

The CDSG Newsletter



The Coast Defense Study Group, Inc. — Spring 2019



Chairman's Message

Thomas D. Batha

We have just returned from the 2019 CDSG conference in the Harbor Defenses of Chesapeake Bay. It was one of the most complex and difficult conferences to organize for a number of reasons but the conference committee, Terry McGovern, Ned Libby, Quentin Schillare, Mark Berhow, and Dave Kirchner, did a remarkable job. It was very successful and enjoyed by all.

The annual member's business meeting was conducted during the conference. All the standing committees reported their status at the meeting, some are enumerated elsewhere in this newsletter and some will be in the next. As expected, our financial health is robust and our membership continues to grow incrementally. Future conferences and their locations are in the planning stages at this time.

As noted above, full reports on the conference follow so I have been asked to keep this message short. Again, thanks to all who attended the conference and special thanks from all the members to Terry and Ned for such a superb job of organizing.

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Request to CDSG Membership

Terry McGovern

The CDSG Representative and Outreach Committee is working on gathering current contact information for all the coast defense site owners in the USA, for our outreach efforts both to inform site owners on the value of protecting these sites for future generations as well as to encourage them to become members of the CDSG. We are looking for this contact information—Site Name and Location, Owner's Name, Owner's Address, Owner's Telephone Number, Owner's Email Address, Website Name (if any), and Owner's Primary Contact Person. Please send this information to Terry McGovern (tcmcgovern@att.net) and to Norman Scarpulla (nkscarpulla@icloud.com). Thanks for your assistance.

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New CDSG Tour to Corregidor/Singapore Planned for 2020

We will be offering a replacement tour to the cancelled 2019 trip to Manila Bay. To be scheduled for early February, 2020 it will be much more tightly focused in time (just one week with days of the weekend on either side) and scope (full tour of Corregidor, photography circle of Ft. Drum, and yet another attempt to get access to Fort Hughes). As a consequence it will be much more reasonable in cost; probably about one-half the previous tour costs of 2014 and projected 2019. Only a limited number of hotel rooms and transportation seats are available, so interested members should contact Glen Williford at glen1430@att.net or phone at 317-873-6760 for more information.

CDSG Meeting and Tour Calendar

Please advise Terry McGovern of any additions or changes at tcmcgovern@att.net

2020 CDSG Conference

April 1-5, 2020

New Orleans, Louisiana

Quentin Schillare, qschillare@kc.rr.com

2020 CDSG Special Tour

February 2020

Corregidor/Singapore

Glen Williford, glen1430@att.net

2021 CDSG Conference

March/April, 2021

Charleston/Savannah

Gary Alexander, gary_a_alexander@nps.gov

Other Meetings and Tours

June 14-25, 2019

Association Saint-Maurice d'Etudes Militaires Tour

Stuttgart & Ulm

Pascal Bruchez, president@asmem.ch

September 13-15, 2019

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Festungsforschung Annual Meeting

Esslingen, Germany

Andrea Theissen, anja.reichert@uni-trier.de

September 13-17, 2019, 2019

Association Saint-Maurice d'Etudes Militaires Tour

Northern Italy

Pascal Bruchez, president@asmem.ch

September 24-31, 2019

Forte Cultura Pilot Tour

Malta

Hans-Rudolf Neumann, hrv.neumann@t-online.de

September 2019

Fortress Study Group Member Day

York, United Kingdom

chairman@fsgfort.com

October 2-6, 2019

Association Vauban Study Tour

Malta

Alain Monferrand, congress@association-vauban.org

October 5, 2019

Menno van Coehoorn Excursion
Frits van Horn, fritsvanhorn@xs4all.nl

October 10, 2019

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

May 8-17, 2020

ECCOFORT Study Tour
Armenia
Hans-Rudolf Neumann, hrv.neumannqt@online.de

September 2020

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Festungsforschung Annual Meeting
Kufstein, Austria
Andres Kupka, akupka@juelich.de

September 12-19, 2020

ECCOFORT/INTERFEST Study Tour
Kotor/Montenegro
Hans-Rudolf Neumann, hrv.neumannqt@online.de

October 16, 2020

International Fortress Council Annual Meeting
Luxemburg
Kees Neisingh, secretariat@internationalfortresscouncil.com

February 28-March 13, 2021

ECCOFORT Study Tour
Morocco
Hans-Rudolf Neumann, hrv.neumannqt@online.de

Add-on tour to the Coastal Defenses of Singapore is also being planned in conjunction with the Corregidor Tour. The tour will focus on the surviving batteries and supporting structures for the Changi and Faber Fire Commands. Request for permission to visit these sites have already been sent to Sentosa Development Corp and Singapore MINDEF. The add-on tour will be for three days. Please contact Terry McGovern at tcmcgovern@att.net if you are interested in touring the Singapore defenses.

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Coast Defense Study Group Press 2018 Annual Report

Terrance McGovern, Chairman

The CDSG Press only exists because of the volunteer efforts of its committee members. We need to thank all current members of the CDSG Press - Mark Berhow, Terry McGovern, Jon Prostack, Tom Kavanagh, and Tom Batha for their long-term volunteer work for our organization.

We have added Volume 32 (2018) of the *Coast Defense Journal* and *CDSG Newsletter* to our list of back issues. This volume is only available via a DVD which contains our entire *Journal/News* collection, which represents over 13,000 pages of coast defense articles for only \$55. Once you purchase this DVD, "CDSG Publications

1985-2018," you can buy yearly updates for only \$10 upon the return of the previous purchased DVD. Our coast defense document collections, known collectively as "HD Records" (such as RCW, Engineer Notes, Quartermaster, and Annexes) is also available under our CDSG ePress label in PDF format (see references page at our web site at cdsg.org). The complete collection of these digital files is available for \$250. These DVD's are a digital collection of key National Archives coast defense documents. These are great reference items and can help you write articles for our *CD Journal*. Single harbor defenses collections of these documents are also available at the cost of \$50 on one or two DVD's. A companion digital product is our "CDSG Documents" DVD with a great collection of key coast artillery reports and manuals for only \$50.

