military fortification

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selected):

Mackenzie 1776	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Colton 1836	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jones 1851	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Council 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Viele 1856a	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bacon 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bagley 1860	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bridges 1811a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renwick 1814a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	<input type="checkbox"/>
Randel 1819-20	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historical Detail:

See 594-6 for land ownership data; see 807-1 for data relative to the military encampments in the Harlem area during the Revolution

- 1776 - entry of September 20th from a British order book details the preparations being made for the construction of a line fortification that will be designed to protect New York City from an American land offensive from the north - it was ordered that all available fascines be taken to "McGown's House" (Hall 1905:21; Hall 1911:413)
- the entry for September 21st within the same order book records that a working party of 400 men is to report to "McGown's House" tomorrow (Hall 1905:21; Hall 1911:413; Stokes 1926 V:1024)
- Capt. Archibald Robertson was involved in the construction of this line of defenses as a military engineer - his diary entry for September 22nd records that a chain of redoubts is to be built that will extend from the Hudson River across the

* Formerly Site Number 694-3 (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990)

- heights at Harlem to the East River - each of these redoubts is to be protected by abbatiss - it was also recorded that the 400 man work party had reported as ordered and had commenced work (Stokes 1926 V:1024; Diary of Frederick Mackenzie 1930:61; Cohn 1962)
- On September 24th Robertson noted that there were to be a total of five redoubts and three single gun batteries along with some supporting earthworks within the Harlem line - work was continuing despite the fact that the work force had been reduced to 200 men (Hall 1905:21; Hall 1911:P413; Stokes 1926 V:1026-7; Diary of Frederick MacKenzie 1930:64; Cohn 1962)
 - on September 25th the work party was further reduced to 100 men (Hall 1905:22; Hall 1911:413; Stokes 1926 V:1027)
 - on October 1st Robertson recorded that the redoubts were now to be outfitted for larger guns - they had originally been built to house only regular troops, with no facilities for artillery - stated that "the Rock Redoubt" was to be prepared to hold three large guns - this may refer to one of the redoubts on the rocky brow of the Great Hill - it was also ordered that two new "fleches" be built near McGown's on the right line - he noted that one of these works was finished that same day and that it was armed with two large guns - he also noted that two of the redoubts on the left of the line and the entire line of abbatiss had been completed (Stokes 1926 V:994, 1027; Cohn 1962)
 - the second fleche at McGown's was completed on October 2nd (Stokes 1926 V:1027; Cohn 1962)
 - on October 4th Robertson noted that a single gun had been added to the left of "the Rock Redt" (Stokes 1926 V:1027)
 - on October 5th Robertson described a portion of the line in some detail - it had a parapet that was 8 feet thick that was connected to a 40 foot square redoubt - the said redoubt had a front wall that was 8 feet thick and side and rear walls that were 6 feet thick (Cohn 1962)
 - on October 13th Frederick Mackenzie, another British army officer, indicated in his diary that the defensive works were largely completed (Diary of Frederick Mackenzie 1930:79-80)

- the British line of fortifications was depicted on several military maps produced during the war - a square redoubt with entry through its rear (south) wall shown on the brow of the Great Hill on a map drawn by Frederick Mackenzie - a small associated western outwork and a surrounding abbatiss were suggested (Illustration 4)
- a slightly different configuration to this line was depicted on maps associated with the British offensive against Fort Washington in November - there were now two redoubts in the area previously occupied by the above square work - the easternmost of these two redoubts is sited just to the west of McGown's Pass and is an irregular rectangular work with an entry through the rear (south) wall, a western outwork, and a undefined feature (possibly a magazine) depicted within its walls - this may be a slightly altered representation of the above square redoubt - the western redoubt is a diamond-shaped work with eastern and western outworks (Illustration 8)
- 1777 - Robertson produced a view of the Harlem area that used the northeastern brow of the Great Hill as a vantage point, - some of the abbatiss protecting the works on the hill are visible in the foreground (Illustration 9)
- 1782 - the same two redoubts described on the second map discussed above were again depicted during the latter stages of the British occupation of New York (Illustrations 10 and 11; see also Illustrations 12 and 13)
- 1783 - the British abandoned New York City in November of 1783 - on November 21 they announced their intention to commence their withdrawal by evacuating their advance positions at Kingsbridge and McGown's Pass - the plan for this withdrawal was outlined in a contemporary memorandum drawn up by a British officer - it was stated that the works that were to be abandoned were to be left in their present condition - it was further noted that several old cannon were to be left within some of the fortifications (Hall 1905:28; Hall 1911:418-9; Stokes 1916 I:330)

