



The CDSG Newsletter



The Coast Defense Study Group, Inc. — August 2016



New York, New York! Chairman's Message

Quentin Schillare

By the time you read this the Portsmouth Conference will be history—or nearly so. Now it's on to New York. The volunteer 2017 conference team has been working for more than eighteen months to organize and coordinate next year's conference focusing on the harbor defense of Southern New York; they have six months of hard work to go.

The conference is tentatively scheduled for March 28 to April 2, 2017. The CDSG has visited the area three times: a special tour (1994) and an annual conference (2003) to Long Island Sound and a New York conference in 1997, long ago.

CDSG leadership understands the potential inconvenience of holding an annual conference in September of one year and turning around and scheduling another only six months later. Work and family commitments present challenges, but a curated visit to New York Harbor is a great opportunity to experience some of the most historic coast and harbor defense sites. As always, close coordination with governmental and private site managers will enable visits to locations usually not open to the public.

New York City has been a major population, financial, and political center since its establishment by the Dutch in the 17th century. Its location astride the mouth of the Hudson River and occupying the western end of Long Island has presented challenges for military planners since then. In the days before aircraft and ballistic missiles, potential attackers could approach the city down the river, overland from eastern Long Island, Connecticut and New Jersey, and seaborne by way of Lower New York Bay or Long Island Sound. This called for numerous fortifications, many of which still exist.

Visits to the harbor defenses of New York present both opportunities and challenges. The greatest opportunity is to see several militarily important locations in a relatively compact area. The greatest challenge is that this area is in several different New York boroughs occupied by over eight million people. Things are crowded and get busy during the day when we will be moving around. Transportation will involve private cars, a chartered bus, and the use of harbor ferries. If you've ever wanted to ride the Staten Island Ferry and see the Manhattan skyline, Ellis Island, and the Statue of Liberty from the water, this is your chance.

One of the realities of a conference in New York City is that there is too much to see in our usual Wednesday check-in to Sunday half-day format. The organizers are working hard to schedule visits to the important sites, but some may be left for another time or done privately before or after the official conference.

Coast Defense Study Group members tend to be territorial. Forty-five percent of us live near the Atlantic Coast. It may be an effort for those not near New York to participate in the conference, but it is an opportunity not to be missed.

CDSG Meeting and Tour Calendar

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

2016 CDSG Annual Conference
September 14 - 18, 2016
HD Portsmouth NH
Craig Lentz, windsorgroup@msn.com

2017 CDSG Annual Conference
March 28 - April 2, 2017
New York
N. Scarpulla & S. Welch, nands.scarpulla@verizon.net

2018 CDSG Conference
April 2018
Columbia River, OR/WA
Mark Berhow, berhowma@comcast.net

Other Meetings and Tours

September 2 - 5, 2016
Fortress Study Group Annual Conference
Chichester/The Solent
Alistar Graham Kerr, psgeditor@hotmail.com

September 15 - 19, 2016
Association Saint-Maurice d'Etudes Militaires Tour
Austria
Col. Pascal Bruchez, president@www.asmem.ch

September 22 - 25, 2016
Association Vauban Study Tour
Portugal
Mary Pierdalt Fillie, marie.pierdatfille@laposte.net

September 23 - 25, 2016
Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Festung Annual Conference
Saarlouis - Germany
Andrea Theissen, anja.reichert@uni-trier.de

October 1 - 11, 2016
INTERFEST Tour
Edirne, Gallipoli, Istanbul - Turkey
Hans-Rudolf Neuman, hrv.neumann@t-online.de

October 1 - 8, 2016
Menno van Coehoorn Meeting and Tour
Soesterberg - The Netherlands
Fritz van Horn, fritsvanhorn@xs4all.nl

<p>October 3 - 7, 2016 ICOFORT Annual Conference Montevideo, Uruguay Milagros Flores, milagrosfloress44@aol.com</p>	<p>May 2017 ICOFORT Annual Conference Northern Norway Milagros Flores, milagrosflores44@aol.com</p>
<p>October 13 - 15, 2016 International Fortress Council Annual Meeting Toulon, France Kees Neisingh, secretariat@internationalfortresscouncil.org</p>	<p>September 2017 Fortress Study Group Overseas Tour Malta Alistar Graham Kerr, psgeditor@hotmail.com</p>
<p>November 5, 2016 Menno van Coehoorn Meeting and Tour Vught - Netherlands Fritz van Horn, fritsvanhorn@xs4all.nl</p>	<p>September 2017 Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Festung Annual Conference Ingolstadt - Germany Andrea Theissen, anja.reichert@uni-trier.de</p>
<p>February 2017 INTERFEST Tour Maharashtra, Mumbai, Goa - India Hans-Rudolf Neuman, hrv.neumann@t-online.de</p>	<p>September 2017 Fortress Study Group Annual Conference Alderney, Channel Islands Alistar Graham Kerr, psgeditor@hotmail.com</p>

On another note: I will be leaving the board of directors on September 30 after three years to become the Membership chair. I view this frying pan into the fire move as a chance to continue volunteering for our worthwhile organization. Thanks for the help. See you in New York.

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Result of 2016 CDSG Election

The CDSG Teller reports the election of Tom Batha as the next CDSG director. Quentin Schillare's term will end on October 1, 2016. Tom's term will begin at that time and run for the next three years. Therefore, the directors for the next year will be Alfred Chiswell, Alex Hall, and Tom Batha. They will select the Chairman of the Board for the coming year as well as the chairmen for all the committees. The CDSG Board of Directors thanks both Tom Batha and Morgan Ford for their willingness to serve the CDSG in this role. Next year's Nominations Committee will be Quentin Schillare (chair), Norm Scarpulla, and Mike Fiorini.

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Summary of the 2016 Member Survey Responses

Three questions were posed to our membership via our 2016 election ballot to give 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: Can't wait to read a new edition of the *Coast Defense Journal* four times a year, while activities are really hard to attend when have to work – suggest smaller day-long seminars in the field for the non-retired crowd; Top rate – Give them an award; I am extremely satisfied with the quality of the publications; Mark and BW do-

ing a great job; I enjoy all the articles; I think they are of good quality, and well supported with drawings and photographs; The annual conference is the key item for the CDSG; As always, very interesting, but always need more contributors; I can't see any way to improve on anything given the all-volunteer nature of the CDSG; Please do not go to an all digital format on pubs; Need regional CDSG meetings; More preservation and work party activities; Publications and activities are first rate; BW and Mark are really dedicated pros; New website needs work – I liked the old website better; If we can only distribute these publications out to bookstores so the general public can purchase and learn what the organization is all about; 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; Quite good for an organization with only a few members who actually contribute; CDSG pubs provide a unique storehouse of data and research on an important facet of our military & naval heritage – As such I have donated all my CDSG documents to the Mariners Museum in Newport News, VA; Very good, need more of the same (especially 2nd and 3rd systems).

The second question was "What should be the future of the CDSG – more of the same or new goals/programs": Sample responses are: We should be doing local field workshops or seminars on coast defense subjects – We should be printing local field guides for all the forts in the continental United States using print on demand. We should strive to become an online research resource for all things related to US coast defense; More of the same – at least until we get more members who are willing to take on more responsibilities; Perhaps CDSG could plan more regional "mini-conferences", that way CDSG members could meet more often and build relationships; New programs good, but "more of the same" lets new members learn from old members just as we old guns learned from old guys when we joined; Perhaps improve the website, make publications orderable via online and/or downloadable rather than on a mailed CD/DVD, more representation at sites to steer people to website for more info;

Would like to see more photographs in publications, possibly a formal photo book/CD of each of the harbor defense sites; More of the same – recognize that a 500-person organization can only do so much; Color photos, more local meetings; Increased emphasis on recruiting and fostering new members; Coast defense site owner database needed; Preservation and membership; Do more lobbying and fundraising to support historic presentation; Membership growth – Get today’s site owners to join; Consider expanding more from the core brick/stone/concrete; I would like to see more active participation by the membership; “Then and now” photo books on coast defense installations; Continue what we do and focus on building membership and site representative program; More emphases on preservation and education; Preserve what we can of the coast defense of our country either in places, books, or artifacts; The BOD should work more closely with the CDSG Representative program; 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; Need to find better outreach to increase membership and increase the number of people who benefit from our knowledge base; 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; More advertising for new members and more efforts in preserving former coast defense sites; Recruit new members – Education about coast defense to school groups, scouts, JROTC, ROTC – More focus on coast defense radar of WWII.