We published a hardcopy 3rd Edition of *American Seacoast Defenses* (ASD3) in May 2015 via Thomson-Shore's "print on demand" service. We have sold about 150 hardcopy versions of ASD3 so far at \$45 including shipping, but unlike the traditional printing process we only order a similar number of books as we can always have more printed on-demand. Mark has updated and expanded the range of coast defense information for the 3rd Edition (it is also available in PDF digital form for \$40 via FTP file transfer). Please place your order for the ASD3 so you will have the most comprehensive guide on your favorite subject.

While actually part of our Membership Committee activities, the CDSG Press handles distribution of our CDSG gear, such as T-shirts (\$18), patches (\$4), and hats (\$20). Please purchase one of these items to advertise and promote the CDSG to others and help our membership grow.

Here is a summary of reprint efforts to date: Our 2011 project, *Artillerists and Engineers*, has sold 105 books on demand through Lulu.com, while we sold 65 hard copies (88%) to date out of a press run of 69. Our 2007 project, *The Endicott-Taft Report* has sold 241 books/plates (56%) to date out of a press run of 427. Our 2004 project, the 2nd edition of *American Seacoast Defenses* (ASDII), has sold 503 books (100%) to date out of a press run of 503. Our 2001 reprint project, *American Coast Artillery Material*, has sold 270 units (67%) to date out of 404 books printed. Our 1998 reprint book, *Permanent Fortification and Seacoast Defenses*, which covers the Third System of U.S. fortifications, has sold 181 units (53%) out of a press run of 344. Our 1997 reprint, *Service of Coast Artillery*, has sold 334 units (63%) out of 532 printed. Our 1996 reprint book, *Seacoast Artillery Weapons*, has sold 413 copies (91%) out of our press run of 471. We have sold a total of 369 copies (98%) of our 1994 reprint book, *Notes on Seacoast Fortification Construction*, out of our total press run of 376.

As you can see from the paragraph above, we have almost sold out of several titles. We plan to continue to offer these books through an "online print on demand" service, but we do need to consider the number of future sales to justify the set-up costs to have these print-on-demand titles. In 2018, we turned our *Seacoast Artillery Weapons* into an online print-on-demand book, though this edition is softbound. This title is also now for sale through Amazon and other online retailers. You can also still order this book through the CDSG Press.

We have been donating our remaining stock of the 1st and 2nd editions of the ASD to coast defense site owners to help educate them about our favorite subject. Please provide Terry McGovern the contact information for site owners who would benefit from

having a copy of the ASD. You should also consider donating your own 1st and 2nd editions (once you purchase the 3rd edition) to non-members to encourage them to join the CDSG.

2019 Plans

The CDSG Press published our first “print-on-demand” book through Lulu.com, an internet book provider, in 2011. Using this method, we do not need to pre-sell the book to insure we have enough funds to cover about half of the print run. Please provide your suggestion to Terry McGovern of worthwhile titles (please consider the copyright when suggesting titles) for the CDSG Press to publish. As noted above, Mark Berhow and I have published *Seacoast Artillery Weapons* using this method in 2018.

The CDSG Press is working on a companion volume to *ASD3*, a *Guide to Modern American Seacoast Forts (1885-1950)*. This work (*ASF*) will focus on the history, key features, location, and the current status/access of each American coast-defense fort (using site maps and old & current aerial photos). The book will also include an introduction, battery listing, and sources. Terry McGovern is assembling this work with Mark Berhow providing his excellent layout skills. Once we finish the 1st draft, we will be circulating it to various regional CDSG members for their review and comments. Please contact Terry McGovern at tcmcgovern@att.net if you have information about your local fort or forts that you want to include and/or if you would like to review the manuscript.

Several proposals have been offered for future new CDSG Press projects. One such proposal is a collection of rare ordnance photographs and drawings from the archives of the Aberdeen Proving Grounds. This publication would be professionally printed and bound, which will allow for high-quality gray-scale and/or color illustrations not currently possible in the *Coast Defense Journal*. Another proposal is a “then and now” photograph book of various U.S. forts, with a goal to promote the preservation of these rare sites. We ask our membership to keep offering new ideas for the CDSG Press.

We plan to add “Volume 33” (2019) of the *Coast Defense Journal* and *CDSG Newsletter* to our DVD of back issues for a price of \$55. While the CDSG Press does not print new works on coast defenses authored by our members at this time, a private company, the Redoubt Press, will consider such works. Please contact Terry McGovern at tcmcgovern@att.net or 703/538-5403 for information.

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2018 CDSG Fund Report

Terrance McGovern, Trustee

The CDSG Fund supports the efforts of the Coast Defense Study Group, Inc., by raising funds for the preservation and interpretation of American seacoast defenses. The fund is seeking donations for projects that support these goals. 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 our project grants. Major contributions are acknowledged annually. You can use our website (via PayPal) to make donations or you can send checks payable in US funds to: CDSG Fund. The trustees for the CDSG Fund for 2018 were Terry McGovern, Mark Berhow, and Quentin Schillare.

The CDSG 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 \$2,500 grants per year. Upon conclusion of a project a short report suitable for publication in the *CDSG Newsletter* is required.

