



# The CDSG Newsletter



The Coast Defense Study Group, Inc. — May 2017



## Chairman's Message

Alex Hall

Chairman, Board of Directors

This past spring CDSG held its annual conference in the Harbor Defenses of NYC, one of the largest harbor defenses to be toured. It was a large investment in time and money to see what we did. A full write up of the conference and sites visits will appear in the *Newsletter*.

Please join me in thanking our conference co-chairs Norm Scarpulla and Shawn Welch for taking on this great effort. With a large number of sites, various owners, and offices to work through, our conference co-chairs worked hard to get us access to many sites not open to the general public, as is a hallmark of our conferences on both seaboards. Along with the official conference, I hope you will also join me in thanking Terry McGovern for organizing additional site visits both before and after the official conference, some of which had never been visited by CDSG before.

I would also like to highlight how nice it was for me to finally see the Army Ground Forces group in action and see firsthand the ongoing great work being done by them at Battery Gunnison, Fort Hancock, with the National Park Service. Unfortunately, it took a conference to get me there for a visit, but I look forward to visiting again and seeing more of Fort Hancock in particular. A further shout out to all the rangers we met along the way. I tip my flat hat to you all. Combined, I believe we saw properties and owners in all categories: private, municipal, county, state, and federal! Thanks to all our hosts for welcoming us.

Whether making new friends, reconnecting with out of touch ones, or picking up where you left off, the annual conferences are a perfect time to share our knowledge and observations and further educate ourselves and site owners. All are part of the equation.

Enjoy the summer and get out and see a fort or two or three....

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## Preservation Committee Report

Gordon Bliss, Chair

Last month was the annual conference in the New York City area. This gave us an opportunity to see the current situation at the NYC area forts which some of us had not visited since the last conference there in 1997. Conditions vary widely with some areas, such as some parts of Fort Wadsworth, being in better condition than before and others, such as many of the buildings at Fort Hancock, being in worse condition. Some of this can be attributed to Superstorm Sandy which had a major impact on the area, and Fort Hancock and Fort Tilden in particular. With limited National Park Service resources and a large number of structures, particularly at Fort Hancock, there are going to be severe constraints on which buildings/structures effort is spent on. The private leasing program

## CDSG Meeting and Tour Calendar

Please advise Terry McGovern of any additions or changes at [tcmcgovern@att.net](mailto:tcmcgovern@att.net)

2018 CDSG Conference  
April 25-27, 2018  
Columbia River, OR/WA  
Mark Berhow, [berhowma@cdsg.org](mailto:berhowma@cdsg.org)

2018 CDSG Special Tour  
August 11-19, 2018  
Switzerland  
Terry McGovern, [tcmcgovern@att.net](mailto:tcmcgovern@att.net)

2019 CDSG Conference  
Chesapeake Bay, VA  
Terry McGovern, [tcmcgovern@att.net](mailto:tcmcgovern@att.net)

2019 CDSG Special Tour  
Manila Bay, the Philippines  
Andy Grant, [ftmottris@comcast.net](mailto:ftmottris@comcast.net)

## Other Meetings and Tours

June 10-11, 2017  
Assn Saint-Maurice d'Etudes Militaires Tour  
Besancon, France  
Pascal Bruchez, [president@asmem.ch](mailto:president@asmem.ch)

September 1-3, 2017  
Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Festung Annual Conference  
Ingolstadt - Germany  
Andrea Theissen, [anja.reichert@uni-trier.de](mailto:anja.reichert@uni-trier.de)

September 1-4, 2017  
Fortress Study Group Annual Conference  
Portsmouth  
Alistar Graham Kerr, [tours@fsgfort.com](mailto:tours@fsgfort.com)

September 4-7, 2017  
Fortress Study Group Overseas Tour  
Alderney, Channel Islands  
Alistar Graham Kerr, [tours@fsgfort.com](mailto:tours@fsgfort.com)

September 4-7, 2017  
ICOFORT Annual Conference  
Northern Norway  
Milagros Flores, [milagrosflores44@aol.com](mailto:milagrosflores44@aol.com)

September 14-18, 2017  
Assn Saint-Maurice d'Etudes Militaries Tour  
Soisson, France  
Pascal Bruchez, president@asmem.ch

September, 2017  
Association Vauban Tour  
Rhine River, Germany  
Marc Gayda, marcgayda@yahoo.fr

October 2017  
International Fortress Council Annual Meeting  
Julich, Germany  
Kees Neisingh, secretariat@internationalfortresscouncil.com

October 7 & 14, 2017  
Menno van Coehoorn Excursion  
Nijmegen, Netherlands  
Frits van Horn, fritsvanhorn@xs4all.nl

November 14, 2017  
Menno van Coehoorn Meeting  
Maastricht Netherlands  
Frits van Horn, fritsvanhorn@xs4all.nl

September 2018  
Fortress Study Group Annual Conference  
Northwest England  
Alistar Graham Kerr, tours@fsgfort.com

October 2018  
International Fortress Council Annual Meeting  
Czech Republic  
Kees Neisingh, secretariat@internationalfortresscouncil.com

May 2019  
Fortress Study Group Overseas Tour  
The Low Countries  
Alistar Graham Kerr, tours@fsgfort.com

September 2019  
Fortress Study Group Annual Conference  
Dover  
Alistar Graham Kerr, tours@fsgfort.com

October 2019  
International Fortress Council Annual Meeting  
Switzerland  
Kees Neisingh, secretariat@internationalfortresscouncil.com

at Fort Hancock has only a few buildings leased. I am still looking to obtain feedback from attendees on what suggestions or help we can provide. On the positive side, I do wish to single out the restoration of Battery Gunnison at Fort Hancock by the Army Ground Forces Association which includes returning the guns to a working condition. In addition, the work done at Battery Lewis in the Highlands by the Monmouth County Parks which included obtaining a 16-inch barrel from the navy is another highly positive note. These were two preservation highlights of the conference.

At Fort Adams, work continues to clear vegetation on the Endicott batteries. Battery Bankhead, just south of the main fort, is now completely clear and work has moved to Battery Talbot, the next one going south. All of this is being done by volunteers. I will be putting before and after pictures of Bankhead on the Preservation page of the CDSG website. On that subject, the Preservation page on the website will be revised soon. I have some initial content I will be placing there, but I ask that if you have a preservation success story and ideally pictures of same, that you pass it on to me for possible inclusion on the website. I would like to feature different examples over the course of a year so that we have new content on a regular basis.

Which brings me to my last item for this column: I know this is getting repetitive for those of you who read this regularly, but I still get very few preservation items directly from members and often only find out about them second or third hand and well after the fact. Particularly if it is an item the CDSG can get directly involved in, hearing about it early is important. Some of this will be coming through the Representative Committee, but I would rather get the information twice than risk missing hearing about it.

If you have a preservation issue or question, or for further information on any of the items I have mentioned, contact the Preservation Committee Chair Gordon Bliss at preservation@cdsg.org.