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 806-6* **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 5/9

Site Name: Revolutionary War Redoubt Area

Site Type: military fortification

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selective):

Mackenzie 1776		Colton 1836	
Sauthier 1776b		Jones 1851	
Sauthier 1776c		Common Council 1856	
British War Office 1782a		Viele 1856a	
British War Office 1782b		Bacon 1856	
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a		Bagley 1860	
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b		Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	
Bridges 1811a		Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	
Renwick 1814a		Unnamed Topo. c.1865	
Randel 1819-20			

Historical Detail:

See 806-5 for data relative to the fortifications built in the Harlem area during the Revolutionary War

* Formerly Site Number 809-4 (Hunter Research, Inc. 1990)

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 807-1a-p **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 5/6

Site Name: Revolutionary War/War of 1812 Camp Zone

Site Type: military camp

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selected):

Mackenzie 1776	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colton 1836	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jones 1851	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Council 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Viele 1856a	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bacon 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagley 1860	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bridges 1811a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renwick 1814a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Randel 1819-20	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historical Detail:

See 592-2 for data relative to the military encampments in the Harlem area during the War of 1812

1776 - the British invaded Manhattan on September 15th - that night they occupie positions that stretched west from McGown's Pass to the Hudson River - this commenced the military occupation of the Harlem area, an occupation that would last for the duration of the war (Hall 1905:17-8; Diary of Frederick MacKenzie 1930:46-9)

- the Battle of Harlem Heights was fought a short distance to the north on September 16th - Hessian troops under Von Donop's command (including Block's and Minnegrode's battalions) occupied positions within the present northern end of Central Park during the battle (Hall 1905:19-20; Hall 1911:412; Stokes 1916 I:323)
- on September 20th it was reported that Musgrave's command was stationed at McGown's Pass (Hall 1905:21; Hall 1911; 413)

- on September 21st it was recorded in a British order book that the First Light Infantry was stationed at McGown's Pass (Hall 1905:21; Hall 1911:413; Stokes 1926 V:1024)
- a letter dated September 21st reported that the main body of the British army is encamped between the 7th and 8th milestones - the 7th milestone was sited very near the Waldron House (Site 582-2), while the 8th milestone was sited just to the north of the Kortwright house (Site 594-6) (Stokes 1926 V:1024)
- another letter dated September 24th noted that the British advance post was sited "at the Black House tavern (probably a reference to the Benson/Leggett Tavern; Site 588-3) (Hall 1905:21; Hall 1911:413; Stokes 1926 V:1026-7; Diary of Frederick Mackenzie 1930:64; Cohn 1962)
 - a strong Hessian presence is noted in the troops that were encamped on the heights near Harlem in 1776 (Hall 1905:23; Stokes 1926 V:1036)
- in mid-November Earl Percy's brigade was encamped in McGowan's Pass vicinity - this force left this position to participate in the attack on Fort Washington (Hall 1905:22; Hall 1911:414)
- encampment area shown on the Great Hill to the rear of the two redoubts sited on the northern edge of that eminence - this probably represents Percy's command as this map depicts positions held just prior to the attack on Fort Washington (Illustration 8)
- the command of "Misbach" noted in the field at "Mcgowans" (Andre 1776)
- 1781 - the "Losberg" command stationed at "M'Gowan's pass" ([British troop dispositions about New York] 1781)
- on June 12th it was recorded in a British order book that the Regiment du Corps was to encamp to the left of McGown's Pass, with the Regiment of Prince Charles to encamp to the right (Hall 1911:416)
- on July 18th George Washington was planning a possible attack on Manhattan - he and several leading French generals scouted the island from the Hudson River - Washington recorded what he saw in his journal - on "McGowans heights" he saw the "Tents" of what he estimated to be two battalions

