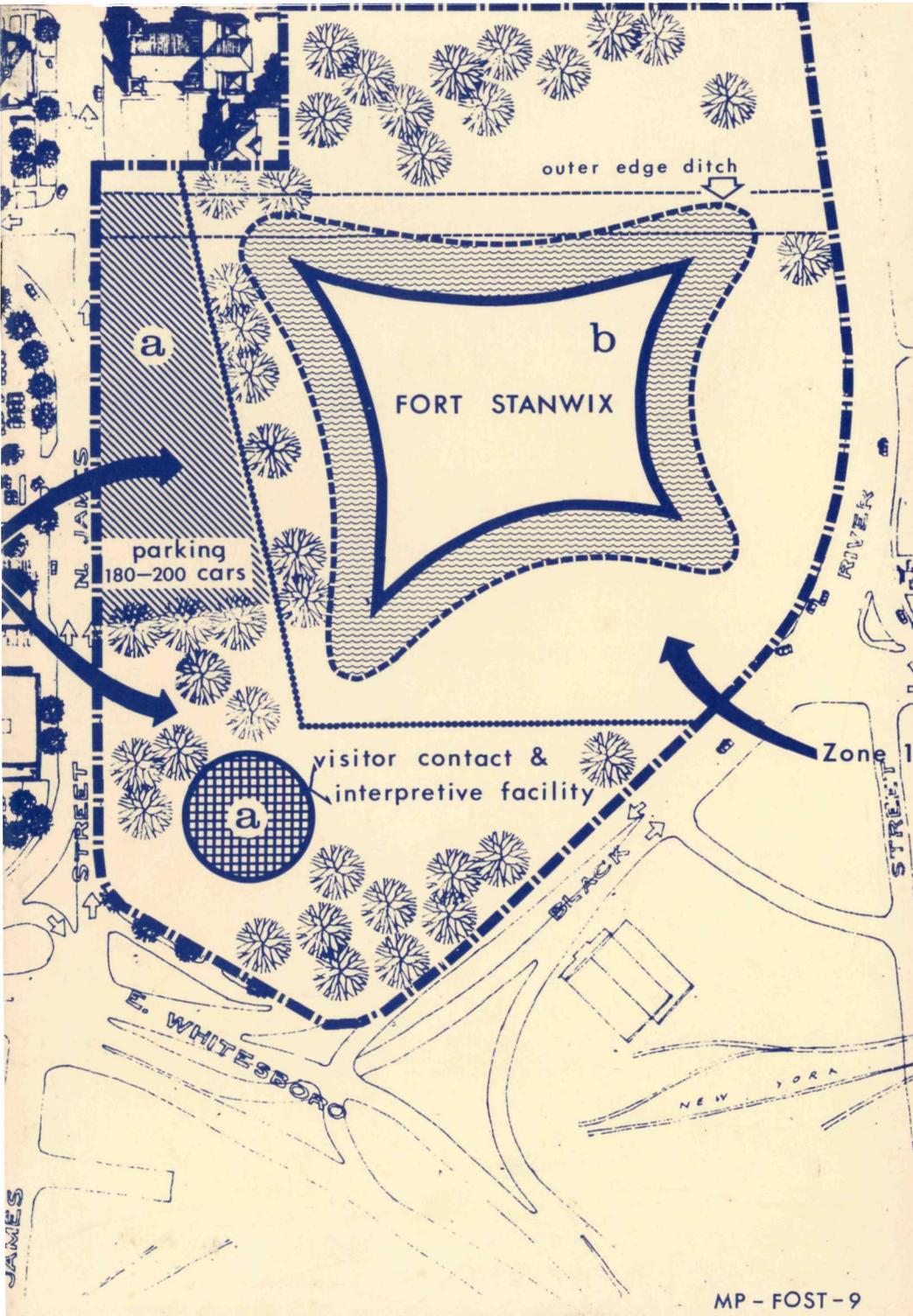


FORT STANWIX

National Monument

A Master Plan



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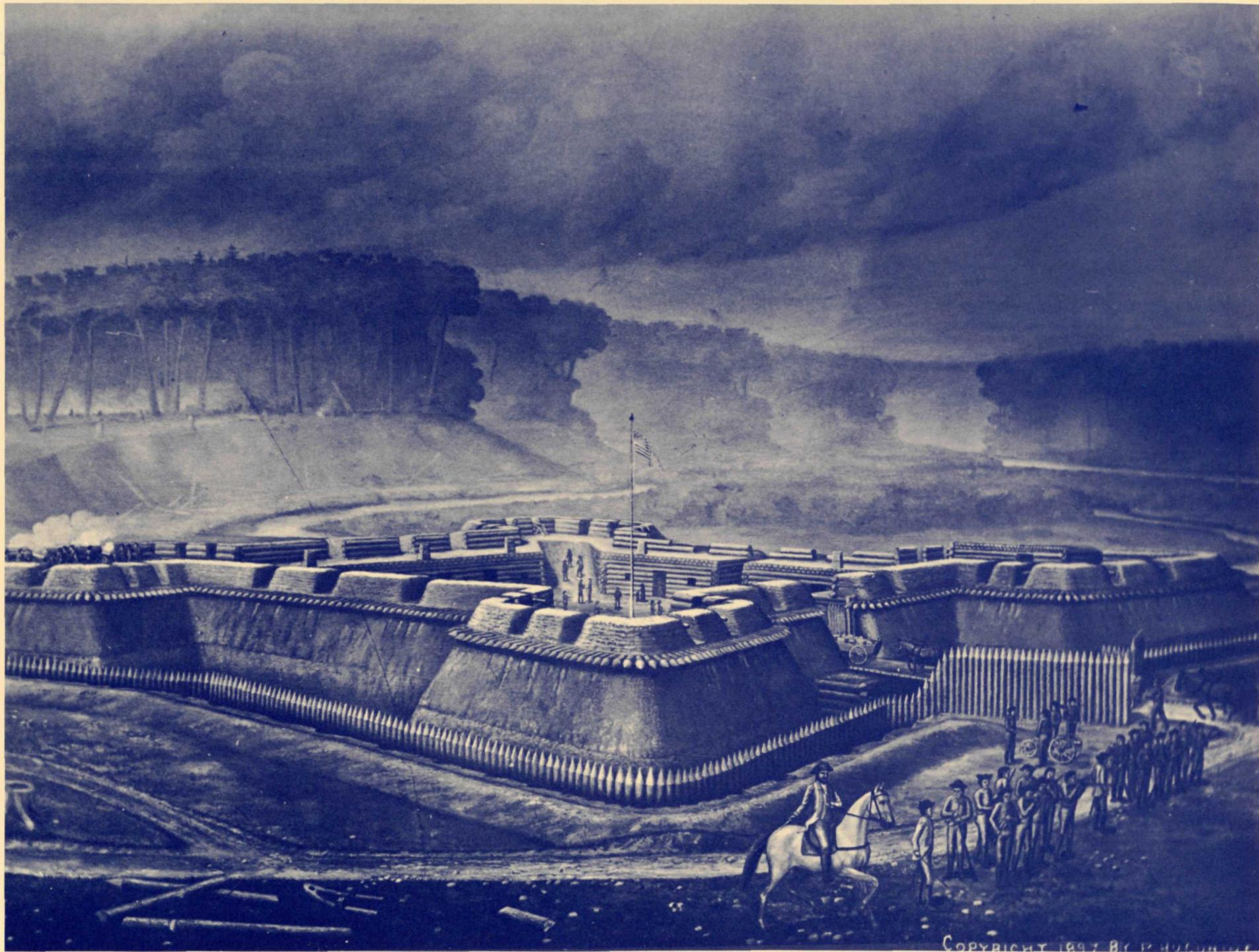
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A Master Plan for **FORT STANWIX** National Monument

INTRODUCTION

1

Fort Stanwix National Monument was authorized by an Act of Congress approved August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 665). Legislation was introduced at the request of the Rome Chamber of Commerce and patriotic societies, who felt that a national monument would tie into and give more meaning to a series of patriotic celebrations then being planned, and that the site was important enough to deserve national monument status. The Chamber of Commerce also felt that development of Fort Stanwix would make an excellent emergency public works project. Former Secretary of the Interior Ickes recommended that the bill be passed, noting that the area "is the site of a battle of great importance in American History and is worthy of Federal protection . . ."

The Act provides that when title to the site of Fort Stanwix, or a part of it, together with any buildings thereon that the

Secretary of the Interior may designate as necessary, has been vested in the United States, the site shall be designated a national monument by Presidential Proclamation. The Secretary may acquire the site by donation or purchase with donated funds. When established, the national monument shall be administered, protected, and developed by the National Park Service, subject to the Act of August 25, 1916, establishing that Bureau.

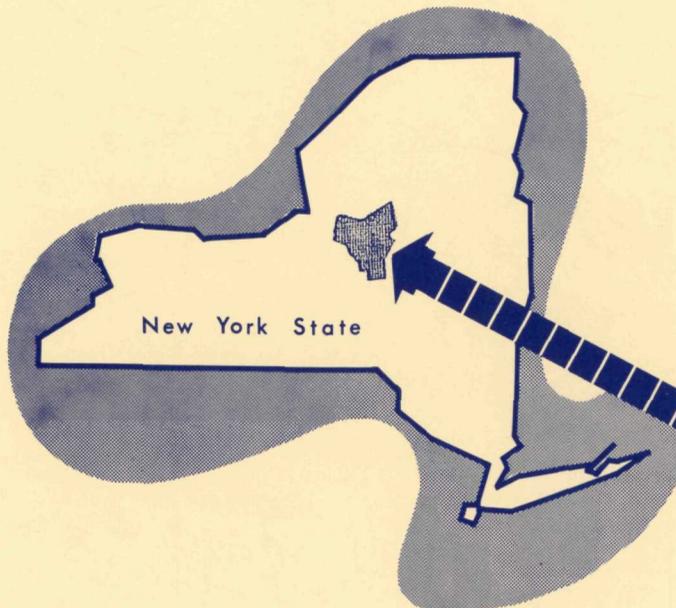
This Act was not put into effect. The reasons for this are not clear. Probably the additional responsibilities given to the Park Service by the Historic Sites Act of 1935 and the limited amount of money available with which to develop the national monument combined to prevent its establishment. Further, the cost of acquiring the site for donation was estimated at \$300,000 or more, a sum which would be hard to raise

during the depression. Gradually, interest in the project died.

Then in 1963, the site of Fort Stanwix was designated a registered national landmark. In 1964, at the request of the City of Rome, the National Park Service agreed to advise on working the fort site into a proposed urban renewal project.

Local public interest in developing the site took strong root among community organizations. By 1965, Rome's planning for development of its historical resources had broadened to include many sites and structures besides Fort Stanwix, and interest in implementing the Fort Stanwix National Monument Act had revived. Urban Renewal funds were available to acquire and clear the site. At the request of city officials, the National Park Service prepared this Master Plan for administering, protecting and developing Fort Stanwix National Monument.