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### Walter K. Schroder

We regret to announce that Walter K. Schroder, 88, passed away on December 28, 2016. Born in Pawtucket, RI, he spent his early years in Germany, where he was drafted at age 15 into an anti-aircraft battery. Captured by the British, he served as a POW interpreter. Following his release, he enlisted in the US Army as an interpreter. He returned to RI and a 32-year career with the Department of Defense.

Graduating *summa cum laude* from Roger William University, Walter was a researcher, author, and lecturer with a special interest in Rhode Island military history. He published seven books; his *Defenses of Narragansett Bay in WWII* remains a highly respected history of the Rhode Island coast defenses. His autobiography, *Stars and Swastikas: The Boy Who Wore Two Uniforms*, documented his unique experiences during WWII. In 2007, he was inducted into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame. He was a long-time member of the Coast Defense Study Group. He is survived by his wife, Lora, his daughter, Leah S. Fox, and her husband, Martin, in addition to other family members.

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## CDSG Representative and Outreach

Norm Scarpulla

The Representative and Outreach program is critical for the goals of the CDSG. We arrange for a CDSG member to be the liaison to the owner or manager of each site. That member, the site representative, is responsible to maintain two-way communication with the site owner or manager. This is to ensure that the site owner or manager knows that CDSG is the source of accurate information about the site, is willing to assist with preservation and interpretation, and may be able to provide funding for these purposes.

We encourage a site representative to be involved at the site by participation in a “friends” group or volunteering at the site, as appropriate. If there is a visitor’s center, we ask to post put up a CDSG poster. In some cases, a site representative covers a whole region, or only one harbor, or in some cases, one fort or gun battery. We want our representatives to do however much they are comfortable with, but to be effective with what they agree to do.

Currently, we have site representative coordinators for large geographic regions.

New England – Norm Scarpulla

Long Island Sound and New York – vacant

Mid-Atlantic (Delaware River, Baltimore, Potomac River, Chesapeake Bay) – Terry McGovern

South Atlantic (North & South Carolina, Georgia, Florida north of Jacksonville) – Gary Alexander

Gulf Coast – vacant

Pacific Coast – Mark Berhow

The complete site representative list will be available on our website later this year.

If you can be a site representative, or have any questions, please contact Norm Scarpulla (978-475-2094; nkscarpulla@icloud.com).

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## Fun and Games with Nike

Elliot Deutsch

We old Nike men are dying off. Once Nike-Hercules became operational at the dual Edgewood, MD, C-Battery Site 58 (Site 57 was still Nike-Ajax), as 4<sup>th</sup> Bn missile officer, I became excess baggage and was transferred to 35<sup>th</sup> Brigade HQ at Ft. Meade, MD. There I was immediately assigned to fill a vacant slot in one of the Missile Master crews – 24 hours on and 48 hours off. Eventually I was transferred to become executive officer of the brigade HQ battery, until I decided to return to civilian life after 6 years of military service.

One day, I was the only officer in the Missile Master “Blue Room” when an actual alert was sounded by the Air Force. I immediately sat down at one of the two Surveillance and Entry (S&E) consoles and took charge. (My regular console communicated with a group of firing batteries in the Baltimore-Washington defenses.)

The Air Force’s SAGE system informed the Missile Master (me at the moment) that there were enemy aircraft over Towson, MD, a few dozen miles north of Baltimore. On the S&E screen, I could see symbols for enemy aircraft but no live video. A fighter squadron was scrambled to investigate and soon I was in verbal communication with the squadron leader and could see not only his live video but his IFF response on my scope. He reported checking from near ground level up to 30+ thousand feet and neither he nor any of his squadron mates could see any aircraft there, much less enemy aircraft. I could verify his altitude from a height-finder radar console next to mine. After a very tense period, the alert was cancelled, our missile batteries were ordered to stand down, and life returned to normal.

A short time later, the Air Force issued a brief explanation. One of their SAGE (or other) radars at or near Cape Charles, VA, was somehow reporting azimuths and elevations 180 degrees out of phase. It was “seeing” fishing boats approximately 150 miles southeast of its location out in the Atlantic, somewhere off Nags Head, NC. Considering elevation and earth curvature, 150 miles to the north-west turned out to be above Towson, MD. I just checked this on a map of the U.S. east coast and it is probable and logical. The reason for the radar error, however, was not shared with us.

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## The Army Gets Back in the Ship-Killing Business

Jeremy Hsu

Date of Publication: 03.01.17. 03.01.17

Time of Publication: 7:00 am. 7:00 am

Security, *Wired Magazine*

[https://www.wired.com/2017/03/army-converting-missiles-ship-killers-china/?mbid=nl\\_3117\\_p2&CNDID=31956346](https://www.wired.com/2017/03/army-converting-missiles-ship-killers-china/?mbid=nl_3117_p2&CNDID=31956346)

Since 1996, the Chinese military has steadily expanded its umbrella of land-based missiles, strike aircraft, and submarines designed to overwhelm both US air bases and carrier strike groups. That buildup aims to discourage the US military from potentially intervening in China’s territorial disputes with neighboring Asian countries. Now, the US response appears to be taking shape, first in the form of a new use for an old weapons system.

In late 2016, the Pentagon announced that it would convert the Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS), a weapon typically fired from a truck-mounted rocket launcher, into a guided ballistic missile capable of hitting moving warships. That represents a planned upgrade of an existing Army missile that can strike targets at distances of about 186 miles. It could also form the linchpin of a US “forward defense” strategy meant to keep China from becoming too aggressive with its growing naval power.

“For a long time, the US has taken air and sea supremacy for granted,” says Cmdr. Keith Patton, deputy chair of the Strategic and Operational Research Department at the US Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. “Now the military is looking back again to see what can be done and what can be defended; people are rediscovering their past.”

### Sea Change

Conversion of the Army missile into a ship-killing weapon is a “logical step” given US security concerns in the near future, says Patton. The weapon already has a proven combat record from the 1991 Gulf War and the post-9/11 wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. And if not for limitations imposed by the Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces Treaty, it could have even greater long-distance strike capability.

The shift to the sea represents a sharp change from the US Army’s focus for most of the past 70 years. While coastal artillery guns still played a role in WWII, the dominance of long-range bombers and aircraft carriers eventually made large, fixed guns obsolete as shore defenses.

“After World War II, the US was seen as unchallenged at sea, with the possible exception of Soviet submarines,” Patton explains. “Coastal defense artillery, or even missiles, could not help with that threat, and would have been a distraction to Army’s primary mission of winning a major land war in Europe.”

These days, the US no longer holds such a clear oceanic advantage. China has the world’s largest conventional ballistic missile force, and two different types of anti-ship ballistic missiles designed to kill ships such as US Navy carriers. By 2020, the Chinese military will also match or exceed the US military in number of surface-to-air missiles (SAMs) and anti-ship cruise missiles, said Andrew Erickson, professor of strategy in the US Naval War College’s China Maritime Studies Institute, during a hearing for the US-China Economic and Security Review Commission on Feb. 23. He added that China would “unambiguously” have the world’s second-largest blue water navy by 2020.

