



The CDSG Newsletter



The Coast Defense Study Group, Inc. — Summer 2021



Preservation Committee Report

Gordon Bliss, Chair

The resurgence of COVID because of the Delta variant has put something of a damper on activities this summer, but nonetheless there is a lot going on, as you can see from the reports below. In addition, I hope and expect that I will get to see some of you at the Charleston conference after no conferences for two years. This conference will also give us a chance to see the results of at least one CDSG Fund grant.

To start off with one of the main current preservation issues, the situation at Fort Wool, on a small island off Fort Monroe. In a recent exchange of letters between the Coalition for Historic Fort Wool, which includes the CDSG, and the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel (HRBT) Expansion Team, the HRBT team rejected the requests of the Coalition, citing various reasons. The general tone of the letter seems to imply that remediation of the situation at Fort Wool is not their responsibility and that another state agency is responsible. Preservation Virginia has put Fort Wool on their 2021 list of "Virginia's Most Endangered Historic Places" – details of this are in a separate article in this newsletter. At Fort Monroe itself there are new plans for development in the marina area which could affect some of the historic buildings there. There are details of this in a separate article in this newsletter.

At Fort Hancock on Sandy Hook, the committee created to restore the buildings in the main post area and put them in use are continuing to add to the number of buildings leased out. A separate article in this newsletter has more detail on the current situation at Fort Hancock.

Those of you on the email group have seen the progress of the work on the top of the southeast demi-bastion at Fort Adams with the pouring of a concrete layer to be followed by the application of a waterproof membrane. Other work continues at Fort Adams to improve the condition of both the main fort and the nearby concrete batteries.

The repair and renovation of the visitor center (the attached former barracks) at the Halibut Point fire control tower in Rockport, MA, is nearly complete and it should be open to the public in the near future. I hope to have a report on how it looks by the next newsletter. Also concerning the Boston area, the National Trust for Historic Preservation has placed the Boston Harbor Islands on their 11 most endangered historic place in the United States list. See the article in this newsletter for details.

For those going to the New Orleans conference next year, conditions may be improving at West Grand Terre Island, the location of Fort Livingston, as there is an ongoing project to build a rock barrier there which should prevent further erosion of the west end of the island and thus the fort. Again, there is more detail on this in a separate newsletter article. It remains to be seen whether there will be unforeseen side effects on the fort, but hopefully we will get a report from those that visit there next spring.

CDSG Meeting and Tour Calendar

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

2021 CDSG Conference

October 12 - 17, 2021

Charleston/Savannah

Gary Alexander, oozlefinch@att.net

2022 CDSG Conference

March 23 - 27, 2022

New Orleans

Quentin Schillare, qschillare@kc.rr.com

2022 FSG - CDSG Special Tour

May 21/27 to May 31/June 7, 2022

Sweden

Terry McGovern, tcmcgovern@att.net

2023 CDSG Special Tour

September

Northern Poland

Terry McGovern, tcmcgovern@att.net

Other Meetings and Tours

September 23 -27, 2021

Piemont - Val D'Aoste, Italy

Association Vauban Annual Congress

Alain Moferrand, congress@association-vaubann.org

September 24 - 26, 2021

Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Festungforschung Annual Meeting
Wesel, Germany

Andres Kupka, akupka@juelich.de

October 12 - 15, 2021

Council on America's Military Past Annual Conference
Charleston

Bridget Hart, brigethshea@hotmail.com

October 14 - 15, 2021

Luxemburg

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

October 15 - 16, 2021

Smolensk

History of Fortification Study Centere Conference
Konstantin Nos0v, ciff-info@yandex.ru

April 10 - 23, 2022
ECCOFORT Study Tour
Morroco

Hans-Rudolf Neumann, hrv.neumannqt@online.de

May 29-30, 2022
Assn Saint-Maurice d' Etudes Militaires Tour
Ticino & Lake Como
Pascal Bruchez, president@asmem.ch

June 2022
ECCOFORT Study Tour
Armenia
Hans-Rudolf Neumann, hrv.neumannqt@online.de

August 27 - September 4, 2022
Kotor/Montenegro
ECCOFORT Study Tour & Seminar
Hans-Rudolf Neumann, hrv.neumannqt@online.de

September 2022
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Festungsforschung Annual Meeting
Julich, Germany
Andres Kupka, akupka@juelich.de

September 2023
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Festungsforschung Annual Meeting
Kufstein, Austria
Andres Kupka, akupka@juelich.de

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

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Result of 2021 CDSG Election

Terry McGovern, Teller

The CDSG teller reports the election of Norm Scarpulla as the next CDSG director. Richard Wong's term will end on October 1, 2021; Norm's term will begin at that time and run for the next three years. Therefore, the directors for the next year will be Robert Grimm, Steve Waldron, and Norm Scarpulla. 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 Mike Malone and Norm Scarpulla for their willingness to serve the CDSG in this role. Next year's nomination committee for the 2022 election will be Tom Batha (Chair), Danny Malone, and Richard Wong.

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2021 Annual Business Meeting – Thursday, October 14th @ 7pm

Terry McGovern – Secretary/Treasurer

The CDSG Board of Directors is happy to announce that the CDSG Annual Business Meeting will be held at the Double Tree by Hilton, Charleston/Mount Pleasant located at 1330 Stuart Engals Boulevard, Mount Pleasant, SC, 29464 at 7:00pm (EST). If the 2021 annual conference to the defenses of Charleston/Savannah is cancelled, the annual business meeting will be conducted via Zoom on the same day and time. Information on accessing the Zoom meeting will be emailed to all CDSG members two weeks before the annual business meeting. The board urges all members to attend to hear annual reports from the board and committees and to discuss plans for the coming years.

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Request to CDSG Membership

Norm Scarpulla

The CDSG Representative and Outreach Committee is working on gathering current contact information for all the coast defense site owners in the USA. We need this information for our outreach efforts to both inform site owners on the value of protecting these sites for future generations as well as to encourage them to become members of the CDSG. Send us this contact information (site name and location, owner's name, owner's address, owner's telephone number, owner's email address, website name (if any), and owner's primary contact person) for your local coast defense sites (this could be anything from a fire control station to an entire fort as our database will be organized based on ownership, i.e. one entry per owner). Please send this information to Terry McGovern (tcmcgovern@att.net) and to Norman Scarpulla (nkscarpulla@icloud.com). Thanks for your assistance.

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Updating the Most Endangered Coast Defense Sites Listing

Terry McGovern

The CDSG has publicized a list of the American seacoast defense sites that are being threatened with destruction by neglect or development. We have also assembled a list of sites where preservation efforts have been highly successful. To review the current list, please go to: <https://cdsg.org/preservation-interpretation/> then click on the link to PDF attachments. We are updating these lists and we need your help. We need to know from you which sites you think are the most endangered or best preserved and why you think these sites qualify to be on the CDSG's top sites listing. Please send this information to Terry McGovern at 1700 Oak Lane, McLean, VA 22101 or at tcmcgovern@att.net.

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Summary of the 2021 Member Survey Responses

Three questions posed to our membership via our 2021 election ballot provided 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: Publication are consistently high quality! / Very good considering the world situation. / Good – book quality excellent. Choices are reasonable. / The CDSG communications and publications continue to be of the highest professional level standards. The evolving changes and improvements regarding yearly communications with individual members is greatly appreciated. I would like to see an article/guide in the Journal regarding identification of "unknowns" that the general public seem to be interested in. People ask when looking at concrete, what was mounted in all those holes or what gun was here. The mounting size or distance between holes, associated equipment and general wire runs and other information are information not identified in readily available reference books. Consider developing a Fortification and Ammunition Color chart or paint mix formulas chart as separate purchase reference tool. / All very good! BW, Mark, and Terry are the best! All the worker bees have done a good job! Thanks! / Great – Thanks to all taking the time to produce them. / Became a new member in 2019 ... then COVID ... so I haven't yet participated in activities but I am quite excited for the New Orleans conference. Publications are solid. I would like more on the First & Second Systems fortifications at times. / Good. Who replaces BW when he retires? / Excellent! I enjoy every issue. / Excellent. Good tech info and drawings. / More international content to the magazine. Book reviews – to ID literature on subject. Website with Forum. / The Journal and newsletter are outstanding publications and I have enjoyed reading them throughout the years. My work schedule prohibits me from attending tours during the school year. I have to wait until retirement. / I (we as a group) need to give BW a break and send him more good articles. I have some in mind but have not done them yet. / More 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.