STATE OF NEW YORK
HIGHWAY MAP
OF
ONEIDA COUNTY



2

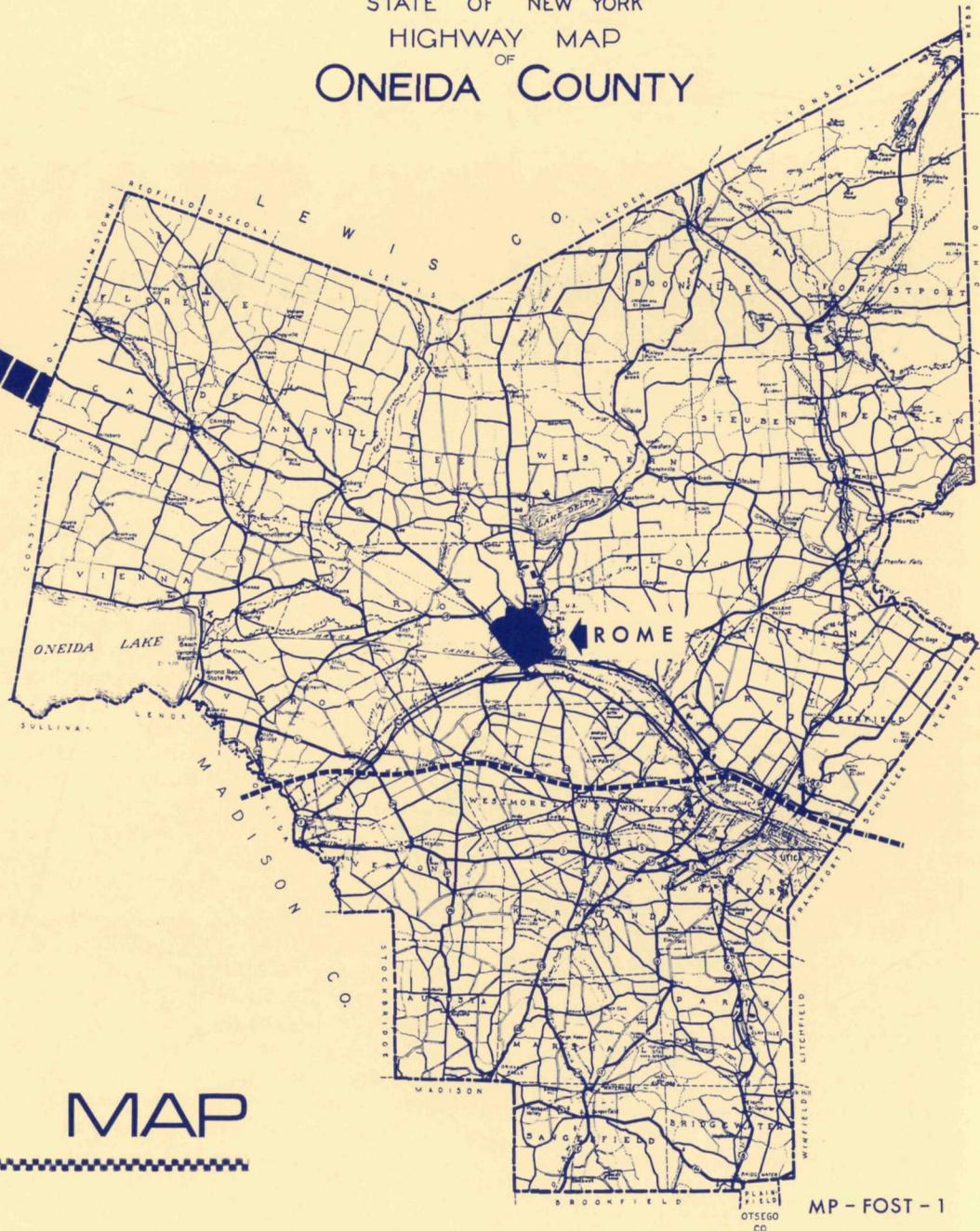


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SCALE IN MILES

LEGEND

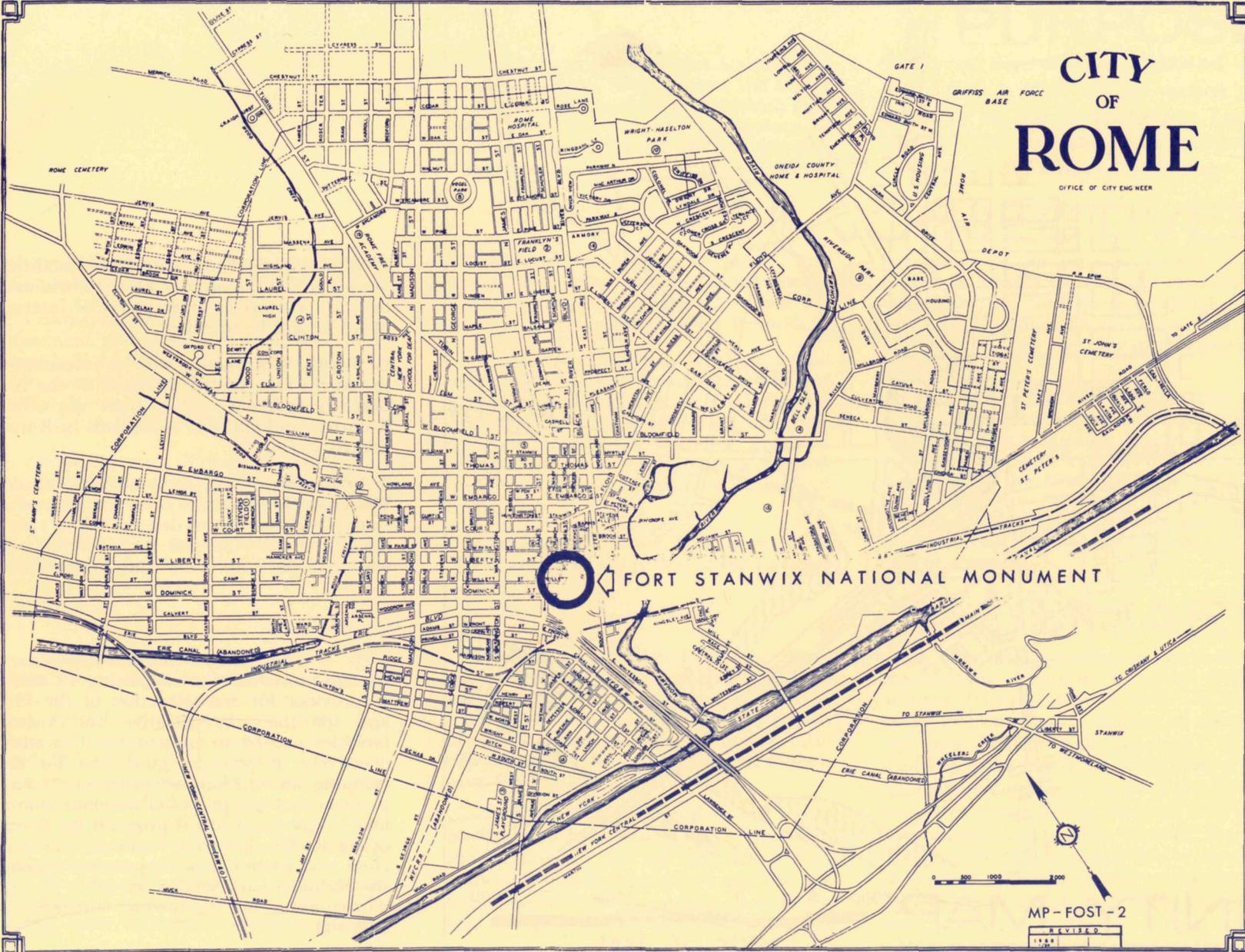
STATE SYSTEM		IMPROVED
		ROUTE NUMBERS
		N.Y. STATE TURNPIKE
COUNTY ROADS		IMPROVED
		PROPOSED
TOWN HIGHWAYS		IMPROVED
		UNIMPROVED
		UNIMPROVED IN HANDICAP

REGIONAL MAP



CITY OF ROME

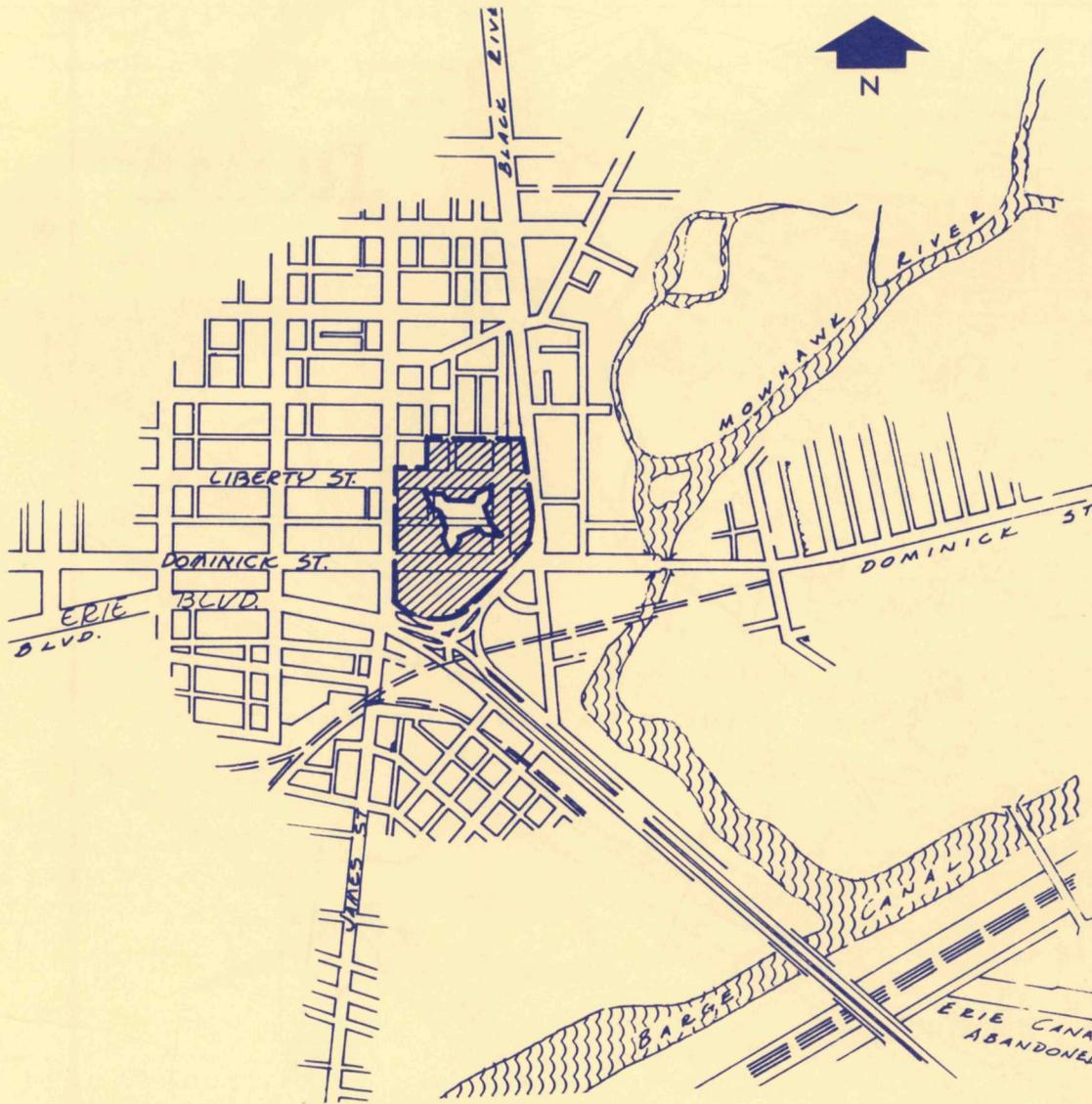
OFFICE OF CITY ENGINEER



3

MP - FOST - 2

REVISED
1929



1. **PROVISION OF FACILITIES** Those facilities needed to tell the story of Fort Stanwix and to direct visitors to other places of interest in Rome will be provided.