China’s growing naval power has inadvertently highlighted the gaps in US anti-ship capabilities. The US military’s primary anti-ship weapon has been the sea-skimming Harpoon missile that flies slower than the speed of sound. By comparison, ATACMS with an upgraded guidance system could become a ballistic anti-ship weapon that dives toward targets at speeds of up to Mach 3.

### Scout and Shoot

The US Army already plans to train for its “multi-domain battle” role in possibly firing land-based missiles at enemy warships. Such anti-ship weapons may also end up being sold to US allies in the Pacific. It’s one thing for an adversary to target a huge US aircraft carrier or static air base, but it’s another matter entirely to try tracking dozens of mobile missile launchers mounted on trucks. “With an aircraft carrier or an airfield, you could hit the runway and disable it for a while,” Patton says. “But the US military has learned how hard it is to track small, missile-launched vehicles.”

The shoot-and-scout mobility of rocket trucks is just one advantage of the land-based missile systems, says David Johnson, a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments in Washington, D.C. Unlike anti-ship weapons carried by aircraft or naval vessels, land-based weapons can have “deep magazines,” with no serious physical limitation on the number of missiles available. And the ATACMS conversion may just be the start, as the US military develops a next generation of land-based missiles that could target ships in any military theater of operation.

“ATACMS is attractive because it’s already been developed—you may have to change the guidance technology, but it’s an approved system,” Johnson says. “Whether it’s an interim solution or just an idea to start thinking of how to solve the problem, long-ranged fire is an advantage that these systems will bring to those theaters that will complement joint military operations.”

That aligns with recent US military strategic thinking on the Pacific. A 2013 RAND report sponsored by the US Army suggested that “the strategic placement of anti-ship missile systems” could help deter open conflict by “significantly raising the cost for China,” or actively “interdict warships” or “be used to form a full blockade of critical waterways in times of war.”

Land-based missiles may also offer a solution to a current dilemma faced by the US military in supporting Asian countries that often face off with China over competing territorial claims. The U.S. has traditionally relied on forward air bases and carrier strike groups—such as the USS Carl Vinson group that embarked on a patrol of the South China Sea in February—to provide highly visible reassurance to allies in the Pacific-Asia region. But such high-visibility military assets are also the most vulnerable to China’s many missile-armed forces if it came to open conflict.

The US military could sidestep this dilemma if it chose to “emulate China by fielding mobile, land-based missile forces of its own,” said Evan Montgomery, a senior fellow at CSBA, in a recent report titled “Reinforcing the Front Line: US Defense Strategy and the Rise of China.” Land-based anti-ship missiles positioned on the territory of U.S. allies could provide the same reassurance while also being much less vulnerable militarily—and perhaps reduce the overall risk of open war by acting as a powerful deterrent.

There is always the possibility that China would take a dim view of US military moves to reinforce its allies with land-based missiles. But any potentially stabilizing strategy beyond the status quo would be welcome, as tensions in the South China Sea continue to bubble and brew.

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### **A Visit to Forts Popham and Baldwin, Maine**

Charles H. Bogart

Before the 2016 CDSG Conference, Mary Ann and I did a pre-conference tour of Forts Popham and Baldwin, at the mouth of the Kennebec River.

Fort Popham is a Third-System fort named for Capt. George Popham, founder of the 1607 Popham Colony, and authorized in 1857. Work on Fort Popham started in 1861 and ended in 1869 when the fort was only two-thirds completed. The fort was crescent-shaped, built of granite block mined from nearby Fox and Dix Islands. The 40-foot-high curved seaward wall was to have three tiers of gun casemates mounting 42 guns, 10-inch and 15-inch Rodmans. The straight landward gorge side featured a low curtain wall containing a central gate and 20 musket ports. Overall the fort was to have had a circumference of 500 feet. A moat provided additional protection on the landside. Internally, the fort housed two barracks, a subterranean cistern, and two magazines, one in each of the two demibastions. Two circular



Fort Popham on the right and the Spanish-American War gun battery on top the rock on left.

stair towers provided access from the ground level to the two upper tiers.

During the Civil War, Fort Popham was garrisoned from October 1864 to July 1865 by the 7th Unassigned Company of Maine Infantry, due to reports that Confederate naval ships would attempt to attack and destroy Union ports and shipping along the east coast.

When construction of Fort Popham was halted in 1869, only the lower two gun tiers had been completed and no guns had been mounted within the fort. During the Spanish-American War four 15-inch Rodmans, one 100-pounder Parrott, and one 8-inch M1888MI breech-loading gun were mounted outside Fort Popham to defend against the Spanish Navy. Circa 1898 a mine casemate was constructed outside the fort. It is thought this mine casemate was used during World War I to control a minefield at the mouth of the Kennebec River. In 1924, when Fort Popham



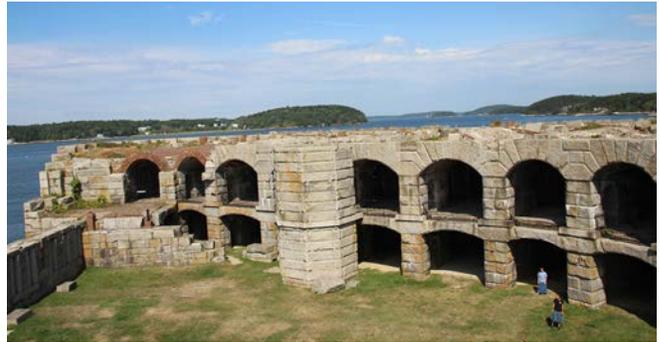
A view from the Parrott cannon back to Fort Popham



Spanish-American War 8-inch emplacement outside Fort Popham



Landward view of Fort Popham



Interior view of Fort Popham. The tower in the center houses one of the two circular stairs

was sold to the State of Maine for use as a park, the 100-pound Parrott Rifle, installed at the Fort in 1898, was donated to the city of Bowdoinham. Today this 100-pound Parrott Rifle is on display 1/4 miles south of Fort Popham.



The gorge front of Fort Popham



One of the ground floor gun casemates.

In 1942, with the United States at war with Germany, Fort Popham was requisitioned by the U.S. Army and garrisoned until 1945 by the Harbor Defenses of Portland. In 1946, Fort Popham was returned to the State of Maine. Today Fort Popham remains part of the Maine State Park System. The fort is open free to the public seven days a week and there is no caretaker present. During our visit to Fort Popham the fort's parade ground was being used by teenage boys and girls for an impromptu soccer match.

Fort Baldwin is an Endicott-era coast defense fort built on the high ground in back of Fort Popham. Construction started in 1905 and the fort was completed in 1912. The fort was named after Jeduthan Baldwin, an engineer in the Continental Army. Fort Baldwin consisted of three gun batteries: Battery Cogan armed with two 3-inch M1903 guns on pedestal mounts, Battery Joseph Roswell Hawley, armed with two 6-inch M1900 guns on pedestal mounts, and Battery Hardman, armed with one 6-inch M1905 gun on a disappearing carriage.