The third question was **“Where should the CDSG hold its future conferences and special tours – and would you organize one?”**. Sample responses are: As always, conference to San Francisco would be great; Conferences to held to be held as per current plan of revisiting sites in same order as previously – Suggested special tours: Newfoundland, Gaspe, New Brunswick, Dutch Harbor, Prince Rupert; Not attended an annual conference but may be one to the regional conferences should they happen; Continue the 20-year cycle of the main 15 HD, giving up some the smaller sites or merging them into another tour; HD of Eastern Long Island and Southern New England; Tour to Latin America; Hawaii, Alaska, and Bermuda; Hawaii would be good; Perhaps some of the inland River forts; Late April – May dates better than late March; Fort of Key West and Fort Jefferson; Conferences to Puerto Rico and Virgin Island; Set the conferences in order then ask for volunteers. If unavailable skip to next one on the list; 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 every 5 years); Alternate coasts for conferences.

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George Constant

We regret to report the passing of George Contant, Delaware State Parks’ Cultural Resources Office. George was a passionate and tireless historian, researcher, author, interpreter, and preservationist, with a particular interest in the Harbor Defenses of the Delaware.

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Preservation Committee Report

Gordon Bliss, Preservation Committee Chair

I have not directly received any new items to report in this column. The main areas of interest – Fort Monroe and Gateway NRA – are still ongoing situations. Next year’s conference (only about 7 months away) will visit a number of sites within Gateway NRA and I encourage as many members as can to attend, as the situation (and survival) of some sites there is uncertain.

I continue to encourage informing me of preservation issues in your area, or even better, writing a short article for the newsletter. As an old TV show used to say – “Knowing is half the battle.”

In June I had the opportunity for a brief visit to Fort Monroe. Overall, it looked well-kept and at least the exterior of the brick buildings look in good shape. Batteries Church and De Russey sit out in the open with only grass around them. No work appears to have been done on either of them. No exterior changes were readily visible at Batteries Parrott and Irwin. The guns are still in place at Irwin. Battery Anderson-Ruggles is overgrown, with a fence around it.



Battery Church sits in the middle of a grass field now.



Battery De Russey – The interpretive sign is still in place but the insignia signs referenced by it are not.

The Casemate Museum still has most of its coast defense exhibits, including a DPF, a plotting board display, uniforms, and several gun models.



Plotting board display

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

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CDSG Fund Update

Mark Berhow and Terry McGovern

During 2015, the CDSG Fund made only two grants during the year due to the lack of qualified grant requests. We hope to make more in 2016 as demonstrated by the proposed requests listed below.

The first grant in 2015 was to Delaware State Parks for the purchase of steel plates to make doors for the mine casemate, Battery 519 PSR, and Battery Smith PSR at Cape Henlopen State Park (Fort Miles). These WWII structures were unburied for the CDSG Annual Conference and rather than rebury the entrances we provided funds to make secure doors. Below is a photo of the door frames being constructed by the FMHA Bunker Buster team in their workshop at Battery Smith.



The second grant was for signage for the planned restoration of the bakery building at Fort Ward on Bainbridge Island in Washington State. The building owner and the park district have agreed to reconstruction and future use of the bakery. Fort Ward Community Hall project is now officially a local park plan. The Bainbridge Island Metro Park & Recreation District and Kitsap County (Fort Ward) Sewer District No. 7 have formalized their agreement for development of a public hall in the historic bakery building at Fort Ward.



The CDSG Board has approved two grants so far in 2016:
Sandy Hook Proving Grounds – Fort Drum Turret Site signage – Shawn Welsh - up to \$2,500

Battery Guenther at Fort Canby – Painting supplies for mortar emplacement – Mark Berhow – up to \$2,500

While no written grant request have been received on the following proposed projects yet, they have been discussed with the trustees of the CDSG Fund. They are:

Fort Michie, Great Gull Island – Stabilization of WWII Fire Control Tower – Chris Zeeman - costs unknown

Pulpit Rock Fire Control Tower – History Plaque – Norm Scarpulla – costs unknown

16-inch/50 Barrel Transport – USS Iowa & USS New Jersey – Terry McGovern – challenge grant of \$1,500 for each group

Fort Wool, VA – Stabilization of Battery Commanders Tower – Mike Cobb – costs unknown

Fort Miles, DE – Transport of 90 mm Gun from Baltimore – Gary Wray – costs unknown

Fort Howard, MD – Signage for Batteries – Elliot Deutsch – costs unknown

The CDSG Fund supports the efforts of the Coast Defense Study Group, Inc., by raising funds for preservation and interpretation of American seacoast defenses. The CDSG Fund is seeking donations for preservation projects supporting its 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 project grants. Major contributions are acknowledged annually. Make checks or money orders payable in US funds to: Coast Defense Study Group Fund or CDSG Fund. The trustees for the CDSG Fund are Terry McGovern and Mark Berhow.

The fund is always seeking proposals for the monetary support of preservation and interpretation projects at former coast defense sites and museums. A one-page proposal briefly describing the site, the organization doing the work, and the proposed work or outcome should be sent to the address below. Successful proposals are usually distinct projects rather than general requests for donations. Ideally we desire to fund several \$500 to \$1,500 grants per year. Upon conclusion of a project a short report suitable for

publication in the CDSG Newsletter is requested.

Send donations to (and made out to):

Send grant requests to:

CDSG Fund
c/o Mark Berhow
PO Box 6124
Peoria, IL 61601-6124 USA
berhowma@comcast.net

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

Or use your credit card via PayPal.

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**1st Half 2016
Report from the Mid-Atlantic District
CDSG Representative**

Terry McGovern

Defenses of the Delaware Bay: Fort Mifflin, Fort Mott, Fort Delaware, Fort DuPont, Fort Saulsbury, Fort Miles, Cape May.

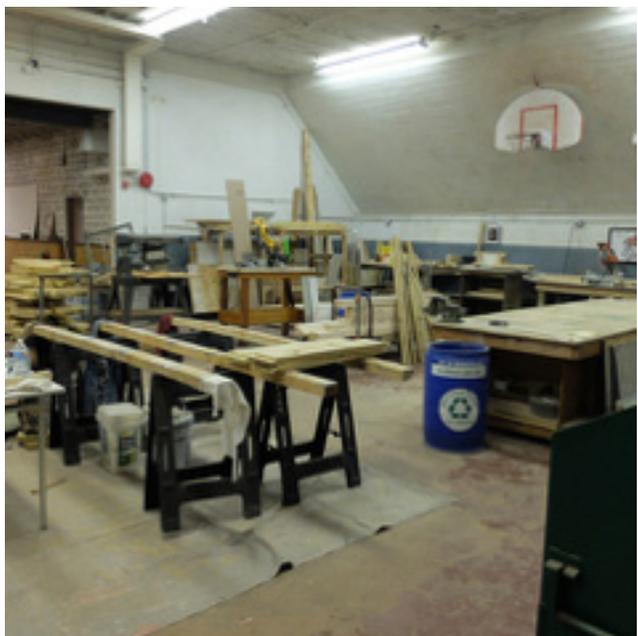
Fort Mott – Andy Grant reports that Fort Mott is continuing its restoration efforts in the generating room, switchboard room, and on the Taylor-Raymond hoist in Battery Harker emplacement No. 3 as well as clearing vegetation on the parados. The park now has a working replacement 60 in searchlight for the one that was destroyed during Hurricane Sandy. Fort Mott’s annual timeline event, Historic Soldiers Weekend, will take place the weekend of September 24th and 25th. The park has a new friends group forming, “The Fort Mott Park Association.” They are now incorporated and have their 501c3 status and are currently working towards being Fort Mott’s officially recognized friends organization (ORFO).

Fort DuPont – Jim Hall reports that Fort DuPont has essentially all been transferred to the Fort DuPont Preservation & Redevelopment Corporation-<http://fortdupont.org/redevelopment-corporation/>, as was discussed at the 2015 CDSG Conference. DE State Parks role at Fort DuPont will be reduced to the use of housing for employees/interns and storage space.

Fort Delaware – Jim Hall reports DE State Parks is still searching for a skilled mason to work on repairing the masonry at the fort. Jim requests that CDSG members refer to him suggestions on skilled masons. The State of Delaware is committing to installing a massive array of solar panels on the concrete roof of Endicott-era Battery Talbot. The solar installation is expected to be about 72 individual panels making up 18 arrays which altogether will cover an area about 160 feet by 65 feet. Not exactly in keeping with the military history of the fort and battery!