2. **VISITOR USE** Visitors will be encouraged to use the interpretive facilities of the national monument and to visit the other historical and cultural attractions in Rome and its vicinity.

3. **COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING** Fort Stanwix National Monument is only one part of a comprehensive plan to develop Rome's heritage, and the National Park Service will work closely with civic and preservation

This plan recommends a boundary for the monument encompassing 18 acres. It provides for reconstruction of the fort and for the administrative and visitor facilities needed to present the fort story effectively. It provides guidelines for developing an interpretive program. It emphasizes that the proposed national monument is part of a broad program for developing Rome's historical features, and that close and harmonious cooperation among the National Park Service and other groups participating in the broader program is essential.

VICINITY MAP

1000 500 0 1000 2000
scale in feet

groups to fit monument planning and operation into the overall plan.

4. CONSERVATION THROUGH KNOWLEDGE Development and management of the monument will be based on knowledge gained from comprehensive historical and archeological research. This research will build upon the work already done.

5. ARCHITECTURAL THEME Developments will be designed to be in harmony with the reconstructed fort and its historical setting.

6. PROTECTION OF THE SETTING The National Park Service will encourage any effort the

The Master Plan is contingent upon three things. *First*, a cleared site must be donated to the Federal Government. *Second*, no development can take place until money for that development is appropriated by the Congress. *Third*, a decision must be made that development of Fort Stanwix should take precedence over preservation of the several buildings now standing on the site, at least in their present location.

The historic preservation movement has matured in the years since 1935. Its interests, once concerned almost exclusively

The purpose of Fort Stanwix National Monument is to preserve the site of the fort and interpret the events which took place there: The strategic importance of the site in controlling the Mohawk River—Wood Creek Portage; the significance of the

City of Rome may make to protect and improve the setting around the monument through zoning, urban renewal, stream valley park development or other methods.

7. MUSEUM COLLECTIONS Museum collections will be limited to artifacts recovered from Park Service excavation at the site and such other objects related to the fort as may be needed for the interpretive program. Conflicts with and duplication of the collections of the Rome Historical Society will be avoided.

8. INTERPRETIVE THEME The story to be told at Fort Stanwix is that of the strategic

with preserving "colonial" houses, forts, and battlefields, have broadened to include preservation of 19th and even 20th century houses, and of sites and structures important in the development of industry, commerce, transportation, the arts, and indeed, every facet of our society.

This plan, in a sense, does not reflect the new and broader concept of preservation. It provides for the creation of Fort Stanwix National Monument and for the development required to make that monument effective. It does so at the expense of

PURPOSE

Treaty of Fort Stanwix negotiated and signed here in 1768; and the decisive role played by the fort in repulsing St. Leger's attack in 1777, a repulse which contributed to the capture of Burgoyne at Saratoga.

OBJECTIVES

importance of the fort site, the role of the fort in St. Leger's repulse, and the effect of this repulse on Burgoyne's campaign. The Treaty of Fort Stanwix will be treated as a subtheme, as will the structural history of the fort.

9. INTERPRETIVE METHOD Interpretation will center upon the restored fort, supplemented by exhibits and other devices as necessary. The National Park Service will work closely with the Historic Rome Development Authority, the Rome Historical Society and other groups to mesh monument interpretation with the overall presentation of Rome's history.

SUMMARY

three 19th century structures included in the Historic American Buildings Survey, another structure reputed to be the oldest house in Rome, and a number of commercial and institutional structures, all of which must be moved or demolished if the national monument is to be created. The people of Rome, acting through their city government, will decide whether the national monument is worth this price when they decide whether or not to donate the Fort Stanwix site to the Federal Government.

REGIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

The Fort Stanwix site is located in the center of Rome, New York, overlooking the Mohawk River. The effective region is the City of Rome, covering 77 square miles in area, and its immediate vicinity.

Access and Circulation

Rome is within 8 miles of Interstate Route 90, the New York State Thruway, and is accessible from it by New York Routes 69, 46, 26 and 33 which connects to 365. Rome and nearby Utica are served by Mohawk Airlines, with limousine service to Rome—a distance of some 7 miles. Rome is also served by the New York Central Railroad and by transcontinental Bus Lines.

Circulation within the city is by city streets. The city is operating a mini-bus service between center city and the outskirts. Circulation within the park will be by foot.

Population Data

Rome had a population of 56,646 in 1960, an increase of 24 percent over the 1950 figure of 41,682. Oneida County, 1960 population of 264,401, had an increase of 19 percent over the 1950 figure of 222,855. This increase has had no appreciable effect on the monument.

About one-fourth of the country's population resides within five hours' driving time of Rome.

Park and Recreation Facilities

Existing:

1. FORT STANWIX MUSEUM History of Mohawk Valley: Ice Age—1860.
2. ORISKANY MONUMENT Site of Battle of Oriskany.
3. GRAVE OF FRANCIS BELLAMY Author of Pledge of Allegiance.
4. STATE FISH HATCHERY Supporting fishery research laboratories.
5. MEMORIAL TO BARON VON STEUBEN Drillmaster of Revolution.
6. LAKE DELTA STATE PARK Approximately 2 miles north (swimming, camping, boating—being developed).
7. VERONA DELTA STATE PARK Approximately 2 miles north (swimming, boating).
8. PIXLEY FALLS STATE PARK Approximately 10 miles north (camping).
9. ADIRONDACKS STATE PARK Approximately 35 miles north.
10. WOODS VALLEY SKI AREA Approximately 3 miles north.
11. SNOW RIDGE SKI AREA Approximately 35 miles north.
12. STRUCTURES OF HISTORICAL AND ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST Some 24 such structures and sites have been identified (see Regional Development Plan) and are presented through a walking tour of the downtown area and an auto tour. The Rome Historical Society sponsors a bus tour for groups on occasion, but not yet on a regular basis. This tour takes about two to two and one-half hours and covers points along the Great Carrying Place and Oriskany Battlefield sites.

The City of Rome has evaluated its historical resources and their potential, and

is using this heritage to expand the economic base of the community. The prospects of phasing out Griffiss Air Force Base has haunted business leaders and added impetus for finding new business activity should the Air Base be actually closed. There is also evidence of a cultural explosion in the community sustained by intellectual forces as well as business enterprises.

In February 1966, an economic feasibility report, prepared by Economic Research Associates of Los Angeles, California, was submitted to the City of Rome and the Rome Urban Renewal Agency. This report suggested procedures for developing the historical potential of the area and preserving its cultural heritage—something that would result in a flourishing tourist industry for the area. The Economic Research Associates' report develops fully the feasibility of an extensive historic development in the Rome area.

The City Planning Associates-East, of Buffalo, New York, prepared in June 1966, for the City of Rome its final project report for the Fort Stanwix-Central Business District Urban Renewal Project. Last August this report, accompanied by loan application, was submitted by the city to the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The city is implementing these recommendations. The architect-engineering firm of Frank and Stein Associates has prepared plans for the extensive developed areas proposed. To give the project a practical start and spark, those sections which are expected to yield immediate revenues will be first developed.

The total extensive programs envisage eight developments recommended by Frank and Stein for the early years of development:

AND ANALYSIS

Surroundings and Existing Use

There is no major difference in terrain, climate, vegetation or land use between the monument site and its surroundings.

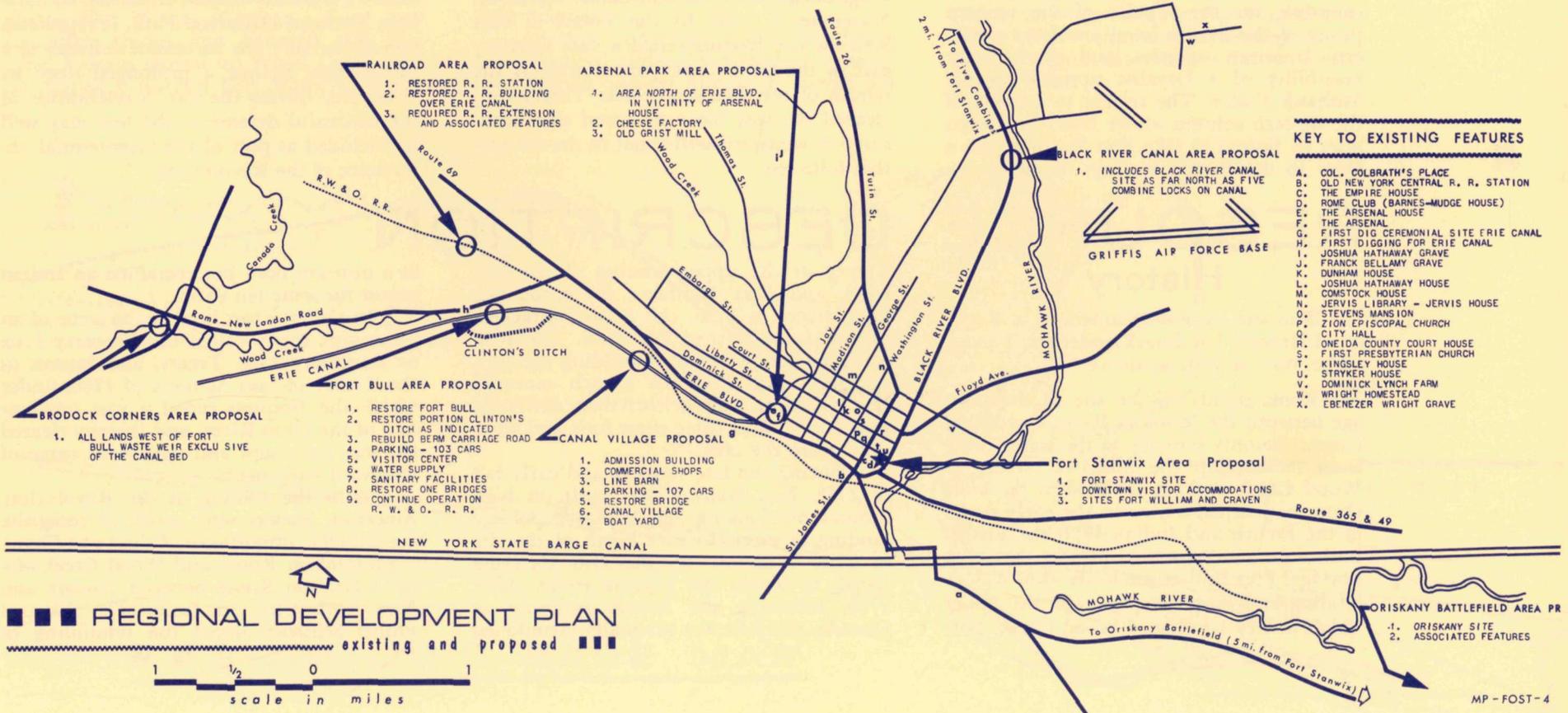
The general appearance of the area and the location of Fort Stanwix in relation to existing buildings and streets can readily be seen on the aerial photographs in-

cluded in this report, and on the Existing Use Map.