These three gun batteries all had a short life. With the declaration of War in April 1917, Fort Baldwin was garrisoned by the Coast Artillery Corps. However, in early 1918 Fort Baldwin's three 6-inch guns were taken for transportation to France to be used as heavy artillery. While Battery Hawley's two 6-inch M1900 guns reached France, they were not ready for use at the front when the Armistice was signed on November 11, 1918. Sometime in 1919 these two 6-inch guns were returned to the United States but neither they nor Battery Hardman's 6-inch M1905 were re-mounted at Fort Baldwin. In 1924, Battery Cogan was disarmed and its two 3-inch M1903 guns were placed in storage.

After a short life of 12 years, Fort Baldwin was declared surplus and sold in 1924 to the State of Maine for use as a park.



Battery Cogan



Battery Hardman



Battery Hawley



Fort Baldwin fire control tower



Panama mount within Battery Hawley

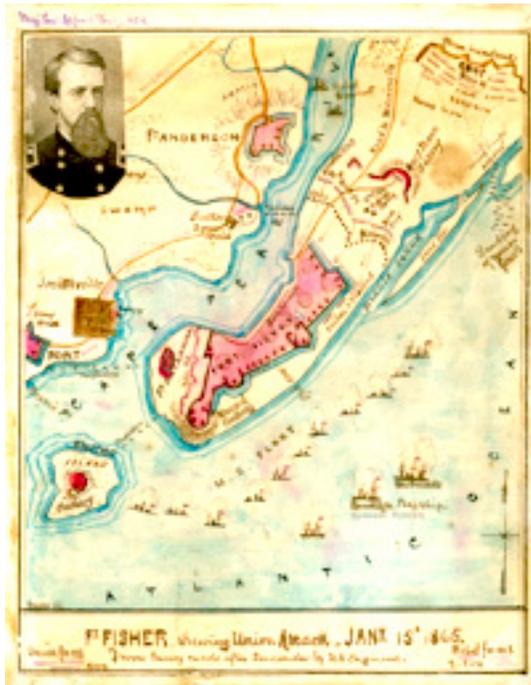
In December 1941, with the start of World War II, the U.S. Army, in the form of Battery D, 8th Coast Artillery Regiment, returned to Fort Baldwin with four 155 mm GPF guns. During December, Battery D constructed four Panama mounts for its 155 mm guns. Two of the Panama mounts were built within Battery Hawley. In addition, during 1942 a fire control tower was built to the right of the gun line to provide fire control information for Battery Steele's 16-inch guns in Casco Bay. In January 1944, during a re-organization of America's coast defenses, Fort Baldwin's four 155 mm guns were withdrawn from the fort. However, the fort's fire control tower continued to be manned until May 1945, when the war in Europe ended. In 1949, Fort Baldwin was declared surplus by the army and returned to the state of Maine. There is no fee to visit Fort Baldwin, but the fort's one trillion mosquitos do demand to be fed. Thus, if you visit Fort Baldwin, wear long-sleeve shirts, full-length trousers, and lots and lots of bug repellent.

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### A Visit to Forts Fisher and Anderson

Charles H. Bogart

During February 2017, Mary Ann and I had to spend a few days in Wilmington, NC, so we added extra days to tour Revolutionary and Civil War sites in the area. Among the Civil War sites we visited were Fort Fisher and Fort Anderson. Both were earthen (sand) forts built by the Confederacy to protect the Cape Fear River approach to Wilmington. Without a doubt, Fort Fisher is the best known of these two forts. Surprisingly, neither of these forts is part of the National Park System; they are North Carolina State Parks. Fort Fisher is located on the east bank of the Cape Fear River and Fort Anderson on the west bank.



Fort Fisher, 1861-1865, was 29 miles below Wilmington, at Federal Point, where the Cape Fear River empties into the Atlantic Ocean. Wilmington became the main Confederate port for blockade runners.

The fort was constructed of sand by the garrison and hired slaves. The first gun batteries to protect the Cape Fear River were erected in early 1861 by Maj. Charles Pattison Bolles. In September of that year this fortification was named Fort Fisher, for Col. Charles F. Fisher, 6th NC Infantry, who was killed at the First Battle of Bull Run.

In July 1862, Col. William Lamb assumed command and started to upgrade the fort. A new line of sand mounds was built to form the fort's land and sea walls, with the 30-foot-high Northeast Bastion at the intersection of the two walls. By 1864 Fort Fisher had developed into the Confederacy's largest fort.

Fort Fisher's land wall stretched some 1,800 feet and contained 15 sand mounds. Mounted in this wall were 25 guns, emplaced some 32 feet above sea level. In front of the land wall was a 9-foot-high wooden-stake fence. The fort's seaside defense line ran for a mile and housed 22 guns, 12 feet above sea level. The sea line was armed with 8-inch and 10-inch Columbiad cannon, two Brooke Rifles, an 8-inch Blakeley Rifle, and a 150-pound Armstrong Gun. The land wall was armed with 4.5-inch and 3-inch Parrott Rifles and 12-pounder Napoleon smoothbore cannon.

Fort Fisher was not attacked by Union troops until December 24, 1864. This expedition, headed by Gen. Benjamin Butler, was a failure. However, the next attack, January 16, 1865, by troops under Gen. Alfred Terry, supported by sailors and marines, was a success. With the Union capture of Fort Fisher, Wilmington was closed to blockade runners and the Confederate Army was starved of arms and munitions.

Much of Civil War Fort Fisher has been lost to beach erosion and the construction of Camp Davis during World War II. The main part of Fort Fisher that can still be visited is its land wall. The visitor center does have an excellent electronic map that guides visitors through the two battles.



Fort Fisher's land wall from the visitor center



Interior view of Fort Fisher's land wall



The interior wall of Fort Fisher. Each depression in the wall was a cannon emplacement.



Where the Union launched its successful attack on Fort Fisher, January 15, 1865.

Fort Anderson, 1862-1865, was across the river and upstream from Fort Fisher. It is reached from Fort Fisher by the ferry across the Cape Fear River. Fort Anderson was originally called Fort St. Philip, but on July 1, 1863, it was renamed Fort Anderson in honor of General Joseph R. Anderson. Construction of Fort St. Philip/Anderson started on March 22, 1862, using sand, the same material as Fort Fisher. Fort St. Philip/Anderson was built on the ruins of the colonial port town of Brunswick by its garrison and hired slaves. When completed, the fort had a land face of 682 yards and a river face of 1,900 yards. Where the land and river walls met was a crescent-shaped five-gun battery that pointed down river. A second five-gun battery fronting the river was built 500 yards to the rear. Both batteries were 20 feet above the river, and each of the 10 gun platforms was armed with a 32-pounder cannon. The land wall contained two 24-pounder and two 32-pounder cannon. These came from Fort Caswell when that fort was armed with more modern guns.

