



# CITY OF FORT PIERCE

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

REBECCA GROHALL, AICP, PLANNING MANAGER  
COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING ♦ DEVELOPMENT REVIEW  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION ♦ URBAN DESIGN ♦ URBAN FORESTRY ♦ ZONING

SEPTEMBER 28TH, 2015

### HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD : PUBLIC HEARING

Agenda Item

**Owners**

St. Lucie County—  
Maintained by COFP

**Applicant**

Fort Pierce Public Works

**Location**

901/915 S Indian River Drive

**Parcel**

2415-501-0002-000-2 &  
2415-501-0001-000-5

**Historic Status**

Individually Designated Site  
National Register Site

**Requested Action**

Application of sediment & vegetation to mitigate and prevent further degradation to the Ais Burial Mound present on-site.

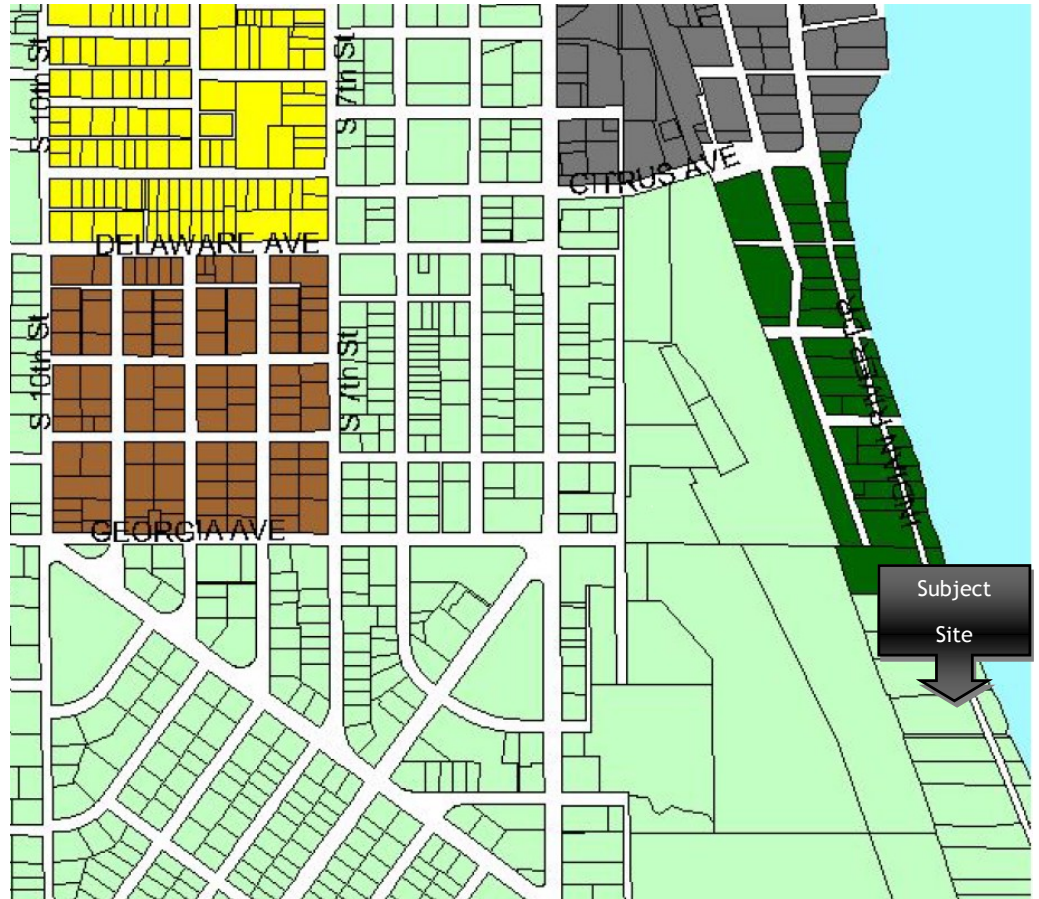
**Recommendation**

Approve

**Staff**

**Kori Benton**  
Senior Planner

**Maria Lewicka**  
Historic Preservation Planner



### HISTORY

- c.900 AD—1600 Active AIS Indian Burial Mound
- 1838-1842 U.S. Military Fort Constructed, operating as an active military site during the Second Seminole War
- 1842-1844 Frederick Weedon established a transient settlement adjacent to the site, until destruction by fire in 1844.
- 1879 Site contributed to a trading post established by Benjamin & Annie Hogg.
- 1950 Site Designated as a Public Park.