All of the national monument project is within the area designated for urban renewal. Within the urban renewal portion of the site, over 90 percent of the structures have been declared as having minor to major deficiencies. Out of a total of 69 structures, 19 are deficient warranting clearance and 21 have blighted conditions. Only 6 buildings out of 69 were listed as being structurally sound.

- a. Canal Village Area
- b. The Canal Boat Ride
- c. Fort Bull Area
- d. Railroad Area
- e. Brodock Corners Area
- f. Arsenal Park Area
- g. Fort Stanwix Area
- h. Oriskany Battlefield Area
- i. Black River Canal Area

Proposed facilities are shown on the Regional Development Plan.



Most of the buildings contain commercial establishments, but some are used for private clubs, organizations, a museum, and other purposes. In the northeast corner of the proposed monument area, there are a few dwellings.

Fort Stanwix National Monument is an integral part of regional plans for developing historical resources, as well as an

RESOURCE

From 1758 to the end of the Revolution, Fort Stanwix controlled one of the two water routes from Canada to New York City. The stand by an American garrison at Fort Stanwix during August 1777 was responsible for the repulse of the western prong of the British invasion of the northern American colonies, and checked the possibility of a Loyalist uprising in the Mohawk Valley. The retreat to Canada of the western column under Barry St. Leger, after its failure to take Fort Stanwix, was a blow to the British strategy of concentra-

important element of the downtown Rome Urban Renewal area.

The planning reports cited herein recognize this significance and set aside an area for this purpose. The perimeter of the fort itself, as identified in the archeological explorations, is to remain free from any construction other than that connected with the restoration of the structure.

EVALUATION

tion at Albany, contributing thereby to the surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga on October 17. In addition to its role in the Revolution, Fort Stanwix was the scene of a significant treaty of that name, signed on November 5, 1768. By the Treaty of Fort Stanwix the Iroquis ceded a vast territory east of the Ohio River, as far west as the mouth of the Tennessee. The Treaty thus cleared the way for a new and significant surge of westward settlement in the decades that followed.

Utilities

Municipal water and sewerage systems are available and future developments can be connected to them. Likewise, power and telephone lines exist in the vicinity with no problems of connections expected.

Fort Stanwix National Monument will be one of ten areas administered by the National Park Service which commemorate the military phase of the American Revolution. It is closely related in theme to Saratoga National Historical Park. It represents one of the very few successful defenses of a fortification against a prolonged siege by either side during the war. A celebration of the successful defense of the fort may well be included as part of the bicentennial observance of the Revolution.

RESOURCE

History

The site of Fort Stanwix is a Registered Historic Landmark under the Theme, "The War of Independence."

Rome stands on the site of the portage between the Mohawk River and Wood Creek; the only portage on the water route from Albany up the Mohawk, across to Wood Creek and on to Oswego on Lake Ontario. Just before, or in the early stages of the French and Indian War, the British built four small forts to protect this vital portage; Fort Bull at the lower (low water) landing and Fort Newport near the upper (high water) landing of Wood Creek; Fort

DESCRIPTION

Craven at the upper landing of the Mohawk and Fort Williams above, on the same river. In 1756, the French attacked, captured and burned Fort Bull. The British immediately began rebuilding the fort, but in August 1756 the French captured Fort Oswego. The British then destroyed Fort Bull and its three sister forts and withdrew from the area.

During the late summer and early fall of 1758, Fort Stanwix was built on high ground overlooking the Mohawk portage landing, a short distance north of the site of Fort Williams on the Old Carrying Road, to secure the portage route. After 1760, following the British conquest of Canada, this fort was gradually abandoned

as a military post, but remained an Indian center for some ten years.

In 1768 the fort became the scene of an important treaty called the Property Line or Boundary Line Treaty, also known as the Treaty of Fort Stanwix of 1768, under which the Iroquois ceded a vast territory east of the Ohio River, and thereby cleared the way for a new and significant surge of westward settlement.

With the coming of the Revolution, American leaders were quick to recognize the strategic importance of the Lake Champlain-Hudson Route and Wood Creek-Mohawk-Hudson Route between Canada and New York City. In June 1776, General Philip Schuyler urged the rebuilding of

Fort Stanwix. After nearly a year of intermittent and generally ineffective effort, work began in earnest, and by August 1, 1777, the fort was again in a defensible condition.

In the fall of 1776, the British had launched an offensive southward up Lake Champlain which was foiled by the naval battle of Valcour Bay and the advent of winter. A new campaign was then organized for the summer of 1777, to consist of a thrust down the Champlain Route to Albany by an army under Burgoyne, and another thrust down the Mohawk Route by a force under Colonel Barry St. Leger.

The Mohawk Expedition, composed of about 800 British, German, Tory and Canadian troops and between 600 and 1,000 Indians moved up Wood Creek, and on August 2 reached Fort Stanwix. Seeing

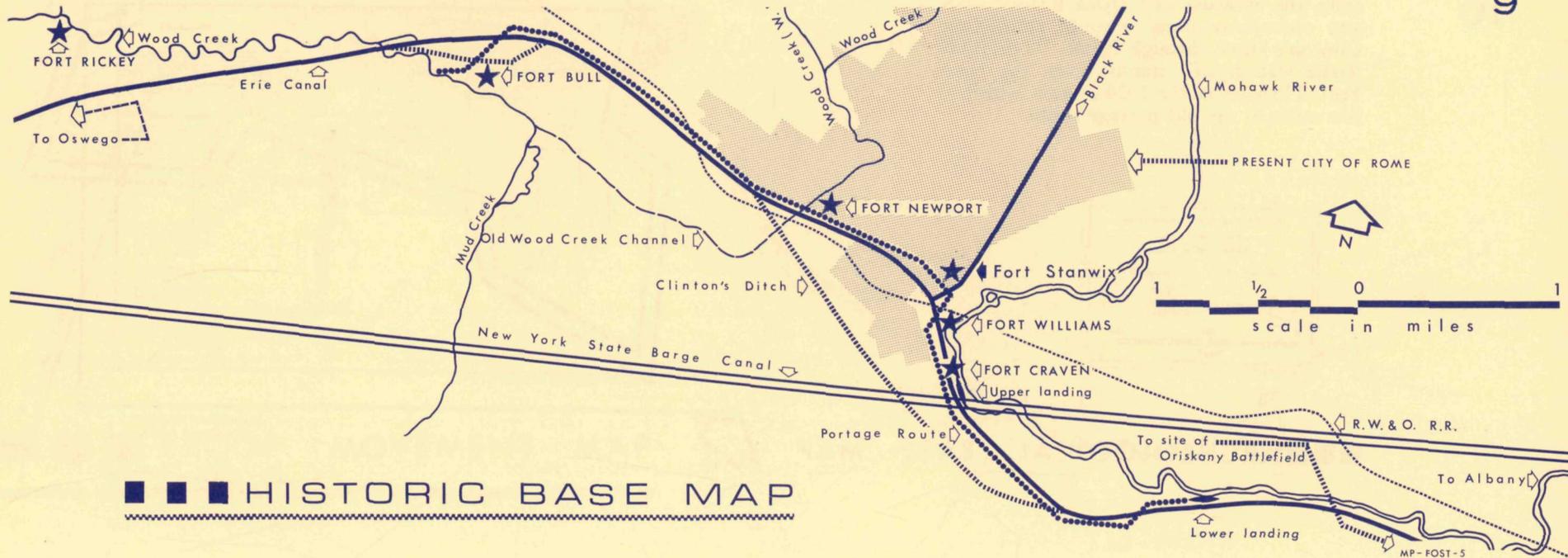
that the fort was too strong to assault. St. Leger besieged it. The fort and its 750-man garrison stood firm. On August 3, 1777, the first day of the siege, local tradition holds that the stars and stripes were raised above the fort—the first appearance of the new flag in battle.

Meanwhile, news of St. Leger's advance had spread, and a relief force of 800 militia men gathered. On August 4, led by General Nicholas Herkimer, it marched. On the 6th, this force was ambushed by St. Leger at Oriskany, six miles southeast of Fort Stanwix. The Americans, after a savage battle, were left in possession of the field, but were too badly battered to continue on to Fort Stanwix.

Another American relief expedition was organized under the command of Benedict Arnold, and on August 22 moved out

from Fort Dayton. St. Leger's Indian allies, impatient with siege tactics and badly mauled in the fight at Oriskany, were discontented. During the battle at Oriskany, a party of Americans had sallied from Fort Stanwix and looted and destroyed the camps of the Tories and Indians, adding to the disgust of the latter. Rumors of Arnold's approach, artfully planted by the General himself, alarmed St. Leger's Indians and they urged retreat. The siege was abandoned. The British thrust down the Mohawk had failed.

Of the four French and Indian War forts, only the earthworks of Fort Bull survive. Fort Stanwix was abandoned in 1781, and its above-ground remains cleared away before 1850. Preliminary archeology has uncovered significant remains below present ground level.