With the fall of Fort Fisher, Confederate troops fell back from Forts Caswell, Pender, and Holmes to Fort Anderson. On January 16, 1865, Union naval ships began to bombard Fort Anderson but were unable to subdue the fort. It was not until February, with the arrival of Gen. John M. Schofield and his XXIII Corps, that the Union Army moved against Fort Anderson. By February 11, Union troops were in front of Fort Anderson. General Schofield, recognizing the strength of Fort Anderson, declined to directly attack it. Instead, he sent a portion of his command to flank the fort and attack it from its undefended rear. It took seven days

for the Union flanking column to conquer the swamps that lay south and west of Fort Anderson, but by February 18 they were ready to seal the back door to Fort Anderson. Before this could happen, Fort Anderson's Confederate garrison pulled out, leaving the fort to be occupied by Union troops the next day. Wilmington fell to Union troops on February 22, 1865. Fort Anderson and the colonial town of Brunswick became a state park in 1952.

While the sand fortifications of Fort Anderson remain intact, the main thrust of the Brunswick/Fort Anderson site is recalling its colonial heritage. This being said, there is much for the Civil War and fortification aficionado. A visit to Fort Anderson allows one to contemplate the true size of Fort Fisher.



The interior landside wall of Fort Anderson from the visitor's center.



A view toward the crescent gun battery at Fort Anderson.



A view along the interior of the landside wall at Fort Anderson. On the right is the remains of the church of the colonial town of Brunswick.



The exterior of Fort Anderson's landside wall.

Both Fort Fisher and Fort Anderson require a visitor to pay a small fee to visit these forts. However, both have very nice Visitor Centers with great historical displays and nice book stores. Both provide free trail guides to the visitor that allow one to visit all the sites open to the general public.

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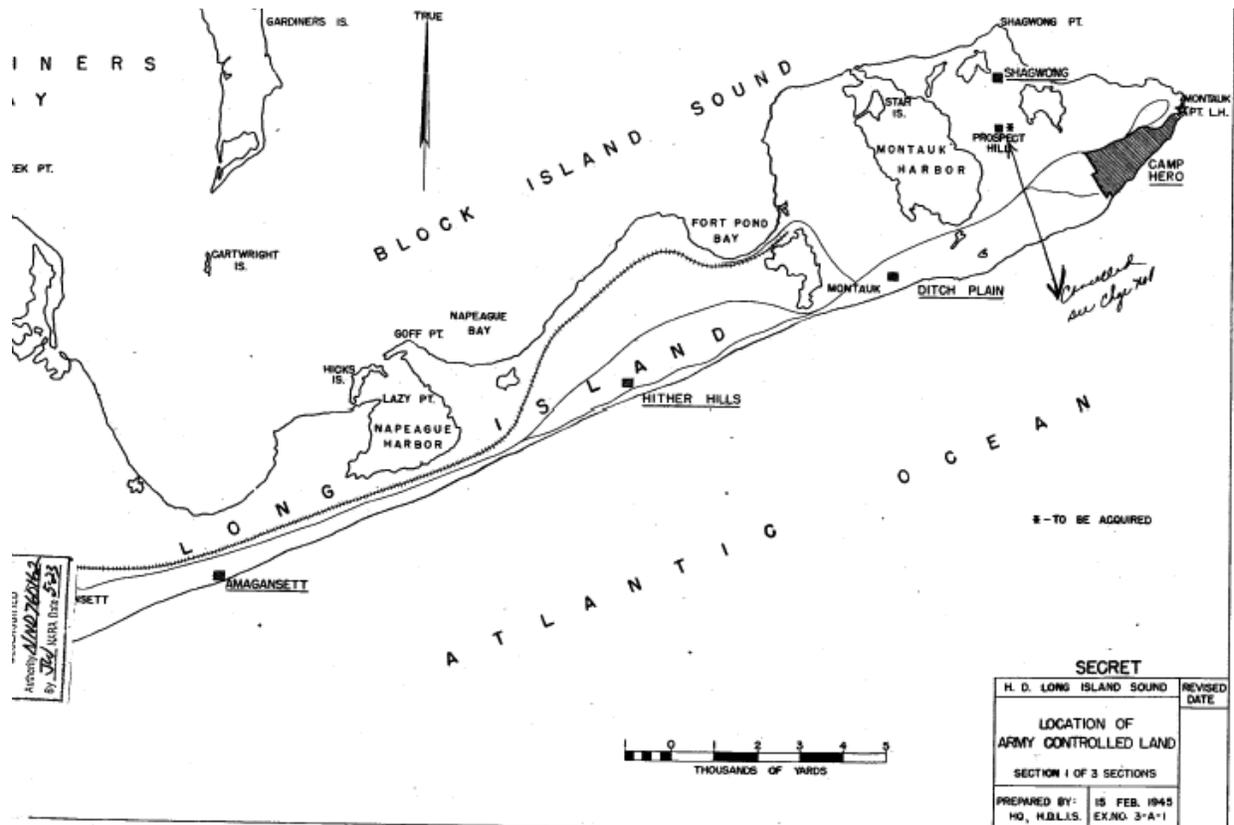
### 2017 CDSG Post-Conference Tour

Camp Hero/Montauk Point (April 2-3)  
Terry McGovern

The April 2 to April 3, 2017, CDSG post-conference tour to Camp Hero Military Reservation and the Montauk fire control stations was attended by 24 CDSG members. Given the isolated location of Camp Hero from the rest of the Long Island Sound coast defenses, the CDSG had not visited the Montauk defenses

in many years. The 2017 Annual CDSG Conference to the New York City defenses provided an opportunity for CDSG members to tour these sites, so a post-conference tour was organized by Terry McGovern. The CDSG annual conference ended around 1 pm on Sunday, April 2, at Hartshorne Woods Park, Highlands, NJ. Those CDSG members attending the post-conference tour embarked on their four-hour drive to Montauk, NY, as soon as the annual conference ended. The drive through New York City turned out to be a challenge due to heavy traffic, so most arrived late for a group dinner at Sammy's restaurant in Montauk. During dinner, we discussed tour plans and safety rules, arranged carpooling, received a tour handout, and signed documents. After a fine meal, we checked-in at the Royal Atlantic Hotel on the beach in the center of Montauk.

The next morning (April 3) we departed the Royal Atlantic Hotel and grabbed breakfast in town before driving to the Bluff Parking Lot at Camp Hero State Park. Gathering at 8 am, we were met by our host, Tom Dess, manager of the Montauk State Park Complex (8 different state properties in the Montauk area). After discussing the history of Camp Hero Military Reservation, we walked to Battery 216 (two 6-inch 1903A2 on SB M1), which had its battery commanders (BC) station on the roof. The battery has been sealed with concrete to protect it from further vandalism. We attempted to locate a nearby dug-in fire control station but were unable to do so. We convoyed to our next stop, Battery Dunn's plotting-switchboard room (PSR) some distance from the battery itself. This PSR was also sealed with concrete slabs. We continued to the center of the reservation, where we visited Battery Dunn, BCN 113, (two 16-inch/50 MkII on BC M4). Tom Dess had arranged to install a steel door into the gun



room about a month before our visit, so we were able to enter the long-sealed battery. We were only able to visit the one gun casemate due to safety concerns. We did spot a rare, original air compressor set in the tool room as well as other hardware in the distance. There were pleas to allow us to visit the entire battery, but it was not to be. We were joined for the tour by two local reporters, Michael Wright of the *East Hampton Press* and Oliver Peterson of *Danspapers*. They had many questions about the form and function of Battery Dunn and the other coast artillery struc-

tures we visited. You can read their accounts of the tour online.