During 2018, the fund made three grants during the year. The first was for \$1,500 to help restore two historic War of 1812-period cannon from Old Fort Jackson in Savannah, GA. This Coastal Heritage Society project is to restore these cannons to firing condition as part of the interpretive activities at the fort. The fund also reimbursed CDSG member, Aaron Buda, for \$380.37 for the cost of materials under an outstanding commitment to provide up to \$2,500 for paint supplies to remove the graffiti at Battery Guenther at the former Fort Canby in Washington State. The fund also provide \$3,000 to Battleship New Jersey Museum & Memorial under our ongoing efforts to preserve several 16-inch/50 battleship barrels. The Battleship NJ group transported three barrels that were once on the USS *New Jersey* to “good long-term homes”.

The CDSG Fund still has a 16-inch/50 battleship barrel challenge outstanding with the USS *Iowa* Veterans Association. Based on CDSG member giving so far (along with the fund matching), we have earmarked \$5,000 for this effort to provide the last of these historic barrels a “good home.” The CDSG Fund also has committed up to \$5,000 for interpretive signs at Battery Parrott and Battery Irwin per the request from the Fort Monroe Authority (FMA). We are awaiting approval of the texts and images for these two signs from the FMA. We will then have them produced and delivered to the FMA to be installed.

While we have heard about possible grant requests from former forts during the year, we request our membership, especially our CDSG Reps, to reach out to organizations that are working to preserve and interpret fortification and coast defense sites to have them send us written requests for funding. Some of the possible projects discussed, but without formal requests so far, are for fire control tower stabilization at Fort Michie, historic signage at Pulpit Rock Fire Control Tower, stabilization of the WW2 battery commanders tower at Fort Wool, VA, construction of a model of Fort Schuyler for display at the SUNY Maritime College, stabilization of the Cheapside Fire Control Tower at Cape Charles, VA, and replacing lighting in former Battery Gadsden on Sullivan Island, SC.

The fund again recognized the efforts of CDSG volunteers by hosting a dinner at the annual conference to the harbor defenses of Columbia River. We also continued a program to supply public fort sites with copies of our publications to aid their understanding and preservation of the structures in their care.

The CDSG Fund received \$7,617.00 in donations during 2018, while making \$5,046.37 in grants, leaving a balance of \$19,930.68 at the end of 2018. The outstanding commitments for grants is currently \$12,119.26, so we have \$7,811.05 that is not currently committed to a CDSG-funded project.

The fund trustees and CDSG Board of Directors wish to publicly thank the following individuals for making contributions to the CDSG Fund during 2018:

Beene, Casey	Lindley, Daniel
Binau, Douglas	MacKenzie, Donald
Burri, James	McGovern, Terry
Case, John	Nangano, Ronald
DeRose, Peter	Novak, Ronald
Deutsch, Elliot	Olasky, Larry
Drennon, Clarence	Percy, Peter
Fanciullo, Stephen	Perrault, Mark
Fiorini, Mike	Scanlon, Gene
Floyd, Dale	Scarpulla, Norm
Frey, Michael	Schillare, Quentin
Fritz, Karl	Seeger, Mark
Frizzell, Glen	Sella, Joseph
Grimm, Robert	Vaitkunas, James
Hamann, Patrick	Vandiver, EB
Hardey, Alan	Walk, Robert
Hunter, Gary	Walters, Doug
Kirchner, David	Woodman, Charles

Send donations to (and made out to):

CDSG Fund
c/o Quentin Schillare
24624 West 96th Street
Lenexa, KS 66227-7285 USA
qschillare@kc.rr.com

Or use your credit card via PayPal at [cdsg.org](https://www.paypal.com/cdsorg).

Send grant requests to:

CDSG Fund
c/o Terry McGovern
1700 Oak Lane
McLean, VA 22101-3326 USA
tcmcgovern@att.net

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

Please note that the CDSG Fund has become a member of AmazonSmile donation program. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of your transactions through Amazon, if you indicate on your Amazon account that you want the Coast Defense Study Group to receive these amounts. Please be sure to make the CDSG your charity of choice as this program could generate considerable amount of funding for the CDSG Fund if all of our membership signs-up.

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Preservation Committee Report

Gordon Bliss

Though I have no news on existing long-standing preservation issues, some new items have arisen. At Fort Story, VA, the navy has proposed to demolish a number of structures, including Battery 226 and one of the remaining magazines of the 16-inch howitzer battery. The navy now controls Fort Story, which is part of Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek Fort Story. Those attending the recent St. Babs were able to see these two structures along with

the other sites we visited. The CDSG has submitted a comment letter to the navy opposing the demolition and suggesting other options for the two structures.

At Fort Monroe, St. Babs attendees had the opportunity to provide comments and advice to the National Park Service concerning Batteries DeRussy and Church after touring their interiors – I encourage those attendees that have not done so yet to do so soon. The Fort Monroe Authority is renovating the old Coast Artillery School library building as a visitors' center and archives. Because the work is still ongoing, we were not able to visit the building but the work should be finished this fall.

As part of the conference we also visited two sites where the CDSG Fund is being asked to help, at least to the extent of engineering studies. At Fort Wool the battery commander's station for Battery Gates (#229), one of only two towers like it (the other is at Fort Pickens), is in need of stabilization of the cab at top. This is doable, but will need a more serious commitment of money than the CDSG can provide. The other is a World War II fire control station at Cheapside, VA, on the Eastern Shore. This is a cab on top of a tall steel framework and one of only a few survivors of its type – the others are on difficult to access islands on the Atlantic side of the peninsula. Unfortunately, it is not clear if anything can be done, as the condition of the steel framework is poor enough that contractors do not want to work on it in its current condition.