The second question was **"What should be the future of the CDSG – more of the same or new goals/programs"**. Sample responses are: Would be great to into preservation challenges – dealing with maintenance of specific materials in marine environments; priorities limited funds; priorities interpretive opportunities / Conferences great – wonder if we should see about video documenting some of our sites & trips? / Very pleased with current activity and goals. / Key challenges facing CDSG are (1) degradation and destruction of fortifications; (2) fewer people interested in either research or preservation. CDSG needs to consider revising its goals and objectives regarding membership and purpose – conferences and events need scrutiny in this area. / I have concern about the future of CDSG. Most of the

core group of long-term outstanding volunteers is aging rapidly. CDSG would not exist without these dedicated people. We need a younger generation to start training for a smooth transition before the current skill and knowledge base completely disappears. This is more than just becoming a director. It includes other departments within the organization as well, especially publications, press, preservation. My hope is that CDSG will continue to thrive in the future but the time to start preparing is now! / Do what we are doing. New goals start themselves. / Increase advocacy for preservation of historical sites, including sites under NPS control that are falling into significant disrepair and victimized by vandalism. / Canvas the membership to see where their interest really lie. / More activity on Facebook – keep members in the know and exchange ideas. / Rerelease in DVD format previously released tour video cassettes, such as Corregidor tour in the 1990s. / Zany suggestion: Assume ownership and management of some long-neglected fort and allow member access like a "hunt club" of 100 years ago? / Same – Add Nike. / More of the same – why trifle with success? / A hybrid of both. The expertise of current and input from new members. / The preservation and teaching aspect must be strengthened. Member acquisition is imperative. / The current format of the CDSG is excellent! / Would like to see more digital/YouTube/internet material – short videos on different sites and key features of those sites. / Online – Zoom conference – hybrid are here to stay. Links to historical presentation and heritage industry including sites that may not be publicized. / A portion of the Journal should be geared towards highlighting great interpretation and living history. It is currently geared almost exclusively towards the engineering and technical side. / Any chance on more books on US fortifications, even one on the history of the Coast Artillery Corp? Specially interested in 1900 to 1950. / Outreach to site owner to promote preservation and interpretation is key – more of it / More grants by the CDSG Fund / What happened at Fort Wool is a major catastrophe. Anything we can do to prevent further pillaging? / More local meetings of CDSG members and work parties to protect fort structures. / I would like to see "video shorts" added to the website that invite members and the viewing public to visit different sites. / More outreach to site owners and managers to encourage the promotion of our history. / Put a donation button on website, with option for monthly donations via credit cards. / Finding new ways to share the organization's expertise – social media connections to site-owners / Do more serious fundraising and political lobbying to save more of these historic sites / Coast Defense Site owner database needed so we can reach out to site owners to join / 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.

The third question was **"Where should the CDSG hold its future conferences and special tours – and would you organize one?"** Sample responses are: Wish I could have on the Scandinavia trip this year! – Not sure logistics are good, but coastal Alaska has some sites. Hard to get to but Sita, Steward, and Kodiak might be doable? / Caribbean – I will help. / I will try my hardest to get involved in New England fort activities in the future. The ongoing restoration of Fort Sewall in Marblehead, MA, is wonderful

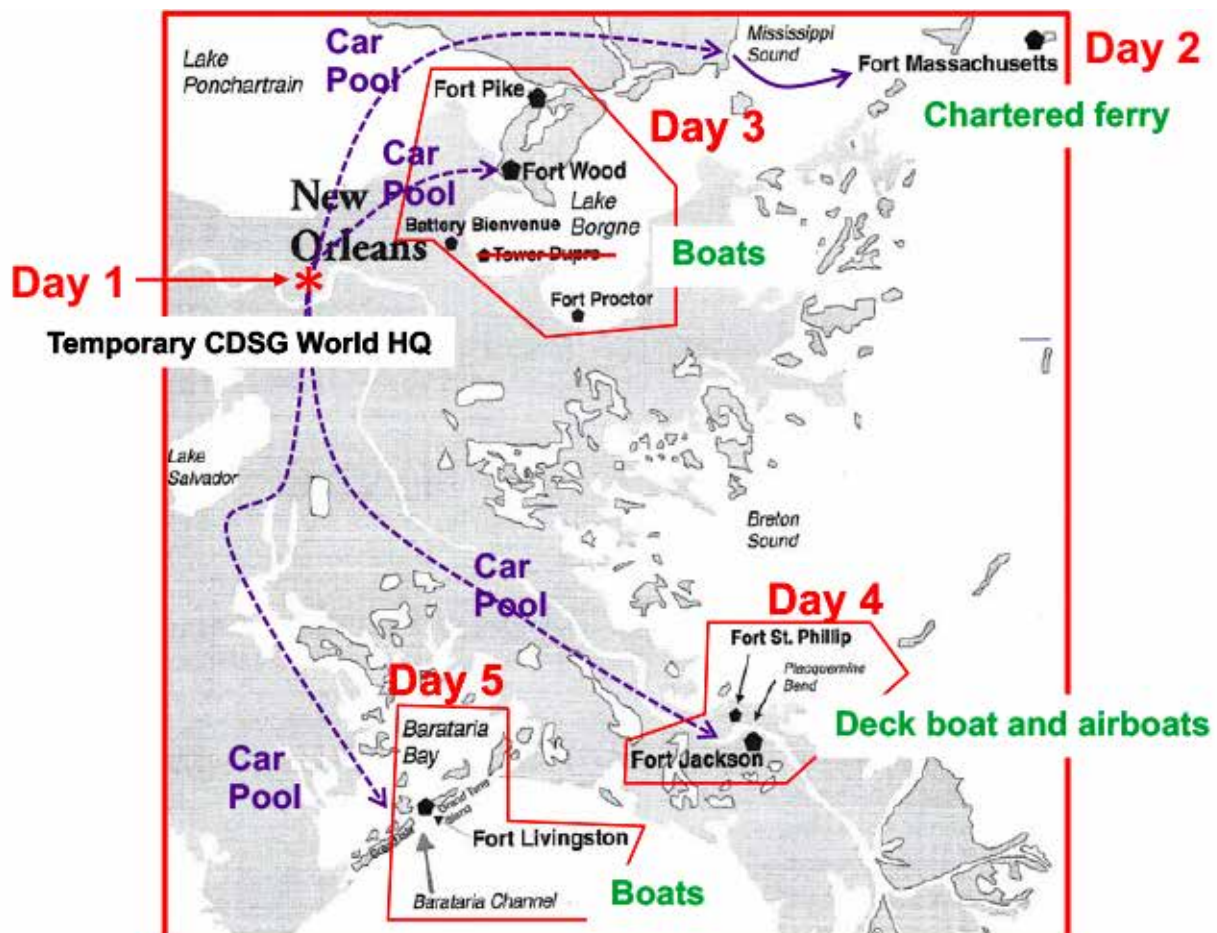
and inspiring. / Have organized a tour (HDNY-17) which is the most logical to my current residence location. CDSG should continue to conduct conferences at major US harbor defense locations – showcasing American fortifications is our reason for existence and must continue to be our primary focus. Local outreach needs to improve as we conduct conferences. We should strive to leave a conference location with a noticeable increase in membership and interest. / The conferences are outstanding. One area for consideration is development of a “sponsor” or “mentorship” program for conference rookies. First time attendees can be intimidated to a degree when other members form their own groupings and go off on their own, leaving the rookies to fend for themselves. Maybe offer the sponsor a small discount or free lunch (for both of them) to take a rookie under their wing for at least the first day or longer. This can be done at the conference welcoming or beforehand. / I am not traveling much these days. / I’d be happy to attend a future conference in the San Francisco Bay area. / I look forward to any US venue. Maybe also maritime Canada? / Pacific Northwest again. / Tour to Alaska. / Hawaii. / Key West – Tampa, San Francisco, Portland (ME), Long Island Sound – Perhaps after I retire, I will organize one! / I would like to see another at Fort MacArthur, but also outlying areas in Long Beach & Los Angeles Coast (Breakers Hotel), and Bluff Park. /