We walked into the nearby fenced off area where a very large high-power AN/FPS-35 radar building and separate operations center sit abandoned. Constructed by the US Air Force during the Cold War, this radar installation was part of SAGE system. These structures are off-limits due to their poor condition, so our focus was on Battery Dunn and its BC and group command station, which was a cottage building near the radar tower. We went inside the "cottage" and visit the stations before we drove to



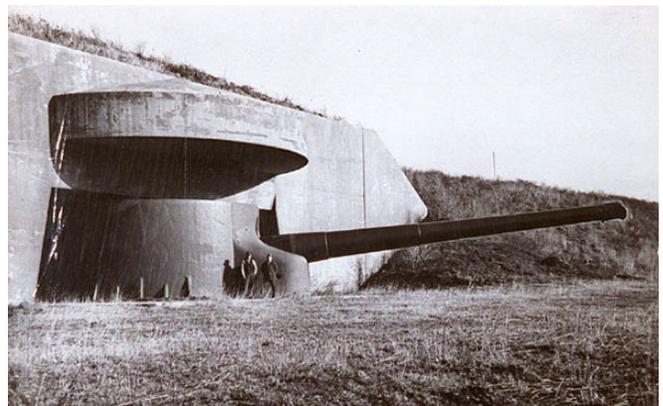
Montauk Point FC tower and lighthouse



Battery Dunn (113) & Battery 112 battery commander's station, Camp Hero, Montauk, New York



AN/FPS-35 fixed-surveillance radar – BC stations on right



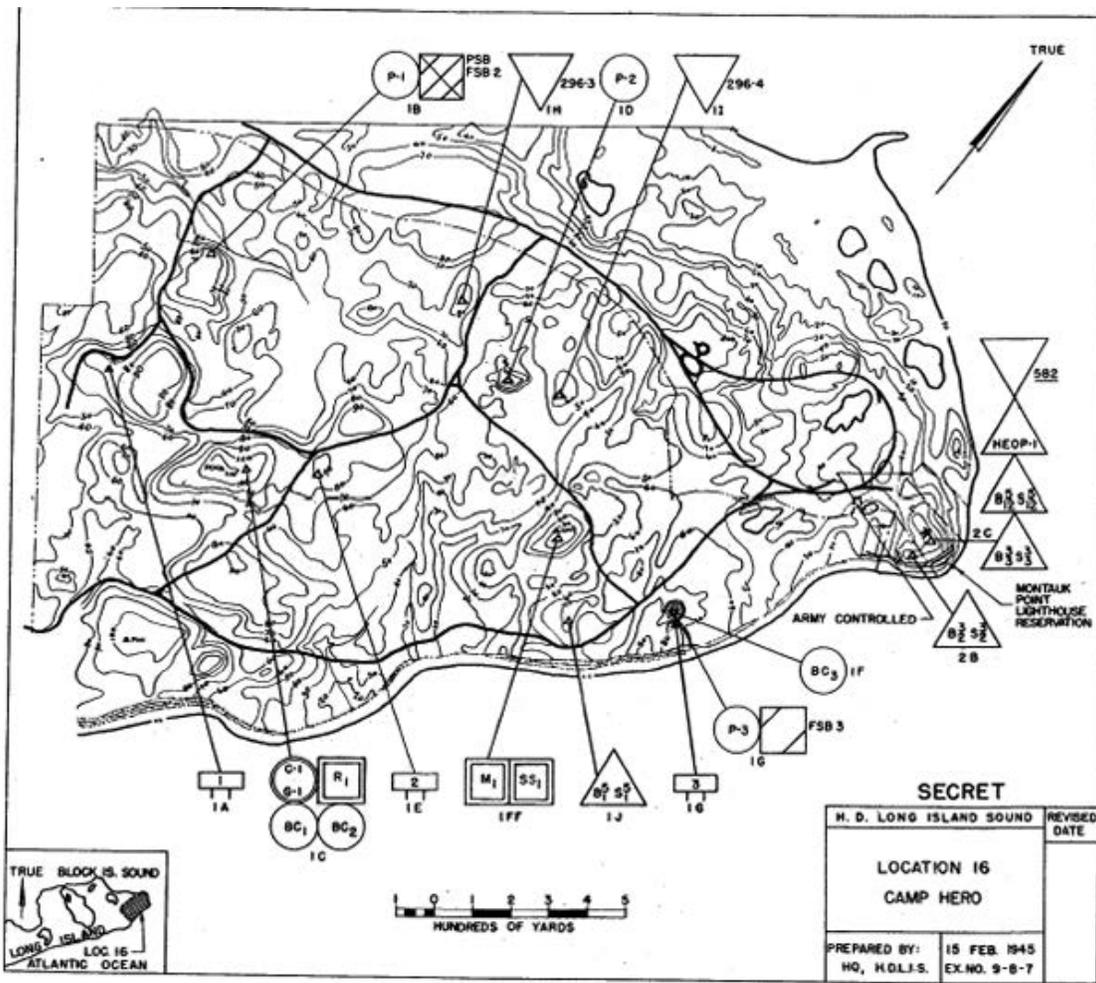
16-inch BC at Battery Dunn, Camp Hero, NY



Ditch Plain FC station – now Shadmoor State Park



CDSG tour at Battery Dunn



CDSG tour at Battery Dunn – hole in wall to service corridor

our next stop, Battery 112 (two 16-inch/50 MkII on BC M4), which was sealed, so we could only walk around the battery. We then drove to our last stop at Camp Hero, Battery 112's PSR, which was also sealed, viewable only from the outside.

The group then drove to the nearby former "GATR" radar site at Prospect Hill (which also had a WWII SCR 296 radar nearby). Mike LaBarbara, manager of the Montauk County Park, took us to the cottage-style Shagwong Point FC station.



CDSG at Battery 112

Known locally as the Lindley Cottage, this FC station is about a mile from the GATR site down a series of dirt roads. By SUV and on foot, we reached the now abandoned Lindley Cottage where we able to visit the interior. Joining us was Representative Bridget Fleming of the Suffolk County legislature whose district included the Montauk Point area. She was interested in learning about these defenses and what new uses could be found for the Lindley Cottage. We advised on several possible uses, for example how the Halibut Point FC station had been turned into a visitor



CDSG at Battery Dunn & 112 BC stations

center and museum by the State of Massachusetts. One of our members on the tour, Daniel Lindley, had grown up in the FC station, and he was able to tell us about his experiences living in the cottage. We made our way back to our cars and then drove to our next stop at Montauk Point.