Fort Miles – Terry McGovern attended the FMHA Board meeting and Joint DE State Parks/FMHA meeting at Battery 519 during May. The FMHA Board has many projects underway, from construction of the artillery park next to Battery 519 to promoting the FMHA at local events. He observed the coordination meeting between the DE State Parks and FMHA at which they reviewed how events turned out, summer battery tours, various construction projects, and planning for future events. He then spent a part of the day assisting the “Bunker Busters” work party as they installed new overhead rail for the 12-inch projectiles

and constructed new window frames for the cantonment-area barracks in the FMHA’s workshop in the gun house of Battery Smith. Below are photographs of the installation of the overhead rail and frame construction in Battery Smith workshop.



Defenses of Baltimore/Potomac: Fort Howard, Fort Carroll, Fort McHenry, Fort Armistead, Fort Smallwood, Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Fort Washington, Fort Hunt.

Fort Howard – David Ruebsamen (CDSG Rep for Baltimore defenses) reports on the efforts to place display signage along the gun line at Fort Howard Park in Fort Howard, MD. This effort is being undertaken by the Friends of Fort Howard Park, a non-governmental group associated with the park. The Friends web presence can be found by entering www.espec.com to find the Edgemere-Sparrows Point Recreation Council’s (part of the Baltimore County Parks Rec Dept.) website and then look for the Friends under their community groups. As noted in a recent

email the project to put in place signage has progressed very well under the leadership and support of CDSG members Ray Scott and Elliot Deutsch. Below is copy of the signage for Battery Harris at Fort Howard Park. The 2016 Defenders Day at North Point will be held on September 4, 2016, at 11 AM at Fort Howard Park. More information should be available at Dundalk-Patapsco Neck Historical Society & Museum's website.



New signage for Fort Howard Park

Fort McHenry – David reports that Fort McHenry National Park has a Friends of Fort McHenry group who have various events throughout the year. Their September 10 & 11—Defenders' Day Weekend can be found at <http://www.friendsoffortmchenry.org/upcoming-events.html>. Maryland Museum of Military History is in the 5th Regiment Armory at 219 Twenty-Ninth Division St, Baltimore, MD 21201. Their website is <http://www.marylandmuseumofmilitaryhistory.org/>

Fort Armistead, Fort Carroll, and Fort Smallwood make up the other portions of the harbor defense of Baltimore. David reports of these three forts only Anne Arundel County Park system has taken an interest in and maintained the one battery that remains in Smallwood Park which is in fair condition. Fort Armistead is a park but remains badly neglected while Fort Carroll has been in private hands for a long time and is currently basically abandoned.

New signage for Fort Howard Park

Fort Washington-Terry McGovern reports that Fort Washington National Park is holding military group event on Sunday, August 28. This event corresponds with the NPS Centennial and the 202nd anniversary of the destruction of Fort Warburton. The Mid-Atlantic CDSG membership is invited to attend. Contact Terry McGovern at tcmcgovern@att.net if you plan on attending and on which days.

Fort Hunt – Terry McGovern reports that the redevelopment of the park by the NPS is still on hold as agreement on the changes to park's roadways and recreational facilities has not yet been reached between the NPS and the local neighborhood.

Defenses of Chesapeake Bay: Fort Monroe, Fort Wool, Fort Story, Camp Pendleton, Fort Norfolk, Fort John Custis, Fisherman's Island MR.

Fort Monroe – Terry McGovern reports that Fort Monroe National Monument has a new Park Superintendent, Terry Brown.

Terry had an introductory meeting with Mr. Brown to explain the CDSG interest in Fort Monroe and our goals to promote the preservation and interpretation of coast defenses. The CDSG provided Mr. Brown a detailed photographic history of the Fort Monroe coastal defense role. Terry also had the opportunity to take Mr. Brown on a tour of the Endicott batteries under the control of NPS to explain their form and function. During the same trip, Terry meet with Robin Reed and Veronica Gallardo of the Casemate Museum to discuss how the CDSG could assist the museum and expand its mission to cover all of the U.S. coastal defenses and the Coast Artillery Corps, not just those that relate specifically to Fort Monroe's history. During my visit I learned that Josh Gillespie was no longer the director of preservation for Fort Monroe Authority (FMA). The FMA is currently looking for a new director and has placed a job request on the FMA website. The FMA has moved its headquarters from Quarters 1 (Lincoln Quarters) to the Fort's old Post Office (Bldg. 83) on Ingalls Road to provide more room. As reported in this Newsletter, Rebecca and Terry McGovern were able to visit the former Mine Storehouse, Cable Tank, and Mine Wharf at Fort Monroe as they are now vacant and the FMA is seeking tenants for reuse.

Fort Wool – Terry McGovern reports that Michael Cobb has retired from the Hampton History Museum, but is still involved in trying to preserve and interpret Fort Wool. Key preservation efforts are to stabilize the remaining eight masonry casemates and the rare WWII battery commanders steel tower. Part of the casemates are off limits due to the dangers of collapsing stone while the BC tower is leaning East about 5 degrees. Mike Cobb is trying to raise funding to stabilize both the casemates and tower. He is interested in a grant from the CDSG Fund to develop a plan to save the tower.

Fort Story – Terry McGovern has contacted the leadership of JEB Little Cheek – Fort Story to discuss permission for the CDSG members to visit all the coast artillery sites at Fort Story for the 2019 Annual CDSG Conference to the Defenses of Chesapeake Bay. Fort Story has many different military tenants, many of which have high levels of security, so gaining permission to visit both the interior and exterior of these structures will be difficult and time-consuming.

Fort John Custis – Terry McGovern has contacted the leadership of the Eastern Shore of Virginia – National Wildlife Refuge about accessing the long buried coast artillery structures on their property for the 2019 Annual CDSG Conference.

Fisherman Island MR, Camp Pendleton, and Fort Norfolk – No reports at this time.

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**Pacific District
CDSG Representative Report**
Mark Berhow

Things have been pretty active at the five ex-harbor defenses along the Pacific coast and most updates have been published in previous editions of the *CDSG Newsletter*.

At the San Diego defenses, the navy is moving ahead with the demolition of Battery 134, with final cleanup approaching. The San Diego Military History volunteer group at Cabrillo National

Monument is progressing with their plans to restore and interpret a base end station on the monument grounds.

At the San Francisco defenses, the Battery Townsley volunteers were honored with an award from the National Park Service as detailed elsewhere in this issue.



The Battery Guenther restoration project at USCG Station Cape Disappointment got off to a great start on August 11 with a work crew headed up by our CDSG Columbia River site representative Aaron Buda. In an all-day effort, the crew worked with DC1 Jason Billings of the USCG and cleaned out the refuse from a decade-past haunted house and swept up the magazines and corridors of the battery. Future plans include finishing the cleanup of the plotting room, then tackling removal of the overgrown vegetation around the gun pits and roof of the battery. The plan is to restore some of the plaster on the walls and repaint the interior and exterior wall of the central magazine. This project is supported by the CDSG fund, which will pay for materials and supplies during the restoration. The long-term plan is to restore Battery Guenther as a historical visitors' center for interpreting the history of the Coast Guard station and Fort Canby. The volunteer crew consisted of Aaron, his brother Ryan, two friends, and two Boy Scouts from a local troop.



In the Puget Sound defenses, volunteer groups on Whidbey Island continue their efforts to restore and maintain defense structures at Fort Casey and Fort Ebey. Re-enactor groups are active in interpretation events at Forts Worden, Flagler, and Casey. In addition, the efforts at Fort Ward are moving towards completing the fund-raising goal for the refurbishment of the Bakery Community and Interpretive Center.

16-inch/50 Barrel Lifted into Proof Mount at historic Fort Miles in Cape Henlopen State Park

The DE State Parks and the Fort Miles Historical Association now have a complete 16-inch gun aimed at New Jersey

Terry McGovern

After wartime service in the Pacific aboard the battleship USS *Missouri* – one of the ship's nine original 16-inch/50 Mark 7 barrels was moved on May 20, 2016, to a permanent display within historic Fort Miles at Cape Henlopen State Park. They were able to assemble a 90,000-pound girder, a 70,000-pound slide, a 38,500-pound yoke, a 5,000-pound breech block, and other parts from the NSWC in Dahlgren, VA, to create a complete gun display for the historic barrel. Lifting all this massive steel required a heavy-lift crane from the Lockwood Brothers & Co., subcontractor for the site contractor Kent Construction Co. Several lifts were required to assemble the mount and to lower the freshly-polished barrel onto the concrete pad using their 500-ton capacity crane. The total weight of the permanent 16-inch gun display is more than 300 tons. The gun takes its place among other artillery already nestled among the sand dunes next to Battery 519. Funding placing the barrel came from state appropriations through DNREC's Division of Parks & Recreation (DE State Parks).