- of British (or Hessian) troops - to the southwest he saw "a number of Huts", but he could not tell whether or not these were inhabited (Stokes 1926 V:1032- 3)
- John Von Krafft, an officer in Von Bose's Hessian regiment, kept a diary during the time he was stationed at McGown's Pass - on August 19th he reported that English grenadiers and Loyalist light infantry were encamped at the pass (Hall 1905:25; Hall 1911:417)
 - on September 1st he reported that the British 37th Regiment was encamped on the east side of McGown's Pass within the encampment formerly occupied by Prince Karl's regiment (Hall 1905:25; Hall 1911:417)
 - the "38th Regt." at "McGowans Pass" ([British troop dispositions about New York] 1781)
 - on October 2nd Von Krafft's regiment was ordered to occupy the former Prince Karl's regiment encampment area (Hall 1905:25; Hall 1911:417)
- 1782 - on September 5th, 1782 Von Krafft recorded that a large Hessian force had been scheduled to encamp at McGown's Pass - this move has been delayed due to a lack of water at the proposed camp (Hall 1905:26; Hall 1911:417)
- on October 25th Von Krafft noted that the Yagers are presently stationed in the "Barracks" at McGown's Pass - they are soon to be joined by Blate's battalion (Hall 1905:26-7; Hall 1911:417)
 - encampment area depicted on the Great Hill just to the south of the two redoubts on the brown of the hill (Illustrations 10 and 11)
- 1783 - the British abandoned New York City in November - this withdrawal was scheduled to begin with the evacuation of their advance positions at Kingsbridge and McGown's Pass - the plan for this withdrawal was outlined in memorandum drawn up by a British officer - "the barracks at McGowan's" to be evacuated on the morning of November 21st - all barracks to be evacuated were to be left with their furnishings intact (Hall 1905:28; Hall 1911:418-9; Stokes 1916 I:330)
- American troops occupied the former British positions and encampments for several days in late November (Hall 1905:29; Hall 1911:419)

- 1864 - the discovery of encampment remains on the Great Hall during the course of some Park-related work was recorded by the Central Park Commissioners in 1864 -
- "In making some earth excavations on the northerly slope of the Great Hill, about two feet below the surface, the remains of a military encampment were found. The ground, in spaces of about eight feet square, was compactly trodden, and in a corner of each space was a recess, rudely built of stone, for a fire-place, with straps of iron, that seemed to have been used for cooking. Shot and bayonets were also found in the vicinity."
- it was noted that both British and Hessian troops during the Revolution and American troops during the War of 1812 used this as an encampment area - it was suggested that it was most likely that these remains dated to the War of 1812, but that it was also possible that they were remnants of British and Hessian activity (Eighth Annual Report....1865:8-9)
- c.1865 - 16 tent and/or hut sites shown and noted as the "Site of old camp" (Illustration 91)
- 1905 - Hall forwards the opinion, based on remains he has seen in other parts of Manhattan, that the materials found on the Great Hill in 1864 actually date to the Revolution (Hall 1905:22; Hall 1911:414)

Site ID #: 807-1

Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 95 - 129' ASL

Vegetation: wooded to the east; meadow and grass with a few trees elsewhere

Topographic Assessment: The summit of the Great Hill has been graded at various times during the Park era and bedrock is exposed in some spots. The slopes of the hill appear less disturbed, although historic sources suggest that some stripping of topsoil was taking place on the northern side.

General Description: The Great Hill consists of a plateau-like landform with a tongue extending south towards the site of the Burrowes House [804-5]. To the north, the hill dips down to the West Drive and then links up with the somewhat irregular line of bluffs overlooking the Harlem Plains. The summit and northern slope of the Great Hill are grass-covered, while the remainder of the landform is covered with woodland and variable understory. There are no surface indications of a military encampment in this area (these are unlikely to be present, bearing in mind the present vegetation cover and land use of this area).

On the northern slope where hut sites had been found around 1860 there is a soil cover which probing indicates to be between 12 and 18 inches in depth. The soils are very compact. Artifacts were collected from a tree fall at the eastern end. The materials recovered consisted of an overfired redware rim sherd and a fragment of melted curved aqua glass.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: The summit of the Great Hill is assigned a low archaeological sensitivity rating on account of the grading activities. The remainder of the hill and the entire zone of the encampment area is regarded as being of high archaeological sensitivity, even though future investigation should be able to narrow down the areas where archaeological remains might be expected.

Site ID #: 807-1

Continued

Recommendations: The more open areas of the Great Hill and the encampment zone could be examined with geophysical survey equipment (e.g., metal detector, electromagnetic or magnetic instruments, resistivity survey or ground-penetrating radar). This type of survey might help to guide subsurface testing to locations where hearths and concentrations of metal artifacts were buried. Irrespective of the results of geophysical prospecting, most of the slopes of the Great Hill should be subjected to systematic subsurface testing, spaced over a 25-foot grid, and avoiding areas of exposed bedrock. The northern slope of the Great Hill where hut sites have been reported should be examined with particular care using both geophysical instruments and standard manual excavation techniques.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 808-1 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 6

