



The CDSG Newsletter



The Coast Defense Study Group, Inc. — August 2015



Chairman's Message

Norm Scarpulla

I am completing my term as your chairman, and this is my last chairman's message. Alex Hall has been elected director for a three-year term. Quentin Schillare, Alfred Chiswell, and Alex are your directors for October 1, 2015, through September 30, 2016.

Craig Lentz is organizing our 2016 conference, covering Portsmouth, NH, and "Boston North" in October. In spring 2017 (probably late March or early April), the 2017 conference will cover New York Harbor. Shawn Welch and I are the organizers. The last conference at Portsmouth was in 2001 and at New York in 1997.

This spring, we published the 3rd edition of *American Seacoast Defenses*, edited by Mark Berhow. When you purchase the 3rd edition, you will receive a digital copy and a hardback book. This is a superb reference, and thanks to Mark for all his work on this. We now print the books in batches on demand, so that we need not hold an inventory. Also, the digital version can be revised as needed.

In July, we completed arrangements with Hook Associates of Lewes, DE, for professional management of our website. Over the next few months, they will do a number of one-time tasks to complete the revision of the website that we started in 2014, and then monitor the website monthly to ensure that it is secure and working properly.

We need members to write articles for the *Journal* and *Newsletter*. Even a short report about a visit to a fort is useful. Articles that narrate the history of a fort or the experiences of a Coast Artillery veteran can be published. More difficult to write are articles that examine why and how the forts were built and operated, or the history and operation of a particular piece of equipment. If you have an idea for an article, contact our *Journal* editor, Bolling Smith, and discuss what might be needed to write it.

Please consider being a site representative, a member who stays in contact with the owner or manager of a coast defense site and acts as a conduit for information both ways. What is going on at the site? What questions does the site manager have? You do not need to be an expert on coast defense; you just need to be willing to make contact with the site owner or manager periodically, and show that CDSG will support the preservation and interpretation of the site.

Currently, we have 368 members. We need to continue to attract people interested in military history and coast defense. When you visit a fort or a military event, be an ambassador for the CDSG. Wear a CDSG shirt, hat, or patch. Talk to people about the organization and point them to our website, cdsg.org. Can you recruit a new member in 2015?



CDSG Meeting and Tour Calendar

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

CDSG Special Tour
February 27 - March 6, 2016
Panama Canal Zone

Terry McGovern, tcmcgovern@att.net

2016 CDSG Annual Conference
September/October 2016
HD Portsmouth NH
Craig Lentz, windsorgroup@msn.com

2017 CDSG Annual Conference
April 2017
New York
N. Scarpulla & S. Welch, nands.scarpulla@verizon.net

CDSG Special Tour
June 2017
Defenses of Switzerland
Terry McGovern, tcmcgovern@att.net

2018 CDSG Conference
April 2018
Proposed Columbia River, OR/WA

Other Meetings and Tours

September 4 -7, 2015
Fortress Study Group Annual Conference
Clyde, Scotland
Norman Clark, chairman@fsgfort.com

September 5-12, 2015
ECCOFORT Reg. Association Tour
Verona, Italy
Hans-Rudolf Neuman, hrv.neumann@t-online.de

September 9-13, 2015
Association Vauban Study Tour
Stockholm, Sweden
Mary Pierdait Fillie, pierdaitfillie.m@free.fr

September 16-21, 2015
Association Saint-Maurice d'Etudes Militaires Tour
Hamburg, Germany
Col. Pascal Bruchez, president@www.asmem.ch

September 2015

Annual Meeting Deutsche Gesellschaft für Fetungsforschung
Nurnberg, Germany
Andreas akupka@juelich.de

September 9 - 13, 2015
Association Vauban Tour
Sweden

Mary Pierdait Fillie, marie.peirdarfillie@laposte.net

October 3 & 10, 2015
Menno van Coehoorn Meeting and Tour
Steenwijk, Netherlands
Fritz van Horn, fritsvanhorn@xs4all.nl

October 10-11, 2015
International Fortress Forum Fair
Citadelle de Montmedy
Michel Mansuy, tourisme.otpaysdemontmedy@gmail.com

October 16, 2015
International Fortress Council Annual Meeting
Antwerp, Belgium
Kees Neisingh, secretariat@internationalfortresscouncil.org

November 7, 2015
Menno van Coehoorn Meeting
Grouw, Netherlands
Fritz van Horn, fritsvanhorn@xs4all.nl

November 7, 2015
Association Saint-Maurice d'Etudes Militaries Annual Meeting
St.-Maurice, Switzerland
Col. Pascal Bruchez, president@www.asmem.ch

April 2 & 11, 2016
Menno van Coehoorn Meeting and Tour
Bunnik, Netherlands
Fritz van Horn, fritsvanhorn@xs4all.nl

April 9 - 19, 2016
FORTE CULTURA Pilot Tour
Antwerp Belgium
Hans-Rudolf Neuman, hrv.neumann@t-online.de

May 7 - 14, 2016
Fortress Study Group Overseas Tour
Menorca/Majorca
TBA, casemate@fsgfort.com

May 23 - 27, 2016
ICOFORT Annual Conference
Northern Norway
Milagros Flores, milagoesflores44@aol.com

May 27 - 28, 2016

Menno van Coehoorn Meeting and Tour
Maastricht, Netherlands
Fritz van Horn, fritsvanhorn@xs4all.nl

May 2016
Council on America's Military Past Annual Conference
Baltimore, MD
Marylou Gjernes, mgjernes@earthlink.net

September 2016
Association Saint-Maurice d'Etudes Militaries Tour
Italian Alps - Dolmiten
Col. Pascal Bruchez, president@www.asmem.ch

Sept/Oct 2016
ICOFORT Reg. Association Tour
Edirne, Gallipoli, Istanbul
Hans-Rudolf Neuman, hrv.neumann@t-online.de

October 2016
International Fortress Council Annual Meeting
Toulon, France
Kees Neisingh, secretariat@internationalfortresscouncil.org

October 1 & 8, 2016
Menno van Coehoorn Meeting and Tour
Wesel, Germany
Fritz van Horn, fritsvanhorn@xs4all.nl

October 2016
International Fortress Council Annual Meeting
Toulon, France
Kees Neisingh, secretariat@internationalfortresscouncil.org

November 5, 2016
Menno van Coehoorn Meeting and Tour
Vught, Netherlands
Fritz van Horn, fritsvanhorn@xs4all.nl

February 2017
ICOFORT Reg. Association Tour
Maharashtra, Mumbai, Goa, India
Hans-Rudolf Neuman, hrv.neumann@t-online.de

May 2017
Fortress Study Group Overseas Tour
Lake Garda, Italy
TBA, casemate@fsgfort.com



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Preservation Committee Report

Gordon Bliss

Just a few short updates for this issue.

At Forts Ebey and Casey, preservation and restoration projects have been underway – see elsewhere in the *Newsletter* for details.

At Fort Winfield Scott in San Francisco, a new pedestrian/bicycle bridge has been put in place behind Battery Marcus Miller at the parapet level over the service road behind the battery line. See John Martini's article in this newsletter for details.

There is no further information on when the navy is going to start demolition of Battery 134 at the former Fort Emory (HD San Diego). Currently they are working on the documentation required before demolition starts.

The Friends of Pulpit Rock Tower continue to raise money for the preservation of the tower and to ensure repairs to the exterior concrete. They will have an open house on August 15. Further information can be found at the Friend's website at <http://www.friendsofpulpitrocktower.org/>.

In San Francisco the Doyle Drive/Presidio Parkway project continues to move towards completion. The new Doyle Drive is now open and with the tunnels mostly complete it hopefully will not be much longer before one can access the cemetery batteries. Further information on this project can be found at <http://www.presidioparkway.org/>.

There is an update elsewhere in this newsletter on the situation at Fort Monroe. To my knowledge there have been no changes to the basic plans at Gateway NRA since the last newsletter's column. However, at Gateway they have issued a request for proposals (RFP) to lease most of the officers' quarters at Sandy Hook. Hopefully this will result in their repair, renovation, and reuse. The RFP can be seen at

<http://www.nps.gov/gate/learn/management/upload/RFP-residences-2015-websize.pdf>

Information about the "General Management Plan" for Gateway NRA can be found at

<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectID=16091>.

Information on the NPS plans for Fort Monroe can be found at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectID=41444>

and more general information at the Fort Monroe Authority's website <http://www.fmauthority.com/>.