The 16-inch/50 barrel was saved before it could be cut up for scrap. It was moved by barge and rail from St. Julians Creek Naval Annex in Chesapeake, VA, to the park by the Fort Miles



Seen from the top of Battery 519, the USS *Missouri*'s big gun will remind visitors to the park of Fort Miles' military role during World War II.



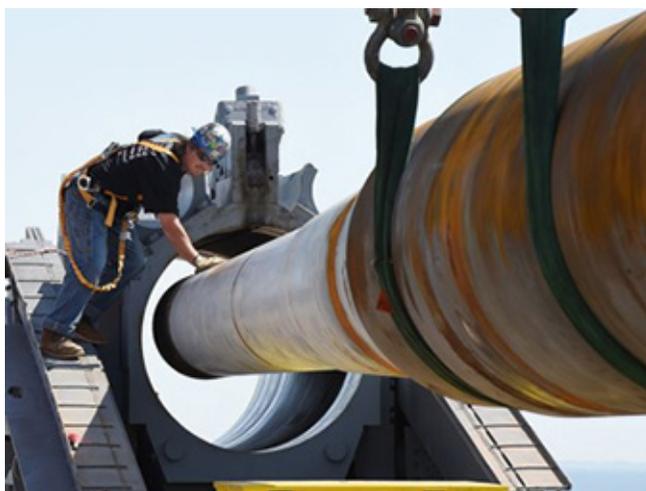
Almost there: crews carefully watch as the gun barrel is moved into its final position. The gun, base, slide, and yoke together weigh more than 300 tons.

Historical Association (FMHA). The FMHA raised \$113,500 in private donations and received several key grants from the G.M. Foundation, Sussex County Council, and the Delaware Department of Economic Development's Division of Tourism to transport the 116-ton, 66-foot-long gun barrel to Delaware.

The event on May 20 attracted a small crowd of DE State Park staff and FMHA members, while a large group of media set up cameras around the gun mount and atop Battery 519. Large tethers were slid underneath the gun barrel and attached to the 500-ton crane by work crews. As a test, the crane lifted the load slightly while a worker used a carpenter's level to ensure the load was properly balanced. The final signal given, the crane came to life, ever so slowly lifting the gun from the truck bed. Guided by ropes, the barrel was swung out over the site, back behind the girder/slide on the concrete pad and gingerly maneuvered into the waiting mount. Midway through the operation, visitors were startled by a loud crack from somewhere, but it had no effect on the work. With the barrel in place, another crane was brought in to make final adjustments before the barrel was locked into place. The recoil cylinders and breech block would be attached in the following days.



Free of its cradle and hovering above the sands of Fort Miles, the 120-ton gun barrel is controlled by a single worker who directs its movement with a rope.



Rigger from Lockwood Brothers and Ironworkers Local 451 guide the 16-inch barrel into the slide with his hand.

Some of the quotes overheard at the event were: "The spirit and dedication of the volunteers of the Fort Miles Historical Association is reminiscent of this country's 'Greatest Generation' that built and manned Fort Miles and protected the region during World War II," said DNREC Secretary David Small. "We are incredibly appreciative of the Association's efforts to save one of the Missouri's big guns and bring it to Cape, along with all of the other great things the group has done to restore the fort. The gun is representative of those who were stationed at Fort Miles for coastal defense. Now students, veterans, families, visitors, and history buffs can relive an important part of Delaware history surrounded by the buildings and artifacts that will help make that experience come alive." "The Fort Miles Historical Association is proud and honored to partner with Delaware State Parks and create this final resting place for the Missouri barrel #371," said FMHA President Gary Wray. "The barrel is the centerpiece of our Fort Miles Museum which, when completed, will be the best World War II museum inside a World War II facility in the U.S."

The FMHA is a nonprofit group whose mission is to preserve, protect, and defend all aspects of Fort Miles, working with community and state stakeholders and other interested parties. The



The man behind the master plan: FMHA President Gary Wray was the driving force to bring the 16-inch/50 barrel to the former Fort Miles at Cape Henlopen State Park and to assemble the complete gun.

association's goal is to work as an active partner with the State of Delaware to develop the historical potential of Fort Miles. The new Artillery Park at Battery 519 at the former Fort Miles, which is scheduled to open this summer, will feature more coast artillery and include a central pathway that will display wayside exhibits that tell the story behind each gun. The park will also feature amenities commemorating the role of the fort during wartime.

The former Fort Miles was part of the U.S. coastal defenses during World War II. The Delaware River was a priority for defense planners because of the access it afforded to the large trade centers of Wilmington and Philadelphia. During the war, the fort was equipped with coast artillery, controlled mine fields, radar, and searchlights for in-depth defense. However, the end of World War II and coming of the Cold War brought an end to harbor defenses in the U.S., and by 1958, Fort Miles was no longer needed for the defense of the region. In 1964, 543 acres of the base were returned to the state of Delaware, forming the heart of Cape Henlopen State Park.

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Fort Miles Historical Association Dedicates Art Gallery in Battery 519 at Cape Henlopen State Park

Terry McGovern

The Lewes, DE, Public Library has donated the untitled 1943 Howard Schroeder painting of two soldiers using an azimuth instrument in one of the fort's fire control towers to the Fort Miles Historical Association.



On May 14, 2016, the Fort Miles Historical Association held a special event at Battery 519 at the former Fort Miles, Lewes, DE, (now Cape Henlopen State Park) to dedicate an art gallery in a former tool/machine room, showcasing the work of Howard Schroeder, Mary Marshall, and Abraxas Hudson. Two hundred guests attended the fundraising gala in the World War II battery, mingling in the galleries that once supported the battery's 12-inch guns that defended Delaware's coast against enemy surface ships. The gallery includes World War II-era paintings by famed local artist Howard Schroeder and a portrait of Gen. Nelson Appleton Miles painted by local artist Mary McCartin Marshall. The large Schroeder paintings showing the fort's mine-laying crews at work as well as a fire control station in use. One of those is similar to a smaller watercolor, "No. 17 Ready for Planting," that won a



These Howard Schroeder paintings shows the fort's mine-laying crews at work.

LIFE magazine contest and was published in the June 6, 1942, edition of the magazine, and was then exhibited at the National Gallery of Art.

Dr. Gary D. Wray, president of Fort Miles Historical Association, told the crowd before the gallery ribbon-cutting, "We're here for something special. Tonight you are seeing a little snapshot of 20 years of work." Gary introduced local artist Brax Hudson, who designed and led the conversion of the more than 800 square feet from a tool room into an art gallery. "Brax put his heart and soul into this room. He made the art room happen," Gary said. Gary added that Brax will co-chair an art committee at Fort Miles. "It's a big honor to be part of a capable team," Brax said. "I consider this to be step one of an art presence at Fort Miles, to showcase the talent of local artists and bring awareness of the gem we have here."

Gary described the history of the gallery's current collection, including three large Schroeder murals; a portrait of Gen. Nelson Appleton Miles by Mary Marshall; and works by Brax. Schroeder's son, John, told the audience that his father, born in 1910 in Brooklyn, N.Y., was an artist and model before "he got his card from Uncle Sam" and "began his career" at Fort Miles in 1941. Howard Schroeder's responsibilities at Fort Miles were planting mines in Delaware Bay and painting art for soldiers' dayrooms. After the war, Howard Schroeder and his wife, Marian, stayed in Lewes, raising a family of six and guiding the fledgling Rehoboth Art League. Howard Schroeder taught at St. Andrew's School and "gave art lessons anywhere and everywhere in the state," John Schroeder said.

John Schroeder used oversized ceremonial scissors to cut the red ribbon to open the gallery, then led siblings Rob Schroeder, Carole Schroeder Short, and other family members into the new gallery to see their father's work. A glass display case contained Howard Schroeder sketch books; black-and-white photos of the artist at work and on his wedding day; and well-worn brushes and paint tubes. His work, including a painting of two soldiers with an azimuth instrument in one of the fort's towers, hangs on carpet-covered wooden frames attached to vertical expansion poles. Gary said volunteers who converted the storeroom into the gallery were not allowed to drill holes in the walls because that could jeopardize the fort's historic status. He thanked members

of the Bunker Busters, a group of FMHA volunteers, and their leader, FMHA board member John Roberts, for their work on the gallery.