Site Name: -

Site Type: magazine

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selective):

Mackenzie 1776	-	Colton 1836	-
Sauthier 1776b	-	Jones 1851	-
Sauthier 1776c	-	Common Council 1856	-
British War Office 1782a	-	Viele 1856a	-
British War Office 1782b	-	Bacon 1856	-
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	-	Bagley 1860	X
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	-	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	X
Bridges 1811a	-	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	X
Renwick 1814a	-	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	-
Randel 1819-20	X		

Historical Detail:

See 594-6 and 696-2 for land ownership data
c.1815 - this 100 acre property is owned by Valentine Nutter (Illustration 37; same ownership in 1819-20 - see Illustration 44)
1860 - square magazine shown on land owned by Mary G. Pinckney (Illustration 64 and 67)
c.1860 - square structure shown (Illustration 72, 74 and 75)

Site ID #: 808-1 Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 110' ASL

Vegetation: light woodland and understory

Topographic Assessment: This area appears to be unaltered.

General Description: There are no surface indications of this structure however topographically this area looks promising.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: There is a high potential for significant archaeological resources surviving at this site.

Recommendations: If planned Park improvements involve ground disturbance in the vicinity of this site, intensive systematic sampling of subsurface deposits should be undertaken (in the order of 20 to 50 manually excavated tests located on a 25 foot interval grid). Archaeological investigations should be preceded by supplementary site specific historical research into primary documents such as landownership records.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 808-2 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 5

Site Name: Pinkney Shanty or Outbuilding? Site

Site Type: shanty or outbuilding

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Select):

Mackenzie 1776	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colton 1836	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jones 1851	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Council 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Viele 1856a	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bacon 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagley 1860	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bridges 1811a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Renwick 1814a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Randel 1819-20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Historical Detail:

See 594-6 and 696-2 for land ownership data
c.1815 - this 100 acre property is owned by Valentine Nutter (Illustration 37; same ownership in 1819-20 - Illustration 44)
1859 - rectangular structure shown (Illustration 61)
1860 - this land now owned by Mary G. Pinckney (Illustration 64)
c.1860 - rectangular structure shown (Illustrations 72 and 73)
1862 - rectangular structure shown (Illustration 80)

Site ID #: 808/2

Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 85' ASL

Vegetation: light woodland w/ understory; grass

Topographic Assessment: There appears to be fill in the vicinity of the road however the remaining area seems to be unaltered.

General Description: There are no surface indications of this structure. The site may be partially beneath the road.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: There is a moderate potential for significant archaeological resources surviving at this site.

Recommendations: If planned Park improvements involve ground disturbance in the vicinity of this site, systematic sampling of subsurface deposits should be undertaken (in the order of ten to 20 manually excavated tests spaced at a 25 foot interval). Archaeological investigations should be preceded by supplementary site specific historical research into primary documents such as landownership records.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 808-3 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 5

Site Name: Pinkney Shanty or Outbuilding? Site
E

Site Type: shanty or outbuilding

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selective):

Mackenzie 1776	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colton 1836	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jones 1851	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Council 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Viele 1856a	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bacon 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagley 1860	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bridges 1811a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Renwick 1814a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	<input type="checkbox"/>
Randel 1819-20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Historical Detail:

See 594-6 and 696-2 for land ownership data
c.1815 - this 100 acre property is owned by Valentine
Nutter (Illustration 37; same ownership in
1819-20 - see Illustration 44)
1859 - L-plan structure shown (Illustration 61)
1860 - this land now owned by Mary G. Pinckney
(Illustration 64)
c.1860 - L-shaped structure shown (Illustrations 72 and 75)
1862 - L-plan structure shown (Illustration 80)

Site ID #: 808-3 Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 65-70' ASL

Vegetation: grass, scattered trees

Topographic Assessment: There may be a small quantity of fill present however, in general, this area appears to be unaltered.

General Description: There are no foundations visible at ground surface. A scatter of brick and stone may indicate the location of this former structure.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: There is a high potential for significant archaeological resources surviving at this site.

Recommendations: If planned Park improvements involve ground disturbance in the vicinity of this site, intensive systematic sampling of subsurface deposits should be undertaken (in the order of 20 to 50 manually excavated tests located on a 25 foot interval grid). Archaeological investigations should be preceded by supplementary site specific historical research into primary documents such as landownership records.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 809-1 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 2

Site Name: Elliot Barn? Site

Site Type: barn?