In the past I have made pleas to let me know of threats to sites. But I would like to add that this column can also pass on information or sources on restoring or repairing artifacts and structures from those that have them. Or better yet, write a short article for the newsletter.

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

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Result of 2015 CDSG Election

The CDSG Teller reports the election of Alex Hall as the next CDSG director. Norm Scarpulla's term will end on October 1, 2015, while Alex's term will begin and run for the next three years. The directors for the next year will be Quentin Schillare, Alfred Chiswell, and Alex Hall. They will select who will be Chairman of the Board for the coming year as well as the Chairmen for all the committees. The CDSG Board of Directors thanks both Alex Hall and Jonathan Prostack for their willingness to serve the CDSG in this role. Next year's Nomination committee will be Norm Scarpulla (Chair), Mike Fiorini, and Chris Zeeman.

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Summary of the 2015 Member Survey Responses

Three questions posed to our membership via our 2015 election ballot to provide members an opportunity to provide feedback to our Board of Directors. Here is a sample of responses. All responses were provided to the board for their review.

The first question was "**How would you rate the CDSG's current publications and activities**". Sample responses are: Very Good – Mark Berhow has made some very wise planning decisions! Appreciate the membership list and conference attendance roster as a means of remembering those people we see but once a year! || Can't wait to read a new edition of the Coast Defense Journal four times a year. The variety of the articles that the Journal covers gives the reader a chance to read about and explore different locations outside of one's geographic location without the hassle of a plane trip. The writing level present in the Journal is top notch. I especially enjoy having the ability to personally contribute articles to the Journal. Too bad we can't do the Journal in color. Let's increase that budget! - Activities are really hard to attend when you have to work. Not retired yet at the age of 42. Yet once again, I have to propose small in the field workshops or lectures on coast defense subjects to occur over the course of a weekend or a day, to be held at local HDs. || I can't see any way to improve on anything given the all-volunteer nature of the CDSG || Excellent – Please do not go to an all digital format on pubs || Need regional CDSG meetings || Preservation and work party activities || The CDSG Press should publish a guide book on America's seacoast fortifications || The CD Journal is the best non-profit, volunteer publication hands down || Excellent – Thanks Mark & BW || Reprint CAJ articles || Excellent – the newsletter and journal do a good job serving their purpose. The fact is there is a St. Babs conference every year says a lot. I've been in a group where an annual event was cancelled because no one would agree on what to do. With the current CDSG membership that should not happen. || Until articles published in the CD Journal are listed in the "Recent Journal Articles" section in the quarterly Journal of Military History (JMH), the

CD Journal cannot take its rightful place among periodicals that are taken seriously within the military history community. The CD Journal makes important contributions to the literature of military history journal – the JMH – is not aware of them. Please send a copy of each CD Journal to the JMH. || Outstanding – I love the publications. || Have purchased and enjoyed most of the current and past publications of the CDSG Press. || Publications are excellent. Have not participated in any CDSG activities (due to job requirements). || Mark and BW do a great job! – Last Annual Conference was great. – More outreach to site owners is needed. || Meets my interest. Wish I was closer to the coast to help out. || Excellent journal – good & useful newsletters. || The CD Journal is excellent. Newsletter is informative. I would like to see more domestic (US), affordable activities and fewer foreign (expensive) activities. || I am impressed by the quality and quantity of the publications as offered. A huge cannon boom to all who are involved. || Publications are good – Focus is right.

The second question was “**What should be the future of the CDSG – more of the same or new goals/programs**”: Sample responses are: Need to be more involved with preservation and historical interpretation, but that requires interested and capable members – which may be untapped or lacking. || Perhaps CDSG could plan more regional “mini-conferences”, that way CDSG members could meet more often and build personal/professional/topical relationships || More focus on preservation of US coastal defenses – not just with \$ but also with email & letter-writing campaigns. || More of the same – recognize that a 400 person organization can only do so much. || Need to increase membership. || About the same – I am getting old || Increased emphasis on recruiting and fostering new members || Coast Defense Site owner database needed || Preservation and membership || I am a new member So far, so good! || What happened to the Representative/Outreach committee? || Membership Growth – Get today’s site owners to join || The same, but with a special emphasis on reaching out for new members || I would like to see more active participation by the membership || More emphases to preservation and education || Require each member to recruit one new member each year || The CDSG has failed to reach out to the owners of former coast defense sites - we need to educate those owners on the historic value and need to preserve these structures - We need a program directed at those hundred or so owners!! || Formation of local CDSG chapters to assist in “care and feeding” of sites would be great || CDSG should try to gain more members so that we can have more impact on preservation issues || Investigate the possibility of the CDSG winning grants from foundations to expand its impact and reach || Need more local tours and member days perhaps once a year. || The field is so huge – the small bites we have now are just enough. I was suffering from brain overload at the Delaware conference. || Focus on membership the more people we have the more we can do. || As our membership becomes older, we should cut back the activities at the annual meeting to allow more time for sleeping. || Regional meeting with fort work parties. || More outreach to site owners and membership growth. || Keep the same focus: 1. Membership, 2. Conferences/Special tours, 3 Publications, 4 Representatives/Outreach. || I would like to see expansion (from

coastal defense artillery) to include study of and topics on WWII defense commands/CG beach patrols, and Aircraft Warning Service – All played a role in continental coast defense. || Would like to see publications dealing more with Endicott Period. || Being relatively new, I hesitate to suggest. I would think growing our younger membership might be a goal. We have so much good info to share. || New ideas of course are always welcome, but I think CDSG is going about right. || Keep doing what we were doing, but one thing I’ve like to see more of is mutual cooperation between members (CDSG overall) and state & federal park employees who manage many fort and historic areas within our interest. I know there is some of this, but it would be great to see more. || Seems like the same old thing. Really need small in the field workshops or lectures on coast defense subjects to occur over the course of a weekend or a day, to be held at local HDs. We are and should be as a group the leader in coast defense research and in publications. New publications such as guides to the forts need to be published sooner rather than later. I believe with the emergence of the print on demand industry, would allow the group the ability to publish individual members books on the subject. We have way too many members that have done research on the subject. Not using this vital knowledge base would be criminal. We should also strive to become an online research resource for of everything (US) coast defense. || More of the same, but with an open eye towards new opportunities to expand our membership.

The third question was “**Where should the CDSG hold its future conferences and special tours – and would you organize one?**”. Sample responses are: Same response every year. HDSF. And of course I would organize a tour of HDSF or any of the outlying military reservations in the system. Anytime. || Tours to Turkey, South Arica, Bermuda, and Panama || Since CDSG expanded into a Great Lakes conference (which I had to forgo), how about a river tour of defensive works – perhaps the Mississippi River or the Hudson River Valley. || Conferences to held to be held as per current plan of revisiting sites in same order as previously. || Not attended an annual conference but may be one to the regional conferences should they happen || Continue the 20-year cycle or continue it the main 15 HD, giving up some the smaller sites or merging them into another tour || More tours – Panama and Alaska. || Conference – New York || Tour to Latin America. || Tour to Florida – Fort Clinch, St John’s Bluff, Saint Augustine, etc. plus Tampa || We should include a work party during every CDSG conference so we can put our back where our mouth is on the preservation of fort sites || With certain minor adjustments, repeat Annual Conference sequence. Make sure to mix East and West coast and Large and Small defenses - No repeats within 10 years || What happened to the tour to the defenses of Australia and New Zealand? || Annual meetings in no particular order just spread them out geographically (west coast ever 5 years) || I would like to see another CDSG conference at Fort Stevens and the HD of Columbia River; Channel Island tour would be great || I know 2018 is planned for the HD of the Columbia already, but I’ll say that that area is due for a conference, the last being in 1999. I would be happy to help in whatever way I can for a conference at the Columbia River. || Tours to Oahu and Alaska.

|| Is there a way for us to use the internet technology to connect our group. Perhaps a "virtual" tour or conference to supplement a actual one or provide a live feed to members that cannot make an actual conference. || Tour to Southeast Asia – I will assist. || Wherever we can get a coordinator & organizers. Schedule four East Coast/Gulf Coast to every West Coast. Panama, Puerto Rico, Hawaii, Alaska as special tours. || Hong Kong – Great coastal defenses and maritime museums and a good starting point for China. || Time for conference to Eastern Long Island and Southern CT, also Southern Florida, from Tampa-St. Pete to Fort Jefferson in the Dry Tortugas. || Keep picking various sites to allow all a chance to attend – I hope to help in New York. || Would like to see golf shirts with our logo for each conference. || I'm ok with what & where we've done in the past. || Co-chair for HDNY 2017 Conference – my hands are full.