HISTORIC BASE MAP

Later History of the Region

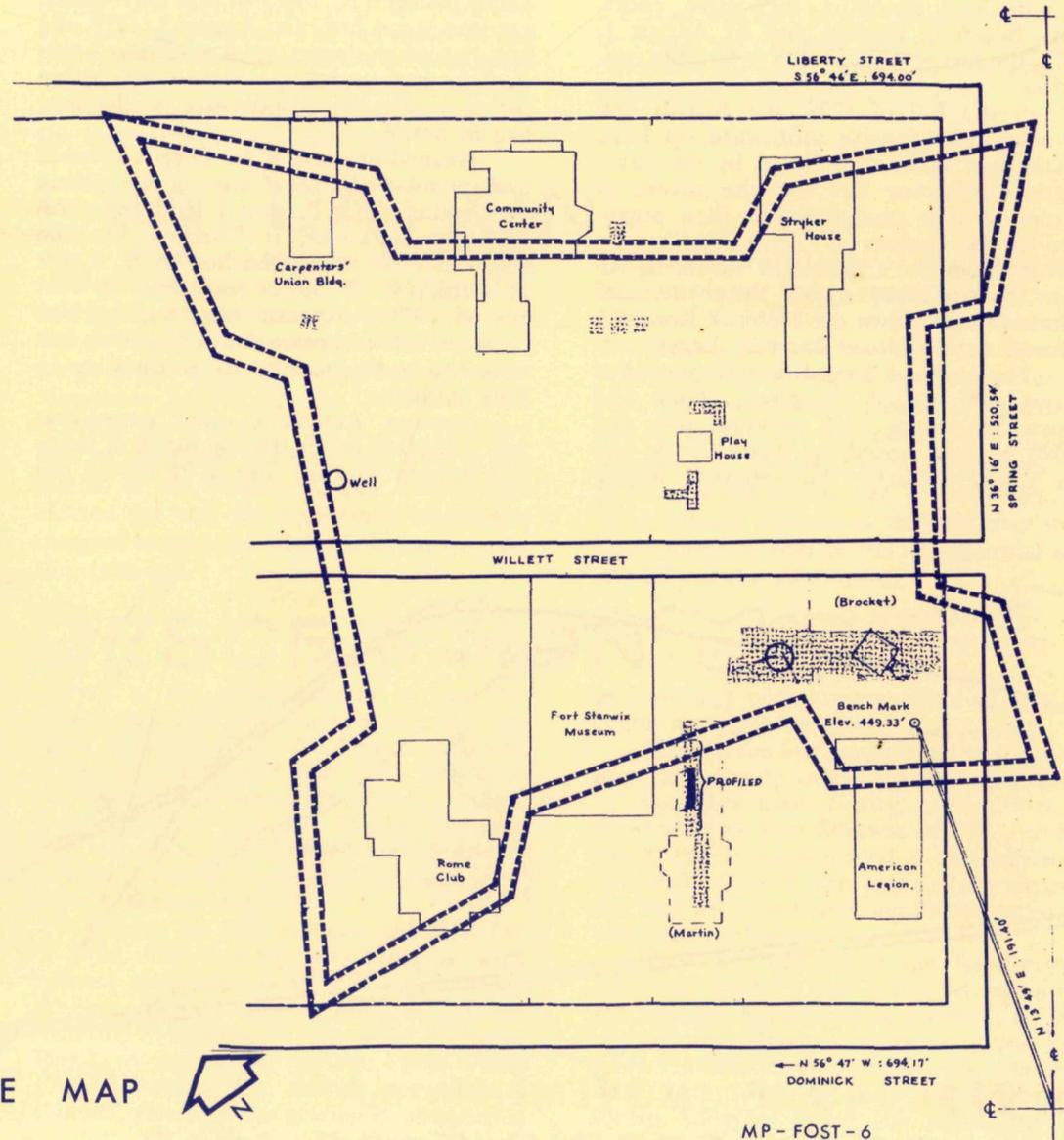
The water route which Fort Stanwix had controlled became an increasingly important transportation route as the frontier moved west after the Revolution. In 1796, the Western Inland Lock and Navigation Company opened a two-mile long ditch, navigable by bateaux, connecting the Mohawk with Wood Creek. In July 1817, work began on "Clinton's Ditch," a canal roughly paralleling the Mohawk-Wood Creek route past Rome to a terminus at Buffalo. In 1844, Clinton's Ditch was improved, enlarged and in part rerouted, and became the Erie Canal. Finally, in the early 20th century, the Erie was replaced by the New York State Barge Canal.

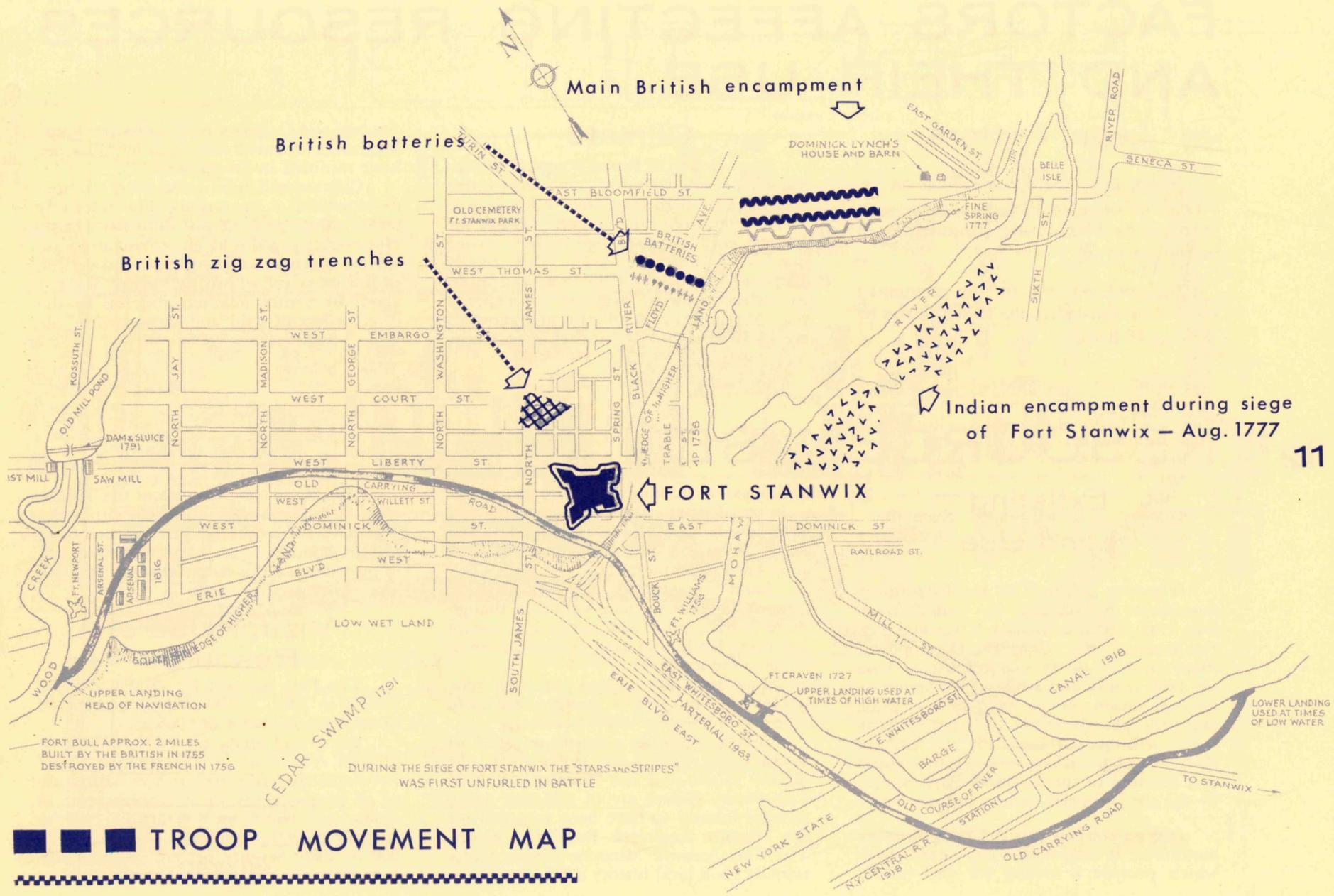
The Mohawk Valley also became a route for other forms of transportation. In 1839, the Syracuse and Utica Railroad began operations along a route paralleling Clinton's Ditch through Rome. Its original Rome station still stands. Even the New York Thruway of the 1950's passes within a few miles of the old portage route.

10



■■■ ARCHEOLOGICAL BASE MAP





Main British encampment

British batteries

British zig zag trenches

Indian encampment during siege of Fort Stanwix - Aug. 1777

FORT STANWIX

11

FORT BULL APPROX. 2 MILES BUILT BY THE BRITISH IN 1755 DESTROYED BY THE FRENCH IN 1756

DURING THE SIEGE OF FORT STANWIX THE "STARS AND STRIPES" WAS FIRST UNFURLED IN BATTLE

■ ■ ■ TROOP MOVEMENT MAP

FACTORS AFFECTING RESOURCES AND THEIR USE

Legal Factors

There is no legislative ceiling on development costs or acreage, and no commitments have been made. Jurisdiction will be proprietary.

All land required for the monument site will be donated to the United States by the City of Rome.

Climate

The climate of Rome is typical of central New York State. Summers are warm; average daily high temperature for July is 82°. Winters are cold; average daily low for January is 17°. Record high is 102°; record low, -26°. Precipitation is fairly evenly distributed throughout the year, and totals 36 inches. Snowfall averages 83 inches a year. Maximum 24-hour rain and snowfall are 4.79 inches and 27.2 inches respectively.

Average wind velocity is 9.9 miles per hour, maximum recorded velocity is 69 miles per hour recorded in December 1921.

Climate will have little effect on area development or operations. The relatively severe winter weather will limit winter use. However, since this is an urban area, use will be affected more by the general decline in tourist travel within the region brought about by winter weather, and less by the direct effect of cold and snow within the site.

12

RESOURCE USE

Existing Land Use

The area proposed for inclusion in the monument is bordered by James Street, East Park Street, and Black River and Erie Boulevards (see General Development Plan) and totals 18 acres. Existing land use both within and adjacent to the monument is shown on the Existing Use Map. Since the parcels within monument boundaries will be purchased by the City of Rome through urban renewal procedures and donated to the National Park Service by the city, property owners are not listed.

More than half of the land within the monument is composed of city streets, yards which provide a setting for the various

buildings, or parking lots. The remainder is in residential (.12 acres), commercial (1.4 acres), public and semipublic (.66 acres), mixed residential-commercial (.59 acres) or residential-public (.07 acres) use.

Land uses around the study area are generally similar to those within it, though there is less public and semipublic use of adjoining lands, and some industrial use of lands to the south.

This land use pattern has been relatively stable, but will be changed both as to type and quality by urban renewal.