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selected):

Mackenzie 1776	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colton 1836	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jones 1851	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Council 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Viele 1856a	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bacon 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagley 1860	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bridges 1811a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Renwick 1814a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	<input type="checkbox"/>
Randel 1819-20	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historical Detail:

Associated with 809-3
1859 - square structure shown (Illustration 61)
c.1860 - square structure shown (Illustrations 72, 74
and 75)
1862 - square structure shown (Illustration 80)

Site ID #: 809-1 Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1; 5.5)

Elevation: 94' ASL

Vegetation: asphalt, light woodland and understory

Topographic Assessment: This area appears to be unaltered except by the construction of a footpath.

General Description: There are no surface indications of this structure. This area has a fairly deep soil cover.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: There is a high potential for significant archaeological resources surviving at this site.

Recommendations: If planned Park improvements involve ground disturbance in the vicinity of this site, intensive systematic sampling of subsurface deposits should be undertaken (in the order of ten to 20 manually excavated tests located on a 25 foot interval grid). Archaeological investigations should be preceded by supplementary site specific historical research into primary documents such as land ownership records.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 809-2 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 2

Site Name: Blockhouse

Site Type: military fortification

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selected):

Mackenzie 1776	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colton 1836	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jones 1851	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Council 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Viele 1856a	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bacon 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagley 1860	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bridges 1811a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Renwick 1814a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	<input type="checkbox"/>
Randel 1819-20	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Historical Detail:

See 696-2 for land ownership data; 592-2 for data relative to the fortifications built in the Harlem area during the War of 1812

- 1814 - Blockhouse No. 1 shown (Illustrations 20-23)
- Blockhouse No. 1 was the first of a series of four blockhouses that were placed on the portion of Swift's Harlem line between the works defending the McGown's Pass and the Hudson River - these "Blockhouses" were placed on the brow of the "wooded heights" that extends across the island - all four were "within supporting distance of each other, and near enough for the interchange of grape shot; all of them to mount heavy cannon on their terrace" - musketry loopholes for troops stationed inside the blockhouse were provided (Swift 1814; Lossing 1868:973; Guernsey 1895:395; Hall 1905:33-5)
- On August 26th Swift requested that the City's Committee of Defense provide the stone, lime, brick and timber needed for the construction of the "Towers", or blockhouses, proposed for the Harlem line (Proceedings of the Committee of Defence 1814-15)

- c.1815 - Blockhouse No. 1 was listed on 100 acre property owned by Valentine Nutter (Illustrations 37)
- 1819-20- the blockhouse shown on its site on the northern edge of the hill on Nutter's land (Illustrations 44 and 49)
- 1836 - blockhouse shown (Illustration 50)
- 1859 - the blockhouse was the only element of the War of 1812 fortifications sited within Central Park to be depicted on the first map published by the Central Park Commissioners in 1859 (Illustration 61)
- 1860 - the blockhouse was shown and identified as a magazine, suggesting that it had been adapted, probably by the City, for use as a munitions storage depot - the land on which it was sited was now owned by Henry H. Elliott (Illustrations 64 and 68)
 - the blockhouse was described in some detail by Benson Lossing - he reported that its 4 foot thick walls stood 12 to 15 feet high - he also published a drawing depicting the southern and eastern walls of the blockhouse (Illustration 71) (Lossing 1868:974-5)
- c.1860 - the blockhouse was routinely represented on various topographical maps produced of Central Park during this period (Illustrations 72, 74, 75 and 77)
 - 1862 - shown (Illustration 80)
 - 1864 - the blockhouse was noted in the Annual Report of the Central Park Commissioners - it was noted that a "roof, added at a later date, render it serviceable as a powder magazine" (Illustration 85) (Eighth Annual Report....1865:8)
 - 1865 - shown (Illustration 86)
- c.1865 - shown ([Topographical map of the northern section of Central Park] c.1865)
- 1899 - the blockhouse is described as much neglected - it is presently filled with trash and closed up - a movement underway seeking to interest the City in the rehabilitation of the building (Illustration 96) (Annual Report...1899:10)
- 1903 - the blockhouse has been restored by the Department of Parks (Women's Auxiliary to the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society 1904; Tenth Annual Report...1905:34)

- 1905 - the blockhouse is described as it existed in 1905 - 34 feet square - the height of the walls varies due to the uneven nature of the bedrock base - the west wall is 19 feet high - the building has a flat roof set 5 feet below the coping - two loopholes in each wall - it was designed to mount a single traversing gun on the recessed terrace, or roof - the recess provided 5 feet of protection for the gun and those manning it - no cannon were ever mounted on any of the several War of 1812 blockhouses (Hall 1905:34-5; Hall 1911:423-4)
- marker placed on the west wall of the blockhouse by the Women's Auxiliary of the American Scenic and Historic Preservation Society (Illustration 97) (Hall 1905:34; Eleven Annual Report.....1906:120; Hall 1911:424)

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 107' ASL

Vegetation: exposed bedrock, light woodland

Topographic Assessment: This area appears to be unaltered.