We visited the Montauk Point fire control tower and the dug-in FC station (now on the beach) at Montauk Point State Park and climbed to the top of the well-preserved FC tower in front of the Montauk Point Lighthouse. Henry Osmer and Johnson Nordlinger of the Montauk Historical Society gave us a tour of the lighthouse museum and provided an excellent lunch. Recharged with food, Tom Dess led us to Shadmoor State Park (just west of Camp Hero) to visit the Ditch Plain FC stations (two cottages). We parked by the Montauk Highway and hiked toward the ocean until we located the “denuded” FC stations. The wooden camouflage of the FC stations have been stripped away and the doors have been cemented up. After visiting the stations, the guided tour part of the post-conference tour ended



Montauk Point dug-in FC station tumbled onto the beach



Hither Hills FC station – now a private home.



The Lindley Cottage – Swagwong Point FC



Amagansett FC station – now a luxury beach house

around 3 pm. We thanked Tom Dess (as well as Dick White, who could not attend) for being our hosts to the WWII defenses of the Montauk area. Tour members were given directions to the privately-owned FC stations so they could see the outside of these stations as they drove back towards New York City.

The first stop was the two cottages of the Hither Hills FC stations at 251 Old Montauk Hwy, Montauk, NY. The FC stations are next to each other but have been modified into private residences. We photographed them from the highway. We then drove several miles down the highway to visit the cottage-style Amagansett FC station at 45 Whaler Lane, Amagansett, NY. We parked on the road and took the public access trail (to the right of the house) to the beach so we could photograph the FC station. The FC cottage is currently for sale for only \$8.5 million!!! The final FC station was the dug-in East Hampton FC station, but we could not locate the structure and locals told us it no longer exists.

The following CDSG members attended the 2017 CDSG Post-Conference Tour: Tom Batha, Charles and Mary Ann Bgart, Stephen Conrad, Peter DeRose, Mike Fiorini, Karl Fritz, Andy Grant, Robert Grimm, Jean Phillippe Guichard, Alex Hall, David Larsen, Daniel Lindley, Danny Malone, Terry McGovern, Thomas Minton, Gene Scanlon, Quentin Schillare, John Scholles, Steven Turner, and Chris Zeeman. The tour reached all our targeted sites, both inside and out. The CDSG thanks all the site owners for allowing us to visit and hopefully we educated them about their former coast defense structures.



**CDSG Logo Hats, Shirts & Patches**

The CDSG is pleased to offer custom-made hats, T-shirts and patches to our membership. Wearing these hats, T-shirts and patches are a great way to make others aware of the CDSG and its goals. It is also an excellent way to promote new memberships in the CDSG.

The CDSG patches have been available for several years. Designed especially for the CDSG, these quality patches combine the Coast Artillery Corps and the Corps of Engineers symbols to reflect their involvement in U.S. coastal defenses. This logo is now on hats and a set of T-shirts which are great for showing the CDSG “flag.”

To order your hat, T-shirt or patch, please complete the order form below and send it along with your check (made out to CDSG, Inc.) to Terry McGovern at 1700 Oak Lane, McLean, VA 22101-3326 USA (e-mail: tcmcgovern@att.net).

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Kacki T-Shirt with black ink:

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You can also order online at [cdsg.org/shopping/](http://cdsg.org/shopping/)

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**CDSG Fund**

The CDSG Fund supports the efforts of the Coast Defense Study Group by raising funds for preservation and interpretation of American seacoast defenses. The CDSG Fund is seeking donations for projects supporting its goals.

The goals of the CDSG and CDSG Fund are the following:

- \* Educational study of coast defenses
- \* Technical research and documentation of coast defenses
- \* Preservation of coast defense sites, equipment and records for current and future generations
- \* Accurate coast defense site interpretations
- \* Assistance to groups interested in preservation and interpretation of coast defense sites

Donations are tax-deductible for federal tax purposes as the CDSG is a 501(c)(3) organization, and 100% of your gift will go to project grants. Major contributions are acknowledged annually. Make checks or money orders payable in US funds to: Coast Defense Study Group Fund or the CDSG Fund. Donations can also be made by credit card through the CDSG website at [www.cdsg.org](http://www.cdsg.org).

The Fund is always seeking proposals for the monetary support of preservation and interpretation projects at former coast defense sites and museums. A one-page proposal briefly describing the site, the organization doing the work, and the proposed work or outcome should be sent to the address below. Successful proposals are usually distinct projects rather than general requests for donations. Ideally we desire to fund several \$500 to \$1,500 grants per year. Upon conclusion of a project a short report suitable for publication in the CDSG Newsletter is requested. The trustees shall review such requests and pass their recommendation onto the CDSG Board of Directors for approval. The trustees for the CDSG Fund are Terry McGovern and Mark Berhow.

Send donations to (and made out to):

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Or use your credit card via PayPal on the [www.cdsg.org](http://www.cdsg.org) website.

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Please prepare a written request of your need and how your request relates to the goals of the CDSG

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### The CDSG ePress Collections

The CDSG is offering three CDSG ePress collections: the *CDSG Documents Collection*, the *CDSG Harbor Defense Collection*, and the *CDSG Publications Collection*.