Gary praised the partnership between FMHA and Delaware State Parks, saying the continuing restoration of the fort is the product of a “coordinated effort” and thousands of volunteer hours donated by a dedicated group. The fundraising gala, sponsored by Touch of Italy and Atlantic Liquors in Rehoboth, will “serve as a template” for future events in the battery, Wray said. The gallery inauguration begins a campaign to raise \$100,000



Howard Schroeder and Brax Hudson paintings



Ribbon cutting by the Schroeder family and Brax Hudson



Viewing the gallery during the dedication

for projects such as expanding the bunker’s geothermal HVAC system. Gary reminded the crowd that Battery 519 is open for tours, including after-dark lantern tours. “We hope that you will tell your family and friends about us,” he said. “Spread the word about this jewel we have at Fort Miles.”

* * * * *

One-time Mine Planter Returns to the Columbia River

Aaron Buda



On August 1, 2016, the former *Tourist No. 2* ferry boat arrived back to Astoria, OR. Built in 1924, the vessel was one of several ferries operating on the Columbia River, taking vehicles and passengers back and forth across the river until the Astoria-Megler bridge was completed in 1966.

The *Tourist No. 2* had a different role during World War II than the other ferries on the Columbia River, however, as it was commandeered by the US Army right after Pearl Harbor to be used as a mine planter on the Columbia. This was done because no regular US Army mine planter was available to mine the mouth of the Columbia River at the time. Efforts began right away to prepare the ferry for mine planting duty by installing the proper equipment.

Now dubbed the *Octopus*, the ferry began mine planting operations on Christmas Day 1941. Battery A of the 18th Coast Artillery had finished planting the mine field with the ferry by early March 1942. The ferry was used for the rest of the war by the Coast Artillery, ferrying soldiers back and forth between Fort Stevens, OR, and Fort Canby, WA. The ferry was used to maintain the mines in the river until early 1943, when US Army Mine Planter *Major General Wallace F. Randolph* arrived and replaced the buoyant mines with ground mines. There is a detailed article of the *Octopus* as a mine planter in the January-February 1943 edition of the Coast Artillery Journal, pp. 52-53.

Used until 1966 in Astoria, the *Tourist No. 2* was then used as a ferry on Puget Sound in Washington until the mid-1990s, when the ferry was bought in 1996 by a Seattle cruise line and refurbished. The most significant change was enclosing the car deck by installing bathrooms and large windows. The ferry’s name was changed again as well.

An electrical fire below the deck damaged the ferry in 2010, and it was put aside in Everett, WA, where it sat for a couple years, waiting to be scrapped, until it was purchased and repaired

by Capt. Christian Lint and moored in Bremerton, WA. Again for sale in 2015, the Astoria Ferry Board pulled together and was able to bring back the ferry to Astoria after a 50 year absence. The ferry will be moored at Tongue Point in Astoria for the near future as repairs are made, with the goal to have the vessel available for local cruises.

There are not many remnants of the US Army Mine Planter Service left today, and though not an official mine planter, *Tourist No. 2* took the job at the mouth of the Columbia River in World War II, and is a very significant piece of coast artillery and Pacific Northwest history. Make some time to see the ferry if you are in the area.

For more information and to make donations, visit the ferry's website at www.astoriaferry.com.

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Fort Monroe's Mine Complex Seeking New Uses

Fort Monroe Authority Seeks To Lease the Mine Storehouse and Cable Tank

Terry McGovern

The Fort Monroe Authority (FMA) expects the US Army to turn over the former mine storehouse (Bldg. 204) and cable tank structure (Bldg. 205) to them for reuse. The two buildings are at the tip of Old Point Comfort with direct access to the mine wharf. These two structures were constructed in 1908 as part of the fort's controlled mine complex (mine casemate, mine control stations, mine wharf, mine loading room, TNT magazine, tramway, mine storehouse, cable tank, boathouse, and mine wharf). The loading room, TNT storage buildings, and tramway that were also at the mine wharf have disappeared.

Rhonda Williams, senior property manager with Old Point Comfort Real Estate Services, LLC (leasing agents for the FMA) gave Rebecca McGovern and me a tour of these buildings which have been off limits for many years, being used by the US Navy. Rhonda and the other property managers with the FMA are tasked with finding tenants for these buildings so they can be put back to use and properly maintained. I was very interested to see what features remained in these buildings. The US Army kindly unlocked the buildings so we could visit and photograph them.

We first visited the cable tank building, with a protected cover over the large cable tank (130 feet by 18 feet by 6 feet) in which the mine cables were stored on wooden reels. The wooden frame is covered with corrugated steel and it appears that the one-story building received a new metal roof not long ago. The tank has been filled and a concrete slab has been poured to convert the building into machine shop after World War II. You can still see the edge of cable tank walls and the bridge crane is still operable. Several wooden storerooms have been constructed inside the building.

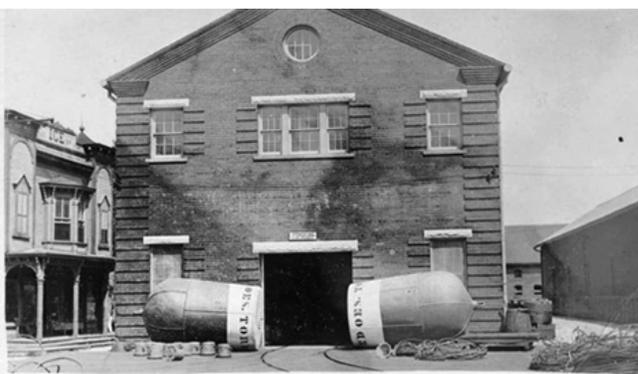
We next visited the two-story brick mine storehouse (originally called the torpedo storehouse) with its original slate roof. The building is 130 feet long and 33 feet wide. The storehouse only had a few modifications from its mine storage period. A new staircase to the second floor has been added at the front of building.

The second floor which used to be open space for training has been subdivided into about a dozen rooms. The steel-truss roof frames are still visible in several of these rooms. The first-story bridge crane used to move mine cases and anchors is still in place.

Rhonda and the FMA are very interested in learning how these former mine buildings have been reused at other former seacoast forts. Please share any information about the reuse of these types of buildings at tcmcgovern@att.net.



Fort Monroe's mine complex. You can see the mine planter tied up at the wharf. The mine loading room is visible on the wharf. The building next to the cable tank is the quartermaster coal storage shed, now gone.



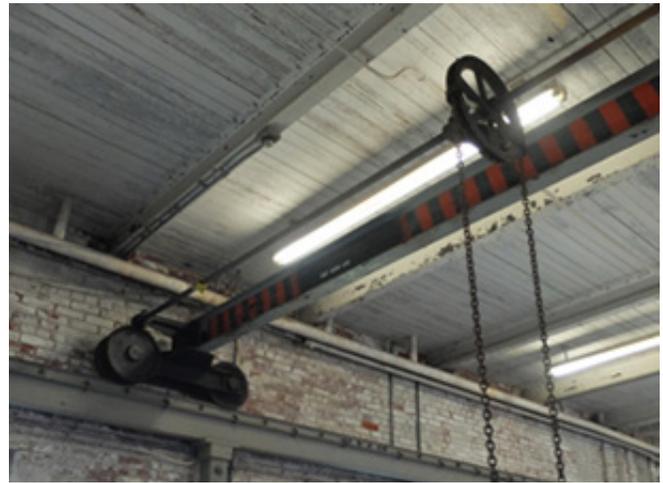
Fort Monroe's mine storehouse on a World War One-era post card.



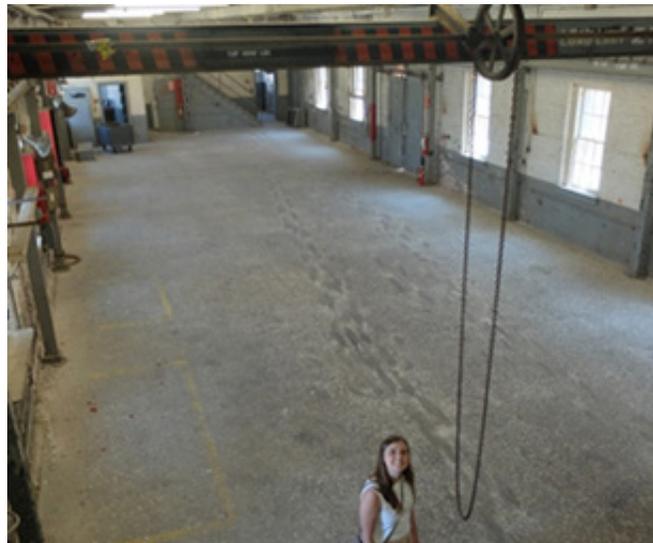
Fort Monroe's mine complex in use by the army and navy in the 1990s. The brick building perpendicular to the mine storehouse had various uses from a mine depot lab to a bindery for the Coast Artillery School.