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Fortress Study Group

Casemate 103 May 2015

The Fortress Study Group (FSG) covers a wide range of fortification topics and continues to enhance the quality of their publications. After a long search, *Casemate* now has a new editor, Norman Clark, and this issue's full-color 48 pages contain articles on members day presentations, reports on the fortifications of Estremura Province, Portugal; Cold War shelters; Fort Clonque, Alderney; listening stations on Malta; Sandsfoot Castle; and British pillboxes; along with membership news and book reviews. The magazine is liberally illustrated with color photographs throughout. For more information on the FSG visit their website at www.fsgfort.com.

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**Herbert Michael Hart
1928-2015**

Retired Marine Corps Colonel Herbert M. Hart, a long-time member of CDSG, died August 3, 2015, of natural causes at his home in Frederick, MD. He was 86.

A career marine infantry officer, Herb became interested in old army forts, driving thousands of miles in the west to visit and photograph historic forts. Four books resulted, 1962-66, in his "Old Forts" series. In 1980, a fifth book, *Tour Guide to Old Western Forts*, covered more than 1,000 sites in 17 western states.

He was one of three founders of the Council on Abandoned Military Posts (CAMP), and in 1971 became executive director of the group. It was re-named the Council on America's Military Past in 1981 to more accurately reflect its historic preservation mission. He served as executive director and editor of its monthly newsletter for 40 years and continued as a columnist until 2013. During this time he was given awards by the American Association for State and Local History and twice by the Secretary of the Interior. He also was awarded the Army Commendation Medal by the secretary of the Army for his books and was elected a fellow of the Company of Military Historians.

Commissioned a marine second lieutenant in 1951, he served in Korea, where he was twice wounded, and in the Middle East and Vietnam. His non-infantry tours included heading the Ma-

rine Corps Historical Branch, and he retired in 1981 as director of public affairs for the Marine Corps. His military awards included two Legions of Merit with Combat "V," the Meritorious Service Medal, five Air Medals, two Purple Hearts, the Army Commendation Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V," and the Combat Action Ribbon.

He was a member of many historical and historic preservation organizations: twice sheriff (president) of the Potomac Corral of the Westerners, trustee of the Society for Military History, charter member of the Marine Corps Heritage Foundation, the Western History Association, and the Civil War Fortification Study Group. He was also a member of the Military Order of the Carabao and the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

He is survived by seven children and numerous grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. Burial with full military honors will be at Arlington National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to a charity of your choice.

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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).

CDSG hats, T-shirts and patches ordering information

Black T-shirt with white ink:

Size & # ___L ___XL ___2XL ___3XL

Red T-Shirt with white ink:

Size & # ___L ___XL ___2XL ___3XL

Kaki T-Shirt with black ink:

Size & # ___L ___XL ___2XL ___3XL

Navy T-shirt with yellow ink:

Size & # ___L ___XL ___2XL ___3XL

Total Number: ___ times \$ _____ = Total \$ _____

(domestic \$18/overseas \$26 each)

Patch: ___ times \$ _____ = Total \$ _____

(domestic \$4/overseas \$6) each

Hats: ___ times \$ _____ = Total \$ _____

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

Be sure to include your name and shipping address.

You can also order online at <http://cdsg.org/shopping/>



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2015 Annual Conference of the CDSG

The Harbor Defenses of the Delaware River

April 29 to May 3, 2015

Mark Berhow and Norm Scarpulla

The CDSG visited the Harbor Defenses of the Delaware for its 33rd annual conference. Terry McGovern chaired the conference and did a great job in getting the meeting organized in the short few months since our October 2014 conference in Southern California.

The Delaware River figured prominently in American history from its early days with Dutch, Swedish, and English settlements, while the river and Philadelphia played key roles during the American Revolution. A number of defenses dotted the shores of the Delaware River before the 1770s. The British fortification on aptly named Mud Island near the mouth of the Schuylkill River in 1771 was the first of the more permanent defense works built to defend against naval attack up the broad Delaware Bay and River. The stone walls were only partially completed when work stopped in 1773, only to be resumed by the American revolutionaries in 1775. The British attacked the defenses of Philadelphia in October 1777 and the fort fell in November. The fortifications were partially repaired after the American regained possession of Philadelphia in 1778, but little was done until the fort was substantially rebuilt after 1794 and again after 1807.

The Second System of American seacoast fortifications had plans for Pea Patch Island, further down the river, but nothing was actually constructed until the Third System. The first Fort Delaware was a star fort, built of sandstone between 1819 and 1831, but a catastrophic fire that year resulted in the need to completely rebuild the fort. Long litigation over ownership of the island delayed the work, which finally concluded with a third design during 1848 to 1860. Both Fort Mifflin and Fort Delaware served as prisoner of war camps during the Civil War, but like other American defenses languished in neglect afterwards.

Between 1866 and 1876, the Corps of Engineers intermittently repaired and modernized Fort Mifflin and upgraded its armament. They constructed the detached high battery and mortar battery south of the fort from 1870 to 1875 but never finished it. The army also built a torpedo casemate in 1874/1875. Also, new defenses were planned in 1870 on Pea Patch Island, on the barbette tier of the existing Fort Delaware, and on the banks of the river (later to become forts themselves). These brick, concrete, and earthen works were started, but halted well short of completion in 1873.

The next fortifications were built of earth and concrete, starting in the 1890s at the same locations. The defenses at Finn's Point, NJ, were named Fort Mott; those that guarded the entrance to the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Delaware City were named Fort DuPont. Like Fort Delaware, both Fort and Fort DuPont included large-caliber breechloading guns suitable for destroying battleships.

The Great War and thereafter saw the removal of a number of weapons from these defenses, while two new long-range 12-inch batteries were built down the bay at Slaughter Beach (Fort Salisbury). Beginning in 1940, new mine defenses and new 6-inch, 12-inch, 16-inch and 90 mm batteries were installed at Cape Henlopen (Fort Miles) and Cape May, NJ,.

At the end of WW II, all coast artillery was eliminated and the Fort Miles reservation was used by the army and the navy during the Cold War for a variety of recreational, experimental, and surveillance activities until 1991.

The Delaware defenses span all the eras of American defenses, from the colonial period through World War II. They also clearly illustrate the increasing ranges of the weapons as the defenses progressed down the bay from Philadelphia to Pea Patch Island and down to Cape Henlopen.

We gathered at the Hampton Inn in Middleton, DE, on Wednesday April 29, with registration opening at 3 PM and presentations beginning at 7 PM. Terry covered the schedule of events and we had presentations on Fort Mott by Andy Grant, Dutch and Swedish defenses of the Delaware by Craig Lukezic, and early defenses of the Delaware by Steve Conrad. Several members brought coast defense books and publications for sale or donation to members. One book donation, hidden in a large plastic vat, was offered as a raffle to our members for \$20 per ticket. This prize was not to be revealed until our annual meeting.

Thursday April 30



Fort Mifflin

We started the day by driving up to the Philadelphia Airport and out to Fort Mifflin on Mud Island. Fort Mifflin is currently operated by the non-profit Fort Mifflin on the Delaware, which preserves and interprets the history of the fort. Fort Mifflin is a mixture of construction eras, spanning the original British walls built in 1772, the construction and repairs during the Revolutionary War, and modifications and repairs made after 1794 and 1807. The fort was the site of an 1870s-era battery and a mine casemate and was subsequently used for a variety of purposes through 1963. Since then, the preservationists have struggled to repair and maintain the old fort. Fort Mifflin is an excellent site for viewing the various aspects of early American fortifications. We were able enter all the buildings, casemates, and outer works. This one-of-a-kind American seacoast fortification incorporated a number of early design and construction methods, and we certainly enjoyed seeing it.

Next we crossed the Delaware River to New Jersey to visit Fort Mott State Park. We were greeted by a vintage army jeep and sign welcoming the CDSG. We had a great catered lunch at a picnic pavilion, which was attended by Mark Texel, the director of the NJ Park Service. After lunch, Gail Hunton, supervising historic preservation specialist for the Monmouth County, NJ, Park System, described the previous month's movement of a 16-inch gun tube from Chesapeake, VA, up to Battery Lewis in Hartshorne Woods Park, in Highlands, NJ.