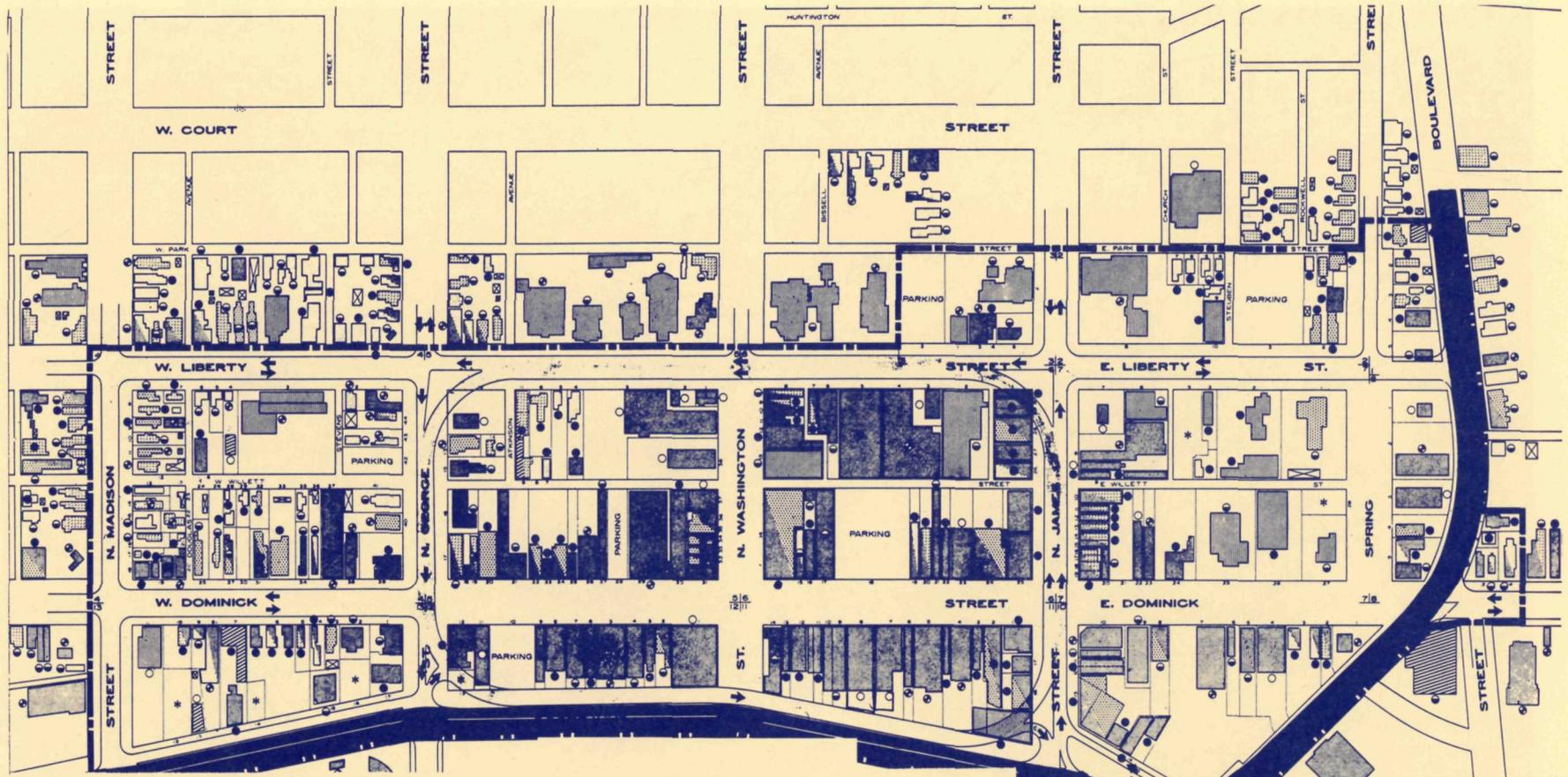
Several buildings encroach on the Fort Stanwix site. Three, the Rome Club, the Stryker House and the Women's Club or Community Center are of sufficient architectural interest to have been recorded for the Historic American Buildings Survey. The Fort Stanwix Museum houses exceptionally good local history exhibits.

Existing land use within the monument is incompatible; all lands within the boundary are required to effect restoration of Fort Stanwix in an effective setting and to provide space for essential administrative and visitor facilities.

Visitor Use of Resource

The Fort Stanwix Museum had 9,250 visitors in 1964; 15,300 in 1965 and 22,300 through November 1 of 1966.

Frank and Stein, planning and development consultants to the Historic Rome Development Authority, estimate visitor use of all proposed historical developments in Rome will rise from 100,000 in 1967 to 400,000 in 1971, 700,000 in 1976, and 800,000 in 1980. Seventy percent of these visitors will visit the national monument.



13

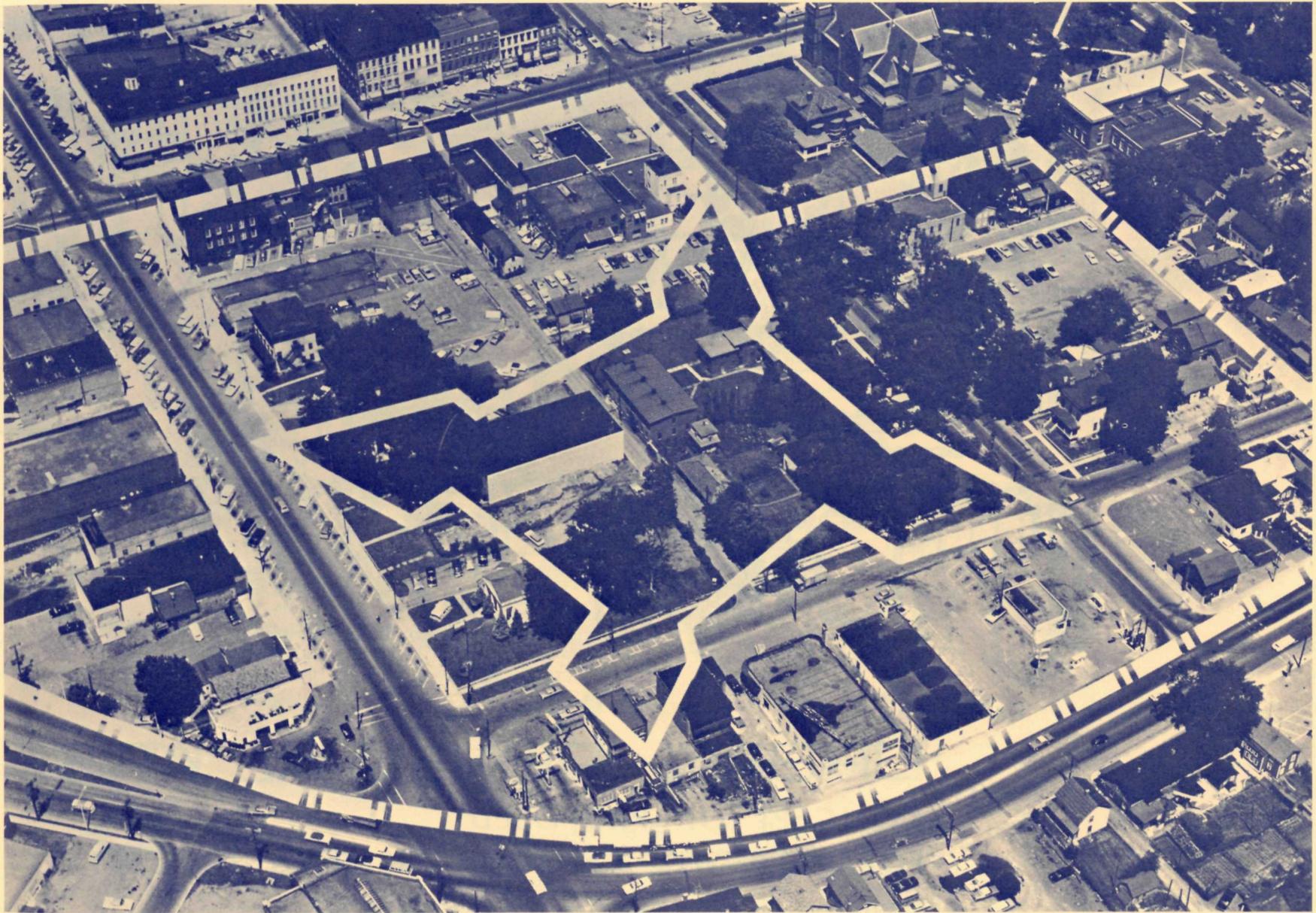
- URBAN RENEWAL BOUNDARY
 - SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL
 - TWO FAMILY RESIDENTIAL
 - MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL
 - COMMERCIAL
 - INDUSTRIAL
 - PUBLIC & SEMI-PUBLIC
 - SPLIT USE
- BUILDING WITH NO DEFICIENCIES
 - BUILDING WITH MINOR DEFICIENCIES
 - BUILDING WITH MAJOR DEFICIENCIES
 - BUILDING SUBSTANDARD TO A DEGREE REQUIRING CLEARANCE



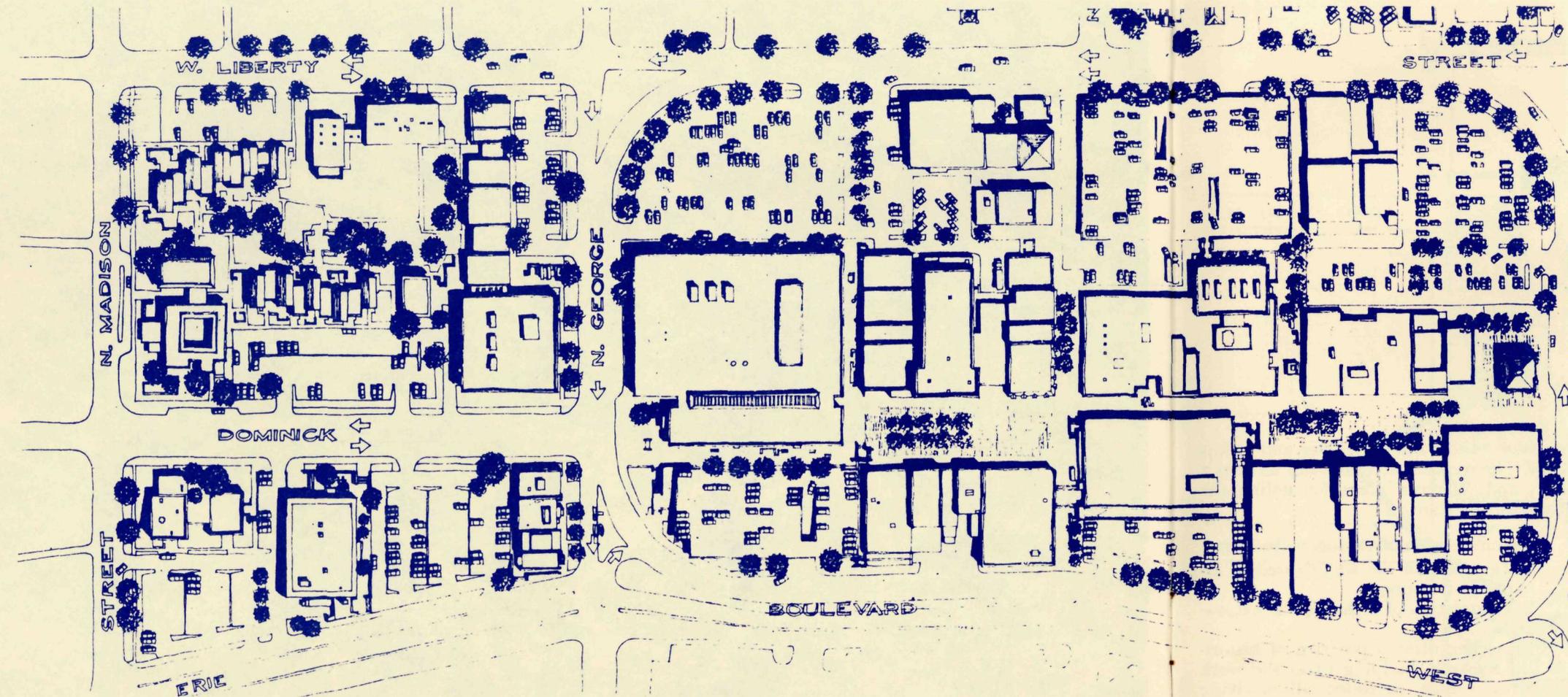
14



Small Scale Aerial Photograph



Large Scale Aerial Photograph



URBAN RENEWAL AREA PLAN

CONCEPT OF PROPOSED FORT STANWIX CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

PREPARED BY CITY PLANNING ASSOCIATES - EAST, INC.