Fort Monroe's mine storehouse today.



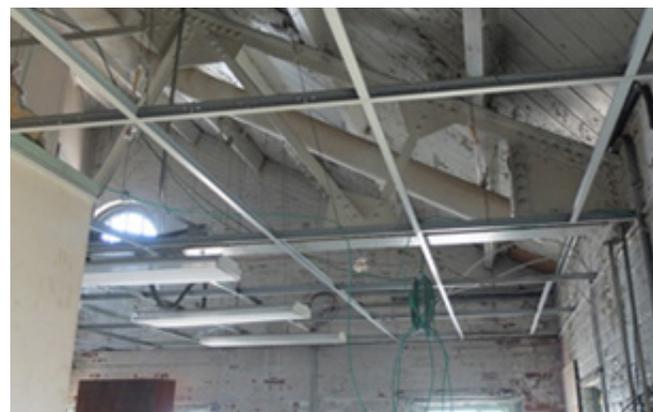
Original bridge crane in the mine storehouse.



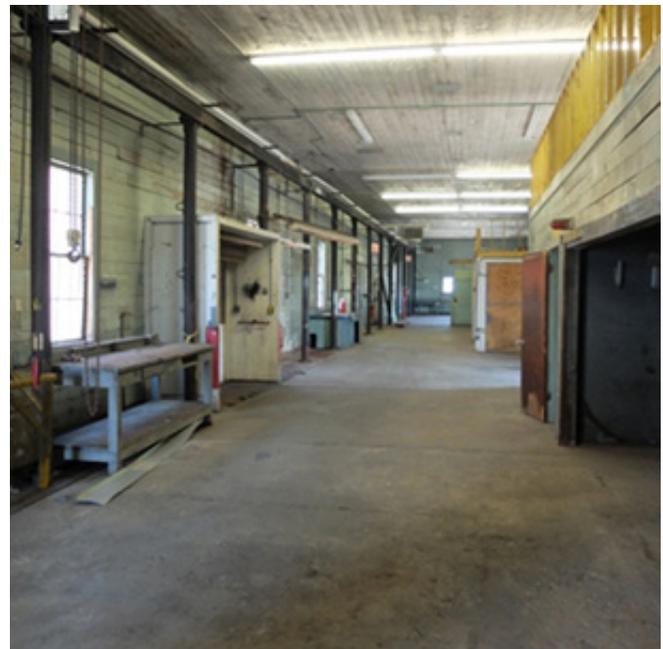
Rebecca inspects the bridge crane in the mine storehouse.



Fort Monroe's cable tank building today.



Roof trusses in the mine storehouse with new hanging ceiling supports.



Inside the former cable tank building.



Inside the cable tank building. Note edge of cable tank still visible.

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Update on Finding “Good Homes” for the four 16-inch/50 battleship barrels at St. Juliens Creek Naval Annex

Terry McGovern

The CDSG’s efforts to locate good home for the four remaining 16-inch/50 battleship barrels at St. Juliens Creek Naval Annex continues and we ask CDSG members for assistance in this effort. Below is a summary of the known current efforts by various organizes to provide “good homes” for these barrels:

1) The USS *Iowa* Association continues to raise funds to pay for moving of the barrel from the USS *Iowa* to the USS *Iowa* Memorial (dedicated to the 47 sailors that died during the ship’s turret explosion in 1989) at Naval Station Norfolk. While they have official approval from the US Navy to place Barrel No. 270 (the very first production Mark 7 to be installed on the Iowa class) at the memorial, the association needs to pay a contractor to transport the barrel the 15 miles to the memorial. Mr. Ken Leff is leading the association’s efforts to raise the required funds (they have raised about \$45k to date). He has been working to find funding from former crewmates, companies, foundations, government agencies, and about anyone he can think of to make a tax-deductible donation. Ken and Terry McGovern meet with the CO/XO of the Naval Station Norfolk and Representative Rigell’s office in July to discuss how to secure more resources for this project. We also met with the Lockwood Brothers to see if by sharing a move with the Battleship NJ they will lower the cost for moving the USS Iowa barrel. Primary contact: Ken Leff at kenl636@hotmail.com.

2) Battleship New Jersey, the organization that administrates the USS *New Jersey* as a memorial & museum in Camden, NJ, has developed both a transportation plan (using a barge) and an interpretation plan for all three remaining barrels from USS *New Jersey*. Each would be used in a different way as displays at the battleship, as well as the Philadelphia Navy Yard. Mr. Phil Rowan, CEO of Battleship New Jersey, is leading the efforts to raise funds and organize the transport. They have made funding requests to several large donors. Primary contact: Phil Rowan at p.rowan@battleshipnewjersey.org.

3) Terry McGovern is planning a meeting with City of Virginia Beach (Historic Preservation Commission), Joint Navy Army Base (Little Creek/Fort Story), Congressman Rigell’s office, and Lockwood Brothers in August to discuss their willingness to display one of the 16-inch barrels at the Cape Henry Lighthouse (which is very near Battery Ketchum, which is one of two 16-inch batteries at Fort Story that had such barrels during World War Two). The City of Virginia Beach, VA, will consider assisting in raising the roughly \$100k to move the barrel 25 miles from St. Juliens Creek if the Joint Navy/Army Base command agree to the display.

4) We have reached out again to three state parks departments: Montauk State Park Complex (Battery Dunn (actually two batteries on site) - Camp Hero, NY), Fisherman’s Memorial State Park (Battery 109 - Fort Greene, Point Judith, RI), and Odiorne Point State Park (Battery Seaman - Fort Dearborn, Portsmouth, NH). These state parks all had 16-inch barrels during World War II and would like to improve their interpretation of these batteries, but they had no access to funding in 2012. We want to see if they have made any progress in gaining possible funding for this type of project.

There has also been interest in a barrel from such locations at San Diego, CA, Oklahoma City, OK, and Eglin, FL, but there has been no recent activities from these inquires.

We need your help in finding and assisting organizations that will take barrel and give it a good home. Please advise Terry McGovern at 703/934-3661 or tcmcgovern@att.net if you have a good home in mind for these 16-inch/50 barrels.



Remaining 16-inch/50 battleship barrels at St. Juliens Creek Naval Annex, Chesapeake, VA.

* * *

The CDSG Fund

The CDSG Fund supports the efforts of the Coast Defense Study Group, Inc., by raising funds to support preservation and interpretation efforts concerning seacoast defenses around the United States.

The CDSG Fund is always seeking proposals for the monetary support of preservation and interpretation projects at public parks and museums. A one-page proposal briefly describing the site, the organization doing the work, the project to be done or supported, and how the money would be used, should be sent to Terry McGovern or Mark Berhow.



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Battery Townsley Receives California Heritage Council Award

Jack R. Buckmeir 1946-2016

John A. Martini

The Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and in particular the corps of dedicated volunteers who have worked so hard to restore and interpret Battery Townsley, received special recognition from the California Heritage Council at its 2016 Annual Awards Dinner, held on June 22nd at the St. Francis Yacht Club. Volunteer leader and retired NPS ranger John Martini spoke of the generosity of the late Chuck Wofford, whose generous bequest kick-started the project back in 2006, of the hard work provided by the park VIPs over the years, especially Sam Stokes, Greg Jennings, John Prince and Fred Schwartz, and of the technical assistance and support of the park's cultural resource and interpretive staff. It was great to have Superintendent Chris Lehnertz in attendance as well and she connected the project to the broader NPS mission and to the goals of our centennial year in her brief remarks.

The text of the award follows:

BATTERY TOWNSLEY, Fort Cronkhite, GGNRA. This Award was nominated by CHC member, Richard Torney, and will be accepted by John Martini, volunteer leader of the primarily volunteer effort to restore Battery Townsley. It represents the zenith of U.S. military technology for coast defense purposes. It is one of a pair of prototypes for nearly thirty more casemated (overhead-protected) gun batteries that protected key harbors during World War II, and is now the best restored of its type. Built by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, between 1937 and 1940, Battery Townsley has been restored by a group of skilled and dedicated volunteers, working under National Park Service direction. It is open to the public on a regular basis for guided tours, and it has become one of the highlights of a visit to the scenic and historic Marin Headlands.

Jack R. Buckmeir, long-time CDSG member, passed away June 16, 2016, at the age of 69 in Warrenton, OR, where he and his wife Teresa had been living for the last few years. Jack had lived most of his life in Vancouver, WA. As Jack became active in Friends of Old Fort Stevens in the mid-1990s, he began the monumental undertaking of creating a working life-size reproduction of an M1897M1 6-inch gun on an M1898 disappearing carriage to be mounted in Emplacement No. 1 of Battery Pratt at Fort Stevens, OR. The replica 6-inch gun barrel was mounted at Battery Pratt in 1997, and by 2010 the carriage, with the gun barrel mounted, was nearly 90% complete, though work sadly had to cease on the project due to Jack having a major health emergency at the site in 2010.

