

## Sophia Cassam

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**From:** Todd Nicholson <toddn@portfridayharbor.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 19, 2024 9:29 AM  
**To:** Sophia Cassam  
**Subject:** Public comment for shipyard Cove Map amendment

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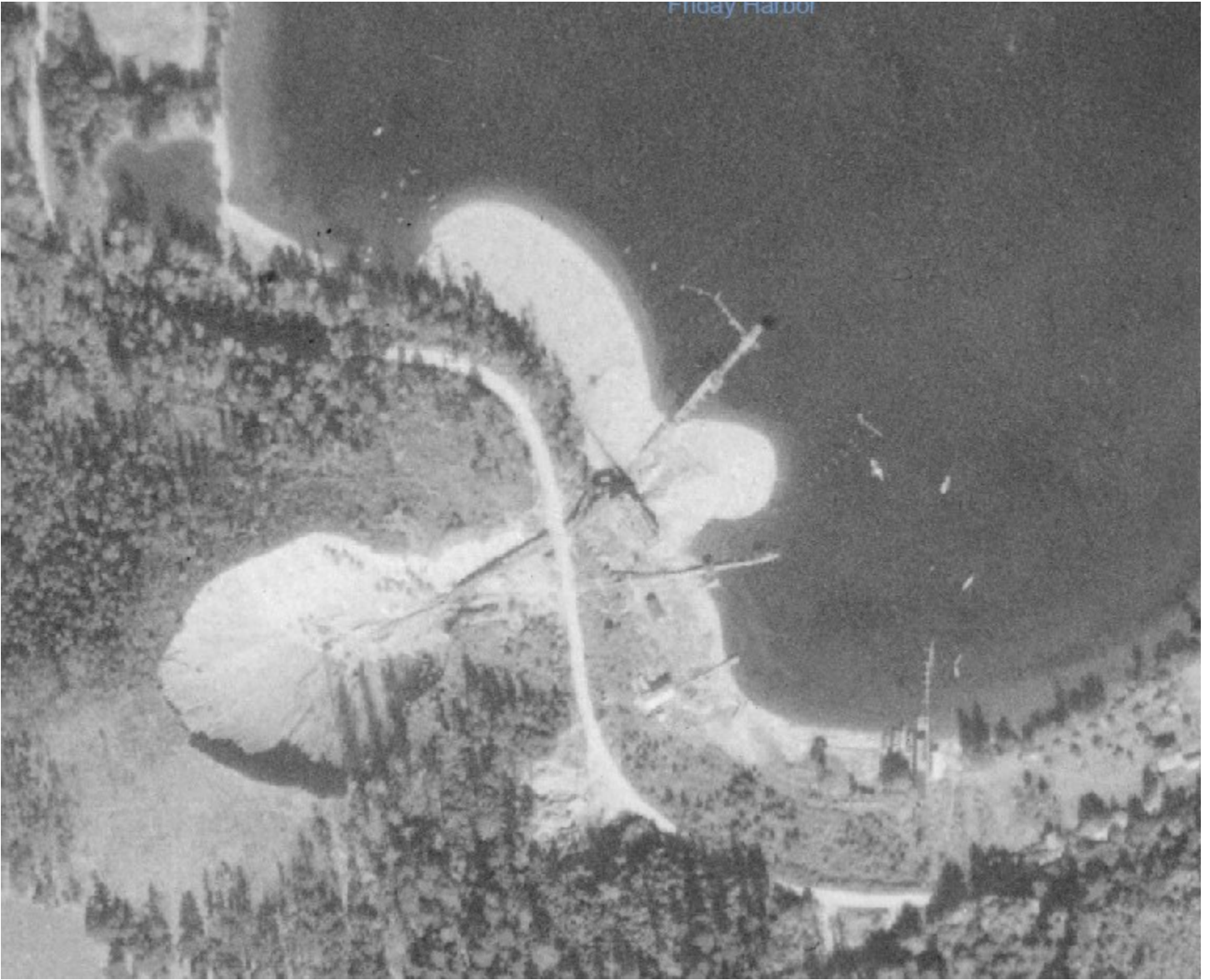
Hi Sophia,

Here are materials to accompany the Port's verbal comments to the planning commission.

Thanks,  
Todd

Jensen Boatyard was 1910 – as for the Shipyard Cove side I haven't found anything as far as when it was very first used for industrial uses but aerial photos from 1932 show activity there.

A comment by the Historical Museum also indicates "Until the 1930s the gravel was taken out on the Friday Harbor side. Later the barges were filled on the Griffen Bay side." This photo seems to show a chute to get the gravel down the slope.



San Juan Historical Museum has a relevant post placing the start of industry there no later than the early 1940s:

*One of the hidden gems of the Friday Harbor waterfront was the Friday Harbor Shipyard. The location is now known as Shipyard Cove Marina, right next to Jensen's Shipyard and Marina. Both marinas are now owned by The Port of Friday Harbor.*

*In the early 1940s Howard Wilson, a man who would today be called an "entrepreneur", started the business with his silent partner Walt Sutherland. The shipyard employed 15 men year-round who built wooden boats for fishing, towing and other uses. A large part of the business was fishing boat repair, many of the local fishing boats would be hauled out for winter maintenance. They would be lined up along the beach, that later would hold the Rendezvous barbeque, at the end of fishing season. They would then be repaired, serviced and returned to the water one at a time until all were ready for the start of fishing season.*

*During World War 2 the shipyard had a contract to build barges for the military. They also had a log dump for the Island logging industry. The logs would be branded on the end, dumped into the water and formed into log booms to be towed to lumber mills around Puget Sound.*

*Some of the people employed there were Howard's son's Gene and Don, Howard's daughter-in-law Rosasia was the bookkeeper. Others over the years were Bud Lowe, Bud Murray, Roy Hale, Carl Hale, Chuck Settles, Dale Rishel, Garner Wilson, George Wotton, and George MacKinnon. Silent partner Walt Sutherland had the contract to bring the U.S. Mail to the island daily during the 1950s and kept his boat, the "McCard" at the end of the marina dock. Among the boats built at the shipyard were Don Lowe's fishing boat "Whitecap", Art Froland's fishing boat "Lillian S.", Roy Hale's boat the "Little Dipper" and the re-build of the steel hulled "Tola". Howard operated the shipyard until his death in 1959.*

Here are the photos they posted with their posting.









