THE HISTORY of FORT VANCOUVER

and its

PHYSICAL STRUCTURE

JOHN A. HUSSEY



WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE WASHINGTON STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

announces

the publication of an outstanding volume in the western history field

THE HISTORY

of

FORT VANCOUVER

and its

PHYSICAL STRUCTURE

By John A. Hussey

Here, at last, is the complete story of the famous Columbia River establishment that was the heart and nerve center of the Oregon Country during the fur trade era.

When Fort Vancouver was nominated as a National Historic Monument, Dr. John Hussey, historian on the National Parks Service staff, was assigned the task of preparing a thorough factual report. He fulfilled the assignment completely and ably. Information about Fort Vancouver is to be found in an almost bewildering number of sources. In the early and middle 19th century everyone who visited the Pacific Northwest and wrote about it had some kind of report to make on the principal establishment—the unofficial "capital"—on the Columbia, a hundred miles upstream from the sea. But this vast accumulation of material about the fort was not

assembled until Dr. Hussey undertook his research. He made a thorough search of source materials on the West, obtained information from the Hudson's Bay archives in London, and analyzed and compared the numerous records of the fur trade and the activities that were centered for so long at Fort Vancouver.

Acceding to the Society's request, Dr. Hussey revised his original monograph in the light of four seasons of archeological excavations at the site of the old fort.

Particular attention was given in the study to the collection of maps, drawings, paintings and sketches of the fort itself in its several stages of development. Sixty-eight of these are included in this volume, including the beautiful water color in the Coe Collection at Yale University.

"Fort Vancouver" is divided into four sections. The first is the history of the Hudson's Bay establishment itself, from the time it was founded in the winter of 1824-25 until it was finally abandoned in 1860.

The second part is a detailed description of the fort structure, its buildings, bastions, shops, living quarters and warehouses. Here one gets an authentic account of life in this frontier outpost and descriptions of the tools and equipment with which the fur traders carried on the Northwest's first prosperous business enterprise.

A third section is devoted to maps, charts and drawings, and photographs of many of the artifacts brought to light in the archeological explorations that were undertaken when the Hussey report won recognition for Fort Vancouver as a national monument.

Lastly there is an extensive index and the most complete bibliography yet assembled on Fort Vancouver.

This is a handsome book and will please the collector as well as the scholar.

Bound in cloth with the title imprinted in gold over a reproduction of a portion of the Wilkes map showing the Oregon Country in the 1840s. Text set in 11 point Caslon. Sixtyeight pages of illustrations included in the total of 334 pages, with page size 10½" by 7½". A reproduction of the title page forms the first page of this announcement.

Printed in a limited edition of 1,000 numbered copies and priced at \$12.50

(Pre-publication price: \$11.25)

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