



CHAPTER 2: FOUNDATION FOR PLANNING

This chapter contains a summary of the foundation statement developed for San Juan Island National Historical Park. A foundation statement documents a shared understanding of a park's purpose, significance, resources and values, primary interpretive themes, special mandates, and legal and policy requirements. These statements identify what is most important about a park and provide basic guidance for decision-making and management. Elements of foundation statements are discussed below. The summary of the foundation statement specific to the park can be found on the following page.

FOUNDATION STATEMENT

The foundation for planning and management, called a foundation statement, is generally developed early in the general management planning process, as part of agency scoping and data collection for a park's GMP. The foundation statement for San Juan Island National Historical Park was developed during a planning team workshop held in the spring of 2002 and revised in the summer of 2006.

The foundation statement can be used in all aspects of park management to ensure that the most important objectives are accomplished before turning to items that are also important but not directly critical to achieving the park purpose and maintaining its significance. A full copy of the foundation statement is available at the park.

Park Purpose

The park purpose is a statement of why Congress and/or the president established the park as a unit of the national park system. The purpose statement provides the most fundamental criteria against which the appropriateness of all planning recommendations, operational decisions, and actions are tested. The purpose of the park is based upon its enabling legislation and legislative history.

Park Significance

Park significance statements express why the park's resources and values are important enough to warrant national park designation. Statements of the park's significance describe why the park is important within a global, national, regional, and system-wide context and are directly linked to the purpose of the park. A park's significance statements are substantiated by data or consensus and reflect the most current scientific or scholarly inquiry and cultural perceptions, which may have changed since the park's establishment.

Primary Interpretive Themes

Primary interpretive themes connect park resources to relevant ideas, meanings, concepts, contexts, beliefs, and values. They support the desired interpretive outcome of increasing visitor understanding and appreciation of the significance of the park's resources. Primary interpretive themes are based upon park purpose and significance. They provide the foundation on which the park's educational and interpretive program is based.

Fundamental Resources and Values

Fundamental resources and values are the most important ideas or concepts to be communicated to the public about a park and merit primary consideration during planning and management because they are critical to achieving the park's purpose and maintaining its significance. They may include systems, processes, features, visitor experiences, stories, scenes, sounds, smells or other resources and values.

Fundamental resources and values provide a valuable focus throughout the planning process and the life of the plan. They are the reasons for data collection, planning issues, management prescriptions, impact assessments, and value analyses.

Other important resources and values or secondary significance statements are those that may not be fundamental to the park's purpose and significance but are nevertheless determined to be particularly important in general management planning.

Special Mandates and Constraints

Often there are special mandates or constraints that direct park planning and management decisions. The special mandates are specific directions or agreements that relate directly to the park. Mandates might be a legislative requirement or signed agreements that

add another dimension to a park's purpose and significance. Mandates include the designation of an area in the park as wilderness or as an area that is managed by another entity, or designating something of international significance such as a world heritage area or biosphere reserve. Mandates may also commit park managers to specific actions and limit their ability to modify land use in the park, such as long-term cooperative agreements, or easements. A special mandate should be specific to the park. The mandates and constraints that relate to National Park Service servicewide laws and policies are considered in the following section.

Servicewide Policy and Procedures

The purpose of servicewide policies and procedures is to support park managers and to convey to the public and stakeholders the National Park Service's commitment to protecting its resources and values as prescribed by law and policy. The section on servicewide policies and procedures is part of the San Juan Island National Historical Park Foundation Statement. The Foundation Statement outlines those policies and procedures and identifies management strategies that would not vary among any future planning alternatives or decisions that might be proposed. For each listed policy and procedure, the originating authority is identified along with a brief description of National Park Service policy and management direction.



Battery D, Third Artillery, posing at American Camp. NPS Photo.