Fort Mifflin parade ground



Welcome to Fort Mott!



Fort Mifflin keystone above entry gate



Lunch at Fort Mott



Fort Mifflin 1870s battery



Fort Mott main gun line (photo by Terry McGovern)



Fort Mott fire control and Battery Edwards (T McGovern)



The power room at Battery Arnold



Battery Harker restored gun pit



Ammunition service at Battery Harker



Battery Arnold's restored parade wall



Fort Mott guard house



A restored office in Fort Mott's administration building



Restored observation level in fire control tower



Peace magazine at Fort Mott

After a group picture at the beautifully restored metal fire control tower at Fort Mott, we were turned loose to visit the fine collection of seacoast artillery structures, a restored post administration building, and a restored rare peace magazine. The main line of batteries include: Battery Gregg (2 x 5" Ped), Battery Harker (3 x 10" DC), Battery Arnold (3 x 12" DC), Battery Edwards (2 x 3" Ped), and Battery Krayenbuhl (2 x 5" BP). Battery Edwards is a one-of-a-kind casemated Endicott-era battery, housed in the old 1870s-era battery, with Battery Krayenbuhl on top of it. One emplacement of Battery Arnold has had its concrete facings and surfaces redone, and the three old motor-generators in the battery's power plant have been cleaned and painted. The protected switchboard room next to the battery is slated for further restoration work in the near future. Two emplacements of Battery Harker have been refurbished, and one of Battery Arnold. The six emplacements of the main gun line have most or at least parts of their ammunition hoists, which is unusual these days. Also, the ordnance storehouse has been restored as a visitor center and museum. Overall, Fort Mott is a superb site to visit to see well preserved and interpreted modern-era coast artillery. A visit to this park does provide an excellent overview of the early-modern coast artillery defense system, the guns themselves, the ammunition service, the communication and fire control system, and the soldier's life on the post. It is certainly one of the best sites in the United States to see this, especially with their unusually knowledgeable staff.

As we finished our tour of Fort Mott we headed back to the hotel for another evening of presentations, including the story of post-WWI 12-inch gun batteries by Glen Williford, the story of Fort Delaware by both Pete Morrill and John Weaver, the future of Fort DuPont by Matthew Chesser and Laura Lee, and details on the Fort Delaware Society by Hugh Simmons.

Friday May 1



Fort Delaware (T. McGovern)

We checked out of our hotel right after breakfast as the conference relocated to the Comfort Inn in Rehoboth Beach, DE. We took the pedestrian ferry at Delaware City for a short cruise to Pea Patch Island and Fort Delaware. The group was told of the current situation regarding the bat population in the rooms and casemates of Fort Delaware. The bat colonies on the eastern American seaboard have been infected with the deadly white nose fungus and in an effort to control the spread of this disease

westward we were asked to don disposable suits while exploring the interior of the fort, to minimize picking up and spreading the fungal spores. Following that educational moment, we boarded the ferry for Pea Patch Island in the middle of the Delaware River. After landing at the pier, we were driven to the main entrance of the impressive Third-System work and after a few introductory words on the current preservation efforts and some words of caution, the group was turned loose in their bat suits. The existing Fort Delaware is a three-story casemated work designed by Joseph Totten and built between 1830 and 1860. The fort



Fort Delaware parade



Bat-suit ready!



Supply room



Fort Delaware scarp wall



Casemates at Fort Delaware



Tide sluice and gate for Fort Delaware's moat



John Weaver in his element!



Battery Torbert



Battery Torbert's power room



Battery Torbert emplacement



Battery Allen

and the grounds of the island were used as a rather notorious prison during the Civil War. The post received five new batteries during the Endicott period: Battery Torbert (3 x 12" DC), Battery Alburdis (2 x 3" MP), and Battery Allen (2 x 3" MP) were built inside the Third-System work, with Battery Torbert being a unique three-story Endicott battery designed to shoot over the original parapet of the Third-System work. Two other unique batteries are located outside the fort, Battery Hentig (2 x 3" Ped and Battery Dodd (2 x 4.7" Armstrong Ped). We had the run of the place, visiting the restored rooms in the barracks and casemates, the fine collection of muzzleloading weapons in the rear-facing casemates, and the rooms and loading platforms of Battery Torbert. Although we did not see any bats, we all wore our footies or bat suits. A tour of the rest of the island included a reconstructed Civil War POW barracks, the mine storage building, and a mine casemate. Fort Delaware Society volunteers and Delaware State Parks staff are to be commended for cleaning up and maintaining the structures over the years. They are doing wonders with their limited funds!

At 11 AM we took the ferry back to Delaware City and headed over to the DE State Parks' Grass Dale Conference Center to the rear of Fort DuPont, where the DE State Parks had arranged pizza, cookies, and sodas for lunch. The CDSG recognized the efforts of the Delaware State Parks staff in both their work at the three forts (Delaware, DuPont, & Miles) under their care and for making arrangements for our visit.



Fort DuPont parade ground



Fort DuPont

After lunch we headed over to Fort DuPont, stopping first to visit Battery Rodney-Best (8 x 12" mortars), an early Abbotquad mortar battery. The flanks of the battery had an early mine casemate and a protected switchboard room that were opened especially for our visit. The interior of the mortar battery was used as the operations center for Delaware Emergency Management Agency from 1951 to 1995 and was heavily modified. Abandoned for the last 20 years, the interior has been vandalized.

Next, the group fanned out to visit the various remaining post structures: the magazines of the 1870s battery, the torpedo storehouse and cable tank buildings, Batteries Read and Gibson (2 x 8" DC separated by 2 x 12" DC, all in same structure), and Battery Elder (2 x 3" Ped). A number of army buildings remain at the post, including two sets of barracks, the administration building, quartermaster building, fire station, bakery, gymnasium, officers and NCO quarters, WWII chapel, and post theater. The Fort Delaware Society has renovated one of the old quartermaster buildings into a new office, library, and research center. They provided us with refreshments and a view of their archives. The last stop was a guard tower for a WWII prisoner of war camp located on the post. The state has proposed to lease out the various historic buildings for renovation, and they are planning on developing a new community area along the old canal channel, utilizing the open space as a community park. There is hope that the remains of Fort DuPont will be saved and interpreted going forward.



Battery Gibson-Read (T. McGovern)



Battery Rodney



Conversation with the park staff



Craig Lentz finds a 1870s magazine



Mine casemate and switchboard room entrances



Fort DuPont's bakery building

We finished up with our visit and headed southeast for the 90-minute drive to Rehoboth Beach and our second hotel, but first we had a short stop about five miles downriver at the Liston Front Range Light, where Battery Elder was relocated from Fort DuPont. At Rehoboth, we had another evening of presentations, including the story of the Fort Miles Historical Association by Gary Wray, and an explanation of Annexes to the Harbor Defense Projects by Norm Scarpulla.

Saturday May 2

We started the day by driving about 30 minutes to Fort Saulsbury, north of Slaughter Beach. The site is now a privately owned working farm with an interesting array of sheep, goats, lamas, pigs, and other animals, surrounded by a marshy wildlife refuge. The farm contains two batteries built during WWI - Batteries Hall and Haslett (2 x 12" BCLR each). The magazines have been used over the last 60 years for storage but are mainly empty now. Fort Saulsbury was always a small post, so today only the walls of the ordnance storehouse remain of the military buildings. The batteries were in unusually good condition, and it was a rare privilege to be able to tour them, as they are closed to the public. We detoured north about 15 miles to the Big Stone Beach fire control station constructed in 1944 for Battery Hall's 12-inch guns. This is one of the few remaining metal fire control towers along the East coast.