### STAFF ANALYSIS

The Fort Pierce Lions Club has committed \$30,000 to the City of Fort Pierce to improve Old Fort Park. The initial Phase of improvements completed repaired (resurfaced) the existing parking lot, re-established a wood fencing along Indian River Drive, and provided the installation informational kiosk signs.

The next phase of improvements is centered on stabilizing the AIS Mound as erosion threatens the condition and preservation of this historic resource. Past activities on, and around, the mound have eliminate much of the vegetation concealing and protecting the mound.

**Request:**

The current stabilization strategy is focused on the application of sediment & vegetation to mitigate and prevent further degradation to this sensitive site. The stabilization plan encompasses a monitored effort to overlay a natural fibre geotextile to existing mound surface, application of 3-4 inches of natural soil, as well as the planting of *Helianthus debilis* (beach sunflower) sprouts to steady the AIS Mound.

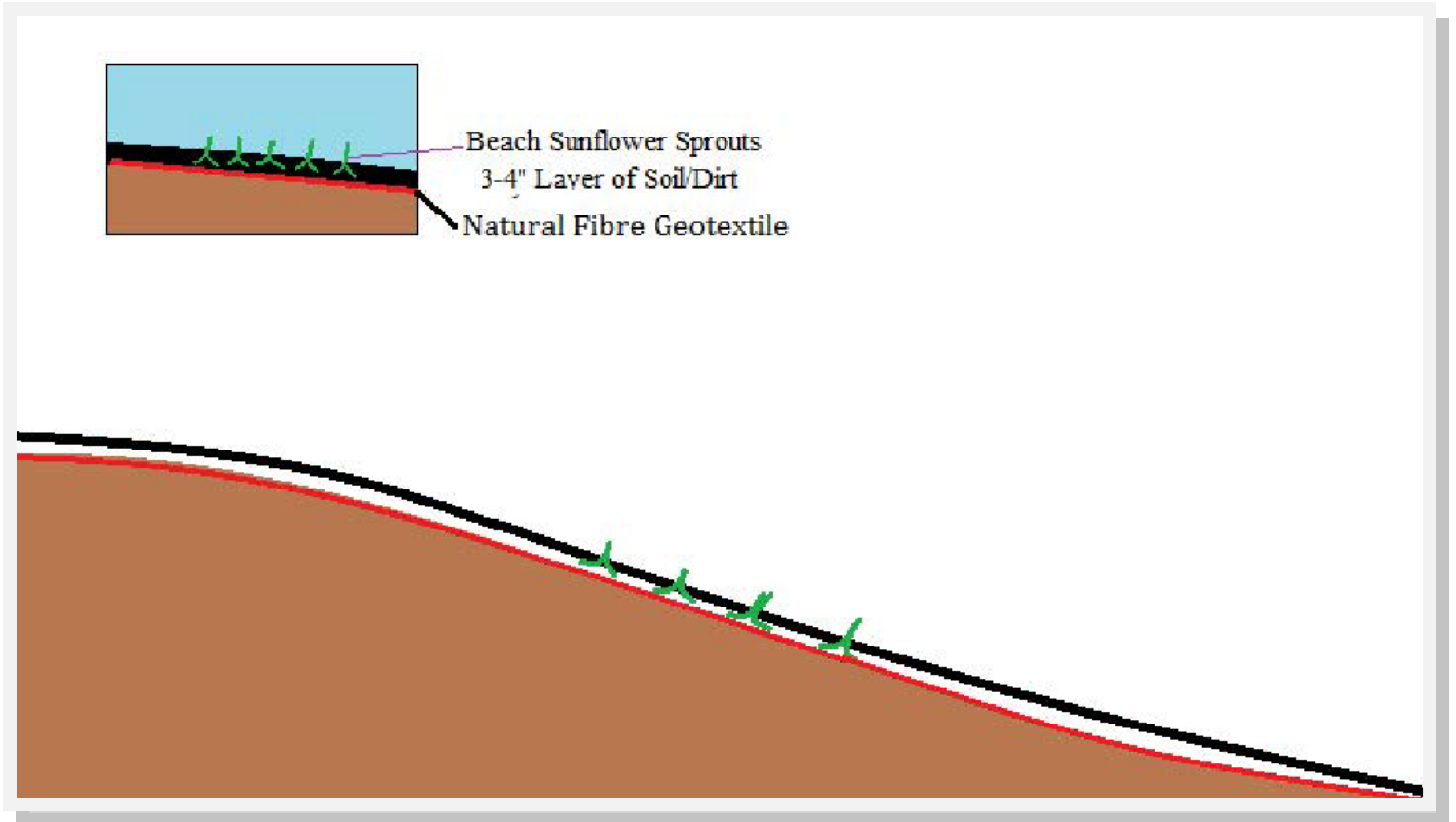
The request and presented activities have been presented to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) for review. The project was approved with the condition that an Archaeologist oversee the work to ensure proper care is undertaken to preserve the mound, and that any artifacts exposed during the work can be documented and properly replaced into the mound.