San Juan Island National Historical Park Foundation Statement

Park Purpose	<p>The purpose of San Juan Island National Historical Park is to preserve and interpret the sites of American and English camps and to commemorate the historic events associated with the final settlement and peaceful arbitration of the Oregon boundary dispute. Within these cultural landscapes, the park also protects natural resources and provides compatible recreational and educational opportunities.</p>
Park Significance, Fundamental Resources and Values, and Interpretive Themes	<p>1. San Juan Island National Historical Park commemorates and interprets the arbitration and resolution of an international dispute, including the Pig War crisis, and the establishment of a lasting, peaceful relationship with Great Britain and Canada. San Juan Island NHP is the only NPS site that illustrates, in its dramatic and largely intact physical setting, how war can be averted and peace maintained through positive action by individuals and governments.</p> <p>Fundamental Resources and Values:</p> <p>1.1 Cooperative relationships with Great Britain, Canada and other organizations with related resources and locations for preservation and interpretation.</p> <p>1.2 The story of how diplomacy instead of war determined the final northern boundary of the U.S. and Canada and set the course for 150 years of peaceful coexistence.</p> <p>Interpretive Theme:</p> <p>Tensions fueled by the United States’ territorial ambitions in the Pacific Northwest and Great Britain’s determination to preserve her commercial empire nearly escalated into an armed clash between U.S. and British forces in 1859 over possession of the San Juan Islands. The crisis was resolved peacefully through a combination of restraint, diplomacy, and arbitration.</p> <p>2. American and English camps are nationally significant cultural landscapes that preserve the authentic settings of the mid-19th century military encampments.</p> <p>Fundamental Resources and Values:</p> <p>2.1 Historic, archaeological and recreated features of the military encampment era at American Camp—such as officers’ quarters, laundress’ quarters, redoubt, parade ground, military road, and San Juan town.</p> <p>2.2 Historic, archaeological, and recreated features of the military encampment era at English Camp—such as Royal Marine cemetery, block house, parade ground, Royal Marine barracks, hospital, commissary, garden, military road, officers’ hill features.</p> <p>2.3 Views, vistas and linkages to other associated historic locations, such as Esquimalt Naval Base and views up Admiralty Inlet.</p> <p>2.4 Museum collections including historical artifacts, and archival research materials such as copies of written histories, memoirs, congressional records, correspondence, diaries, photos, and paintings.</p> <p>Interpretive Theme:</p> <p>The cultural landscapes are tangible reminders of the military occupation and reveal the organization and daily routine of the isolated camps.</p>

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	<p>3. Hudson’s Bay Company (HBC) established the first European settlement on San Juan Island at Belle Vue Sheep Farm as part of its strategy to claim the island for the British Empire.</p> <p>Fundamental Resources and Values:</p> <p>3.1 Archaeological site features include foundations and masonry ruins, setting, circulation patterns and other archaeological resources.</p> <p>3.2 Museum collections and research materials including maps, journals, letters, books, correspondence.</p> <p>3.3 Connections to other HBC sites, such as Fort Vancouver NHS and Fort Nisqually.</p> <p>Interpretive Theme:</p> <p>The establishment of Belle Vue Sheep Farm by the HBC on San Juan Island was the catalyst for the 1859 confrontation between the U.S. and Great Britain over their competing imperialistic ambitions in the Pacific Northwest, offering visitors insights into the strategic maneuvering that was involved in building their respective empires.</p>
<p>Secondary Significance, Resources and Values, and Interpretive Themes</p>	<p>4. San Juan Island National Historical Park protects significant natural habitats and resources essential to the cultural landscapes, including prairies, wetlands, lagoons, forests, and coastal marine environments.</p> <p>Fundamental Resources and Values:</p> <p>4.1 Mixed coniferous forest and Garry oak communities that exist today similar to the encampment period.</p> <p>4.2 Coastal marine ecosystem that is a primary influence on cultural history and the natural setting.</p> <p>4.3 Fresh water communities, including wetlands, brackish lagoons and springs.</p> <p>4.4 Rare prairie and dune ecosystem that was a setting for historic events.</p> <p>4.5 Visible geologic/glacial landforms which represent a classic example of glacial rebound.</p> <p>Interpretive Theme:</p> <p>The significant natural habitats and resources of American and English camps shaped human use and occupation for thousands of years and are becoming increasingly important as development transforms the surrounding region.</p>
	<p>5. San Juan Island National Historical Park’s varied landscapes and settings provide year-round recreational opportunities and experiences that are compatible with the historic settings and values of the park.</p> <p>Resources and Values:</p> <p>5.1 Opportunities to experience tranquility, natural sounds and dark night sky.</p> <p>5.2 Non-motorized recreation opportunities that are an integral part of island-wide recreation.</p> <p>5.3 Open landscape of the park provides historic and unobstructed broad, sweeping views.</p>

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Secondary Significance,
Resources and Values, and
Interpretive Themes

(continued)

5.4 Three intact shoreline areas that comprise the longest and most varied expanse of publicly accessible shoreline in the San Juan Islands.

Interpretive Theme:

The trails and shorelines within this island setting offer visitors recreational experiences, while the cultural landscapes provide opportunities to explore the relationship between people and their environments over time.

6. The park provides educational, research, and volunteer opportunities that support the preservation of park resources and values and contribute to public enjoyment and understanding.

Resources and Values:

6.1 Educational and interpretive programs and opportunities provided by park staff and partners.

6.2 Access to research materials and authentic resources.

6.3 Partnerships and cooperative relationships with universities, non-profits, other agencies and governments, and individuals.