Somewhere along the Pacific Ocean. / Add sites around the US, to include Hawaii and Alaska. / Keep Zoom – online links. This could include specialized meetings, e.g., on research sources at NARA and elsewhere. / I have missed the West Coast options (being a recent member). In terms of organizing one ... again perhaps in retirement years away! / We should continue the loop of harbor defenses; however, we do need to begin screening out those locations that have seen substantial degradation of the fortifications or dramatic drop in access. / Due to the pandemic, in-person events may be difficult – Virtual tours could help increase the group’s profile and bring positive exposure to our defense sites. Following the pandemic, a virtual tour program could continue to make people aware of our coastal defense heritage. / Russian coast defenses (pre-WW1) if existent. / San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Key West, FL. / Would love to go on a special tour of Alaska coast defenses – Dutch Harbor, Kodiak, Seward, Sitka, etc. / Hawaii would be a good special tour / 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 site / What happened to the tour to the defenses of Australia and New Zealand? / Worried the virus might stop CDSG conferences and tours for several years. / It is time to have conferences to Portland, Maine, and Long Island Sound.

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Coast Defense Study Group St. Babs XXXIX Pre-Announcement

The Defenses of New Orleans and the Lower Mississippi River, March 23-27, 2022



As the cliché has it, the third time is the charm. The New Orleans conference, postponed and then cancelled in 2020, is now scheduled for late March next year. Based out of the Wyndham Garden New Orleans Airport hotel in Metairie, we will visit eight locations over five days to explore the remains of masonry forts representing the colonial ambitions of Spain and France and the desire of the United States to protect the most important river system on the continent. The defenses of New Orleans contain the second largest collection of Third-System forts after New York, including Fort Pike, the very first Third System fortification.

This visit continues a yearly tradition begun in 1986. Our last trip to New Orleans was in 2002. Since then, weather, budget priorities of site owners/managers, and Father Time have impacted the coast and harbor defenses of what was once America's most fortified city with more than 50 named defensive works since 1700. When we next visit 20 years from now, environmental factors and site management decisions may result in further deterioration of these important historical coast defense structures.

The forts on the itinerary span 65 years of seacoast defense construction: Fort St. Philip (1793), Fort Pike (1819), Fort Wood (Macomb) (1820), Fort Jackson (1822), Battery Bienvenue (1828), Fort Livingston (1841), Proctor's Tower (1846), and Fort Massachusetts (1858). All are masonry forts, but Endicott/Taft batteries were added at the turn of the 20th century at Forts Jackson and St. Philip guarding Plaquemine Bend on the lower Mississippi.

As is the case with most seacoast defensive fortifications, six of these works never heard a shot fired in anger, but two did. Fort St. Philip was shelled by the British in January 1815 and Fort Jackson and St. Philip were bombarded and bypassed from Confederate defenders before being captured by Union forces in April 1862. Although no shots were exchanged, Fort Massachusetts on West Ship Island in Mississippi Sound was occupied by secessionist Mississippi state forces while still under construction in January 1861 and held until evacuated in September.

The Coast Defense Study Group is a virtual organization, and our annual conference is often the only time we get to meet with our fellow members. The primary benefit of a CDSG conference is access to sites difficult to visit on your own. Five of the sites (Fort Massachusetts, Proctor's Tower, Battery Bienvenue, Fort St. Philip, and Fort Livingston) are accessed only by boat. Three of the fortifications (Forts Pike, Macomb, and Livingston) are controlled by the Louisiana Office of State Parks and closed to the public, but we have coordinated with parks program management for access. Fort St. Philip, Proctor's Tower, and Battery Bienvenue are in private hands, but again, we have coordinated for access. Although closed, Fort Jackson is a part of the Plaquemine Parish Park system. We have arranged for entry. Fort Massachusetts is an element of the Gulf Islands National Seashore and open to the public.

The conference will maintain our customary schedule: registration and evening presentations on Wednesday; site visits and evening presentations on Thursday and Friday; site visits, the annual meeting/group dinner, and presentations on Saturday; and our final site visit on Sunday. The conference will end on Sunday, March 27, after our visit to Fort Livingston. Presentations will explore the history, architecture, and life cycle of the

forts, place them in a broader historical context, and tell us about other episodes of military history on the Lower Mississippi. The traditional nightly back-of-the-room coast defense material sale will occur during evening presentations.

The official registration flyer is posted on the CDSG website (<https://cdsg.org/>). It will also accompany the Fall and Winter CDSG Newsletters. Eighteen members rolled over their 2020 NOLA conference registrations to 2022. Join the intrepid 18 from March 23-27, 2022, in New Orleans to visit hard-to-get-to places and learn how military planners, over six decades, envisioned protecting the most important city on the Gulf Coast.

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NARA News

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) is starting to resume research room operations. Several locations have already begun pilots to test research room policies and procedures that promote social distancing, while otherwise allowing NARA to serve records in a secure manner, and starting Monday, August 2, most National Archives research rooms will reopen for research on a limited basis. <https://www.archives.gov/press/press-releases/2021/nr21-50>.

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NARA News: Comments

Marc Romanych

For those people who care about having access to NARA's vast archive of military photos, documents, and maps, this appears to be good news, but unfortunately the reality may be different.

NARA's current plan is to limit public access by: 1) significantly reducing the number of people allowed in the research rooms, 2) requiring people to consult with a NARA archivist for access to records and to reserve a spot in a research room, 3) significantly limiting the number of records that can be accessed during a visit and, 4) limiting access to the archive to no more than two days a week for no more than five hours per day.

It is not hard to imagine that the reservation process will be quickly overwhelmed by fierce competition for the few available seats in the research rooms. In my estimation, under NARA's current plan it is not possible to conduct meaningful, productive research. Additionally, NARA's digitization program that digitizes microfilm rolls is still shut down with no plans to restart it any time soon. Furthermore, the resurgence of COVID's Delta variant in the Washington, DC area and NARA's limited funding for the current government fiscal year will likely ensure these restrictions will remain in place for the remainder of this year.



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Heavy equipment, dredge rebuild Louisiana barrier island

By JANET McCONNAUGHEY, *Associated Press*

August 1, 2021

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/heavy-equipment-dredge-rebuild-louisiana-barrier-island/ar-AAAMoi4r?ocid=msedgdhp&pc=U531>

WEST GRAND TERRE ISLAND, La. (AP) — Excavators, bulldozers and a dredge miles away from them are working on a \$100 million project to raise and reshape a Louisiana barrier island.

West Grand Terre Island helps protect communities from New Orleans' west bank to Bayou Lafourche from hurricanes and storm surge, depending on the storm's direction, said Greg Grandy, deputy executive director of Louisiana's Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority.

But, like East Grand Terre Island, where some of the BP oil spill's iconic images were made, West Grand Terre was heavily oiled during the 2010 spill and was severely eroded before that. The two islands were one when Jean Lafitte and his Baratarian pirates made Grand Terre and nearby Grand Isle their headquarters, but now are more than a mile (1.6 kilometers) apart.

About \$100 million in spill restoration money is being used to restore and create about 256 acres (104 hectares) of beach and dune and 143 acres (58 hectares) of marsh on West Grand Terre. About \$2 million from various other sources was used to remove a fisheries lab destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

"It is one of the most historically and ecologically important barrier islands in Louisiana," Gov. John Bel Edwards said when funding for this and two other projects was announced in May.