One other preservation related item is that there are proposed rules changes to listings in the National Register of Historic Places. Without getting into the technical details of this, the main effects will be on the State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs), making their job more difficult. While it is likely to have an indirect effect on sites the CDSG is interested in, I do not feel qualified to weigh in on this enough to file comments. Though the official comment period will have passed by the time you read this, if you are interested you can read the details in the Federal Register at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/03/01/2019-03658/national-register-of-historic-places>.

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

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The Coast Defense Forts of Jacksonville, Florida

Charles H. Bogart

Illustrations by author except when otherwise noted.

In February 2019, Mary Ann and I traveled to Jacksonville, FL, where I attended a railroad history conference and gave a talk on the L&N Railroad's relationship to the Kentucky distillery industry. After the conference, we explored historical sites in northern Florida. Near Jacksonville we visited Fort Caroline, St. John Bluff Spanish-American War battery, and Yellow Bluff Civil War battery. I was unable to get permission from the navy to enter Mayport Naval Station to visit the site of the World War II 155 mm gun battery, which was emplaced in field fortifications

on St. Johns Point from 1942 to 1944 and was never equipped with Panama mounts.

Fort Caroline is a replica of a fort built by the French in 1564 on the St. Johns River, in territory claimed by Spain. The replica was built by the National Park Service using French drawings of the fort. The replica fort is not on the exact site of the French fort, as its precise location is unknown. Fort Caroline was established by René Goulaine de Laudonnière as a base around which he planned to develop a colony where French Huguenots could practice their religion without fear of persecution. Fort Caroline was ignored by Spain until members of the garrison at Fort Augustine began to attack Spanish treasure ships. The result was that Spain launched an overland attack on Fort Caroline from St. Augustine. The Spanish attack took place at the same time the French garrison launched a seaborne attack against St. Augustine. The result was that Fort Caroline was virtually undefended on September 20, 1565, when Spanish troops, under Don Pedro Menéndez de Avilés, attacked the fort. Once Fort Caroline was captured and its French garrison put to the sword, the Spanish renamed the site San Mateo. The Spanish kept a garrison at San Mateo until 1569. In the meantime, the French seaboard attack came to grief in a storm and suffered complete destruction as it was driven ashore. The shipwreck survivors were captured and executed by the Spanish 10 miles south of St. Augustine at what is today known as Fort Matanzas.

In 1953, the National Park Service established the Fort Caroline National Memorial along the southern bank of the St.



Ocean view of Fort Caroline.



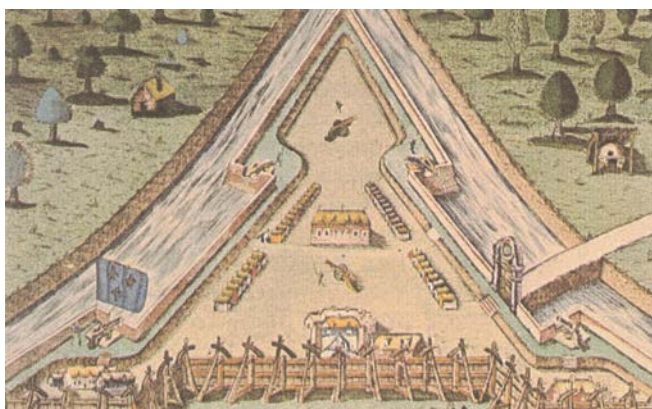
The land entrance to Fort Caroline.



Aerial view of Fort Caroline. National Park Service.



Looking from the interior of Fort Caroline toward the gate.



Plan of Fort Caroline. NPS.



Inside Fort Caroline's gate looking at the flag pole.

Johns River, a location generally accepted by most scholars as the vicinity of the original fort, though probably not the exact location. In 1964, a replica of Ft. Caroline was constructed but was lost in a hurricane. Since then, a second replica of Fort Caroline has been constructed along with a replica Timucuan Indian hut. The replica fort is 300 yards west of the visitor center parking lot.

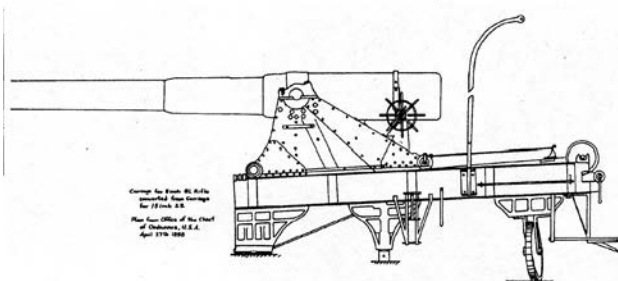
Demonstrations of period European weapons are given by the NPS. Fort Caroline is on the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve and is only a part of the story the NPS tells about the site.

Also part of the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve is the Jean Ribault Monument erected in 1924 by the DAR to commemorate the 1562 arrival of French ships on the St. Johns River. The monument replicates the stone shaft that Ribault erected on the bluff above the St. Johns River, claiming the river for France. This exploratory visit by Ribault laid the foundation for the establishment of Fort Caroline.