6.4 Expertise and knowledge of park staff and volunteers.

Interpretive Theme:

The park resources and museum collections provide first-hand opportunities to experience and learn about critical events in American history and the changes to the natural landscape by human uses.

7. San Juan Island National Historical Park protects and maintains evidence of post military settlement and development of San Juan Island.

Resources and Values:

7.1 Post military encampment era's historic and archaeological features at English Camp, including Crook house, Crook orchard, and Sandwith orchard.

7.2 Post military encampment era's historic and archaeological features at American Camp including Jakle's family homestead site, farmhouse elements of officers' quarters, remnant orchards, agricultural features, and cannery.

Interpretive Theme:

The use of the camps' buildings and land by homesteaders in the post-military era provide tangible examples of pioneer life on San Juan Island.

8. The archaeological sites at both American and English camps represent thousands of years of Native American use and occupation of San Juan Island.

Resources and Values:

8.1 Archaeological resources at English Camp including shell middens, long house site, pithouse occupation sites, and submerged resources.

8.2 Archaeological resources at American Camp including early use and occupation sites, resource processing sites, shell middens, and submerged resources.

8.3 Museum collections including prehistoric artifacts, oral histories, archaeological and ethnographic reports.

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Secondary Significance,
Resources and Values, and
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(continued)

8.4 Traditional use sites at both camps, including Guss Island, fisheries and shellfish collection areas. (Note: there is no landing or mooring allowed at Guss Island for resource reasons.)

Interpretive Theme:

Archaeology has revealed native peoples inhabited these islands for 9,000 years or more before the coming of Europeans, building a culture that utilized the abundant natural resources of the area.

Special Mandates and Constraints

National Historic Landmark

American Camp and English Camp were first designated as nationally significant historic sites in 1961, becoming National Historic Landmarks (NHL) in 1966 just prior to establishment of San Juan Island National Historical Park that same year. Since NHLs are the pre-eminent historic properties in the nation, special consideration will be given to assessing potential impacts to the resources that convey the NHL's significance, and adequate time will be given for appropriate consultation, in accord with Section 110(f) of the National Historic Preservation Act and 36 CFR 800.10.

Conservation Agreement with
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

A Conservation Agreement and Strategy for the Island Marble butterfly, between the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The purpose of the agreement is to help ensure the long-term continued existence of the Island Marble butterfly and to contribute to its recovery. This agreement lays out general guidelines for a broad spectrum of activities at American Camp, including management and restoration of the grassland ecosystem (prairie) as a natural component of the cultural/historic landscape. These guidelines and conservation measures are consistent with the goal of conserving the Island Marble butterfly and minimizing potential negative effects to the Island Marble from NPS activities. This agreement remains in place until September 2016.

Memorandum of
Understanding with
Washington State Department
of Natural Resources

Memorandum of Understanding between National Park Service and Washington State Department of Natural Resources for Maintenance of Cattle Point Interpretive Area

The memorandum of understanding between Washington State Department of Natural Resources and San Juan Island National Historical Park allows the park to maintain (mowing and cleaning bathrooms only, no NPS jurisdiction) the Cattle Point Interpretive Area, a ten acre site located on DNR land at the eastern edge of Cape San Juan subdivision near American Camp. It is a ten-year agreement that expires in 2014.

Memorandum of
Understanding with
Washington State Department
of Natural Resources

Interagency agreement between National Park Service and Washington State Department of Natural Resources on Tidelands at English Camp

The park has a "no fee" lease that was renegotiated as a 20-year lease in 2007 on tidelands development surrounding the English Camp dinghy dock. It allows the park to have the English Camp dinghy dock on state tidelands. The lease covers the footprint of the dock and is limited to the existing structure and recreational use.

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Project Agreement with Western Federal Highways	<p>Project Agreement between the NPS Pacific West Region, Denver Service Center, San Juan Island National Historical Park and Western Federal Highways for Cattle Point Road Relocation</p> <p>The agreement covers project scoping, environmental impact statement completion, and the design and construction of an alternative roadway. Under the proposal, FHWA and NPS would replace a section of Cattle Point Road threatened by coastal erosion and continue to provide for safe vehicular and non-motorized access to the Cattle Point area of the island. San Juan County has a presumptive right-of-way on the current road; with relocation, a new right-of-way would need to be negotiated.</p>
Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Washington Burke Museum	<p>Memorandum of Understanding between National Park Service and the University of Washington Burke Museum regarding museum collections</p> <p>This agreement allows for the long-term care of a portion of the park's museum collection. This agreement affects collections use and management by the park and Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act issues.</p>