The U. S. government evicted Lafitte and his crew to build Fort Livingston, one of a chain of coastal forts created after the War of 1812. Fort Livingston was never completed and is now a ruin on West Grand Terre.

It wasn't the island's last eviction — in 1999, state and federal crews removed about 20 feral goats and 70 feral cattle as part of work to rebuild the eastern half of West Grand Terre.

The island it stands on is getting 2.5 million cubic yards (1.9 million cubic meters) of sand — nearly enough to fill the Empire State Building twice.

The island's outline won't change greatly, because much of the sand will go on top of it. That will raise an island that averages 1 foot above sea level, with a maximum of 4 feet, to as much as 8 feet above sea level, said Brett Borne, project engineer for Coastal Engineering Consultants, Inc.

It's being armored with a mile of huge rocks, starting at the end of similar construction added in the early 2000s as part of work to preserve what remains of Fort Livingston.

"A corner of the fort actually protruded into the water" before that earlier project, Grandy said.

The rocks being moved from barges on Wednesday weigh from 2.5 tons to 6 tons (2.3 metric tons to 5.4 metric tons). Below them is a core of smaller rocks about 2 feet (0.6 meters) long, with geotextile fabric lining the bottom beneath those, said Brian Champagne, project manager for Deep South Construction and

Salvage, one of several companies on the project.

A half-dozen excavators were at work Wednesday. Four were moving rocks. The crews that run them named the biggest two King Kong and Godzilla, Champagne said.

King Kong's four-clawed bucket alone weighs 2 tons (1.8 metric tons), he said.

Others were creating low lines of sand and dirt to guide the placement of dredged sand between the rocks and the current shore, adding to the beach and creating marshes.

The sand and water fountain up in a huge gray semicircle about 15 feet (4.5 meters) high. It has traveled through about 5 miles (8 kilometers) of pipe, most of it along the floor of the Gulf of Mexico.

On the island, sections of pipe are fitted together to direct its flow. At the far end, the rigid pipe at the bottom of the Gulf is attached to flexible pipe so the dredge R.S. Weeks can move around the area from which sand is being pumped.

The dredge's crew lives on board, working 12-hour shifts so dredging continues 24 hours a day.

Weather permitting — Louisiana was hit by three hurricanes and two tropical storms last year and the season that began in June is also active — the work will be done in November.

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Fort Hancock Update

Shawn Welch

Fort Hancock, on the Sandy Hook Peninsula, is the largest harbor defense installation within the Harbor Defenses of New York. Of its 2,100 acres, approximately 1,800 of it is managed by the National Park Service (NPS) and the remaining 300 acres constitute the US Coast Guard Station Sandy Hook. The main post area (now known as the "Historic Post"), contains about 35 buildings that are excess to NPS needs and are in dire condition. All are fundamental resources of the Fort Hancock and Sandy Hook Proving Ground National Historic Landmark District (entire peninsula).

In 2012 the Secretary of the Interior created a federal advisory committee to address the growing need to get these buildings restored and in use. The committee's main web page is <https://forthancock21.org/>. Within the page are links to past meeting presentations and minutes of the meetings as well as the status of the buildings available for lease.

By the fall of 2019, there were leases signed on three buildings (#21, #52 and #53), all of which have been restored and are operating as either short term residential rentals or a retail light fair business. An agreement is in place between the NPS and Monmouth County to restore two more buildings (barracks #23 and mess hall #56) to support the Naval JROTC program at the Marine Academy of Science and Technology (MAST) located in the post area of Fort Hancock. Building #104, the former civilian foreman house for the proving ground has been leased as a private residence and place of business with a projected fall 2021 occupancy.

Additionally, there are several active letters of intent (LOI) which are formal approvals to negotiate specifications and compliance documents on buildings #24 (large barracks), #25

(large barracks), #40 (YMCA & gym), #36 (mule barn) and #114 (officer's club).

In the fall of 2019, Stillman Development International (<http://stillmandevelopment.com/>) submitted a proposal for the remaining 20 odd buildings in the leasing program portfolio. The NPS has accepted the proposal and the first public announcement of this was at the February 2020 Federal Advisory Committee meeting with a press release after the meeting. Congressman Frank Pallone issued an opposition press release, followed by various environmental and conservation groups.

A public meeting was held in November 2020 to update the general public and hear comments on the proposal. At the April 2021 Federal Advisory Committee meeting, the committee recommended the NPS form a working group to understand the concerns of the various stakeholders and evaluate potential ways to address those concerns.

During the April committee meeting, it was announced that NPS and Stillman development would begin the process of feasibility assessment for a pilot program for two officer's row homes and the small gas station (building #60).

An NPS map with building numbers can be downloaded at [http://armygroundforces.org/PDF/NPS%20Sandy%20Hook_Fort%20Hancock%20post%20\(rs\)-edits.pdf](http://armygroundforces.org/PDF/NPS%20Sandy%20Hook_Fort%20Hancock%20post%20(rs)-edits.pdf).

The next public committee meeting will likely occur in September or October – the date has yet to be finalized. Check the committee page <https://forthancock21.org/> for further details.

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2021 List of Virginia's Most Endangered Historic Places Announced

RICHMOND, Va. (May 11, 2021) – Each May — National Historic Preservation Month — since 2005, Preservation Virginia releases a list of historic places across the state that face imminent or sustained threats to their integrity to encourage individual citizens, organizations, and local and state government to continue advocating for these places while offering solutions for their preservation. This year, a record number of nominations were received.

"This year's list underscores the diverse and complex history of Virginia," said Preservation Virginia CEO Elizabeth S. Kostelny. "From connections to George Washington at River Farm in Alexandria to the legacy of Jim Crow laws and Civil Rights as embodied in Green Book Sites, these tangible connections to the past are irreplaceable and offer so many educational opportunities."

Virginia's Most Endangered Historic Places list for 2021 includes:

Fort Wool, Hampton Roads: Initial building of this fortified island began in 1817 and it served as an installation until 1967. As seen from the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel, deferred maintenance and inundation threaten this fragile fort island.

"As we look to the future with hope, Virginia is in the unique position to find solutions that preserve these places while allowing for needed growth," continued Kostelny. "With collaborations and innovation, each of these sites can be here for the generations that follow."

About Preservation Virginia: Preservation Virginia's mission is to inspire and engage the public in fostering, supporting, and sustaining Virginia's historic places through leadership in advocacy, education, revitalization, and stewardship. Learn more at preservationvirginia.org. For more information, contact: Will Glasco, wglasco@preservationvirginia.org (804) 338-1357

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Boston Harbor Islands listed among 11 most endangered historic places in the U.S.

"They will shrink in size and probably in height."

By Nik DeCosta-Klipa
The Boston Globe, June 3, 2021

The Boston Harbor Islands are getting national attention — and not for the better. As more along with aging buildings and civil rights landmarks, the Boston Harbor Islands were listed among the 11 most endangered historic places in the United States in a report released Thursday by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

It's the first time the harbor islands have been included on the Washington, D. C. nonprofit's annual list, which dates back to 1988. The National Trust cited the erosion of the islands caused by sea level rise and intensifying storm surges due to climate change.

Joe Bagley, the city archeologist for Boston, told *The Boston Globe* that some of the islands are eroding as much as three feet a year, threatening Boston Light, the country's oldest lighthouse, as well as several historic fortifications located on these harbor islands.

Kathy Abbott, the president of Boston Harbor Now, told *The Globe* that, at the current rate, the islands will be reduced and "occasionally overtopped by storms." "They will shrink in size and probably in height," Abbott said.

The harbor islands, which consist of 34 islands and peninsulas, currently have protected status as a state park and national recreation area. However, the National Trust said that more attention, funding for mitigation efforts and archaeological studies, and "strategies to document and protect historic and natural resources from climate-related storm surges" are necessary to protect the islands "before their stories are lost." Some of that work is already underway.