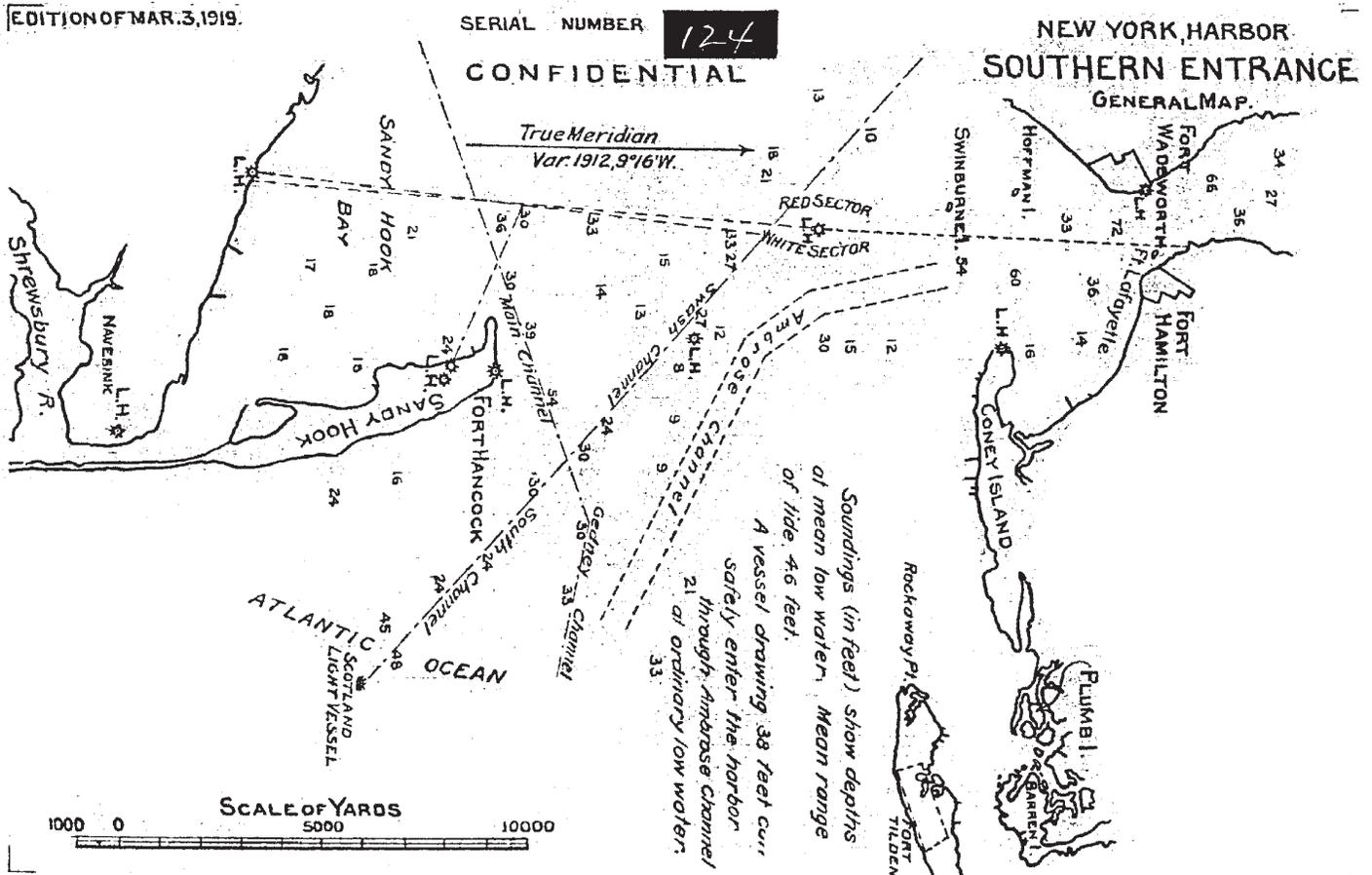
The *CDSG Document Collection* contains the Annual Reports of the Chief of Coast Artillery (1901-1937); the Annual Reports of the Chief of Engineers (1866-1922); Army Directories (1893-1940); various official board reports (1886-1946); Board of Engineers Proceedings (1887-1905); several textbooks; a number of coast artillery reports; coast artillery war-game manuals; coast artillery Tables of Organization and Equipment (TOEs), The Histories of the Eastern, Southern, and Western Defense Commands (1945); army coast artillery field and training manuals (FMs & TMs); the gun and carriage record cards; coast artillery related Ordnance Department Documents (ODDs); coast artillery army Training Manuals; coast artillery army Training Regulations (1905-1930); coast artillery army unit history record cards and

documents; the Office of the Chief of Engineers Engineer Board Mimeograph series (1895 -1923); and various other documents. This collection is available on a 16 GB USB drive for \$50.

The *CDSG Harbor Defense Collection* contains documents related to specific harbor defenses, forts, batteries, etc., of the modern era (1890-1945) and are organized by harbor defense. The collection contains the engineer reports of completed batteries (1900-1917) and the reports of completed works (1919-1945); engineer battery construction correspondence files, the engineer notebooks for each harbor defense; the confidential blueprint map series (1906-1937); inspection reports; the quartermaster building records (1900-1940); aerial photographs of the harbor defense sites (1920-1938); the harbor defense project plans, annexes, modernization board reports, and supplements (1932-1946), in additions to a number of more modern reports and documents (post 1970) acquired for the various conferences held by the CDSG. Some harbor defense collections are more complete and comprehensive than others depending the availability the records. The CDSG is currently offering this complete collection on a 128 GB USB drive for \$250.

The *CDSG Publications Collection* contains the complete collection of all of its back issues of its *News/Journal/Newsletter* (1986-2016) in PDF format on a documents DVD for \$55.

For information and requests for specific document titles, please contact Mark Berhow, berhowma@cdsg.org.



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The *CDSG Newsletter* is published quarterly by the Coast Defense Study Group, Inc. along with the *Coast Defense Journal*. Submissions for the newsletter should be sent to the editor or publisher below.

Submission deadlines are the first of the month in February, May, August, and November of each calendar year. All rights are reserved. Comments on business matters should be addressed directly to the Chairman of the Board of Directors.

CDSG Publications  
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The CDSG is a non-profit corporation formed to promote the study of coast defenses and fortifications, their history, architecture, technology, and strategic and tactical employment. The purposes of the group include educational research and documentation, preservation of historic sites, site interpretation, and assistance to other organizations interested in the preservation and interpretation of coast defense sites. Membership in the CDSG is open to any person interested in the study of the coast defenses and fortifications of the United States.

Annual dues for 2017 are \$40 domestic, \$55 for Canada, and \$70 for international. Join online at [cdsg.org](http://cdsg.org).

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Past meetings include: Manila Bay, PI, 1991; Oahu, Hawaii 1991; Canal Zone, Panama 1993; New York 1997; Tampa/Key West 1998; Columbia River 1999; Chesapeake Bay 2000; Mississippi River 2002; Long Island Sound 2003; Charleston/Savannah 2004; Portland 2005; San Francisco 2006; Boston 2007; Galveston 2008; Baltimore/Washington 2009; Puget Sound 2010; Wilmington, 2010; Narragansett Bay/New Bedford 2011; Great Lakes 2012; Pensacola and Mobile 2013; San Diego/Los Angeles 2014; Delaware River 2015; Portsmouth-North Boston, 2016.

### CDSG Press Books (\$ domestic / \$ international)

*Notes on Seacoast Fortification Construction*, by Col. Eben E. Winslow (GPO, 1920), hard cover reprint, with 29 plates included in a separate paperback. Both items: \$35 / \$45

*Seacoast Artillery Weapons* (Army Technical Manual 4-210, 13 Oct. 1944), hard cover reprint. \$25 / \$35

*The Service of Coast Artillery*, by F. Hines and F.W. Ward (1910), hardcover reprint \$40 / \$60

*Permanent Fortifications and Sea-Coast Defenses*, Congressional Report No. 62, U.S. House of Rep. (1862), hardcover reprint \$30 / \$45

*American Seacoast Matériel*, Ordnance Dept. Doc. #2042, (1922), Hardcover reprint \$45 / \$65

*The Endicott and Taft Reports*, reprint of original reports of 1886, 1905, 1915, hardcover, with plates included in a separate paperback \$45/ \$80

*Artillerists and Engineers, the Beginnings of American Seacoast Fortifications, 1794-1815*, by Arthur P. Wade (2010) \$25/ \$40

*American Seacoast Defenses: A Reference Guide*, Third Edition edited by Mark Berhow (2015), hardcover \$45 / \$80

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