Jack's incredible mechanical knowledge made the Battery Pratt restoration possible. His efforts also led to a replica shell receiving table in Battery Pratt, and he had many ideas for more replica guns, carriages, and more. Jack also built a replica 1/6 scale model of a 10-inch disappearing gun and carriage, on display in the Fort Stevens museum, where he had donated many items in the past.

Over the last 20-plus years Jack and his wife Teresa volunteered much of their time to the three Columbia River forts, primarily Fort Stevens, and Jack was the CDSG site representative for the Columbia River forts. As long as Jack's work remains at Fort Stevens, we will have something to remember him by. Jack will be very missed by all who knew him. He leaves behind his wife, many children, grandchildren, extended family, and friends.

* * * * *

Game Review: World of Warships

Developer and Publisher: Wargaming.com

Platform: PC

“World of Warships” is a Massively Multiplayer Online (MMO) computer game which allows you to fight team battles as the commander of your selected 20th century warship, controlling the speed, course, primary guns, torpedoes (if so equipped), and to a lesser extent the secondary/AA armament. This game will interest anyone with a love of historical naval vessels who wants to see how they perform in battle. Of special note to seacoast fort enthusiasts, in the most recent version of this game you can attack coastal batteries and fire control stations while they fire on you!

For best results, you should have a fast processor and powerful graphics card, or display details will be reduced and it will play choppily. A mouse is required. The game is billed as “free to play,” but your progress will be extremely slow unless you purchase (with real money) in-game currency and “premium time” to buy/upgrade ships and earn experience points faster. Also, exchanging “free experience” costs real money.

The ships are destroyers, cruisers, battleships, and aircraft carriers of the US Navy, the Imperial Japanese Navy, the Kriegsmarine, the Imperial Russian/Soviet Navy, and to a lesser extent the Royal Navy. The ships are rendered beautifully and in great detail. All (except carriers) fire AP or HE on your command, with correspondingly different results. For carriers you control squadrons of dive bombers, torpedo bombers, and/or fighters. There currently are no submarines, thank God.

Within a navy, the ship classes fall into tiers from I to X. Not all tiers are represented in each class, and the ships may have only been proposed. Along the way, the ships get better survivability, secondary guns, AA defense, float planes, and in some cases, radar. They also become progressively harder to acquire in terms of required experience, and will cost more (in-game) currency to purchase, repair, and upgrade.



Figure 1: IJN Cruiser Myoko

The in-game economy is a bit challenging to understand. Basically, fighting battles gains you credits, ship experience points, “free experience” points, and commander experience points. The better you do, the more points and credits are earned. But damage suffered and rounds/torpedoes fired cost you credits,

while lost battles earn less experience, even if you yourself did relatively well. Ship experience points give access to upgrades for your ship and allow you to move to the next higher tier. Commander experience gives access to “skills” for your ship, such as improved accuracy, turret traverse, concealment, damage control, etc. “Free experience” (accumulated very slowly) can be exchanged for experience on any ship.

There are two main modes of battle. In “Co-Op,” you and your teammates (generally seven) fight against “bots,” artificial-intelligence “captains.” This mode is generally for training or trying out a new ship; while you frequently win, you accumulate very little experience/credits. “Random” mode typically has 12 “real” captains on each side, and is very competitive and correspondingly rewarding or costly. The teams are randomly chosen by the game’s “matchmaker” algorithms. In most cases your ship will be facing ships within your tier and one or two tiers above/below that. This means you can be a tier IV ship in a tier VI match, with the corresponding challenges. The match ships represent all navies and classes. Not every game has a carrier, to the relief of cruisers and battleships.



Figure 2: IJN Cruiser Aoba on the map “Two Brothers”

“Maps” show the battlefield, randomly assigned to govern each game. All are three-dimensional, and all (except the challenging “Ocean”) have islands and other landforms to navigate around, hide behind, and too-frequently run aground upon. The land and sea are beautifully rendered and increasingly there are weather features to complicate play. Your default game view a “from the bridge,” but I typically prefer to view my whole ship as if I were in a kite being towed behind. A binocular view zooms in on targets when desired. Within your map is a “mini-map” to show a diagrammatic view of the main map and any visible ships and aircraft. The “mini-map” highlights your ship’s position, its detectability range, and the ranges of your primary, secondary, AA, and torpedo armaments.

In “Standard Mode,” each team has a home base to defend; the game ends with the capture of the opposing base (or all team ships destroyed). In “Domination,” there are 3 – 4 neutral areas of the map to capture and hold. Holding these areas increases team points, as does destroying enemy ships. Ships destroyed on your team reduce your points. The first team to reach 1000 points or destroy all enemy ships is the winner. Battles last up to 20 minutes.

To hit enemy ships, you must be in range for your gun size, and be able to calculate lead based on target direction, distance, and shell flight time. There is no gunfire predictor, other than the display of flight time. You can fire turrets independently, or all in a salvo. You must wait for turret traversing and shell reloading. AA and secondary guns are automatic (and inaccurate) with only limited control (you can designate a particular target), but can be effective on occasion. You have a torpedo predictor to assist you. You can stop fires and flooding with a repair button, but it takes several minutes to become available again. Higher-tier capital ships have several “heal” charges which let you recover some of the “hit points” you have lost, but again, only after a “cool down” between use.

Carriers (which this reviewer has never played) have a different gameplay. You have a top-down view of the map, and you must direct your squadrons to their targets, while facing enemy fighters and AA fire, and avoiding damage. Most of the game details are realistic, but aircraft flight looks unnatural and bird-like.

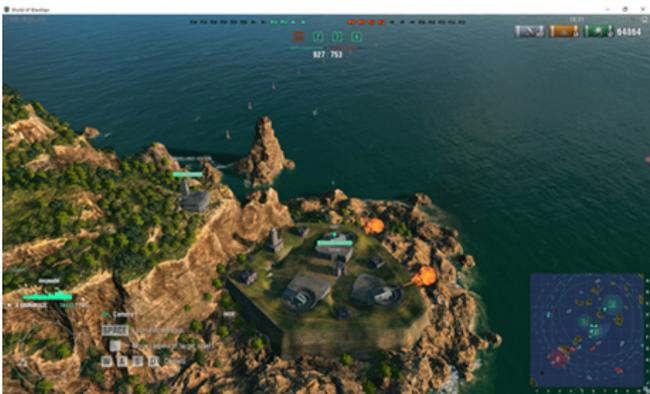


Figure 3: “Fort” and “Surveillance Tower”

Forts are random features on higher-tier maps, with turret batteries. This reviewer has not found any information on the gun size. “Surveillance Towers” are fire control stations. The forts are in the neutral capture zones and become active after the zone is captured. When captured, forts will observe enemy ships and fire on them, but they are automatic and not controlled by users. They can be destroyed, slowly, but will repair themselves, also slowly. This reviewer has not noted them having much impact on overall game play. Attention Wargaming: would it be difficult to create an alternate battle mode and allow a user to take command of a fort? One can only imagine the possibilities.

There is a wiki site that will let you learn about the game if you are interested: http://wiki.wargaming.net/en/World_of_Warships.

In summary, World of Warships is an enjoyable, historically accurate, addictive, and often frustrating game for ship enthusiasts. I highly recommend it. Maybe I will see you on the high seas! My game name is (unoriginally) “Capn_Will.”

William Lowenthal

* * * * *

Update on Some New CDSG Projects

Mark Berhow

The CDSG Projects Committee has supported efforts over the years to digitize and provide information on American seacoast defenses. This has resulted in building and supporting a website, and scanning and digitizing collections of historical documentation, largely from the National Archives. In the past year several new projects have been completed or are close to being completed. The goal is to build a complete document history of the various forts and reservations that made up American harbor defenses of 1890-1948.

Recently the CDSG has contracted with a private company to revamp the CDSG website. The first phase of this work was completed in July and the site has been migrated to a new host which has unlimited storage space. The site has been completely converted to state-of-the-art WordPress format which is more stable and better protected from hacking and other pitfalls of the modern internet. The web address is the same: cdsg.org, so please check it out. They have also resurrected the CDSG forum, so we have a place to post your comments and observations at <http://www.cdsg.org/forums/>. Future plans including uploading our digital library to the website and making access available as part of our membership benefits.

