

**Primary Battery File**

**National Archives, Washington D.C.**

**Record Group 77**

**Correspondence of the Chief of Engineers**

**Entry 103**

**File, Fort, Battery:**

**29413**

**Ft. Monroe**

**Btty Eustis**

Capt. Thos. L. Casey,  
Corps of Engineers, U. S. A.

W

U. S. ENGINEER OFFICE,  
100 GRANBY STREET,

Norfolk, Va., March 23, 1898.

Brig. Gen. John M. Wilson,  
Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army,  
Washington, D. C.

General:-

In answer to Department letter of the 22nd instant, file No. 24913/1, relating to plans for the three new emplacements at Fort Monroe, I have the honor to state that in my opinion it would be advisable to finish two 2-gun emplacements, rather than to build a single 3-gun emplacement, for the reason that we should in this case distribute the defense over a greater extent of front and lessen the liability to injury through a concentration of the fire of the enemy. In this case one of the three new emplacements would naturally be the right emplacement of the 2-gun redoubt now in process of construction about 600 feet to the southward of the new mortar battery, and the other two would form a redoubt to be placed on the beach front just to the north of the line joining the fire of the 2-gun redoubt now completed with Thimble Shoal Light, as this line will limit the construction of beach works to the southward. This redoubt will be so placed as not to interfere with the extreme southern traverse fire of the guns in the redoubt near the mortar battery. In referring to the 2-gun redoubts completed or in process of construction at Fort Monroe I would respectfully suggest that the one now complete near

the covered way be known as Redoubt A, the one to the south of the Mortar Battery as Redoubt B and that near the intersection of the line of fire from Redoubt A to Thimble Shoal Light with the beach front as Redoubt C. Redoubt A is already complete with guns mounted. Redoubt B has the left emplacement under way by a previous allotment. The right emplacement would have to conform in arrangement of magazines etc., with the left emplacement in order to secure symmetry and a disposition of the magazines and shell rooms upon the right flank. I would earnestly appeal to the Department to allow me to so construct it, as a continued study of all the conditions upon the actual ground and in reference to this particular site, convince me that this arrangement by reason of the similarity and uniformity of steel beams and other structural material with the left emplacement already under way, would enable me to complete it much sooner and at less expense than if the patterns of structural materials had to be changed. Redoubt C will be constructed if approved by the Chief of Engineers in exact accordance with the plans of the Board of Engineers as shown in Mimeograph 22.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

*J. M. Casey*  
Captain, Corps of Engineers.

773/9 F. M.

OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS

MAR 25 24913 6681  
MAR 25 1898

Norfolk, Va.  
Mar. 23/98

Every, Capt. J. L.

In his opinion it would be advisable to finish two 2-gun emplacements, rather than to build a single 3-gun emplacement at Fort Monroe, Va.

Wm. F. Griffith, March 25, 1898

2 copies

File

RECD, BRIG OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. MAR 31 1898

Rec'd H. E. O. Norfolk, Va. Mar. 26, 1898

1st indorsement.  
Office Chief of Engineers,

U. S. ARMY.  
March 25, 1898.

Respectfully returned approved.  
When such record as may be necessary has been made, this paper will be returned to this Office.

By command of Brig. Gen. Wilson:

Joseph S. Fisher  
Captain, Corps of Engineers.

24913  
3  
Rec'd F. O. Norfolk, Va. Mar. 26, 1898.

2nd indorsement.  
U. S. Engineer Office  
Norfolk, Va., Mar. 29, 1898.

Respectfully returned to the Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army, the necessary record having been made.

Wm. F. Griffith  
Captain, Corps of Engineers.

RECD, OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. MAR 31 1898

U. S. ENGINEER OFFICE,  
160 GRANBY STREET.

Norfolk, Va., October 12, 1900.

Brig. Gen. John M. Wilson,  
Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army,  
Washington, D. C.

General

I have the honor to report, under the provisions of Par. 1486, A. R., that the emplacements for four 10-inch B. L. Rifles on disappearing carriages, L. F., three model 1896 and one on experimental carriage patterned somewhat after the 1894 model, have been completed, with the exception of placing a few instruments on the switchboard of the electric lighting installations for which arrangements are now in progress. The emplacements referred to were constructed in two batteries which have been designated as Redoubts B. & C.

The imperfections noted will not interfere with the transfer of the works to the troops, and, inasmuch as they desire to use the armament of the emplacements, about the latter part of this month, in their annual target practice, I would respectfully recommend that the transfer of these batteries and all accessories be effected as soon as possible.

Very respectfully,  
Your obedient servant,

*James D. Wilson*

Major, Corps of Engineers,  
U. S. Army.