General Description: The blockhouse is constructed of schist and sandstone and set directly on top of the schist bedrock. It is essentially a single-story masonry structure, but it appears to have had a sub-first floor entry in its southern corner.

Each of the blockhouse's four sides originally had two small gunports. The southeastern gunport on the southwest wall has been altered and now serves as the building's entry. The remaining seven gunports survive, although some have been partially infilled with brick.

There has been extensive repointing and patching of the masonry throughout. The upper two feet or so of the structure are noticeably different (in color, composition and size of the stonework).

Inside the building, there is an intermittent offset in the masonry towards the base of each wall. It is likely that the first floor timber flooring system comprised of joists, sill and boards was set on top of this offset. There is a distinct vertical line in the mortar and masonry midway along the inside faces of the northwest and southeast walls. These lines may reflect an interior northwest-southeast partition. Inside the northern angle of the building is a setting for a flagpole, a predecessor of the flagpole that is presently in the center of the structure.

The arched entry shown in the 1860 Lossing view of the blockhouse, is now blocked but appears to have existed originally. It was located towards the southwestern end of the southeast wall. On the exterior of the wall, the entry is barely discernible as a zone of irregular masonry. On the interior, the top of the arch is just visible about six inches to one foot above the present ground surface. By comparing interior and exterior elevations it seems there is three to four feet of fill in the southern corner of the building interior.

A line of masonry is located approximately 50 feet southwest of the blockhouse.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: The southern interior corner of the blockhouse has a high potential to yield information about the blocked entranceway. Deposits elsewhere in the building are likely to be much shallower but may contain limited data (artifacts or structural information). Careful examination of the wall masonry may produce information about how the building interior was framed. Outside the structure, especially to the southwest and southeast, there is also some potential for archaeological data.

Recommendations: The imminent restoration of the blockhouse would be served well by a limited archaeological study of the interior of the structure. This study should concentrate on the southwestern corner of the building and on other non-bedrock areas of the interior. The former location could be examined through an excavation unit designed to recover information on the postulated entry. Other areas could be tested with units or trenches of smaller size. A detailed examination of the blockhouse masonry should also be undertaken by a qualified architectural historian with knowledge of early 19th-century military architecture, while additional historical research into blockhouse design and construction might prove useful in guiding the restoration effort.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 809-3 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 2/6
Site Name: Elliot House Site
Site Type: dwelling

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selective):

Mackenzie 1776		Colton 1836	
Sauthier 1776b		Jones 1851	
Sauthier 1776c		Common Council 1856	
British War Office 1782a		Viele 1856a	
British War Office 1782b		Bacon 1856	
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a		Bagley 1860	
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b		Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	
Bridges 1811a		Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	
Renwick 1814a		Unnamed Topo. c.1865	
Randel 1819-20			

Historical Detail:

See 594-6 and 696-2 for land ownership data
c.1815 - this 100 acre property is owned by Valentine Nutter (Illustration 37; same ownership in 1819-20 - see Illustration 44)
1859 - large irregular L-plan structure shown (Illustration 61)
1860 - large irregular L-shaped house owned by Henry H. Elliott shown (Illustrations 64 and 69)
c.1860 - large irregular L-shaped structure shown (Illustrations 72, 74 and 75)
1862 - same structure again shown (Illustration 80)
1864 - shown (Illustration 85)
c.1865 - shown ([Topographic map of the northern section of Central Park] c.1865)

Site ID #: 809-3

Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 102' ASL

Vegetation: lightwoodland & understory

Topographic Assessment: This area appears to be unaltered.

General Description: There is no surface indication of this structure. A fairly deep soil accumulation covers the site .

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: There is a high potential for significant archaeological resources surviving at this site.

Recommendations: If planned Park improvements involve ground disturbance in the vicinity of this site, intensive systematic sampling of subsurface deposits should be undertaken (in the order of 20 to 50 manually excavated tests located on a 25 foot interval grid). Archaeological investigations should be preceded by supplementary site specific historical research into primary documents such as landownership records.