We have also begun some new digitizing projects. First was the battery construction correspondence files, which were copied from the National Archives by Glen Williford. Over 7400 pages of material were copied. The files are arranged by battery and fort, but of course in most cases the battery was not yet named, and so the text usually just referred to as to gun size, location, or chronologically sequenced order. Sometimes there are multiple entries for a battery, particularly when an emplacement for an additional gun(s) was made after several years. Sometimes two similar or immediately adjacent batteries were authorized simultaneously, submitted simultaneously, and share a single battery file number. Also several emplacement projects were authorized and plans submitted, but for one reason or another were never constructed. These were collected and are included but usually just referred to as “projects.” In later years, separate projects were authorized for major rebuilding of older emplacements, treated administratively as “new” projects. Some battery emplacement submission records are missing in the original files. In every attempt they were searched for, and while a couple may have been missed or are misfiled and were not found, in most cases they are just “gone” or were never submitted. Many of the early Taft-generation works for the Philippines and Hawaii do not have substantial primary files and are poorly represented in the existing documentation. The period covered is generally from 1895 to 1930.

The second project is to digitize the inspection reports for the various harbor defenses and forts from around 1900 up to 1941. This is from Bolling Smith’s collection and the number of inspections can vary considerably from a few pages to a large number of reports. Part of the issue is that it appears that these inspection reports may be either housed in different NARA locations and others may be missing. Still the collection does provide some

insight into the goings on at these locations. The collection is organized by harbor defense but may not be sequential.

The third project is to finish scanning all the documents that make up the harbor defense projects initiated in 1932. Each active harbor created a document that defined it's mission, and described the means to carry out that mission: the gun batteries, fire control, searchlights, underwater defenses, anti-aircraft defenses, and gas defense, while giving an estimate of what was needed to complete/augment those defenses. These were accompanied by a set of annexes, generally prepared by 1936-37, and updated during 1939-1945 with the new modernization program. The CDSG previously digitized the supplements that provide an overview of the final disposition of the harbor defenses prepared in 1944-and updated in 1946. Now we are scanning the remaining documents from this collection from 1932-1943 from Bolling Smith's collection copied from the National Archives. Together these give a good overall view of the existing harbor defenses in the mid-1930s to the final state of the harbor defenses in 1946.

The CDSG is still offering sets of these collections for the general price of \$50 per harbor, a fantastic value of all the material that is included. Going to the Archives, finding this material, and making copies is both time consuming and at \$0.25 a page for NARA copying, can add up to quite an expense to get that material. If the material is less than 4.2 GBs we provide it as a data DVD. For material that is over 4.2 GBs, we have upgraded our copying and distribution methods to USB drives, which are now available in various capacities: 8GB, 16GB, 64GB, and 128 GB. We are still offer the complete set of all the harbor defense documents for \$250 which will be copied onto a 128 GB USB drive. There is even still room to add the CDSG documents collection and the CDSG publications collection for an additional \$100. The fees we are charging are helping to defray the CDSG expenses in obtaining these files and to cover the expenses involved in the maintenance of the CDSG website.

The CDSG is dedicated to enhancing the historical record of American seacoast defenses. We hope that our members and fellow researchers are able to make use of these resources for the exploration and preservation of our coast defense history.

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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

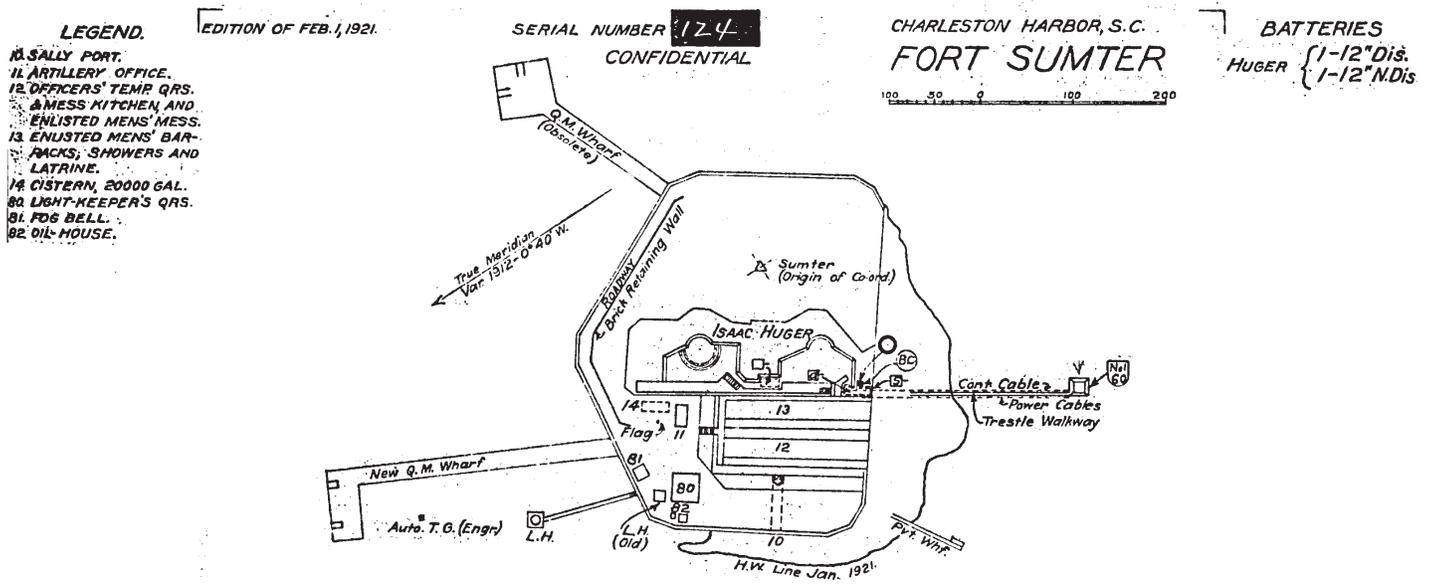
Total Number: ___ times \$ ___ = Total \$ ___
(domestic \$18/overseas \$26 each)

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/>



Form No. 71.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF COAST ARTILLERY

RECORD OF COMMUNICATION RECEIVED.

From: Maj. T. W. King, I.G.D., Asst., I.G., 4th Corps Area, Dated: Mar. 27, 1933
 Hq., Ft. McPherson, Atlanta, Ga.

To: CG, 4th Corps Area THRU CO, Ft. Moultrie, S.C. Recd. OCCA:
 June 22, 1933

Subject: Annual Inspection of Ft. Moultrie, S.C., - F.Y. 1933.

I. General.

1. This inspection was completed on Feb. 23, 1933. The last previous inspection by an officer of the Inspector General's Department was completed Feb. 26, 1932, by Col. C.A. Bach, I.G.D.

2. This inspection was made in accordance with the provisions of Inspection Guides and items not mentioned in this report were inspected and found satisfactory.

XIX. HARBOR DEFENSES OF CHARLESTON.

1. Fort Sumter. a. Armament and installations were in excellent condition, except one magazine, in which powder was stored, had a bad leak in the wall.

2. Fort Moultrie. Armament and installations were in excellent condition, except the magazines, most of which are damp during rainy weather. One, in which small arm ammunition was stored, had a couple of inches of water on the floor. While the ammunition was kept out of the water by planking, it is believed it should be moved to a drier magazine.

XXI. RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. * That, in accordance with Act of June 8, 1906, the President proclaim Ft. Sumter, S.C., a National Monument and that an appropriation of twenty-thousand dollars be secured for the following purposes.

c. To salvage the lavatory and caretaker's house now on the fort, remove all rubble and fill from the parade ground and underground passages and, as far as practicable, restore the fort to its original condition at a cost not to exceed \$10,000.

3 Incls. Exhibit "A" - Report on The Post Exchanged, Ft. Moultrie, from Jan. 1, 1932 to Jan. 1, 1933.
 Exhibit "B" - Picture of tablet in memory of garrison at Ft. Sumter during siege of 1861.
 Inc. 3. - Report of Annual Gen. Inspection of Ft. Davis, CZ, F.Y. 1932.

4th Ind. June 16, 1933 - OQMG to Chief of Infantry.

e. Section XXI, Par. 1, Ft. Sumter: In the opinion of this office this is not an appropriate time for action along the line recommended by the inspector, involving changes costing \$20,000. It has been difficult for the office to obtain adequate appropriations in the past to take care of the national monuments already under its supervision and, in view of this, it is

believed no action should be taken at this time to declare Ft. Sumter a national monument.

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berhowma@cdsg.org

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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
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1700 Oak Lane, McLean, VA 22101-3326

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