BUFFALO, NEW YORK

MP - FOST - 9

The Plan

18

Site Development

The City of Rome now covers the site of Fort Stanwix and its surroundings. Only the faint trace of a portion of the Fort's wall is visible, and the adjoining city obscures its strategic location in relation to the Mohawk and the Mohawk-Wood Creek portage.

While substantial archeological evidence remains below the ground, there are not sufficient remains of the fort to enable the visitor to visualize its appearance nor quickly grasp its strategic location.

The opportunity exists to obtain the site of Fort Stanwix and enough additional land to provide a reasonably effective setting and space for necessary supporting facilities. While the broader setting of the fort in relationship to the Mohawk and the portage road cannot be recreated physically,

the relationship can be presented effectively through other means.

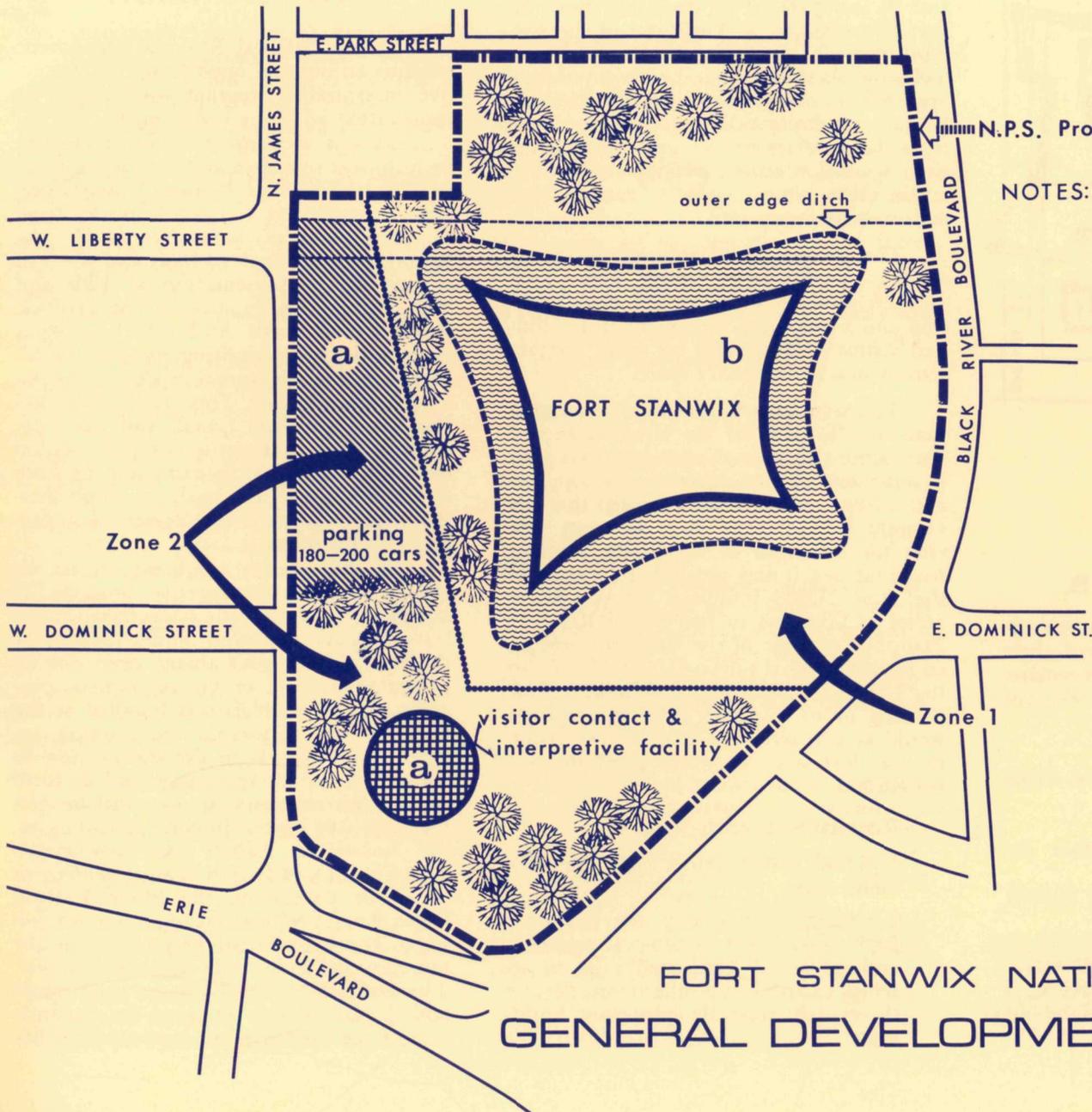
Several plans of the 1758 fort survive, and preliminary archeology indicates that some 70 percent of the sub-surface remains of the fort remain and can be uncovered. While the fort as rebuilt in 1777 is not well documented, further historical and archeological research should establish the points in which it differed from the 1758 fort. Available evidence indicates that major differences were limited to the number and arrangement of structures within the walls, and did not affect the walls or the outer ditch to any appreciable extent.

The General Development Plan shows how this opportunity will be handled. This plan proposes to reconstruct the major features of Fort Stanwix as it was in 1777. The reconstruction will include, subject to the availability of appropriated funds for this purpose, the outer palisaded ditch, the ramparts, and those interior structures needed

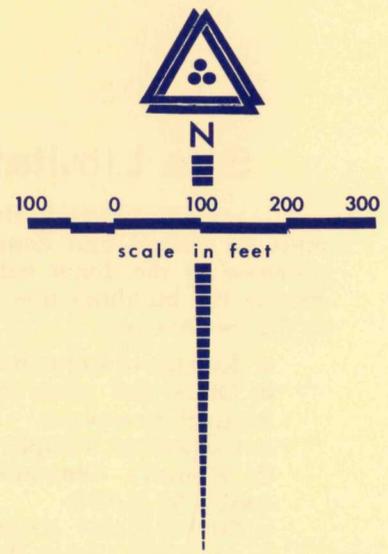
to assure visitor understanding and enjoyment. The reconstructed fort will serve as a focus and reference point for telling the story of Fort Stanwix.

Reconstruction of the fort will require:

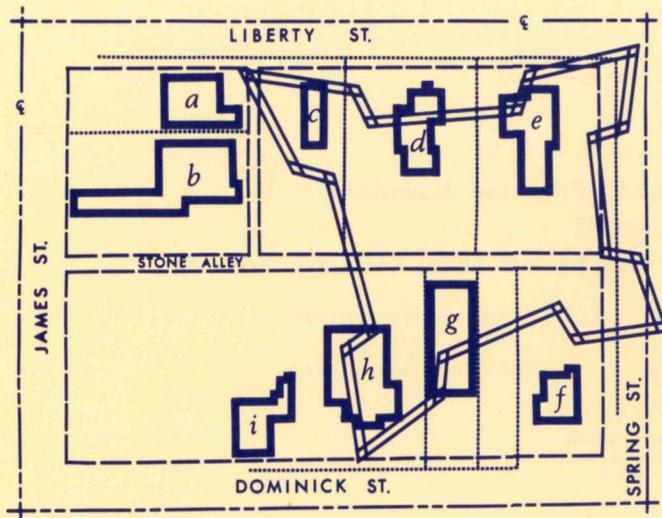
1. Donation of the site, cleared of all existing structures.
2. Completion of archeological excavations.
3. A concentrated program of historical research, building upon the work already done, to collect all surviving documentary evidence.
4. Possible use of more lasting construction materials than the original, to reduce maintenance costs. Such materials would simulate the color and texture of the originals.
5. Preparation of reconstruction plans based on the results of the above research.
6. Funding and execution of the work.



NOTES: All Lands Class 6 -- 18 Acres
 Zone 1 Preservation
 Zone 2 Development



FORT STANWIX NATIONAL MONUMENT
 GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN ■■■



20

Site Limitations

Lands for the national monument must be cleared and donated, and their purchase by the donor will be expensive. Among the buildings now on or adjacent to the fort site are:

- a. Knights of Columbus Hall
- b. Office and plant of Rome Daily Sentinel Newspaper
- c. Carpenters' Temple
- d. Women's Community Center (recorded by HABS)
- e. Stryker House (recorded by HABS)
- f. American Legion Post 24
- g. Fort Stanwix Museum
- h. Rome Club (recorded by HABS)
- i. Empire House (now a tavern; a wing of which is reputed to be the oldest structure in the city).

Yet, to be effective in attracting visitors and in interpreting to them the story of Fort Stanwix, any development of the site must provide space for the restored fort including its outer ditch, and a minimum open area to serve as a setting and physically and psychologically separate the fort from the modern city around it. In addition, space for visitor parking, walks, administrative offices, contact station, and maintenance is required.

The recommended solution is shown on the General Development Plan. This solution provides space for the reconstruction and a minimum setting for it, for limited visitor parking, and for office, contact station, and maintenance space.

This solution will require a larger area than that assigned by the Urban Renewal Plan, since the space allocated by that plan is not adequate for effective development and interpretation. It is recognized that the General Development Plan does not provide for retention of the Daily Sentinel Building, and it may preclude relocation of the three HABS buildings across Liberty Street as proposed in the Urban Renewal Plan. Use of some of the land recommended for commercial purposes, as indicated in the Urban Renewal Plan, for more visitor parking or to continue existing buildings would at best seriously damage the setting of the fort and at worst preclude full restoration.

Requirements are:

1. Those listed under Site Development, above.
2. Cooperation among the National Park Service, urban renewal agencies, and interested local groups in an attempt to arrive at a suitable site for the three architecturally important buildings.

Interpretation

Fort Stanwix National Monument presents an unusual opportunity for a creative interpretive program worked out in cooperation with the community.

Rome is very interested in developing its historical resources and presenting them to visitors. The Fort Stanwix Museum presents an over-view of Rome's history from the sculpturing of its land forms by geological forces through to 1860, and plans to expand on its presentation of 19th and 20th century developments. The Historic Rome Development Authority has begun an ambitious and exciting program to develop and present several aspects of regional history; notably Fort Bull, Clinton's Ditch and the Erie Canal, and the early railroad. The community is solidly behind development of Fort Stanwix and the story it represents, and has built an amphitheater, made costumes, and presented a pageant on this theme.