CENTRAL PARK, 97TH - 110TH STREET: HISTORIC SITE GAZETTEER

Site ID #: 809-6 **Topo. Survey (1982) Sheet:** 5

Site Name: Elliot Dwelling or Outbuilding? Site

Site Type: dwelling or outbuilding?

HISTORICAL DATA

Historic Map Coverage (Selective):

Mackenzie 1776	<input type="checkbox"/>	Colton 1836	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jones 1851	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sauthier 1776c	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Council 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Viele 1856a	<input type="checkbox"/>
British War Office 1782b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bacon 1856	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bagley 1860	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unnamed Topo. c.1776-1783b	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860a	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bridges 1811a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1860b	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Renwick 1814a	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unnamed Topo. c.1865	<input type="checkbox"/>
Randel 1819-20	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Historical Detail:

Associated with 809-3

1859 - rectangular structure shown (Illustration 61)
c.1860 - square structure shown (Illustrations 72, 74
and 75)

Site ID #: 809-6 Continued

FIELD DATA (Figures 5.1 and 5.5)

Elevation: 90' ASL

Vegetation: light woodland

Topographic Assessment: This area appears unaltered except for some natural soil erosion.

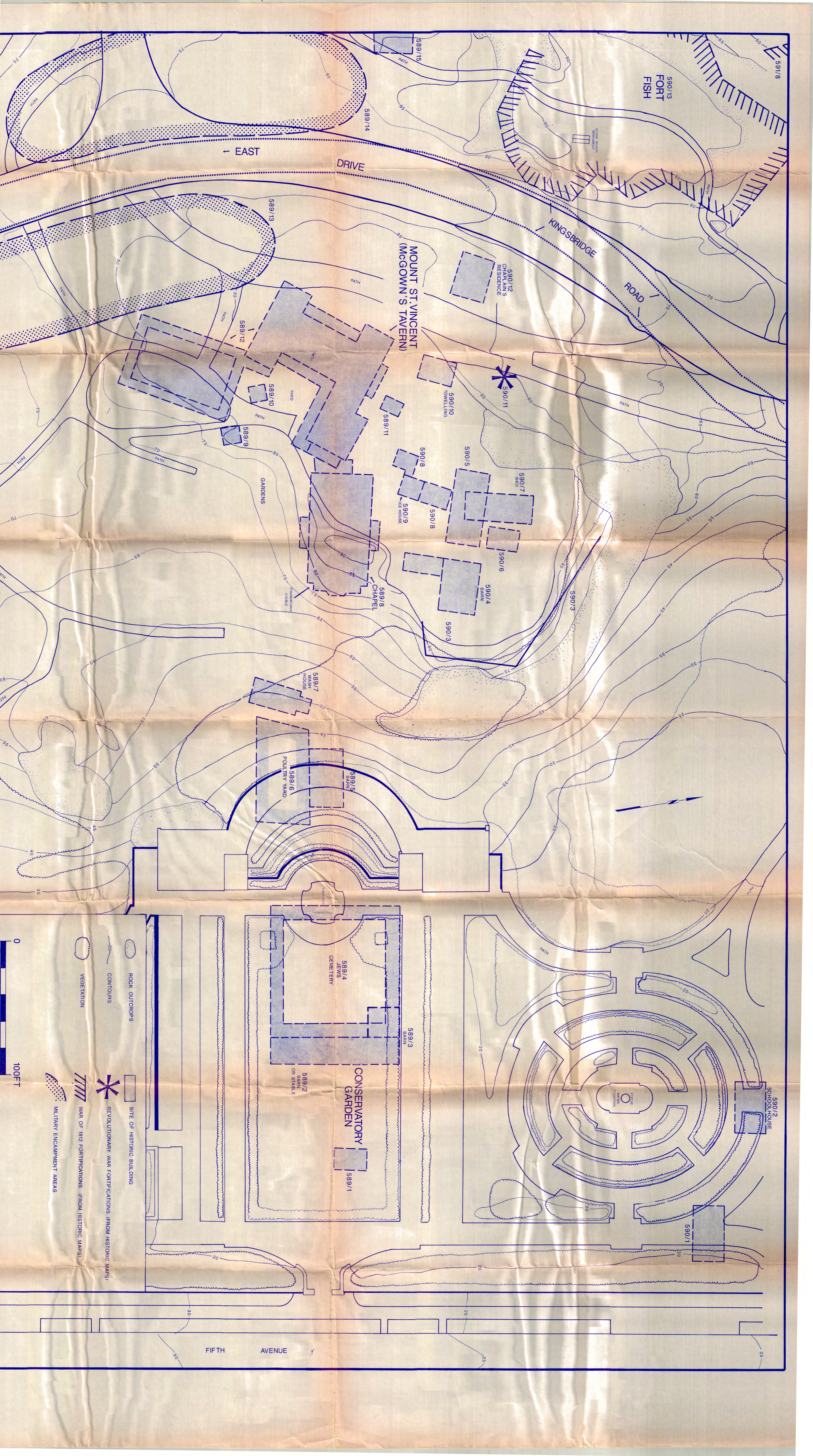
General Description: There is no surface indication of this structure however the large areas of exposed bedrock limit its siting.

Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment: There is a moderate potential for significant archaeological resources surviving at this site.

Recommendations: If planned Park improvements involve ground disturbance in the vicinity of this site, systematic sampling of subsurface deposits should be undertaken (in the order of 10 to 20 manually excavated tests spaced at a 25 foot interval). Archaeological investigations should be preceded by supplementary site specific historical research into primary documents such as land ownership records.



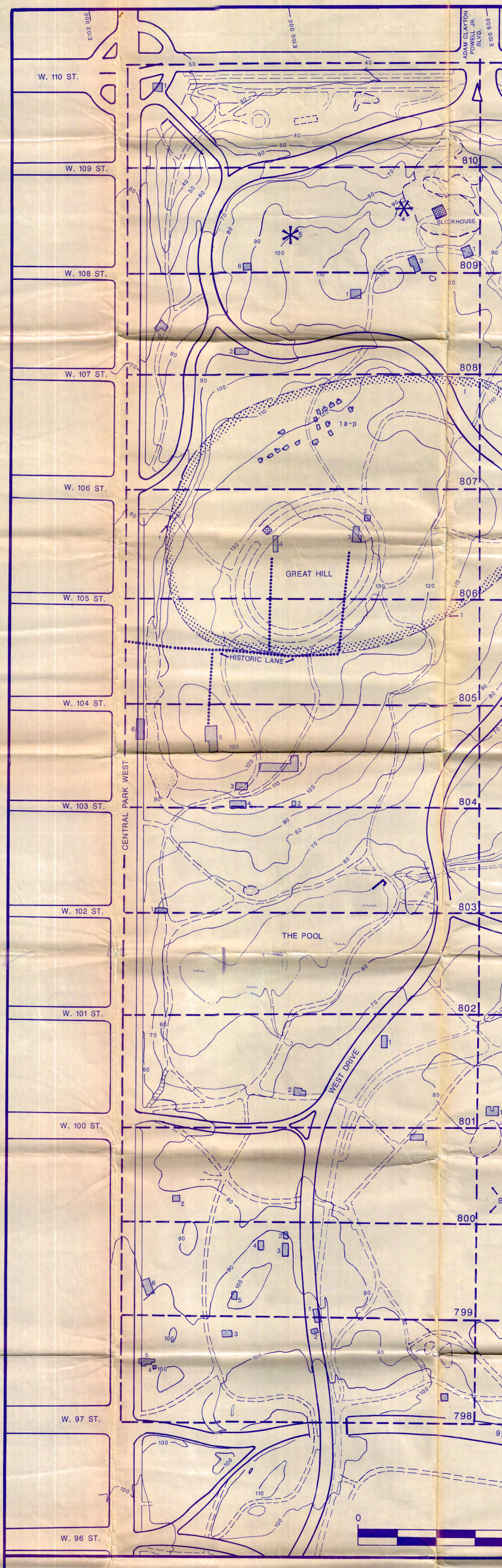
A PRELIMINARY HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF CENTRAL PARK TO THE NORTH OF THE 97TH STREET TRANSVERSE, BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN, CITY OF NEW YORK
 FIGURE 5.3. LOCATIONS OF MILITARY FORTIFICATIONS IN THE VICINITY OF MCGOWN'S PASS



0 100FT

- ROCK OUTCROPS
- CONTOURS
- VEGETATION
- SITE OF HISTORIC BUILDING
- REVOLUTIONARY WAR FORTIFICATIONS (FROM HISTORIC MAPS)
- WAR OF 1812 FORTIFICATIONS (FROM HISTORIC MAPS)
- MILITARY ENCAMPMENT AREAS

FIFTH AVENUE



A PRELIMINARY HISTORICAL MAP
 TO THE NORTH OF THE 97
 FIGURE