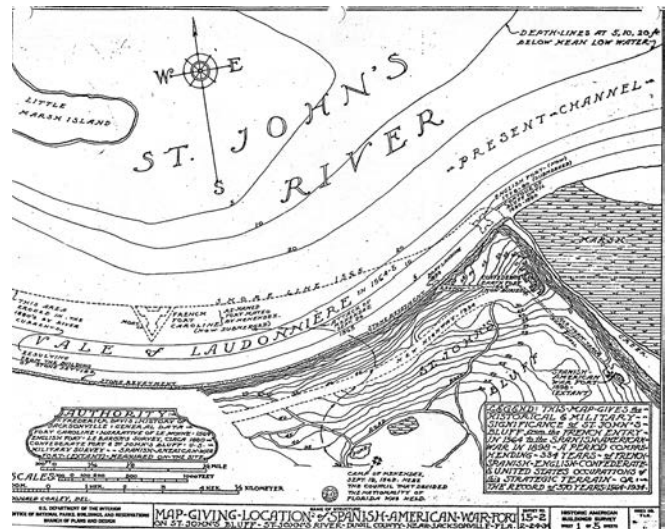


The Ribault Monument

In 1898, the U.S. Army built an un-named concrete and earthen battery for two M18888-inch BL guns mounted on modified 15-inch Rodman carriages. These guns were in place for a few months and then dismantled. The battery was never again armed and was sold to a private developer in 1925. The land was never developed. In 2018, the NPS bought the lot on which the St. Johns Bluff battery is situated. The battery is ¼ miles east of the entrance to Fort Caroline's parking lot. At pres-



Eight-inch BLR on modified carriage for 15-inch Rodman SB gun. Glen Williford.



Plan of St. Johns Bluff Spanish-American War battery. Historic American Buildings Survey.

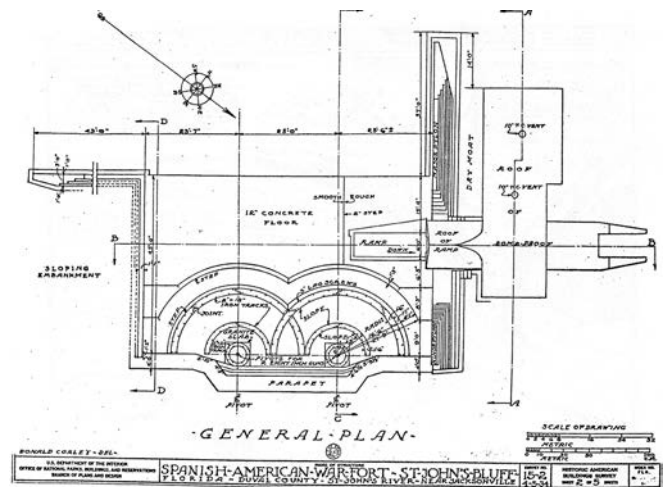


Diagram of the battery. Historic American Buildings Survey.



The Spanish-American War battery as seen from the park entrance.



A view of the two gun positions.



A close-up of the right gun position with the opening to the magazine visible left center.



A view across the gun battery apron to the magazine.



By layout has little correlation to Endicott-period gun batteries and more closely resembles 1870's gun batteries.

ent, this battery is reached by walking from the Ribault parking lot via the sidewalk that flanks Fort Caroline Road. The lot has been cleaned and it is planned to open the battery for visits by the public in 2020. The NPS is presently beginning to interpret the site, with plans to open it for visitors in 2020.

Those interested in further information on this Spanish-American War battery should consult "Defenses of Florida's St. John's River, 1898-1944, by William Gaines, *Coast Defense Journal*, Vol. 18, No. 1, pp. 78-97.

Yellow Bluff Fort Historic Site is a vest-pocket size park on New Berlin Road. The fort was built in 1862 by Confederate troops to prevent Union warships from reaching the rich agricultural land located along the upper reaches of the St. Johns River. The fort and camp covered 1.25 acres. In 1863, the fort was captured by Union troops, who used the site for a signal tower and for controlling shipping entering or leaving the St. Johns River. Some 250 USCT troops manned the fort. The fort was abandoned in late 1865.

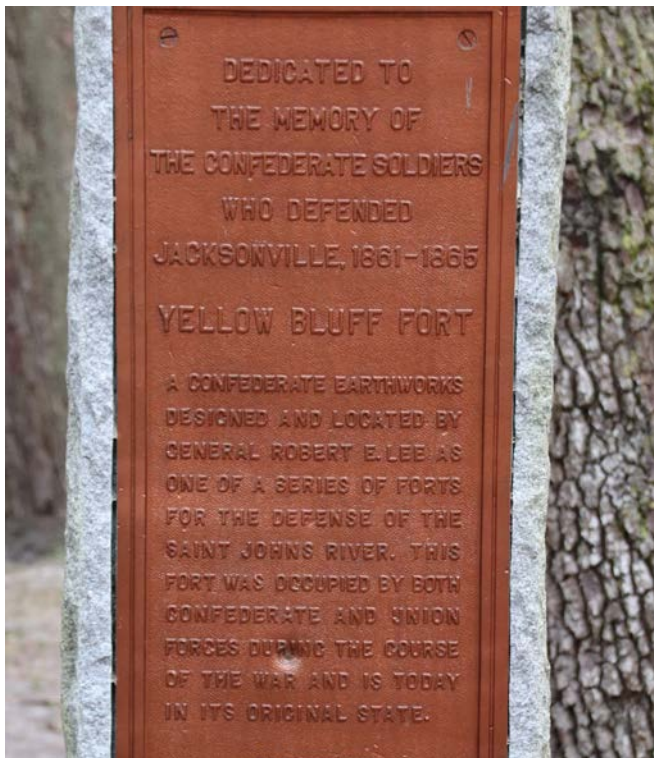
Today the fort contains a Lost Cause monument and four rusty cannons mounted on concrete pedestals. There is no info on the cannons, however, and they look like shipboard cannons that were dredged up out of the river. There is very little indication on the ground that an earthen fort existed here. There is also a lack of signage explaining the significance of what one is viewing.



The entrance to Yellow Bluff Fort Park with the Lost Cause Monument on the left and one of the rusty cannons on the right.



