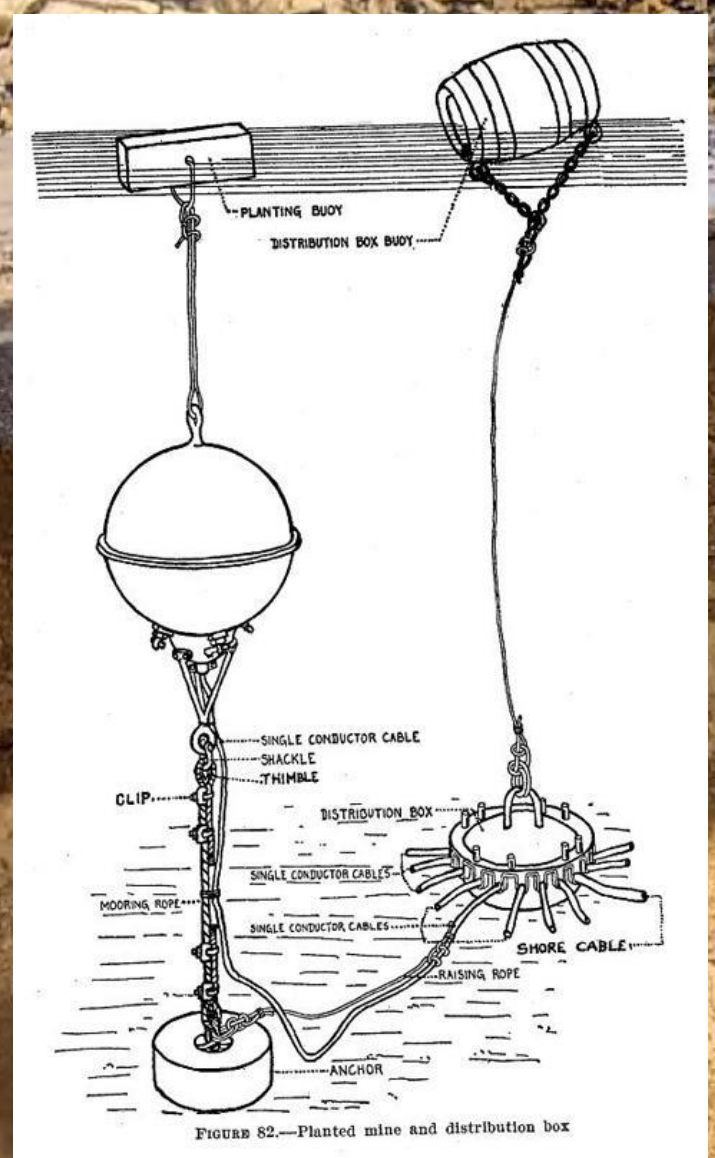


Battery Chapin 1904-1946

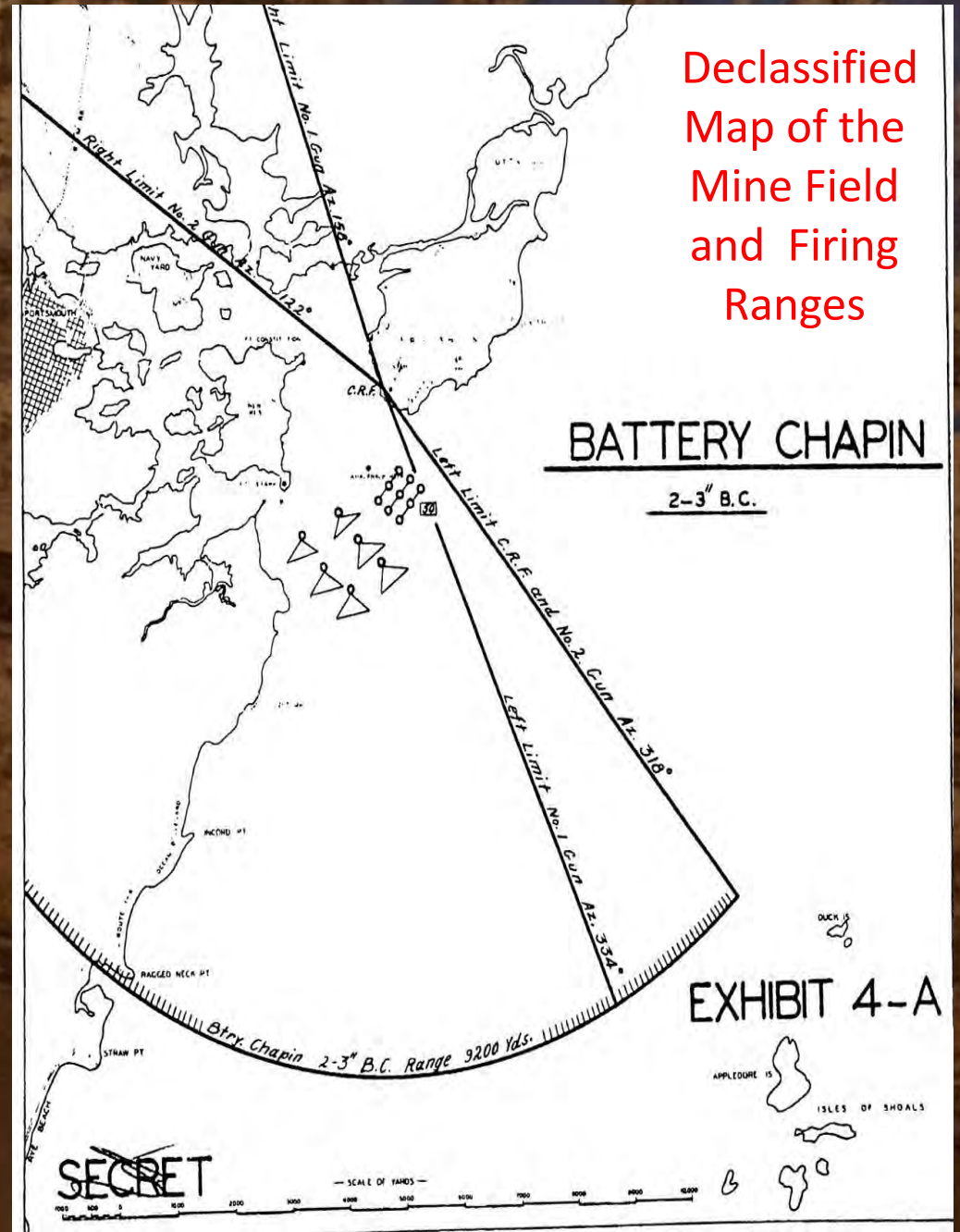
was built to protect the harbor Mine Field. It was armed with 2-3inch Rapid Fire pedestal-mount guns. The adjacent concrete structure served as an instrument tower which was used to triangulate sightings of vessels in the mine field. The river side of Battery Chapin was originally camouflaged with an earthen berm which was removed in 1950.



General Ralph E. Haines and officers of the 6th Coast Artillery Regiment circa 1920s. Golden Gate NRA Park Archives GOGA 35313-138.



The sighting scope was housed inside this structure. The hexagon pedestal can still be found in the center of the floor



Declassified Map of the Mine Field and Firing Ranges



Behind the iron doors, were the magazines that stored the shells for the guns mounted above.

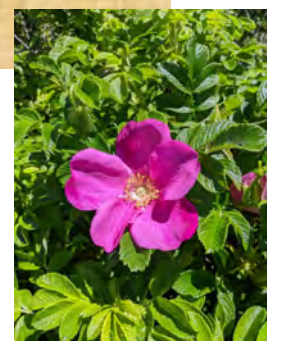


Mine Station Instrument Tower

Battery 205, a 6 story concrete fire control tower erected circa 1942 was intended to provide a vantage point from which to spot enemy targets. The second floor housed the Battery Command Post and the top floor was the Commanders Observation Deck. The tower was erected on the former grounds of one of seven cottages belonging to the Pocahontas Hotel which was originally a summer retreat for tourists wishing to escape the heat of the city.



Originally this land was the site of the Pocahontas Hotel campus which was built in 1885 with a 200 guest capacity. During summer, guests from the cities flocked to these grand, turn of the century, seaside hotels. Unfortunately when the surrounding property was confiscated by the military, the constant test firing of the 10 inch guns from Battery Bohem rocked the hotel, breaking windows and disturbing the peace sought by its guests. The Hotel Pocahontas and cottages were forced to close in 1905.