Bagley is leading a team that recently received a \$100,000 grant from Boston's Community Preservation Committee to work on an archaeological climate action plan for the islands. The effort will focus on surveying the most vulnerable archaeological sites and then work to preserve their cultural significance, ecological importance, and public enjoyment.

After finishing five neighborhood plans for the areas of Boston most prone to flooding, Bagley said in a statement last week that the project is "an opportunity for the City of Boston to expand our climate resilience planning from our mainland to the harbor islands."

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Seacoast 4.72 Inch Armstrong Gun Found

Submitted by Thomas Batha

Another surviving 4.72 inch/40-caliber Armstrong gun has been located, in Girardville, PA. In 1898, the United States purchased 4.72-inch Armstrong guns with shielded mounts as an emergency response to the Spanish war threat. A total of 35 were acquired: 18 with 40-caliber barrels; 13 with 45-caliber barrels, and 4 with 50 caliber barrels. Thirty-four were actually emplaced and one was retained at Sandy Hook Proving Ground for testing. By 1920 all were declared obsolete and removed from service.

Gun number 11857 was placed in an un-named temporary position in 1898 and then in 1899 permanently emplaced in Battery Backus, Fort Screven, GA. On August 6, 1920, it was shipped to Aberdeen Proving Ground and used there for ballistic experiment, with some 211 rounds fired. On July 26, 1926, it was donated to Girardville, PA, as a war memorial. It resides there today in East Park, very well maintained.

This recent discovery brings the total number of known surviving 4.72-inch Armstrong coast defense guns to nine. Seven are 40-caliber and 2 are 45 caliber.

The search continues....



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New Plans for Fort Monroe Marina Redevelopment

Gordon Bliss and Terry McGovern

Smithfield-based Pack Brothers Hospitality has signed a 40-year ground lease with the Fort Monroe Authority, with plans for a \$40 million redevelopment of Fort Monroe's marina district next to the historic Chamberlin Hotel. Gov. Ralph Northam announced the redevelopment plans Wednesday and said the lease includes a list of contingencies, including environmental protection provisions and historic preservation covenants. "Fort Monroe is among the most important historic sites in our country and commonwealth, and must be redeveloped in a way that reflects and preserves this significance," said Northam.

Pack Brothers' plans include a 1,600-foot concrete super dock, repurposing the historic Coast Artillery School Bindery as a 250-person event facility, and building a 90-room boutique hotel offering private balconies and waterfront views from every room.

The Commonwealth Fort Monroe Authority (FMA) announced plans yesterday for a conference center, hotel, 500-seat restaurant, and an overhauled 300-slip marina on part of Fort Monroe in Hampton. I have read in the PR that a "500-seat restaurant will incorporate the Old Torpedo Storehouse and the Old Cable Tank Building, as well as a 15,000-square-foot outdoor deck overlooking the harbor. The CAS Bindery (CASD Lab) will house a 250-person event facility and a new 90-room boutique hotel that will be an independent property." I have also read that two existing buildings will be torn down to allow for more parking.

As the torpedo storehouse, cable tank building, and CASD laboratory retain much of their historic fabric, the Coast Defense Study Group (www.cdsg.org) is concerned how this historic architecture and artifacts are going to be retained when converting these buildings to a 500-person restaurant. I hope that the CDSG will have an opportunity to review these plans and to provide comments on retaining historic features, both to the FMA and to the developers, Pack Brothers Hospitality LLC.

We contacted David Stroud, the Fort Monroe Historic Preservation office, with my concerns. He replied:

"As noted in the press release the Fort Monroe Historic Preservation Officer (FMHPO) will be working with the marina developers and their design team(s) to insure compliance with the governing documents at the appropriate time. Those governing documents are defined as follows within the ground lease with the FMA:"

"The Land Use Master Plan; the Fort Monroe Historic Preservation Manual and Design Standards; the Programmatic Agreement; the Memorandum of Understanding; and the Reuse Plan for Fort Monroe, each as may be modified and/or amended from time to time as provided in the individual Governing Documents. Current copies of the governing documents are on file at the Fort Monroe office and are available to lessee for examination on reasonable notice and are available on the Fort Monroe website."

"Also, within the ground lease are certain exhibits that provide additional clarifications with regards to the review process (Ap-

pendix D: Historic Preservation Covenants) as well as those elements of historic structures being leased that are deemed character defining. I have spent considerable time redefining those elements that are to be considered character defining within and outside of Buildings 183, 204, and 205 that go above and beyond that which was noted in the PA and MOU. This document is included in the ground lease as Appendix C: Protected Improvements.”



“The FMHPO is looking forward to working very closely with all proponents and their design teams in the development of any proposed rehabilitation designs to historic structures as well as viewsheds per the stipulations of both the PA, MOU, design standards, secretary standards and protocol, i.e. governing documents, when that time comes. In addition, per the stipulations of the PA and MOU, the consulting parties, stakeholders, and members of the general public will be afforded an opportunity to review the proposed undertaking (s) and provide their comment at the appropriate time throughout the FMA’s review process.”

Here is a link to the developer’s website <https://37northva.com/> as well as some artist images of redevelopment.

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Panama Fortifications Update

by Dolores De Mena

(Editorial assistance by Norm Scarpulla)

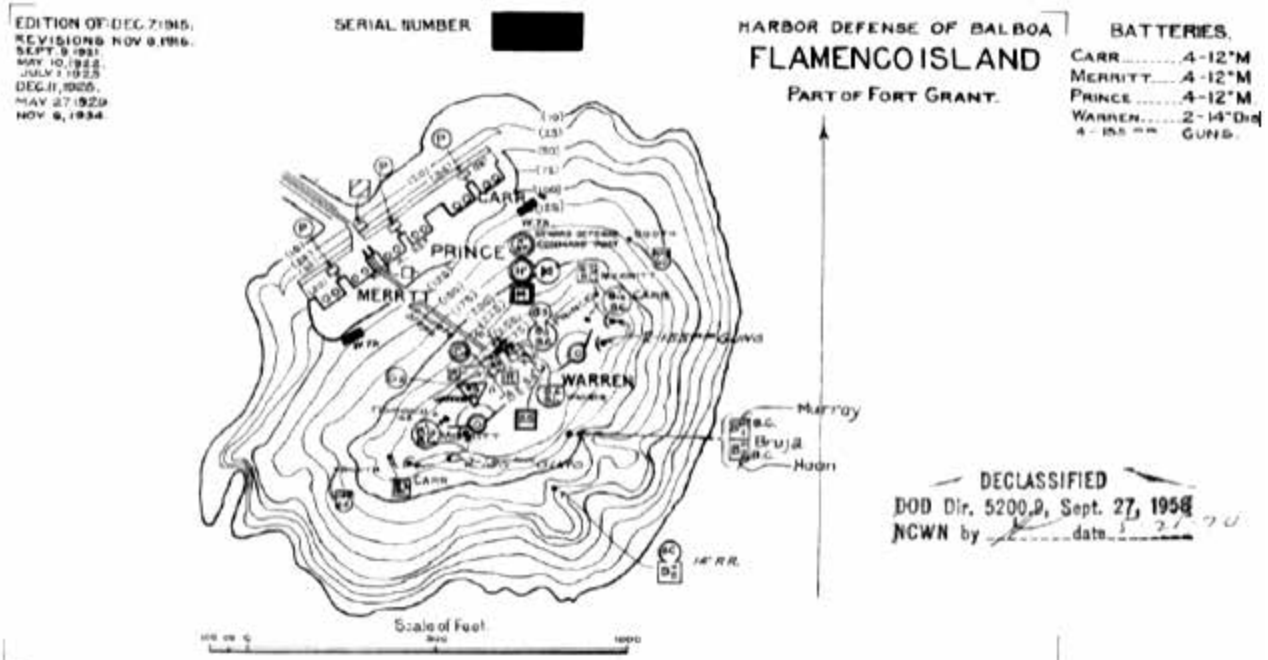
Between 1912 and 1917 the US Army built fortifications on the point of land and on the islands at the Pacific Ocean end of the Panama Canal. Excavated rock and soil from the canal was used to build a causeway from the mainland to the four offshore islands, Naos, Culebra, Perico, and Flamenco. The point of land was organized as Fort Amador, and the four islands became Fort Grant. All battery sites now are property of the Panamanian government (Ministry of Finance), and the restaurants, hotels, and other commercial activities at the former Forts Amador and Grant operate as concessions. Recently, I was able to visit both areas.

