

17th Century Arms Discovered in Pit On Jamestown Isle

Washington —(U.P.)— Bits of military equipment that may date back to the early part of the 17th century have been found in a pit at Jamestown, the little Virginia island where English colonists settled in 1607.

Conrad L. Wirth, director of the National Park Service, reported discovery of the military artifacts. The NPS for several months has been conducting extensive archaeological explorations on Jamestown Island, now owned by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities. The explorers have been attempting to find the site of James Fort, built by the colonists.

Harold L. Peterson, a member of the service's branch of history and an international authority on arms, and armor, said the artifacts were found in "what was probably the trash heap" of the armorer's shop during the early days of the Jamestown settlement.

The material was found in a pit about 2 1/2 feet deep and about nine feet long. It was located in the center of the site of a fort built at Jamestown by Confederate forces during the Civil War. The Confederates apparently had removed considerable dirt from the area, thus obliterating all evidence of any structure that might have stood in relation to the pit.

"Almost all of the material found would have to date from the first quarter of the 17th century," Peterson said. "There is a very thin layer at the top containing Civil War and modern material. Then one immediately drops back to the early 17th century. A few of the pieces are types (basket hilts for swords, for example) that were used until 1700, but they were also used as early as 1610."

Peterson said most of the readily identifiable artifacts were military in nature. They included seven serpentine from matchlock muskets.

"The serpentine," he explained, "was the movable arm on the outside of the lock which held the lighted match. Pressure on the trigger caused this arm to move forward in an arc and thrust the end of the match into the priming powder in the pan and thus set off the gun. There were also lock plates and a snap-hance (a primitive form of flintlock) and a wheel lock and a fragment of a lock plate probably from another wheel lock, three basket hilts from broadswords, one badly bent but complete guard from a swept-hilt and fragments from a number of other swept-hilts possibly five or six of them."

Salem —(U.P.)— Robert Moun- terr of Salem has been named to be in charge of the state forest inventory and timber sales section at Coos Bay.

Motorlog Leads to Trio of State Parks at Seashore Near Coos Bay

Public Welcomed To Picnic, Swim Or View Seascape

The following is a condensation of a motorlog appearing July 24 in Northwest magazine of The Sunday Oregonian. It is one of an annual series sponsored jointly by The Oregonian and the Oregon State Motor association.

BY ANN SULLIVAN Staff Writer, The Oregonian

At the ocean back yard of one of the state's largest coastal cities—Coos Bay, and its neighbor, North Bend—is a triumvirate of geographic attractions which many Oregonians and tourists have missed.

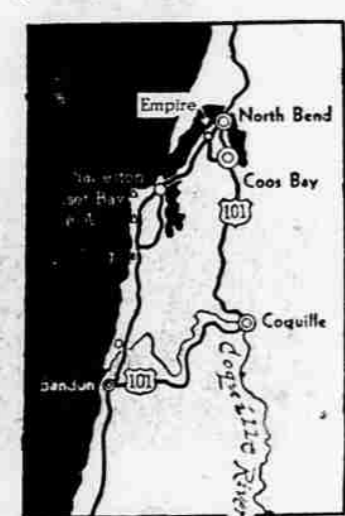
We explored the area as part of a motorlog for the Oregon State Motor association and The Oregonian. As we cruised along the coastal roads in the white motorlog Ford, we discovered what Coos county residents already know well—that the trio of parks provides handy and well-equipped picnic facilities, and that one has just about the nicest swimming beach on the Oregon coast.

This is Sunset Bay state park, a regular jewel from off the Pacific, where fishing boats sometimes ride out storms and where the University of Oregon off and on maintains a marine biological station because of the availability and variety of sea life there.