All this activity has great impact on the monument's interpretive program. It means that much of the background material necessary to visitor understanding of the main interpretive theme need not be presented as part of the monument program; it will be effectively handled at the Fort Stanwix Museum. Information on what to see and do in the region, how to see and do it, where to stay, and so forth will be less necessary; it, too, will be provided outside of, but in close proximity to, the monument. Earlier and later events (the French and Indian War, development of canals paralleling the Mohawk-Wood Creek Route) which add to an understanding of Fort Stanwix will be presented in the museum and given full treatment on site. The community has both the enthusiasm and the facilities to augment the presentation of the Fort Stanwix story through his-

torical pageants, evening programs and so forth.

The interpretive program at Fort Stanwix National Monument should build upon these existing and proposed interpretive activities within the Rome region.

The recommended method of interpreting Fort Stanwix is to treat the reconstructed fort as an exhibit in place, refurbishing a representative sample of its buildings, and present the interpretive theme in the fort. Visitor contact, restrooms, information and fee collection, together with office and maintenance space, will be provided in a contact station outside the fort.

The details of interpretation will be worked out later. Since we do not now have data as to the number and size of the structures within the fort, we will have to await the assembling of this data so we will know how much space will be available.

However, in broad terms, the interpretive theme will be presented through literature, audio and audio-visual devices, and self-guided and guided tours. Space for these devices will be provided in those rooms and structures not to be refurbished. In addition, community interest and support should be drawn upon to provide interpretive demonstrations of 18th century military life, appropriate evening and extension programs, and so forth.

Program requirements are:

1. Site development.
2. Research on the Fort Stanwix story to provide data for the interpretive program.
3. Preparation of detailed interpretive plans.
4. Close cooperation with the Rome Historical Society and its Fort Stanwix Museum, with Historic Rome Development Authority and with other groups to insure an effective and integrated interpretive program.

Fort Stanwix Museum Location

The building now occupied by the Rome Historical Society's Fort Stanwix Museum must be removed to permit reconstruction of Fort Stanwix. The Society wishes to relocate, and would almost certainly wish to relocate in the downtown area. As noted above, the museum is an excellent one which complements the interpretive development proposed for Fort Stanwix National Monument. The National Park Service should encourage relocation of the museum to a site outside of but near the national monument.

Priority of Needs

Priority of needs is indicated on the General Development Plan: first priority as "a" and second priority as "b".

A. VISITOR FACILITIES, OFFICE AND MAINTENANCE

Office and maintenance space and visitor facilities should be completed first to allow their use while other phases of development are getting under way. That will also make it possible to provide interpretation of the archeological work which will be in progress on the site.

B. RECONSTRUCTION OF THE FORT

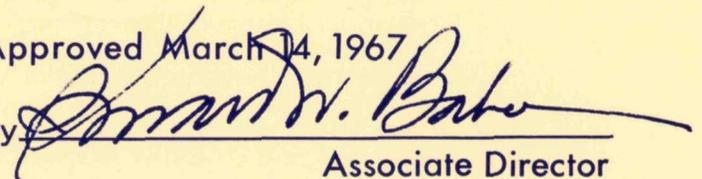
Completion of archeological investigations and simultaneously a concentrated program of historical research should be undertaken to collect and collate all surviving documentary evidence. This research should begin as early as possible.

Preparation of reconstruction drawings based on the findings of this research will precede execution of the reconstruction.

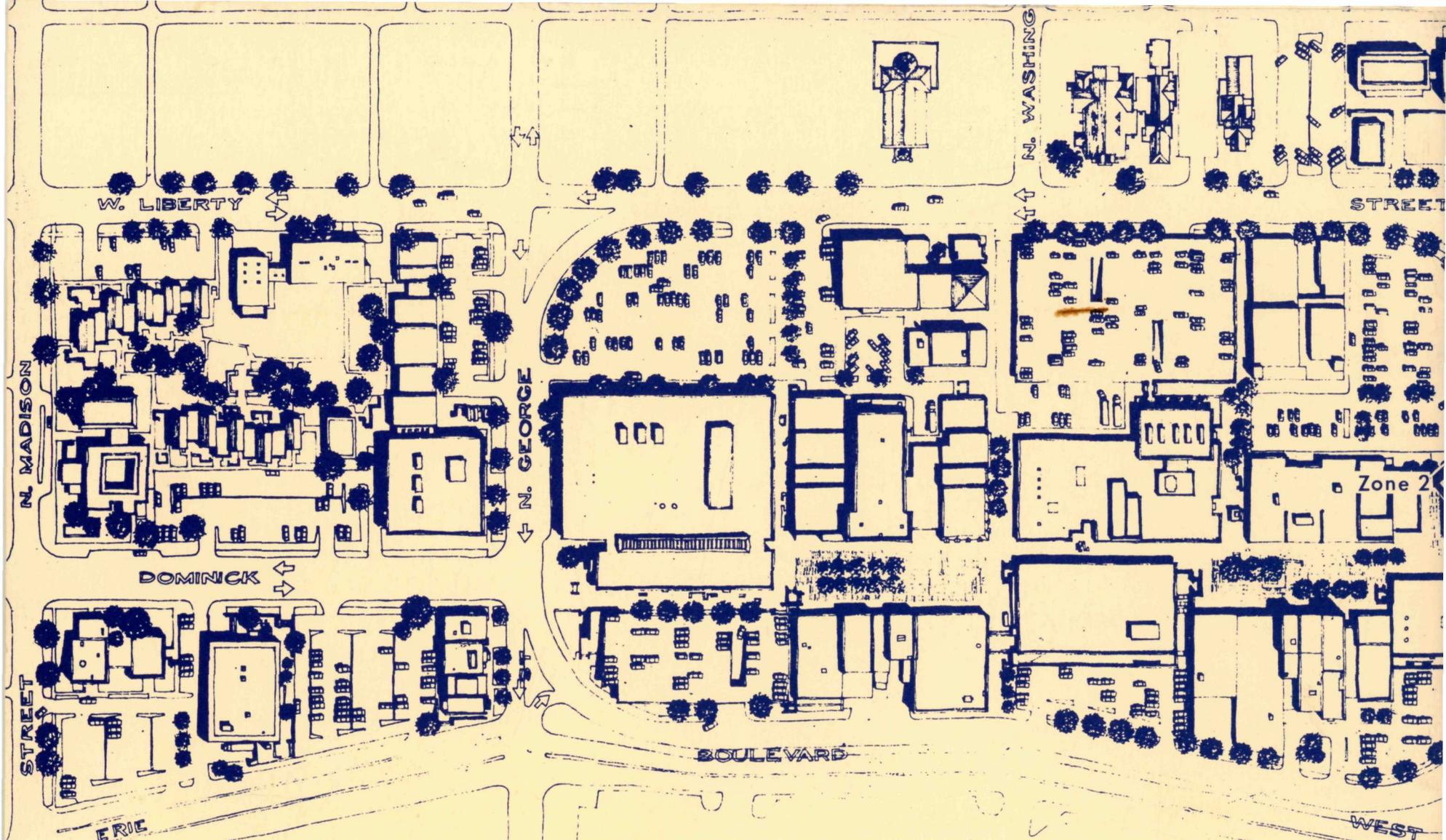
Research and development are contingent upon appropriation by the Congress of the necessary monies.

Approved March 14, 1967

by



Associate Director



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

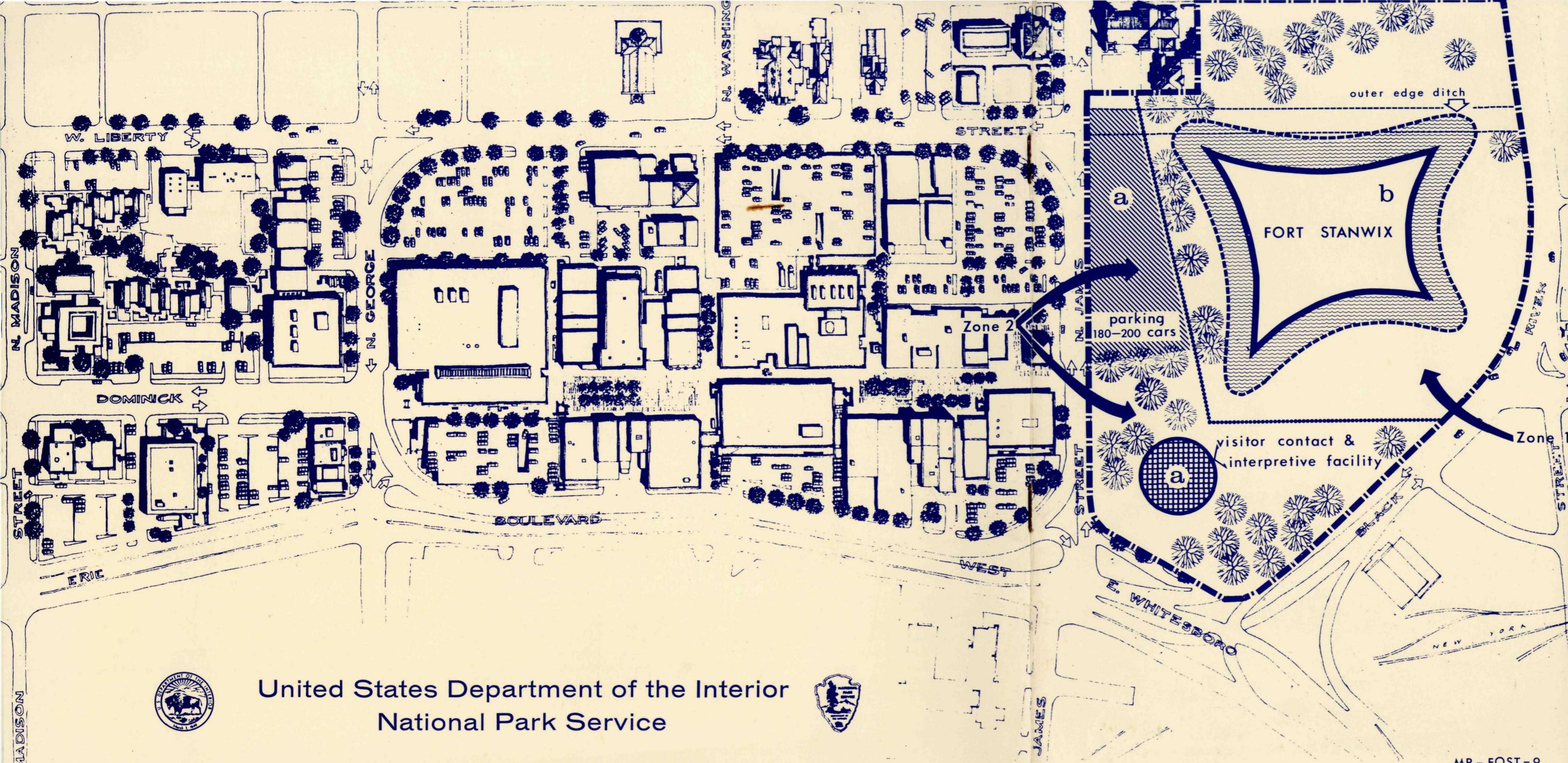


MADISON

FORT STANWIX National Monument A Master Plan

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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