The City of Fort Pierce and the Lions' Club will commission a certified archaeologist to observe and participate in the stabilization project. The efforts proposed are consistent with the Secretary of Interior Standards as the preservation of this historic resource is at the forefront of the project, and the addition of sediment and vegetation are being distinguished by the overlay of a natural fibre mesh sheet to ensure differentiation of the natural mound, and the manmade application to prevent further erosion.

**S T A F F   R E C O M M E N D A T I O N**

Staff recommends approval of the request, acknowledging strict adherence to the plan to coordinate with local archaeologists to prepare complete the work and ensure avoidance of affects on the sensitive grounds.

## Proposed Stabilization Plan



## Proposed Ground Cover

***Helianthus debilis***

BEACH SUNFLOWER

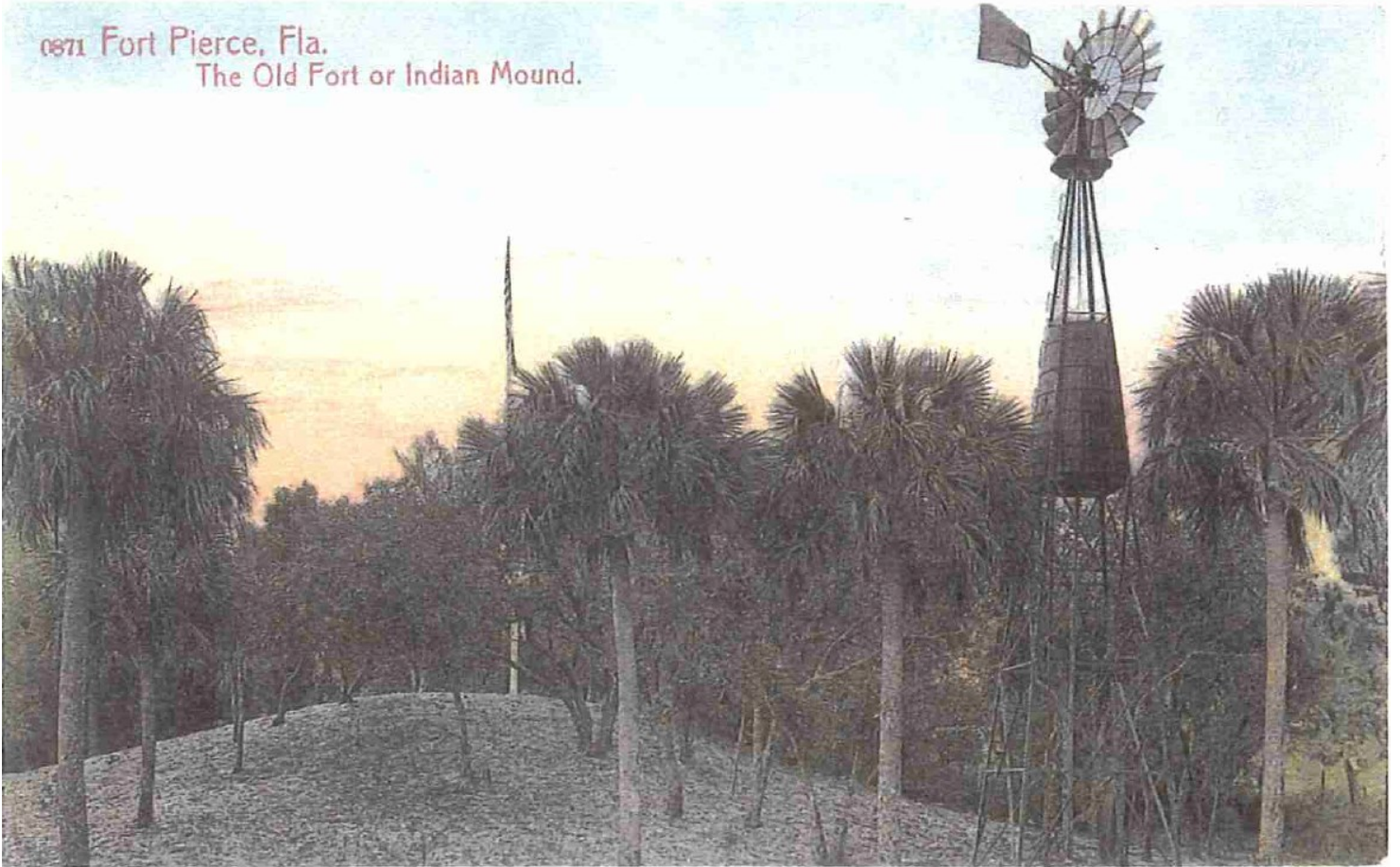
*Helianthus*: pertaining to  
sunflowers

*debilis*: weak, referring to  
trailing habit

GROUND COVER



0871 Fort Pierce, Fla.  
The Old Fort or Indian Mound.



Indian Mound or remains of old fort, Fort Pierce, Fla.