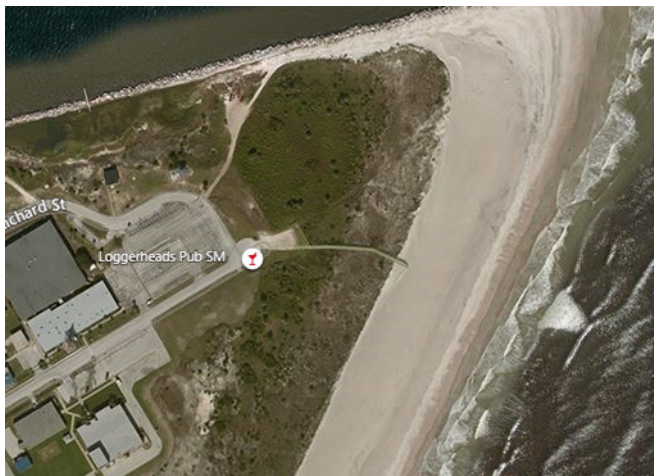
A close-up of one of the weather-beaten cannons.



A close-up of the Lost Cause Monument plaque.

The plaque on the monument reads, "Dedicated to the memory of the Confederate soldiers who defended Jacksonville 1861-1865. Yellow Bluff Fort. A Confederate earthwork designed and located here by General Robert E. Lee for the defense of the St. Johns River. This fort was defended by both Confederate and Union soldiers during the course of the war and is today in its original state. Daughters of the Confederacy 1950." The four bullet holes in the plaque are of non-Civil War origin.

As stated earlier, we were unable to visit the site of the World War II 155 mm gun battery on Naval Station Mayport at St. Johns Point, but a Google Earth view shows no indications that a coast defense battery had been located here.



A 2019 aerial view of St. Johns Point where the four 155 mm GPF guns were located between 1942 and 1944.
Google Earth.

***** Forts Mose, Marion, and Matanzas at St. Augustine, Florida

Charles H. Bogart

Illustrations by author except when otherwise noted.

After my railroad history conference in Jacksonville, Mary Ann and I drove to St. Augustine. Here, among other things, we visited three colonial forts: Mose, built by escaped slaves; Marion, better known as Castillo de San Marco, the principle Spanish fort in the area; and Matanzas, a Spanish outpost.

Fort Mose, or more correctly, Castillo de San Marco, is located just outside the northern city limits of Jacksonville. The Spanish, circa 1700, unable to attract enough settlers to St. Augustine to make it a viable town, began to encourage slaves working on Georgia plantations to escape to Florida. Once a former slave reached Florida, he was declared free and was given land just north of St. Augustine. By 1738, over 100 former Georgia slaves, under Francisco Menendez, had developed a community known to the English in Georgia as Fort Mose. The development of the wooden stockade, Fort Mose, proved to be a double-edged sword. Positively, Fort Mose provided St. Augustine with extra men to fill out the local militia and serve as tripwire for any British overland advance from Georgia. Negatively, Fort Mose's very existence as a shelter for run away slaves made it and St. Augustine a target for the Georgia militia.

In 1740, Fort Mose was attacked by British troops and Georgia militia, under Gen. James Oglethorpe. Warned of the British approach, the citizens of Fort Mose evacuated to Castillo de San Marco. While General Oglethorpe's troops took and burnt Fort Mose and the town of St. Augustine, they were unable to capture Castillo de San Marco. The British siege was broken on June 26, 1740, when Spanish troops and the Fort Mose militia



Artist's conception of Fort Mose. *Florida State Parks.*



The island on which the remains of Fort Mose are located.

launched a surprise raid on the British, killing 68 British. With this defeat, the British returned to Georgia and the inhabitants of Fort Mose returned to their homesteads and rebuilt Fort Mose. In 1752, with the ceding of Florida to the British, Fort Mose was abandoned and its inhabitants left with the departing Spanish for resettlement in Cuba.

Today the site of Fort Mose is a Florida State Park. The park contains a museum dedicated to the story of Fort Mose and nature trails. Since the site of Fort Mose is now in an ecologically sensitive area surrounded by water, visitation is limited. All tours to the site are led by a park ranger and are offered only during certain times of the year. We were only able to view the site of Fort Mose from the museum grounds.

Castillo de San Marcos, or Fort Marion, is located on the waterfront in downtown St. Augustine. St. Augustine was settled in 1565 making it the oldest continuous inhabited European city in the United States. The city was not fortified until 1672, when Castillo de San Marcos was built; it is the oldest stone fort in the continental United States. It was ordered built by Governor Francisco de la Guerra y de la Vega following the 1668 raid on St. Augustine by the English privateer Robert Searles, who burned St. Augustine. The construction of the castillo was basically completed in 1695. Over the years since then, Castillo de San Marcos has experienced many alterations and renovations to its fabric. Built of coquina rock, Castillo de San Marcos had four bastions, with a ravelin protecting its entrance. The bastions were named San Pedro, San Agustín, San Carlos, and San Pablo. On the two landward sides, a large glacis was constructed, while the Castillo itself was surrounded by a dry moat which could be flooded with a foot of seawater during a landward attack.

Castillo de San Marcos was unsuccessfully attacked by British forces twice, in 1702, by troops under the command of South Carolina Governor James Moore and in 1740, by troops under Georgia Governor James Oglethorpe. In 1763, when England gained control of Florida as a result of the 1763 Peace Treaty of Paris, Castillo de San Marcos was renamed Fort St. Mark. In 1783, under the terms of the Treaty of Paris, Florida was returned to Spain, and Fort St. Mark was renamed Castillo de San Marcos. In 1821, when Spain ceded Florida to the United States, the U. S. Army renamed Castillo de San Marcos as Fort Marion. As Fort Marion, the fort was used both by the Confederate and Union armies during the Civil War. For most of its 19th century life under U. S. Army control, Fort Marion was used as a prison to house hostile American Indians, which included Geronimo's band of Apaches.

