The military post of Columbia Barracks, or as it is usually called Fort Vancouver, is situated ~~on the North side~~ ~~on a terrace~~ ~~about a little~~ ~~one half a mile~~ about 1000 yards from the Columbia river on a terrace elevated 100 feet above the water and sloping gradually down to ~~it~~ a lower level or bottom ~~which~~ a part of which is overflowed during the ~~highest~~ freshets. Two reservations have been at different times laid off by the officers commanding, but so far as yet known, neither of them confirmed by the President. The first, made in 1850 by order of Brt Col Loring, Mounted Riflemen, contained an area of four square miles; the second, ~~by~~ by Lieut ~~Col~~ Col Bonneville 4th Infantry, ~~under~~ in consequence of the restriction imposed by the Act of [ ] Section [ ] relating to military reservations, contained one square mile, having a water front of two thirds of a mile, & is now provisionally occupied. This reservation contains, besides the government buildings, the trading post of the Hudson's bay Company bearing the same name, & which till the establishment of Fort Victoria, ~~on~~ Vancouver's Island, was their principal depot on the Pacific. It is a rectangle, of ~~at~~ [225 by 120] yards, surrounded by a stockade, & containing ~~two~~ store houses & ~~officers~~ dwellings for officers. The ~~re principal claim~~ claim of the Company to "Possessory rights" under the treaty of 1846, embraces a very large & undefined tract of country in this vicinity, extending, it is understood some 20 miles along the Columbia; ~~within which~~ the reservation lying within it. A claim has also, it is understood, been ~~set~~ recently set up ~~to~~ by the Catholic Church attached to the Company's establishment, to a square mile of land embracing the principal part of the reservation,

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