216329

# Plan of Fort Pierce—July 1839

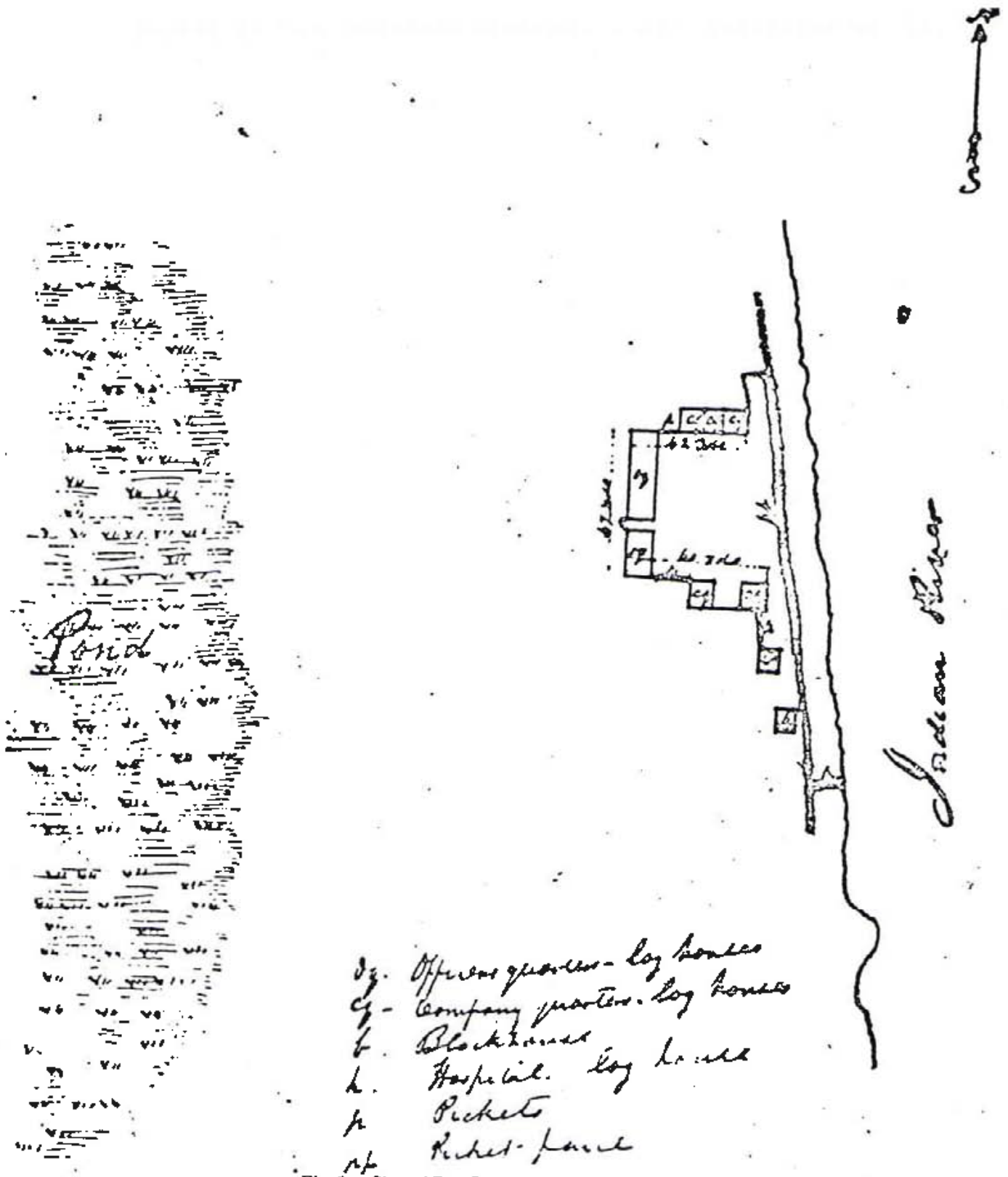


Fig. 2 Plan of Fort Pierce dated July 30, 1839.



1990s Photo of The AIS Burial Mound—Dedication Plaque & Vegetation has been removed



2014 Photo of AIS Burial Mound



2014 Photos



# Current Erosion Photos