Fort Grant – Flamenco Island

This is the farthest southwest of the fortified islands. Across the back (land-facing side) of the island, the US Army built a single structure to mount twelve 12” mortars, which would fire over the top of the island. This structure was organized tactically into three batteries, each with four Model 1912 mortars: Batteries Merritt, Prince, and Carr. The mortar batteries have been converted into shops and restaurants. Unfortunately, they closed because of the COVID-19 pandemic and have yet to reopen. However, the causeway has become a favorite site for locals as well as tourists, and tourist-related facilities are reopening for business. The area is overrun during weekends.

Recently, I met with the co-proprietor of Bucanero’s Restaurant located in the mortar batteries. The purpose of our meeting was to encourage her to showcase enlarged photographs of the batteries and a bilingual Spanish/English CDSG poster in the restaurant. She was very receptive to the proposal. An appropriate area within the restaurant has yet to be chosen.

Also, on top of Flamenco Island, at about 300’ (90m) elevation was Battery Warren (2x14” DC). This structure now has a Panama Coast Guard facility controlling the approach to the canal. Possibly unique in US Army seacoast battery construction was the tunnel built straight into the base of the island from the mortar battery, ending at an elevator which went up to Battery Warren’s magazines. Some years ago, a short-lived disco operated inside the tunnel. The tunnel now is closed with a locked gate.



Panama Fort Grant (Flamenco Island) 1934



Batteries Prince and Carr c.1935

Area of former Batteries Prince and Carr
photo by Dolores De Mena 26 June 2021Area of former Batteries Prince and Carr
photo by Terry McGovern 1993

Fort Grant – Perico Island

This island had one gun battery, Battery Newton (1x16" DC) built on top of its 230' (70 m) high cone. A port and terminal for cruise ships is approaching completion on the north side at the base of the island.

Fort Amador

Fort Amador on the mainland included two six-inch batteries (Batteries Birney and Smith, each 2x6" DC) and the support complex for Fort Grant on the islands. The Panama Tourist Bureau (Turismo de Panama) intends to convert the former US Army officers' club into a visitor center to include information about Fort Grant and Fort Amador, as well as nearby tourist attractions. I have not seen any activity on this project.



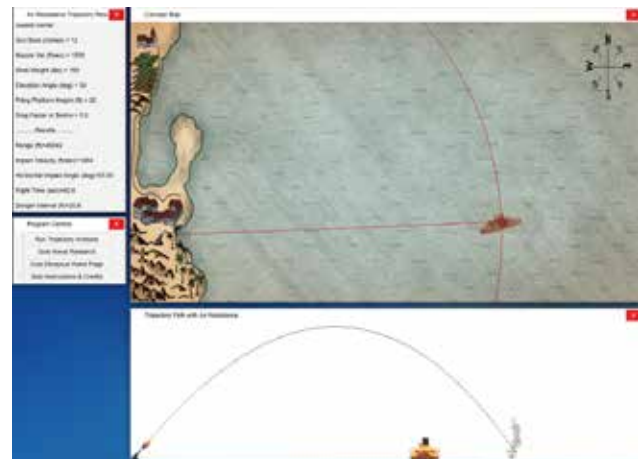
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Graphic Cannon Shell Flight Path Solver with Air Resistance

Paul F. Watson

A Free Use Cannon Shell Trajectory Solver:

A cannon shell analysis program that includes air resistance is available to CDSG members for free at "www.dionysus.biz" in the Battleships, Subs, and Big Guns at Sea area (middle column). This new program accepts firing conditions from the user (velocity, elevation, shell weight, and drag factor) and computes the range and impact conditions. A table displays shell weights and velocities for 30 historic cannon to enable analysis without a stack of references.



www.Dionysus.biz Graphic Trajectory Solver
Determine Flight Path with Air Resistance
Created By Paul F. Watson

Enter Firing Conditions

coastal mortar

Gun Bore (max 21 in)

Muzzle Velocity (max 3000 ft/sec)

Shell weight (lbs)

Elevation Angle (max 70 deg)

Gun Platform Height (max 500 ft)

Drag Factor 7 to 16 (tenths)

Firing Variables

Firing Conditions

* Drag Factor usually 1
* Can be adjusted to match historical impact data.
* see table for typical values

Drag Coefficients

BB=Battleship BC=Battle-cruiser 10/45=10" gun	Period	Bore inch	Velocity ft/sec	Weight lbs	Drag Factor	Elevation deg
UK 24" Roundshot	pre 1850	5.5	1640	24	1.2	5 max
UK 32" Roundshot	pre 1850	6.1	1640	32	1.2	5 max
US 15" smooth bore (Rodman)	1864	15	1300	315	1.2	30 max
US 15" smooth bore (Rodman)	1890	15	1510	434	1.04	32 max
US 12" Coast Mortar (Army)	1890-1910	12	1500	700	.57	45 max
US 12" Rifled Gun (Army)	1890-1910	12	2250	1070	.52	30 max
US 6" Rifled Gun (Army)	1890-1910	6	2600	108	.46	15 max
US 12" Coast Mortar (Army)	1907-1920	12	1850	700	.55	45 max
US 14" Rifled Gun (Army)	1907-1920	14	2370	1560	.50	20 max
US 12" Rifled Gun (Railway)	1917-1936	12	2350	975	.77	35 max
US 16" Rifled Gun (Railway)	1917-1936	16	2700	2340	TBD	55 max
Rus 12/40 cal Naval Ostyab	1894	12	2600	728	.91	15 max
UK 13.5/30 (BB Trafalgar)	1890	13.5	2061	1250	.79	13.5
UK 9.2/45 BB & Coastal	1899-1950	9.2	2600	380	.50	15 max
UK 12/45 (BB Nelson)	1905	12	2750	850	.85	13.5
UK 13.5/45 Mk V (BC Lion)	1912-	13.5	2491	1400	.52	20 max
UK 14/45 MkI (BB Canada)	1915-	14	2507	1586	.52	20 max
UK 15/42 cal MkI (BB QE)	1914-	15	2472	1920	.62	20 max
Ger 11/40 (BC von der Tann)	1909-	11	2690	529	.73	13.5
Ger 12/50 cal (BB)	1911	12	2805	893	.61	13.5
US 12/50 (BB Arkansas)	1912	12	2900	870	.59	-5 to 15
US 14/50 MkII (BB NM)	1918-	14	2825	1275	.45	-5 to 30
Fr WWII 13/52 (Dunkerque)	1931-	13	2854	1234	.40	-5 to 35
Fr WWII 15/45 (Jean Bart)	1940-	15	2475	1950	.44	35 max
It WWII 15/50 (BB Vittorio)	1940-	15	2854	1817	.40	35 max
UK WWII 14/45 (BB KG V)	1941-	14	2475	1590	.49	40 max
US WWII 16/45 (BB NC Caroli)	1941-	16	2520	2700	.45	45 max
Ger WWII 15/52 cal (Bismark)	1940	15	2690	1763	.43	30 max
Ger WWII 11.1/54 (Graf Spe)	1938	11.1	2920	728	TBD	40 max
US WWII 12/50 BC Alaska	1944	12	2500	1140	.47	-3 to 45
UK 10/32 Mk I Centurion	1895-1913	10	2040	500	1.1	15

This program is compatible with PC, Mac, and IPAD. The program is run from your Internet Browser without software download on PC and Mac. An Apple IPAD version adjusted for the smaller screen is also available. The smaller display version can also be run on desktop computers.