Gun platform of Battery Hall



Entrance to the magazines of Battery Hall



Parking at Fort Saulsbury



Main corridor of Battery Hall



The Fort Saulsbury working farm
Battery Haslett in the distance



Battery commander's station of Battery Hall



Big Stone Beach fire control tower

The group then headed south to Cape Henlopen State Park, formerly the Fort Miles Military Reservation. We arrived at the park and were shuttled to Battery 519 (2 x 12" BCLR), which is being renovated as headquarters for operations and as a local military museum for the Fort Miles Historical Association (FMHA). After being treated to an excellent catered luncheon by the FMHA, we had an opportunity to look at the displays in progress in the restored magazines. The highlight is most certainly the 12-inch navy gun barrel on a proof mount that has been installed in what had been Emplacement No. 1. The front of the casement has been closed off with glass, making this a superb display of a gun in the casemate as it was during WWII. Only

CDSG members could tell that the gun and carriage were not original. After lunch the group boarded a chartered bus to visit various locations around the former Fort Miles. First stop was the plotting room for Battery 519, which had been unburied after



Battery 519's 12 inch naval gun tube



Dining in Battery 519



Craig Lentz examines a stove collection



Battery 519



Collection storage in Battery 519

40 years just for our visit. Our next stop was a row of Panama mounts for 155 mm GPF guns, now partially covered by a bath house and sand. We also visited Battery Hunter (BCN 222, 2 x 6" SBC), currently with a hawk-viewing site atop the battery commander's station on top of the battery. We were able to go inside and see that the navy reused this battery during its Cold War stay at Fort Miles. We drove by concrete Fire Control Tower No. 10, now used as a pilot station, and the area that once contained two 90 mm ATMB batteries and a 3-inch examination battery. Our next stop was the mine casemate which has been buried for the last 40 years. The park staff had used a backhoe to remove the sand burying the entrance to the casemate and built temporary doors. We took turn viewing the various rooms with the remains of the HVAC system, gas defenses, and generator. Heading out we drove by a large mine storage building, mine wharf, buried cable tanks, and several more large round concrete fire control



Battery Hunter (BCN 222)



Mine casemate



Restored magazine in Battery 519



PSR for Battery 519



Panama mount at Fort Miles

towers. We then had a chance to hike to the rare sand and cement revetments for four 8-inch railway guns that provided a temporary defense while the permanent batteries were being constructed. The group also walked around the preserved cantonment area that is now used by reenactors and has become an artillery park in conjunction with the military museum.

The evening dinner and program were held in Battery 519, starting at 5:30 pm. We had an excellent catered feast in a former powder magazine, then we moved to the FMHA meeting room (the ex-power room) for our 2015 annual business meeting, the first we have held in an actual seacoast battery! The meeting covered the usual committee reports and discussion of future plans. (See the May 2015 newsletter report on the ABM for more details). The raffle for the donated books came to end with the presentation of what was in the vat, and the CDSG Fund gained



The CDSG annual business meeting in Battery 519



Drawing for the big prize

\$650 for future gifts to promote the goals of the CDSG. The evening presentations after the meeting included the Navy and Cape Henlopen, by Bill Manthorpe, the Cold War at Fort Miles, by George Constant, the early days of WWII in Delaware, by Bill Grayson, Canadian Defenses by Gordon Bliss, and a preview of the 2016 CDSG meeting in Portsmouth/North Boston by Craig Lentz. We were shuttled back to our cars to return to our hotel.

Sunday May 3

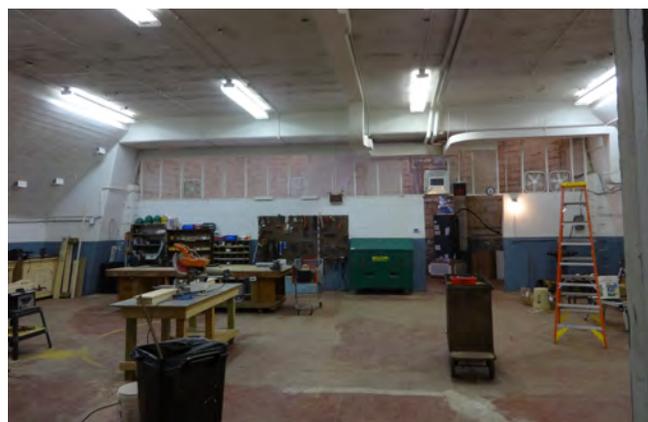
We checked out of the Comfort Inn, convened outside Battery Smith (BCN 118, 2 x 16" BCLR casemated), and toured the battery. The rooms and casemates were used by the navy during the Cold War until the early 1990s, and it is now used by DE State Parks and FMHA volunteers as workshops and storage areas. Then the group boarded the chartered bus to visit the battery's plotting room, whose entrance was uncovered by Delaware State Parks just for our visit, and the completely uncovered Battery Herring (BCN 221, 2 x 6" SBC), used as part of a large facility for the navy underwater detection system (SOSUS) during the Cold War. The bus next took us to Fire Control Tower No. 12 and the underground harbor entrance control post/harbor defense command post (HECP-HDCP). This had been buried in sand for 60 years, but one entrance was dug out by the State Parks staff for us to crawl and squeeze into interior rooms. With that the conference officially ended and the bus returned us to our cars, but we were able to tour the cantonment area on our own



Battery Smith (BCN 118) casemate



Discussion inside Battery Smith



Workshop in casemate of Battery Smith



Battery Herring (BCN 223)



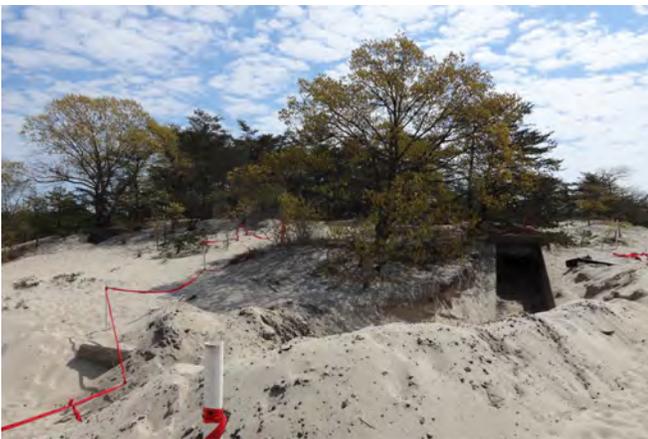
Fire control towers south of Fort Miles



PSR for Battery Smith



Fire Control Tower 12



Entrance to the HECP-HDCP



Getting into the HECP



16-inch gun tube awaiting restoration



Gun park at Cape Henlopen State Park and climb the spiral staircase in restored Fire Control Tower No. 7. The highlight of the cantonment area is the large artillery collection (3-inch, 6-inch, 155 mm, 8-inch) assembled by FMHA, which now includes a 16-inch gun barrel, along with a proof mount, slide, yoke, and breechblock from *Iowa*-class battleships that they plan to assemble into a complete 16-inch gun. Some CDSG members went to Rehoboth and Dewey Beaches to visit four more concrete fire control towers, while others took the Lewes-Cape May Ferry across the bay to Cape May to visit the former WWII military reservation there.

Cape May Military Reservation

On Sunday afternoon, May 3, at the end of the CDSG conference, four members continued on to Cape May, NJ. Gun batteries, fire control stations, and searchlights at Cape May were part of the WW2 Harbor Defenses of the Delaware.

Fire Control Tower 23 has been restored and is managed by the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts & Humanities. Director of Museum Education Dr. Robert Heinly and two of his docents welcomed us and showed us through the tower. Tower 23 is on Sunset Boulevard (Cape May County Route 606) about 800 feet short of the beach. Parking is directly across the street. This tower was slightly inside the cape, with a view of the ocean and



Battery 223 Cape May, NJ



Fire Control Tower 23

both capes. The exterior is similar to many of the other round Delaware River concrete towers. However, it has only one viewing level, with a split-level floor; the rear half of the floor being approximately two feet higher than the front half. Access to the viewing level was into the rear, higher half. (Access to all floors now is on a modern steel staircase, replacing the original army stairs and ladders.) There are two sets of windows, one for each level, at 79.63 and 81.29 feet elevation. The lower set of reproduction windows is screwed in place; how they originally operated was not obvious. The reproduction upper set slide up on steel rods to open, an unusual window arrangement, that the docent said

was from the original plans. On the lower floor of the viewing level are the remains of two sets of instrument pedestal bolts. The Tower 23 RCW indicates that it had two azimuth instruments, one as Base-End Station 1 for Battery 223, and one as a spare.

After viewing Tower 23, we drove to the Cape May Point State Park parking lot at the south end of Lighthouse Avenue (Cape May County Route 629) and walked over the dune to view Battery 223 (2 x 6" SBC). This standard 200-series battery, originally built about 300 feet from the ocean, now sits on the beach. All covering sand has been washed off the structure, and its doors have been sealed by the state. The gun blocks have separated from the structure and are buried.