In 1924, Fort Marion was turned over to the National Park Service for development as a park and historical site. In 1942, Fort Marion, by act of Congress, became once again Castillo de San Marcos. The 20-acre park that encompasses Castillo de San Marcos is one of the most visited U.S. National Park sites.

Parking is always a problem when visiting Castillo de San Marcos, so it is best to park in one of the public parking garages and take one of the get-on, get-off motorized trams. These make frequent stops at all local historical sites that might be of interest to members of CDSG. During our visit to Castillo de San Marcos, the grounds around the fort were being used for every conceivable use that can be experienced in an urban park, while

the inside of the fort was crowded with visitors who overwhelmed the park staff.



Aerial view of Castillo de San Marcos. NPS



A view toward the ravelin



A view from inside Castillo de San Marcos down toward the ravelin and dry moat



Landview of Castillo de San Marcos



Interior view of Castillo de San Marcos toward the fort's entrance



The author and wife at the entrance to the ravelin; the coat of arms of Spain is above them.

Fort Matanzas is 14 miles south of Castillo de San Marcos. Built between 1740 and 1742, Fort Matanzas was responsible for guarding the south entrance to the Matanzas River upon whose shore St. Augustine is located. The stone used in its construction was floated down the Matanzas River from St. Augustine. The fort and the river derive their name from the 1564 massacre of some 250 shipwreck survivors from the French fleet that had tried to capture St. Augustine but had been driven ashore at Cape Canaveral by a storm.

Fort Matanzas consists of a 50-foot square base with 12-foot-high walls. Built onto the level gun deck is a 30-foot-high two-story tower. This tower served as the fort's magazine, living quarters for its 10-man garrison, and as a lookout position. The armament was four 6-pounders and one 18-pounder. The fort only came under attack in 1742 when British ships, seeking to reach St. Augustine by its backdoor, were driven off by Fort Matanzas' garrison.

Fort Matanzas was garrisoned both by the Spanish and British during their occupation of Florida. When Florida came under U.S. control in 1821, Fort Matanzas was left ungarrisoned. During the Civil War, 1861-65, the Confederacy built an earthen gun battery next to Fort Matanzas. This gun battery and the fort saw use by both the Union and Confederacy during the war. Abandoned after the Civil War, Fort Matanzas fell into ruins. However, in 1924, Fort Matanzas was declared a national monu-

ment and the War Department was provided funds to repair the fort. In 1933, Fort Matanzas was turned over to the National Park Service. The fort is reached via a free boat that leaves on the half hour from the visitor center. Upon reaching Fort Matanzas, a visitor has roughly 20 minutes to explore before the launch returns to the visitor center.



Fort Matanzas from the visitor center



Fort Matanzas as seen from the NPS launch



The back side of Fort Matanzas



Fort Matanzas gun deck with one of the Spanish guns that armed the fort

* * * * *

St. Marks and Panama Beach, Two Florida Panhandle Fortifications

Charles H. Bogart

Illustrations by author.

Upon leaving Fort Matanzas, we drove west to explore the uncompleted Cross Florida Barge Canal before heading for Pensacola. Along the way, we stopped at St. Marks, site of Spanish, British, American, and Confederate forts, and Panama Beach, the World War II home of two 155 mm guns on Panama mounts. I must say that we were not prepared for the hurricane damage we encountered in the Panama City area. Whole sections of housing and commercial establishments had been either leveled or suffered such structural damage as to be unlivable. Tyndall Air Force Base showed significant structural damage.

St. Marks, at the junction of the St. Marks River and the Wakulla River, is today a sleepy fishing village living off tourism. However, up until 1950, St. Marks was a major port tied to Tallahassee, the capital of Florida, and the rest of the nation by the Tallahassee Railroad. This railroad, which commenced operations in 1835, ended rail service to St. Marks in 1983. The port's commercial wharfs are now long gone. Yet for most of the 18th and early 19th centuries, St. Marks was a port fought over by Spain, Britain, and the United States. Today, to honor this history, the state of Florida operates the San Marcos de Apalache Historic State Park at St. Marks, with remnants of Spanish, British, and Confederate fortifications. A museum sits on the foundation of a marine hospital, established in 1857 by the U.S. Government at St. Marks to care for sick sailors.

In 1679, the Spanish built a wooden stockade at the junction of the St. Marks and Wakulla Rivers. They named the fort Castillo San Marcos de Apalache. This fort was lost in 1740 to a British overland attack from Georgia. A counter attack by Spanish troops later that year re-captured St. Marks. The Spanish, once in possession of St. Marks, built a new wooden fort but this was destroyed in 1758 by a hurricane. Spain then replaced the destroyed wooden fort with a stone fort. When Florida was ceded to Britain by the 1763 Treaty of Paris, a British garrison occupied Fort San Marcos. Then in 1781, when Florida was returned to Spain, a Spanish garrison arrived to man the fort. In 1818, Gen. Andrew Jackson illegally seized the fort under the pretense it was supplying arms to the warring Seminoles and providing a safe haven for runaway slaves. General Jackson's men occupied the fort until 1819; a small graveyard at the park contains the remains of ten soldiers who died of disease at Ft. St. Marks. In 1821, Florida was purchased by the United States and Fort St. Marks was allowed to fall into decay. However, in 1861, Fort Marks was occupied by Confederate troops who built an earthen fort, Fort Ward, on top of the remains of the Spanish fort. Fort Ward successfully resisted all Union attacks, only falling into Union hands in the last months of the war after the Confederate garrison abandoned the position. During the last half of 1865, Fort Ward was garrisoned by the U.S. Army but later abandoned.