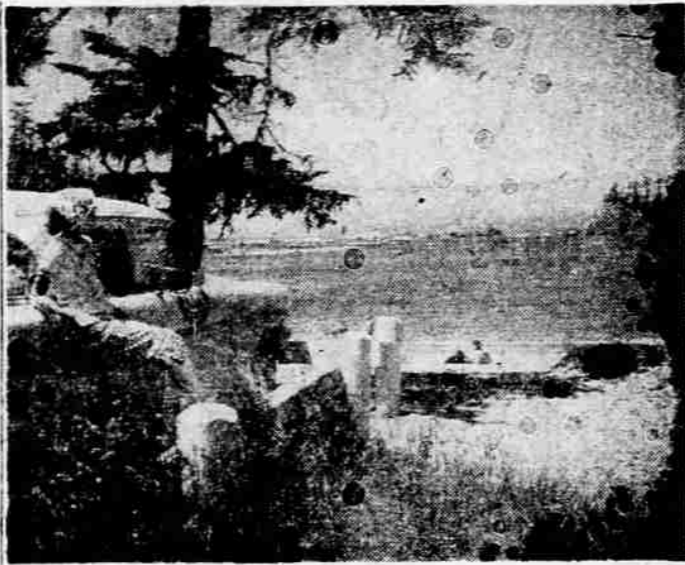
Shore Acres Once Estate

The second is Shore Acres, fabulous in itself, a magnificent estate which once had multitudinous varieties of trees, shrubs and flowering plants and a block-long house facing the surf-tossed rocks of the very rugged and picturesque coastline.

Third is Cape Arago state park.



Map outlines route of motorlog from Coos Bay area to the three state parks to south.



Travelers parked white motorlog car a few steps from sand at Sunset Bay state park, second most popular in state system.

Sunset Bay has ample parking space, a bathhouse, a well-packed curving sandy beach, gentle waves instead of surf, and views out to sea with spectacular rocky headlands of precipitous sandstone bluffs framing the narrow passageway out to sea.

The 48 acres of the park were deeded to the state by the Coos county court on February 19, 1948.

In 1954, an estimated 200,000 to 300,000 visitors, second highest for any park in the state, stopped there—a great many of these from the neighboring towns. It has marvelous picnic grounds, in addition to excellent beach area.

Cape Arago lighthouse—in itself providing some spectacular scenery—is, surprisingly enough, not in Cape Arago state park, which is farther south on the highway.

Instead, just before we got to Sunset Bay, we turned right for a short mile to a good parking space, from where we walked out to the white-painted coastal torch perched on its own rocky island.

A wooden bridge spans a little arm of the sea out to the island. Originally, the lighthouse was out on the end of a long, narrow peninsula extending westward from the island, but the ocean and wind wore the peninsula down to dangerous condition, and the light was moved back to the island's main bulk.

Lumbermen Okehed Land

Leaving the Cape Arago lighthouse reservation and the Sunset Bay area, we drove only a few miles farther (12 from North Bend) to get to Shore Acres.

A most spectacular 637 acres once owned by Louis Simpson, son of the doughty, famed Capt. Asa M. Simpson (the Cappy

Picks made famous by Peter B. Kyle), it was originally an estate. It once had more than 3500 varieties of trees and shrubs planted in a fairland of botanical gardens and lily ponds.

Many of them are gone, but the state parks department is restoring as much as possible.

Simpson's fabulous house, which had a swimming pool in its basement and a block-long solid front of windows on the ocean side, was torn down in 1948 and 1949 because the state could not afford the \$50,000 it would have cost to restore it.

There is a glassed-in viewing house there now, however, and the same tremendous view which attracted the son of the famed lumberman and shipbuilder.

The unique sandstone formations are steep and topography, providing some of the most lively wave-breaking action of the entire coastline. In storms, spume breaks up over the heavy rock restraining wall.

Two miles beyond, the white Ford came to Cape Arago, believed to be the first Oregon landmark sighted by white men.

In the early half of the 16th century a Spanish navigator sailing from Mexico identified the latitude and longitude of this section of the coast.

Cape Arago state park is composed of 143 acres, with a high promontory extending half a mile into the sea. Adjoining Shore Acres, it provides three little bays—north, middle and south coves—each with its own beach (for driftwood hunters, it's paradise).

In every direction the ocean views are wonderful, and the entire point is dotted with sheltered little nooks where there are picnic tables, each with its own spectacular view of the sea, the rocks and the surf.

Fire Lookouts May Be Replaced by TV

Sacramento, Calif.—(U.P.)—The television camera may replace the old-fashioned forest fire lookout.

The California Division of Forestry has just completed a four-day test high in the Sierra Nevada Mountains of El Dorado county. It found that the TV camera can spot a forest fire just as well as a human being, and in some cases better.

The division said the test was too short to be conclusive, but a TV camera mounted on a 360-degree turntable atop a lookout station easily spotted a smoke at 10 miles with an 8-inch lens. With a 20-inch lens the camera saw smoke up to 16 miles. The trained observer with binoculars has a maximum efficiency viewing of 15 miles.