Our final stop was to view Fire Control Tower No. 24. This was a round concrete tower now incorporated into the Grand Hotel at Beach and Philadelphia Avenues. This tower originally contained three base-end stations, for Batteries Smith and 519 at Fort Miles, and for near-by Battery 223. The RCW shows two viewing floors, the upper level with two sets of windows, similar to Tower No. 23, at 86.15 and 84.48 feet elevation; this level serviced Batteries Smith and 519. The lower floor had one set of windows at 76.48 feet elevation, and serviced Battery 223. The RCW indicates the tower had six azimuth instruments. Other CDSG members previously had reported that hotel management did not allow entry to the upper levels of the tower.

The CDSG and our members that attended this conference would like to thank both the Delaware State Parks and the New Jersey State Park Service for their strong support and diligent efforts to make our site tours possible. The extra effort made by park employees to open as much of the former coast defense structures and facilities as possible made this conference a special treat. We also want to thank the all the site owners who allowed us to visit their former coast defense structures: Beth Beatty at Fort



St. Babs XXXIII attendees at Fort Mott, New Jersey

Mifflin; Mark Texel of the NJ State Park Service; Andy Grant, Stephen Turner, Janie Lockwood, Ron Kurtz, Mike Bonnacorsi, Andrew Anderson, John Morsa, Bob Jackson, Doug Houck, Vince Turner, Vince Turner II, Curtis Saunders, Robert Grant, and Pam Grant at Fort Mott; Becky Webb, Jake Miller, Vinnie Porcellini, and Tom Smith at Fort Delaware/DuPont; R. Hugh Simmons of the Fort Delaware Society; Sam Burke and his family at Fort Saulsbury, Shawn Heacock, Dwayne Wiltbank, and Mike Smith at Fort Miles; Jim Hall, George Constant, and Ray Bivens at DE State Parks; George Smith at Liston Front Range Light; and Bob Heinly at Cape May. We deeply appreciated the outstanding support of Gary Wray and the Fort Miles Historical Association and their “Bunker Busters,” which greatly facilitated our visits to both Fort Saulsbury and Fort Miles. We appreciated their hospitality and arrangements for our chartered bus, luncheon, dinner, and annual business meeting in Battery 519. We would also like to thank our presenters, both those that presented and those that were bumped off the program due to time constraints, as well as the courteous staff at both the Middletown Hampton Inn and the Rehoboth Beach Comfort Inn. Finally we would like to thank the 2015 CDSG Annual Conference Committee (Terry McGovern, Gary Wray, Jim Hall, Mark Berhow, and Bolling Smith) for organizing a great annual conference.



* * * * *

New Bridge and Trail at Battery Marcus Miller, Fort Winfield Scott

John A. Martini

Later this summer, the public will be able to traverse a new bicycle/pedestrian bridge that connects the southern end of the Golden Gate Bridge with the Coastal Trail. Previously, cyclists coming off the span had to loop through the Bridge Plaza to continue their southbound journey onto Merchant Road and down the flank of the Presidio. This new ADA-accessible feature will allow visitors to connect directly to the Coastal Trail, while taking them over the covered way and providing them with fresh perspectives on Battery Cranston and Battery Marcus Miller.

The National Park Service and its non-profit Parks Conservancy have put a lot of money into this trail and bridge project. When it opens, it should help make the Fort Scott batteries a world-class attraction.

There is a historic precedent for a bridge spanning the old service road behind the batteries. Research revealed that a temporary bridge stood in nearly this exact location in the 1890s while Batteries Marcus Miller and Cranston were under construction.
<http://tinyurl.com/p49eq7>

* * * * *

For those interested in coast artillery films, “Training of Coast Artillery Troops, 1918,” from the National Archives posted on Youtube is very good 20-minute introductory coast artillery film with fire control, balloons, drill, and guns, filmed at Fort Monroe, Fort Hancock, and Fort Taylor. At Fort Taylor (HD Key West, FL) it shows Batteries Osceola (12-inch DC guns), Seminole (mortars), and Adair (3-inch guns.)

Training of Coast Artillery Troops, 1918. 20 mins/BW/Silent
 Creator(s): Office of the Chief Signal Officer.

For a YouTube viewing, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V-mNoYXqs6s>

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Gateway Issues “Rolling” Request for Proposals (RFP) to Lease Officers Row Buildings at Fort Hancock

On Friday, July 31, Gateway National Recreation Area released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to lease 16 former residences on “Officers Row” in the national park’s Sandy Hook Unit. These buildings, which overlook the bay side of Fort Hancock Historic Post, may be leased for compatible uses including residential, lodging, or business use related to residential or lodging use.

“As we continue productive negotiations with the parties selected in the last RFP, it makes sense to build on our success,” stated Superintendent Jennifer T. Nersesian. “In later phases, the National Park Service (NPS) will make more buildings at Fort Hancock Historic Post available for a variety of adaptive uses.”

To accommodate the public’s interest in these properties, this RFP will be a “rolling” solicitation. The initial RFP response period will be open for 60 days, with a deadline on Wednesday, September 30, 2015, at 1 PM. EST. Additional proposals will thereafter be accepted on the following dates: Friday, October 30, 2015; Friday, November 27, 2015, (the day after Thanksgiving, a federal holiday); and Monday, December 28, 2015, (the Monday after December 25, a federal holiday). The solicitation will continue until all buildings available under this RFP are leased or until the NPS discontinues this solicitation.

Buildings 2-17, along with Building 21, are available under this RFP. The selection of available buildings is subject to the completion of ongoing negotiations now underway with the applicants selected during the Pilot Phase. Instructions may be found, along with a booklet and attachments, at <http://www.nps.gov/gate/learn/management/fort-hancock-rolling-RFP.htm>.

In June, the park revised its use map for Fort Hancock Historic Post after a meeting with the Fort Hancock 21st Century Federal Advisory Committee (<http://www.forthancock21.org>). The new use map was based on the submissions received in response to the last RFP, issued in December 2014. The change to the use map allows flexibility for compatible use of buildings on Officers

Row, including residential, lodging, or business use related to residential or lodging use. The map contains three basic zones: compatible use; community/commercial; and educational/commercial. This map is not permanent and may change.

Non-profit organizations can use a different instrument for beginning the process of securing a building. Together with the park, they can develop a letter of intent (LOI) as the basis for a future lease. An LOI will require non-profit organizations to meet specific goals within a timeline worked out by both parties, allowing the non-profit time to secure necessary approvals and obtain funding. Interested non-profit organizations should contact Gateway's Business Office at Gateway_BMD@nps.gov.

All of the buildings offered in this RFP were built by the U.S. Army as a part of Fort Hancock, the former U.S. Army post on the Sandy Hook peninsula. With the exception of the duplex officers' quarters, built in 1939, all buildings were constructed in 1898-99 as quarters for lieutenants, captains, and commanding officers. Today, Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook Proving Ground National Historic Landmark District includes the entire Sandy Hook Unit as well as the area under the administration of the United States Coast Guard.

About Gateway National Recreation Area

Established by an Act of Congress in 1972, Gateway National Recreation Area spans three New York City boroughs and two states. Park lands include more than 26,000 acres of marshes, wildlife sanctuaries, recreational athletic facilities; miles of sandy beaches; indoor and outdoor classrooms, picnicking and camping areas, as well as historic structures including military installations, airfields, and lighthouses. Gateway is one of the ten most visited national parks in the country. For information about Gateway's upcoming public programs, see the park's web site at <http://www.nps.gov/gate/index.htm>. To join the conversation about Gateway, like us on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/Gatewaynps. Our Instagram page can be found at <http://www.instagram.net/gatewaynps>.

—NPS—

John Harlan Warren
External Affairs Officer, Sandy Hook Unit
Gateway National Recreation Area
work 732-872-5908; cell 917-829-0425
<http://www.nps.gov/gate/index.htm>
instagram.com/gatewaynps
<http://forthancock21stcentury.org/>

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Status Report on Fort Monroe

Mark D. Perreault, President CFMNP

Citizens for a Fort Monroe National Park (CFMNP) is a 501(c)(4) non-profit social welfare organization dedicated to preserving historic Fort Monroe for the enlightenment and enjoyment of the public. Although President Obama designated about half of Fort Monroe a National Monument in November 2011, and the National Parks Service is slated to oversee these areas, CFMNP continues to advocate for the optimal public use of the historic

resources and open space remaining in Virginia's possession. Our board members are broadly representative of the Hampton Roads region. They reside in Hampton, Norfolk, Yorktown, Newport News, and Williamsburg. A number of them have long histories of involvement with preservation and conservation organizations.

