

# NOTES

## I: The First Fort- Fort “Blunder”

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<sup>1</sup> NARA Records of the Chief of Engineers. Record Group 77, Fortifications File. *Metes & Bounds of a tract of land transferred by his Excellency Gov. Clinton on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of Oct. 1817 from the State of New York to the U.S.*. Drawer 7, Sheet 20. 1817. Annotated Oct., Nov. 1850.

<sup>2</sup> H.S. Tanner: Plan of Rouses Point at the foot of Lake Champlain. 1814. Clinton County Historical Association. *See also* Robert Bouchette: The American Fort at Rouses Point. Sketch of the American Fort at Rouses Point on the River Richelieu about 20 chains south of the Old Line found erroneous, and is considerably within the New established Line or Parallel 45 North Latitude; it can mount 64 pieces of cannon and is Bomb proof with respect to its commanding position (see Plan of the Boundary Line.) This sketch was taken by Colonel Bouchette on board the Steam Boat in May 1818 - and copied by Robert Bouchette. Library and Archives Canada, Documentary Art Collection Division: LAC, e006079067 and H.P. Bruyeres: Sketch showing the Position of the American Works at and near Rous’s Point Cantonment. 1818. Library and Archives Canada, Documentary Art Collection Division: NMC 7722. The latter two documents clearly show the structures built along this strip of land between the “mainland” and Island Point. There were so many early buildings here that Daniel Taylor referred to this strip of land as “Old Rouses Point” (The Shores of Champlain: pages 14,15)

<sup>3</sup> Dewitt Clinton and the State of New York to the United States. October 17, 1817 Recorded November 19, 1817 Vol. F of Deeds, at Page 9. Holcombe Abstract Corporation No.1 F-9) Courtesy of Ann Thurber, Powertex Corporation.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid: Vol. F of Deeds, at Page 112. Holcombe Abstract Corporation No. 4 F-112—3)

<sup>5</sup> This document is in the collections of the Clinton County Historical Museum at Plattsburgh, NY.

<sup>6</sup> A modern perch of stone equals a quantity 1 and 1/2 feet thick, 1 foot high and 16 and 1/2 feet long (24 3/4 cubic feet) A perch of stone is often computed differently in different localities. West of the Mississippi a perch equals 16 1/2 cubic feet, this is the measure apparently used by Totten.

<sup>7</sup> Plattsburgh Republican: March 15, 1817, April 7, 1817.

<sup>8</sup> Warder H. Cadbury. *The Men Who Built Fort Blunder*. The Antiquarian- Clinton County Historical Association. Fall 1989. 10

<sup>9</sup> Plattsburgh Republican: August 2, 1817

<sup>10</sup> Cadbury. 11

<sup>11</sup> NARA Records of the Chief of Engineers. Record Group 77. Drawer 7, Sheet 5. Profile and Elevations for a Castle for Island Point. Rouse’s Point, Lake Champlain. Undated, probably 1816

<sup>12</sup> NARA Records of the Chief of Engineers. Record Group 77. Fortifications File. *Profile and Elevations of a Castle for Island Point*. Drawer 7, sheet 5 and *Fortifications, \_\_\_\_\_ New York. Plan and Sections of Fort \_\_\_\_\_, Rouses Point*. Drawer 7, Sheet 15. This document shows the construction of Fort Montgomery in its earliest stages (1844). The plan of the original fort on Island Point is drawn out to scale, making this an especially useful document for researchers of both structures.