The museum at San Marcos de Apalache Historic State Park provides an excellent overview of the history of St. Marks. On the park grounds are masonry remains of part of the Spanish fortifi-

cation, Bastion de San Fernando, and a visible trace of the moat that surrounded Castillo San Marcos. Also located on the park grounds are portions of Fort Ward, the earthen Confederate fort.



The remains of Castillo San Marcos de Apalache's
Bastion de San Fernando.



Fort Ward powder magazine on the left.



A view along the wall of Fort Ward.

In 1942, the U.S. Army established the St. Andrews Military Reservation at the eastern tip of Baltimore Beach at Panama Beach, Florida. This site was armed from 1942 to 1944 with two 155 mm guns on Panama mounts. Today this location is within the grounds of St. Andrews State Park at Panama City Beach.

Over time, the No. 1 Panama mount was lost to beach erosion and was buried under a blanket of sand. The No. 2 Panama mount remained intact above the beach and was converted into a covered observation gazebo for visitors to look at the harbor entrance. This all changed on October 14, 2018, when Hurricane Michael struck Panama City. The gazebo over Panama mount No. 2 was destroyed, but the mount survived. However, the surging tide and strong winds exposed Panama mount No. 1, half buried in the sand at the foot of the trail that leads from Panama mount No. 2

to the beach. At least during 2019, visitors to St. Andrews State Park can view both 155 mm Panama mount gun emplacements.



Panama mount No. 2, inside the destroyed gazebo.

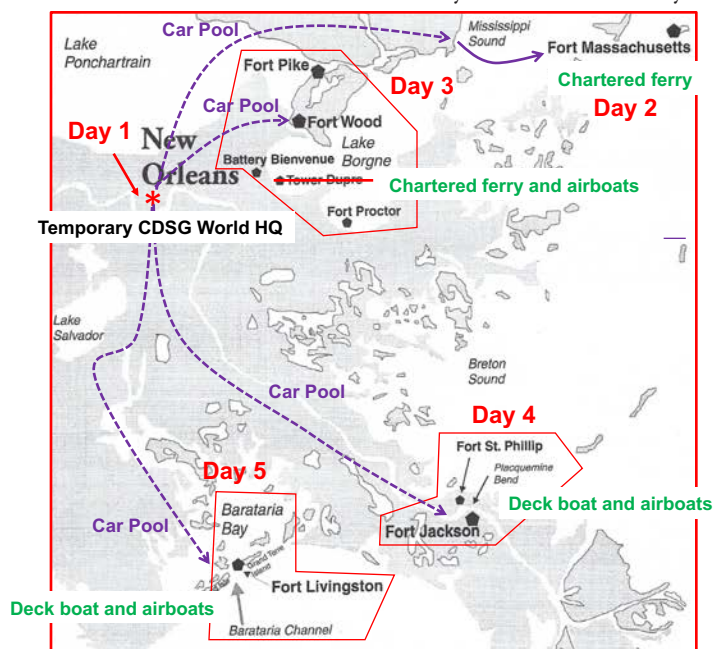


Mary Ann standing next to the half-buried Panama mount No. 1.

* * * * *

St. Babs 2020, Defenses of New Orleans and the Lower Mississippi, April 1-5

New Orleans was one of the most fortified cities in what is now the United States, reflecting the colonial ambitions of Spain and France and the desire of the US government to protect what is arguably the most important river system on the continent. There were defenses on the river as early as 1700 and history



notes more than 50 named defensive works protecting the river.

The 2020 Coast Defense Study Group annual conference will visit eight locations over five days to explore the remains of Fort St. Philip (1793), Fort Pike (1819), Fort Wood (Macomb) (1820), Fort Jackson (1822), Battery Bienvenue (1828), Fort Livingston (1841), Proctor's Tower (1846), and Fort Massachusetts (1858). Lot of masonry forts, but there are concrete batteries at Forts Jackson and St. Philips.

Lots to see. Save the dates and plan your visit. The formal first announcement will accompany the August *Newsletter*.

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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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Hats: times \$ = Total \$

(domestic \$20/overseas \$25) each

Be sure to include your name and shipping address.

You can also order online at cdsg.org/shopping/

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CDSG 2019 Annual Business Meeting was held on April 12th at the conference center in Norfolk, Virginia. Present were Board members Tom Batha, Danny Malone, and Richard Wong. Committee members present included Terry McGovern (Finance & Press), Gordon Bliss (Preservation) Quentin Schillare (Membership) and Mark Berhow (Publications & Projects). After committee reports were presented, a discussion ensued on electronic publications and website/social media objectives resulted in a call for more discussion with the board of directors.

* * *

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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.

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Harbor Defense Documents USB Drive \$250 domestic and foreign mail. These PDF documents form the basis of the conference and special tour handouts that have been held at harbor defense locations around the U.S. The collection includes RCBs/RCWs; maps; annexes to defense projects; CD engineer notebooks; quartermaster building records; and aerial photos taken by the signal corps 1920-40, and other items. These collections are available as PDFs on a USB drive, the size of the collection varies from harbor to harbor. Please visit cdsg.org for more details.

Past meetings include: Manila Bay, PI, 1991; Oahu, Hawaii 1991; Canal Zone, Panama 1993; Tampa/Key West 1998; 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; New York 2017; Columbia River 2018; Chesapeake Bay 2019.

CSDG 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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