Below is the status at Fort Monroe as of July 25, 2015:

1. The NPS still has not assumed ownership of the 124 or so acres of green space (including Batteries Church, DeRussy, Ruggles, and Anderson) that it is to acquire in fee simple from Virginia and the three historic buildings and parade ground within the moat that it will also acquire from Va., nor has it finalized the 80 acre easement in and around the fortress and moat it will hold. However, we understand deeds are in preparation and would expect a transfer of these properties within months, if not weeks.

2. Gov. McAuliffe has pledged to make the National Monument "continuous" and unified, thus stopping the 31-acre subdivision and commercial development planned for what is now state land in the middle of the now split national monument (on the Wherry Quarter), and his administration is working with NPS to transfer much of the Wherry Quarter and the South Waterfront (i.e., Batteries Parrott and Irwin) to NPS. Timing of this is still uncertain - the complexity of land transfers is significant.

3. Fort Monroe Authority (FMA), as manager of state lands at Fort Monroe, is doing well - all habitable residential units are leased out, FMA has restored the old post HQ and moved in (thus vacating Quarters 1 for NPS), and is inching forward on locating tenants for office buildings - the commercial market is slow all over Hampton Roads. Public interest in Fort Monroe is very high and it is jammed with beach goers and other visitors every weekend. A new restaurant recently opened in the marina and it seems to be doing well.

4 We believe NPS's first major project, once land is transferred to it, will be Quarters 1 (also called the Commandant's House or the Lincoln House), starting with an exterior renovation (NPS has recently completed a historic structures report of the building). Our 501(c)(3) affiliate, the Fort Monroe National Park Foundation (FMNPF), will likely be involved in raising private donations to match NPS funds to fund that renovation. FMNPF would be interested in partnering with CDSG (and NPS) to fund a restoration of one of the Endicott batteries.

5. The 120 acres at the very north end of the peninsula are still owned by army, pending completion of cleanup or stabilization (satisfactory to NPS) of an old household goods landfill by the army. Once complete, the army will deed the land to NPS. Reportedly, there has been some significant progress on this longstanding issue recently.

6. Gov. McAuliffe has engineered a deal with the army that would acquire 83 or so acres of land that the FMA will redevelop and manage (near the marina and North Gate) at no cost to

the FMA. This land did not revert to Virginia when the army closed the base because it is accreted or man-made land created subsequent to the original 19th-Century Virginia deeds to US with the reversion condition. None of this land was suitable or desired for the National Monument.



Battery DeRussy – Fort Monroe

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Fort Monroe Update August 3, 2015

Josh Gillespie, AICP

Director of Heritage Assets and Historic Preservation Officer
Fort Monroe Authority (FMA)

Four years after the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) decommissioning of the historic army post, Fort Monroe is attracting renewed attention and increasing interest. Over 100,000 people visited Fort Monroe for special events and programs last year.

After a busy summer in 2015 and the upcoming National Park Service (NPS) centennial, greater numbers are expected in 2016. Fort Monroe’s Casemate Museum recorded a decade-long high of 6,000 visits in June 2015, and reports year-to-year increases

of 15% over the same period in 2014. The 2015 Independence Day celebration brought an estimated 15,000 for a Fort Monroe tradition and featured an Air Force rock ensemble playing Americana and fireworks fired from an Endicott battery to illuminate the old stone fort.

Public administration of the site is divided between federal, state, and local governments. The Fort Monroe Authority (FMA) manages most of the 565 acre site, the 313 acres the US Army quit-claimed to the Commonwealth of Virginia in June 2013. The first parcels of land are scheduled for transfer from the state to the National Park Service (NPS) by the end of 2015. The US Army holds 252 acres for environmental remediation and eventual disposition to the Commonwealth and NPS. The US Department of Homeland Security owns a .05-acre lot and air rights ensuring clear sight of the Old Point Comfort Lighthouse beacon. While the City of Hampton owns no land at Fort Monroe, the city manages ballfields, beaches, tennis courts, and a community center leased from the commonwealth. The city also provides contract law enforcement officers for extra duty patrolling the property. FMA moved to new offices in the historic Old Post Office and Customs House and welcomes visitors to 20 Ingalls Road, Fort Monroe.

The Casemate Museum benefits from the cooperative partnerships built to sustain site heritage and ensure public access to national treasures now stewarded by the Commonwealth of Virginia. The museum was an army activity begun in the early 1950s, centered on the casemate where Jefferson Davis was imprisoned. The museum expanded several times and now houses galleries in 13 casemates, offices and collections spaces in another six casemates, and further archives, conservation, and workshop spaces in another 10 casemates and a powder magazine. The FMA secured a loan for many key artifacts from the army collection, ensuring the museum’s continuation using the existing collection. With that loan and opportunities for acquiring additional materials for the museum by loan, gift, or purchase, the FMA made substantial building facility upgrades in 2014 and 2015 to



their fire and security systems. Recently the FMA paid to conserve the iron cell door at the Jefferson Davis cell that has been held in Richmond at the Museum of the Confederacy, and will place this object on a long-term loan in the near future.

The Fort Monroe partners recognize improvements are needed to secure this highly visited and central location in the historic fortifications. The FMA, supported by a Department of Defense grant, contracted with a National Park Service research unit to prepare a historic structure report (HSR) for the museum complex to guide the management, operations, and alterations of the historic properties. Part 1 of the study concluded in June 2015 and Part 2 now underway will study intrusive examinations of the terreplein drains. Among other areas, the HSR will guide efforts to manage chronic water infiltration into the casemates. The excavation will enable rare glimpses of this construction and will be open for public viewing in September/October.

The FMA received gifts from two foundations totaling \$100,000 to fund the conceptual design of the Fort Monroe Waterfront Park, a signature component of the master plan, and planning and design are currently underway. The site was enhanced in spring 2015 with Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) maintenance funds to correct cracked, displaced, and missing brick pavers around the museum and postern gate walkways. Concrete sidewalks were repaired or replaced to remove trip hazards and additional curb ramps have been installed around Fort Monroe to remove obstacles and ease the movements of the elderly and disabled.

Of primary interest to the CDSG are the remaining Endicott batteries at Fort Monroe. The ownership of these batteries is the same as it has been planned to be. The Commonwealth owns Battery Parrott and Battery Irwin plus the batteries in the inner masonry fort. The NPS will own the others. Our stabilization efforts to date have focused on documentation and on rehabilitation of metals with rust inhibiting paint. We have explored concrete restoration with local companies but not firmed up any plans or designs. We are also exploring reuse of Parrott and Irwin as part of the Waterfront Park. Some of the possible uses being discussed are education/interpretation, bathrooms, and special events venues. Wine storage and offices were taken out of the running pretty early! Despite repeated intrusion attempts, the batteries remain secure and mostly stable, with only one graffiti incident in the last two years at Battery DeRussey. The FMA would like the CDSG input on the best way to remove graffiti for these concrete structures. Please send me your suggestions.



Figure 1 - Old Post Office and Customs House

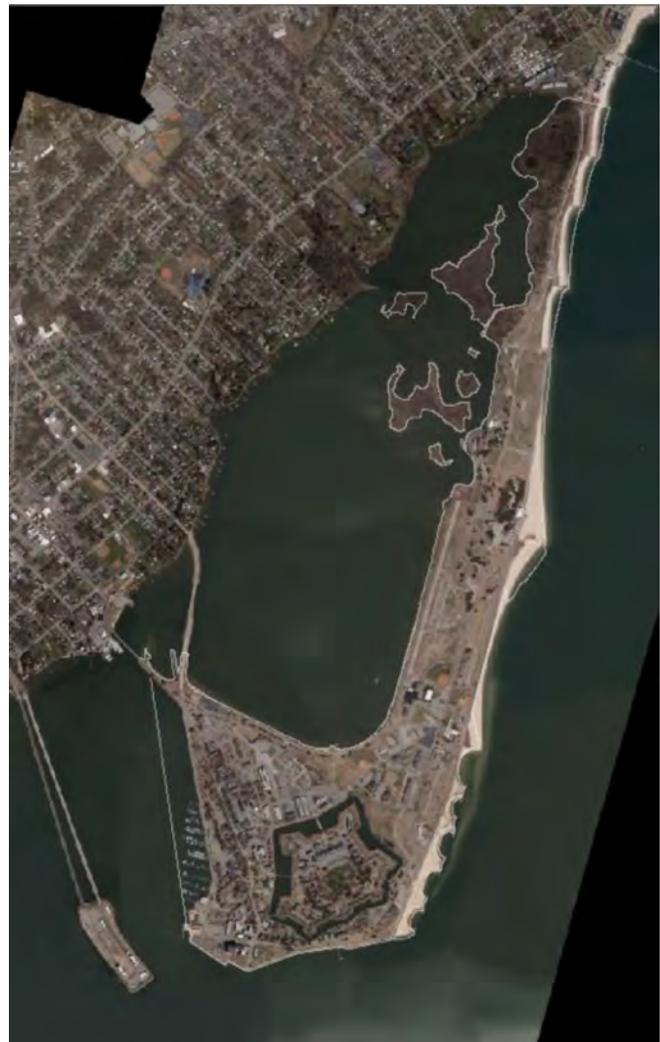


Figure 2 - April 2015 Aerial Photograph of Fort Monroe

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Battery Kahuku's Remaining Emplacement To Be Demolished