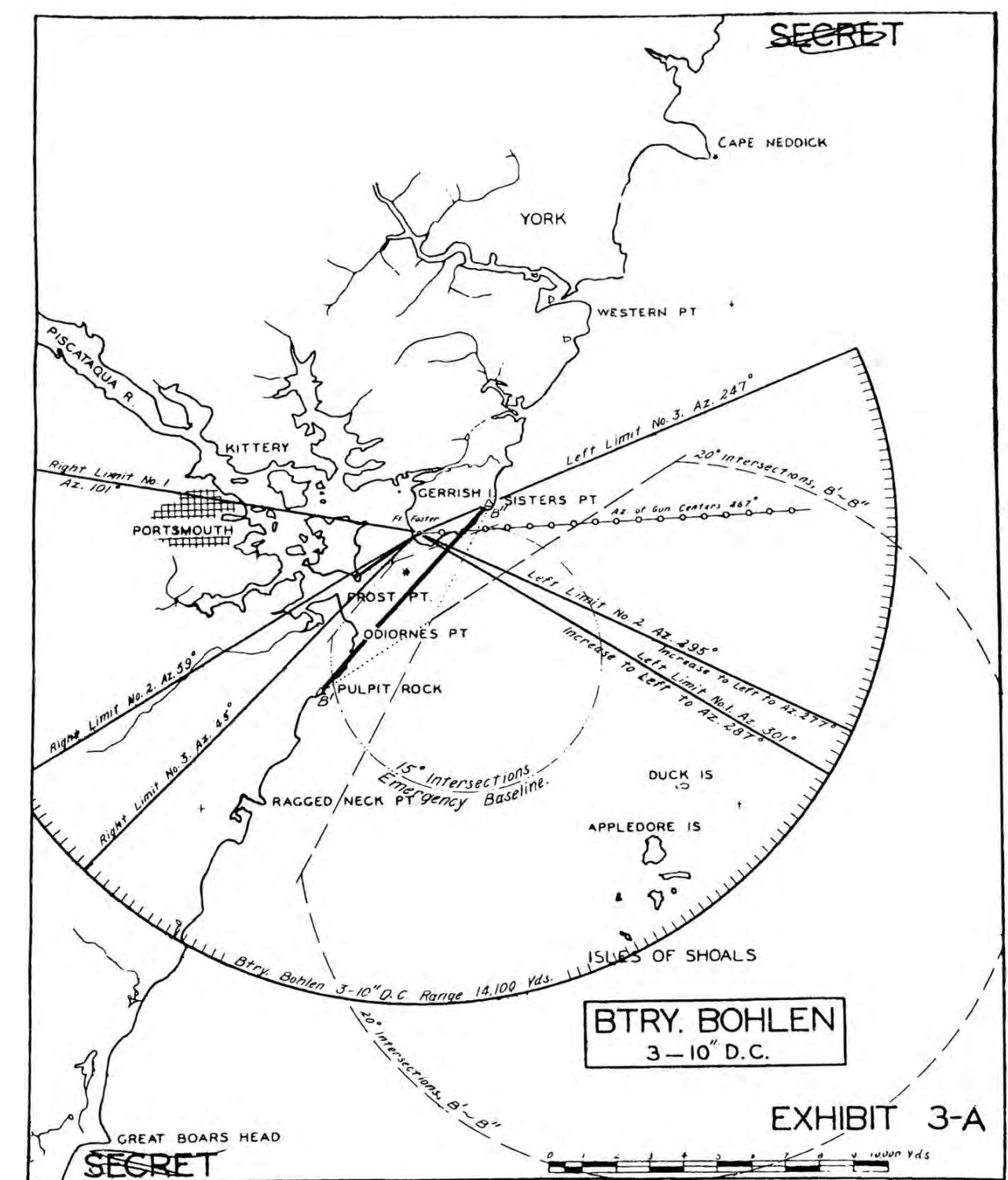
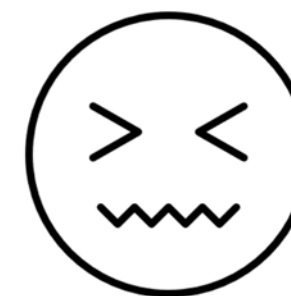
The Pavillion is currently used for weddings and divorces and other celebrations.



Battery Bohlen built in 1901 and armed with 3-10 inch disappearing guns mounted on carriages and used as long-range defense for Portsmouth Harbor.



Guns similar to these were test fired over the top of the Pocahontas Hotel and cottages breaking glass and terrifying guests until the hotel was forced to close in 1905.



Declassified Secret document showing gun ranges.



Access to one of four crows' nests to the gun positions