Program Results: The program computes range, impact velocity and angle, flight time, and danger interval for a 30-foot target. A scaled trajectory flight path is provided with a contextual "bird's eye" map of a coastline.

Technical Basis: The program performs a step-by-step resistance drag/response analysis from time of firing to time of impact. The 1885 Bashforth Resistance Equation (2) is used to compute air friction, with correction for atmospheric density at altitude. The general mathematical approach is the same as would be used in modern college physics classes.

Accuracy: Range results from the Graphic Trajectory Solver were compared with authoritative published data (1) for five fir-

ing angles for the 13-inch guns of French Battleship Dunkerque. At elevation angles less than 30 degrees, computed range had less than 1% error. At 40 degrees, predictions were 2% in error.

Conclusion: A convenient and free trajectory solver that produces high accuracy is now available to Internet Users. Unlike most solvers, this web-based tool includes the effects of air friction. It does not require software downloads and works on

Elevation (degrees)	Range (yards)	Computed Range (yards)	Error Percent
10	20888	21050	< 1%
15	27603	27747	< 1%
20	33191	33188	nil
30	42104	41735	nil
40	48334	47517	2%

almost any computer or IPAD connected to the Internet. Visit www.dionysus.biz. Select "View Naval Articles" link at the bottom center. The new graphic trajectory solver under is under the New Feature Articles header. Just and run the program (no cost, no registration).

Notes:

1. H. Garzke, Jr., Robert O. Dulin, Jr. & Robert F. Sumrall. United States Battleships in WWII, Naval Institute Press (C) 1976, pp. 225.

2. Lieutenants J.F. Meigs, and R.R. Ingersoll, USN, Exterior Ballistics 1885, pp. 26-27.

The author is a retired analyst with degrees in Physics and Mechanical Engineering, with a lifelong interest in ships and coastal fortifications, and has been a member of CDSG for about two years.

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Visiting Fort Macon and their two "new" 155 GPF guns

Terry McGovern

On May 3, 2021, Glen Williford, Tom Batha, and myself (with my wife, Meg Hogan) visited with the staff of Fort Macon State Park, Atlantic Beach, NC. Lead by the park's historian Paul Branch and park ranger Benjamin Fleming, along with head of the Friends of Fort Macon, Mark Greiner, we given a VIP tour of Fort Macon and their new acquired 155 mm GPF guns.

Fort Macon (1834-1877, 1898-1903, 1941-1945) was a Third-System masonry fort begun in 1826 and first garrisoned in December 1834. During the Civil War, North Carolina Confederate forces occupied the fort for a year, preparing it for battle and arming it with 54 heavy cannons. Early in 1862, Union forces commanded by Maj. Gen. Ambrose E. Burnside swept through eastern North Carolina, and part of Burnside's command under Brig. Gen. John G. Parke was sent to capture Fort Macon. Col. Moses J. White and 400 North Carolina Confederates in the fort refused to surrender even though the fort was hopelessly surrounded.

On April 25, 1862, Parke's Union forces bombarded the fort with heavy siege guns for 11 hours, aided by the fire of four Union gunboats in the ocean offshore and floating batteries in the sound to the east. These batteries, utilizing new rifled cannons, hit the fort 560 times. There was such extensive damage that Col. White was forced to surrender the following morning, April 26. The Union held Fort Macon for the remainder of the war, while Beaufort Harbor served as an important coaling and repair station for the Union navy. Abandoned by the U.S. Army in 1903 but reoccupied by U.S. Army troops from Dec. 1941 to Nov. 1944 during World War II, it was finally returned to the state Oct. 1, 1946.

Chauffured in turf trucks, we had a brief visit into the 3rd System fort before travelling outside the fort to WW2 coastal defense exhibit with a Model 1917A1 155 mm GPF artillery

piece similar to those that were emplaced around the fort during WW2. The gun came from the NC National Guard under a loan agreement. The field emplacement was supplemented by several display sign telling the history of harbor defenses at Fort Macon during WW2 and technical data on the 155 mm GPF.

We travelled via our turf trucks to the park's workshops, where a second 155 mm GPF is being restored by the park and the friend's group. The barrel has been separated from the carriage. The 155 mm GPF came from the Washelli-Evergreens Cemetery in Seattle, WA. The Friends group contacted the cemetery to ask if they would be willing to give up their 155 mm GPF on display for Fort Macon. The folks at the cemetery said no, but they said they had a second 155 mm GPF in their work yard that Fort Macon could have. This gun was quickly transported to Fort Macon and they plan to display it next to the existing 155 mm GPF. We greatly enjoyed discussing artillery and the refurbishment process involving the crafting of missing parts. Before return to Fort Macon, our host took us to the WW2 155 mm battery (and later 6-inch naval guns) to view the remains of the battery commander's station.

We had a great time visiting Fort Macon and their new 155 mm GPF's. We want to thank Paul, Benjamin, and Mark for being great hosts. We offer the resources of the Coast Defense Study Group (www.cdsg.org) to assist them with the "care and feeding" of historic Fort Macon and all their "new" artillery. Glen and Tom headed out to visit memorial guns in North Carolina and Meg and I traveled to Fort Caswell on Oak Island, NC, but that is another story.



The interior of Fort Macon.



Mark Greiner tell us about his "baby" - 155 mm GPF M1917.



The "experts" examine the 155 mm GPF and discuss its features.



Tom Batha in search of serial numbers on the barrel of the 155 mm GPF.



One of the display signs that the park has provided to explain the gun and its use.



Inside their workshop, Paul Branch discusses the restoration process with Glen Williford and Tom Batha, while Mark Greiner and Benjamin Fleming look on.

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Update on the Plight of Fort Wool

Terry McGovern

As reported in previous CDSG Newsletters, Fort Wool in Hampton Roads, VA, is endangered, becoming a permanent nesting habitat for seabirds, with its historic fortifications allowed to become ruins. The recently formed Coalition for Historic Fort Wool is trying to reverse a whole series of Commonwealth of Virginia actions that have negatively impacted the historic structures and denied public access to this historic site. The Coalition has had little success over the last year in reversing the state's actions. Recapping these actions since beginning of 2020:

- Ending the lease of Fort Wool to the City of Hampton after 30 years.
- Declaring the historic structures and dock unsafe for public access.
- Stopping the daily tour boat docking and conducting guided tours of the fort.
- Removed all the trees, bushes, grass, historical markers, and sidewalk on the parade ground.



The 155 mm GPF from Washington State in the fort's repair yard.

- Placing about a foot of sand on the parade ground, using construction vehicles to move the sand.
- Transferred the seasonal seabird nesting habitat from South Island to Fort Wool by paving over the 10-acre space used by seabirds since 1976.
- As Fort Wool's parade ground is less than 2-acres, barges with sand on their decks have been added. There are detailed plans to place sand/gravel on the batteries which will add even more weight to the artificial island in addition to damaging the batteries and making removal of this sand/gravel almost impossible.
- The Commonwealth commissioned an engineering study that concluded that the historic structures are ruins and unsafe. They have also stated that the dock needs to be replaced and is currently unsafe.
- One of engineering studies reports that only remaining standing WW2 battery commander's tower cannot be repaired and can only be destroyed. The state is seeking quotes on the cost to topple the tower this fall.
- The Commonwealth reports they have no funding to repair and maintain the historic structures, yet they have committed funding of \$2.0 million per year to maintain the seabird nesting habitat on Fort Wool.
- Preservation Virginia (a non-profit historic preservation group) has placed Fort Wool on its 2021 most endangered list (along with 10 other historic properties at risk in Virginia).
- Due to the loss of the tour business to Fort Wool, the tour boat, Miss Hampton Two, was sold and is now in Lewes, DE. There is now no transportation for the public to reach Fort Wool.