The study revealed that any robot camera would have to have several lenses. One would have low magnification and wide field of vision and higher-powered lenses to scrutinize a particular area.

The study indicated that cameras with lens filters may have an edge over human beings under hazy conditions.

Ironically, the fault that became apparent quickly was the human factor again. The division would like to know how many TV screens one observer can watch at one time? And how quickly will an observer tire from watching the screens continually?

Watching a picture of the forest primeval for 24 hours is no variety show, an official pointed out.

Tuesday, August 2, 1955

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—SEVEN

Oregon Delegates Divided in House Vote on Natural Gas Bill

By A. ROBERT SMITH Mail Tribune Correspondent

Washington —The votes of six Republican congressmen from the Pacific Northwest in favor of the hotly disputed natural gas bill were enough to give the bill its 209-203 victory margin in the House last week.

Oregon's four-man delegation was evenly divided, with Reps. supporting the bill and Reps. Harris Ellsworth and Sam Coon Walter Norblad and Edith Green voting against it. Washington state's delegation was split 4-3 in favor of the bill.

The current construction of a natural gas pipeline from the southwest to the Pacific Northwest gave the House vote added significance, since its effect is likely to be felt in the region the next few years. But exactly what that effect may be is debatable, in the minds of the region's congressmen.

The bill would wipe out a Supreme Court ruling which held that natural gas producers' rates should be regulated by the Federal Power Commission. With the nod of approval from the Eisenhower administration, southern lawmakers went to work to change the natural gas act to exempt gas producers from federal rate regulations.

What will be the effect on the Pacific Northwest if the bill is passed by the Senate and later signed into law by the president?

"It will increase the price of gas to the consumer," declared Congressman Norblad, who opposed the bill. "They are entitled

(meaning the gas producers) to a fair profit, but this may open it wide open. I think they ought to be regulated. They are public utility just like the light company or the water works."

Congressman Harris Ellsworth, who supported the bill, said he did so "as a matter of

principle" because he is generally opposed to government regulation of private development, especially in the field of mineral resources.

"I suppose the smart political thing would have been to vote 'No,'" said Ellsworth, explaining that consumers might be persuaded by its opponents that the bill will increase gas rates. He claimed, however, that "this argument that it will raise rates just doesn't stand up."

Ellsworth contended that inasmuch as the FPC has never regulated gas producers, enactment of the bill affecting future gas production won't serve to jack up consumer rates. The GOP soon said he went all through the arguments on this issue as a member of the Interstate Commerce Committee of the House from 1946 through 1950. Bills passed by Congress during that period were vetoed by President Truman.

Rep. Coon said the effect of the bill for the region would be "to provide more gas" by giving producers greater incentive to drill new wells in search of untapped reserves.

Coon argued that the producer gets only five to eight per cent of the final cost of gas to the householder, so that any increase in the amount obtained by the producer would make little difference in the final rate.

"I can't see any danger of it having much effect on the consumer's bill," Coon declared, "and if it provides more gas I think it would be cheaper."

Jacksonville Gets Ready for Jubilee

Jacksonville — Jacksonville Lions club members are repainting the exterior of Community hall in preparation for the eighth annual Gold Rush jubilee. M. L. (Doc) Tweedy is in charge of painting.

Interior repainting has been done, and club members expect to complete the outside coat in time for the jubilee which will be held next Saturday and Sunday.

The Queen's Ball, at which the jubilee queen and her court will be announced, will be held at the community hall starting at 9 p.m. tomorrow night. The queen will be named about 11:30 p.m. Music will be furnished by Jim Pierce's seven-piece band.

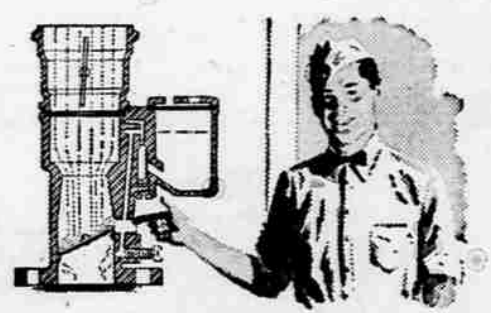
The community hall also will be the scene of dances Saturday and Sunday during the jubilee, as well as several other events during the two-day event. The jubilee is being sponsored by Jacksonville, Crater, Medford, and Talent Lions clubs.

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