John D. Bennett

The only remaining World War II-era concrete gun emplacement for a battery of four dismounted 8-inch M1888 railway guns on Oahu will be demolished in the near future, according to Don Hibbard, architect-historian who is preparing a report on the history of Battery Kahuku for the Historic American Engi-



neering Record (HAER) to be filed with the Library of Congress. The property owner, Continental Pacific, LLC, plans to build a housing subdivision and the gun emplacement conflicts with realignment of proposed access driveways to subdivision lots.

The emplacement was No. 2 of four built in 1942 to provide better stabilization when firing the guns.

Hibbard has been retained by the property owner to write up the HAER on the remaining gun emplacement located at the end of Puuluana Place at Kahuku, on Oahu's North Shore at the entrance to the Kahuku Golf Course. According to Hibbard, the other three gun emplacements for the battery were demolished in December 1978 to make way for a housing development.

The writer assisted Hibbard with the historical background of Battery Kahuku. For additional information, see John D. Bennett, "Kahuku's Defenses," CDJ, Vol 26, No. 4 (Nov. 2012).

The battery commander's station on the crest of nearby Monument Hill will be the only remaining vestige of Battery Kahuku.

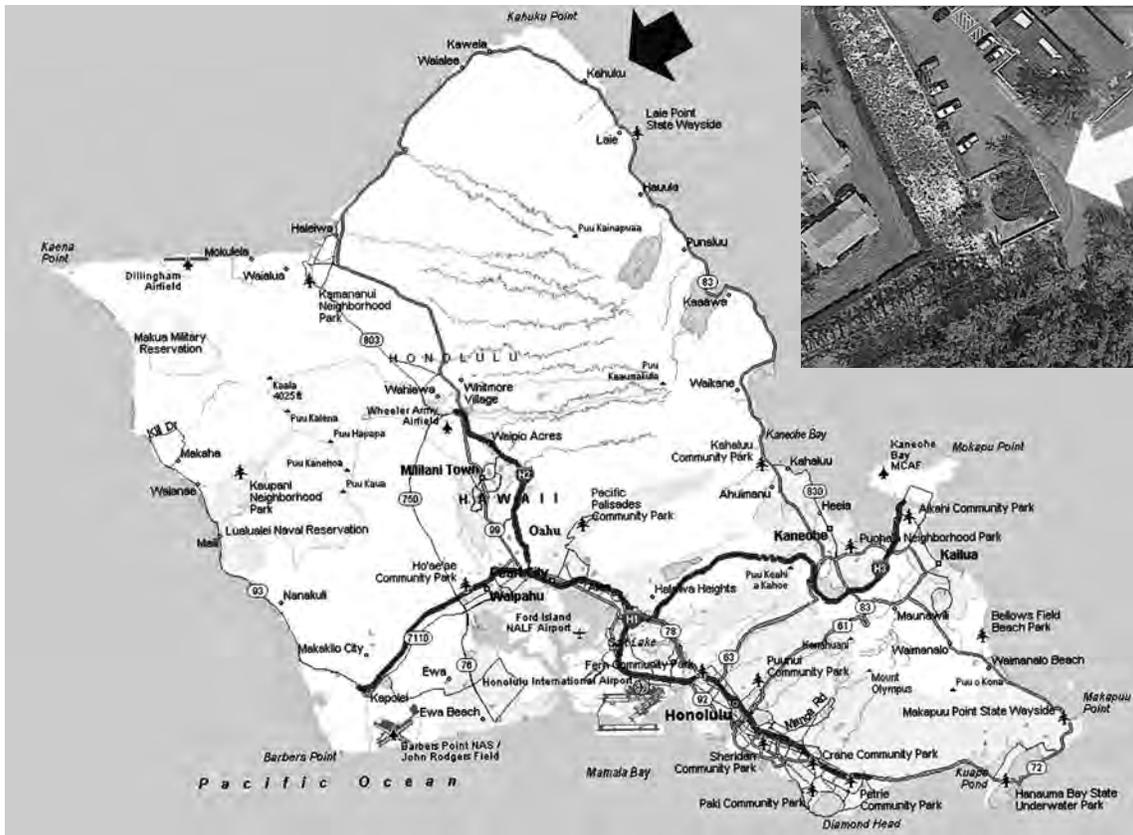
Two other 8-inch M1888 dismantled railway batteries, Granger Adams at Black Point and Sylvester on Mokapu Peninsula, were previously demolished for housing developments.



Aerial photo showing the remaining gun emplacement. Google earth (emphasis added)



Battery Kahuku's gun emplacement looking northeast. Author



Map of Oahu showing location of Kahuku.

* * * * *

Preservation/Restoration Report, Whidbey Island

Steven Kobylk sjkobylk@aol.com

This report covers two recent major projects in the Washington State Central Whidbey Area State Park.



Battery 248 at Fort Ebey in 2015

Fort Ebey: Under the auspices and guidance of the CDSG field rep, two combined Eagle Scout projects (Christian & Ryan Vasileff) constructed and installed gates and screens and painted the entrances to Battery 248 with camouflage paint. The gates were constructed from the only original remaining half-gate at Emplacement No. 2, modified on site to compensate for concrete movement over 70 years. The gate hinges were custom made based upon the only remaining onsite sample. The differences include using hex bolts and lock nuts instead of square, since square-head 1-inch diameter bolts 7 inches long could not be found. Lock nuts were used to decrease vandalism. The muffler gallery and water cooler frames were also custom made on site to resemble the original.

The original screen type is not known, so a WWII-era screen was used. FM 5-20, *Camouflage Basic Principals*, FM 5-20F (for color examples), and FM 5-20H, *Camouflage of Rear Areas and Fixed Fortifications*, were used as references. Only small faded areas of the original camouflage paint scheme remained. The new colors used were the closest found in FM 5-20F. Dan Rowbottom was consulted on the paint pattern. Since no known photos exist of the camouflaged entrances, best guess was used to determine the pattern continuation from the original. Also for maintenance purposes, per state parks request, the horizontal walking surfaces were not painted and a satin graffiti-resistant stain was applied instead of flat paint. As a bonus, the scouts also repaired and painted the plotting room door.

According to State Parks, no funds are or will be available for the 300-foot power hookup cable, so the plotting room restoration project is stillborn.

Fort Casey: Sponsored by the CDSG field rep, along with a small grant, the lighting installation project for the interior of Battery Valleau Emplacements Nos. 1 & 2 has been completed. Lights have been installed in the original locations and

the number of circuits matches the three originals. Some compromises had to be made since modern fixtures are 4 inches in diameter instead of the 3.5-inch original fixtures. I designed a relatively simple bracket so that the 4-inch wall light fixtures could be installed without drilling new holes. Because of the cable size differences between old and new, single-hole cable clamps were used instead of two-hole clamps. The original attachment points

were maintained. Several other minor compromises were made to meet modern safety standards.

The walls & ceiling have been cleaned and painted in the early black/white paint scheme with state parks volunteer assistance. Several small areas where faded remnants of stenciling have been found (Ex: "A.P. SHELL LOT #__ Filled and Fused") have not been painted.

Unfortunately, State Parks does not have a 1-inch stenciling machine, so these areas will remain unpainted until one is found. Next up this fall will be the installation of exterior lights in Emplacement No. 1.

The original intent of the project was to turn the ammunition rooms into an interpretative center. However, after the project was started, State Parks indicated funds originally promised to install a power cable from F⁶ were no longer available. Therefore, the rooms will probably be used for general parks storage.

More images of both projects are available upon request.

* * *

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