The Coalition for Historic Fort Wool has tried to raise public awareness of the loss of Fort Wool through the media and editorials. They have reached out to local politicians and they have met with Commonwealth officials, but these efforts have not been successful in returning Fort Wool to the public. The Coalition is considering commissioning an engineering study of its own to better assess the condition of the historic fortifications. The CDSG Fund has been asked to contribute to that effort, so CDSG members are urged to donate to the CDSG Fund to help provide funds for this grant. The CDSG Annual Conference with 75 members visited the island fort in April 2019 and had no safety issues and viewed the condition of the fort and batteries which are in no worse condition than those we visited at other locations, such as Fort Monroe.

The WW2 battery commander's tower for Battery Gates is the most urgent issue, as the state has indicated they plan to knock down this last standing example of this type of tower. The State has an engineering study that says the only course of action is removal, while the Coalition has engineer's report on how the tower can be stabilized for less than \$20,000. The Coalition is seeing a contractor to do this work, but it is not clear the State will allow them to work on their property. The CDSG Fund would be asked to contribute to this effort if permission to do the work is granted.

If any CDSG members would like to join the Coalition for Historic Fort Wool, please contact Terry McGovern at: tcmcgovern@att.net. It is important that the military history of Fort

Wool be preserved and public access to the island returned. The Coalition has a very difficult task of returning the fort to the status that existed in 2019. CDSG's support of this effort is critical if Fort Wool is going to be saved for future generations.



Fort Wool converted into a seabird nesting habitat. Note added sand and barges moored off the island.



Showing how the Parade Ground has been turned into a nesting habitat (but note the vegetation has not been removed from the historic structures).



The cleared Parade Ground with the WW2 BC Tower. Note how the CRF station on top is leaning down due to the failure of the steel supports in the observation windows.



The Miss Hampton Two which provided water transport to Fort Wool for guided tours.

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Hampton, VA: Miss Hampton II Sold Replacement Sought

The Miss Hampton II, which operated from the downtown Hampton, VA, waterfront for 32 years, has been sold to a Delaware tours company and will operate out of Cape Henlopen, DE. The 117-passenger cruise ship had been in continuous service in Hampton since 1989. Miss Hampton II had been the official tour boat for the city of Hampton. Mary Fugere, director of the Hampton Convention & Visitor Bureau, said in a news release: "We are working to locate a new tour operator to share Hampton's maritime history and the incredible Hampton Roads harbor."

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Glen & Tom "Find" More Seacoast Guns

Terry McGovern

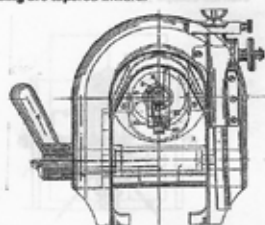
Glen Williford and Tom Batha recently took a "artillery" finding trip along the East Coast. Their goal was to document all memorial and museum artillery from the breechloading period. Glen reports that they accounted for FOUR new 6-pounder coast defense guns of two different types. "Find" means they were not on the CDSG's list of Surviving American Seacoast Artillery Weapons (August 2021) which is available on CDSG.org. We urge our members to review this list and let us know (berhowma@cdsg.org) of any corrections or additions.

Background History

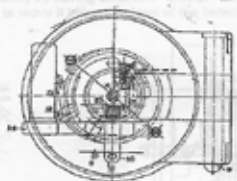
Originally the army bought 20 Driggs-Seabury M1898 6-pdrs (serials 1-20) and 40 M1900 6-pdrs (serials 21-60) (they also took 34 American Ordnance Mark III guns, but they encountered none of that type on this trip). The two Driggs-Seabury (DS) types can conveniently be distinguished by their breech housings, the first 20 had a "rural mailbox" shaped housing, the later 40 had a cylindrical housing. Also of the first 20, half (10) were sent during the Spanish-American War for use on army transports, mounted on navy-type crenelated stands rather than wheeled carriages. All the other 50 6-pounders were on wheeled carriages.

The U.S. Army, for coast defense service, acquired three types of commercially available 6-pdr (2.24-inch, 57mm) guns. All fired the same ammunition. Differences were primarily in the breech configuration, which can be used to aid identification.

There were 20 Model 1898 guns made by Driggs-Seabury. They carry army serials No. 1-20. The guns had a conical, drop-block breech in a rounded-top breech housing (looks like a mailbox). The lower sides or "cheeks" of the rear of the breech housing are tapered inward.



Next there were Forty Model 1900 guns also made by Driggs-Seabury. They carry army serials No. 21-60. They have a totally different shaped breech, it is a conical breech block in a cylindrically-shaped housing.



Guns Located

In Sparkill, NY, were two of the early (first 10) DS Model 1898 on ship mounts. According to the record cards these are serials No. 5 and 6, donated to the town in 1920.



Photo from Tom Batha of 6-pounders in Sparkill, NY



Google Earth view of the two 6-pounders in Sparkill, NY

Tom and Glen then visited the Mahan Collection in Somerset County, NJ. In Gary's "man cave" is a DS gun No. 51 on a wheeled carriage. This gun is one of the later 40 Model 1900 guns with cylindrical breech, on its wheeled carriage. It was stationed for 20 years at Fort Williams, ME, until (with its mate No. 54) donated to Jewett City, CT. Gary bought one for his museum. The second was sold to a collector in Clarion, IA. Glen located the collector and called him about three years ago and it turns out he traded it to another collector in Riverside, CA. Glen thinks we should consider it a "survivor" even if we don't know definitely where it is.



6-pounder Model 1900 gun at the Mahan Collection.

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Philippine Postage Stamp Commemorating the Capture of Corregidor

Charles H. Bogart

On May 7, 1943, the Japanese-controlled Philippine government issued two stamps commemorating the 1942 Japanese Army capture of Bataan and Corregidor. The issue consisted of a red two-centavo stamp and a green five-centavo stamp, with the same design. The centers of the stamps feature a map of Manila Bay showing the city of Manila, Bataan Peninsula, and the island of Corregidor. The Japanese occupied Manila on January 2, 1942, accepted the surrender of Bataan on April 10, 1942, and took Corregidor by amphibious assault on May 6, 1942. To the left of the map a Japanese soldier stands at attention and to the right of the map a Japanese flag flies from a flag pole. Below the flag is a Japanese Mitsubishi A6M fighter plane and an Imperial Japanese Navy *Kongo*-class battleship.

The upper border of the stamp notes "Philippine Postage." The next line reads, "Capture of Bataan and Corregidor." The following line states "One full year commemorative." The scrip across the bottom reads, "18th year of Showa 5th month" (May 1943). Under the "2" and the "5" is written "centavo." (A Philippine Peso consisted of 100 centavos. A Peso was equal to \$.50 US.)

The stamps were printed in Japan, with a first day cachet issued at Manila. The stamps are unwatermarked, with a 13 perforation. An error consisting of a dot after the left side numeral 5 is found on one stamp within every sheet of 50.

The two-centavo stamp

The cachet available in Manila on first day of sale of the commemorative stamp.



CDSG Fund

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

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.

The Fund is always seeking proposals for the monetary support of preservation and interpretation projects at former coast defense sites and museums. The trustees for the CDSG Fund are Terry McGovern, Quentin Schillare and Mark Berhow.

Send donations to (and made out to):

CDSG Fund c/o Quentin Schillare

24624 W. 96th Street, Lenexa, KS 66227-7285 USA

Or use your credit card via PayPal on the www.cdsg.org website.

Send Fund Project requests to:

CDSG Fund c/o Terry McGovern

1700 Oak Lane, McLean, VA 22101-3326 USA

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

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CDSG Logo Hats, Shirts & Patches

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

Kacki 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)

CDSG Cloth Patch: ___ times \$ ___ = Total \$ ___

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

CDSG Color Decal: ___ times \$ ___ = Total \$ ___

(domestic \$2/overseas \$3) each

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

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

Be sure to include your name and shipping address.

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

Attention – The CDSG Fund is now on the AmazonSmiles program, where Amazon will donate 0.05 percent of your purchases to the CDSG Fund if you make the CDSG Fund (<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/52-1698506>) your default charity in their system. Please do so today.

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