

The CDSG Newsletter



The Coast Defense Study Group, Inc. — Winter 2025



Chairman's Note

Ned Libby

Members – I want to thank those of you who have signed up for the Hawaii Conference and encourage those who are still considering the trip to apply while spaces are still open.

Also, in the Newsletter, you will see Charles Bogart's report on the USMC's renewed missions related to coast defense. The Army is also renewing its coast defense capabilities, and in June 2024 launched precision strike missiles against a ship target (see <https://www.navalnews.com/naval-news/2024/06/u-s-army-conducts-first-anti-ship-ballistic-missile-sinkex-using-prsm/>).

The lead Army unit for that multi-service mission was the 3d Multi-Domain Task Force (3MDTF), based at Fort Shafter, and I plan to contact them and see if a representative can attend one of our events to speak about their activities and those of the Marines (not easy, but will try --). Hawaii is a common venue for Navy and multi-service "SinkEx" ship-attack exercises.

Also, for attendees, I will be contacting you shortly to begin preparation of the security paperwork required for admission to controlled areas (see Terry's writeup in this *Newsletter*). I want to get our paperwork in early, even starting this year, to exercise the data transfer and approval processes, as Terry receives information on those processes from the various installation managers.

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CDSG 2026 Annual Conference to the Coast Defenses of the Oahu - Hawaii

May 5 to May 10, 2026

Second Announcement – Six Months Out

The 2026 Annual CDSG conference will be to the former coastal defenses of Oahu, Hawaii (dates: May 5-10, 2026). The CDSG has never held an annual conference (just tours) in Hawaii due to the challenges in gaining site permission for a large group and the travel costs for our members. Based on survey of our membership in 2024 and strong support at the 2025 Annual Conference in Boston, the CDSG Board has authorized this annual conference be undertaken in Hawaii. Please keep in mind that it would be very difficult to arrange to visit these sites on your own as most coast defense sites are closed to the public and locked-up behind welded or locked doors. Also, we are limiting attendance to 50 members on a first paid basis, so please send your registration form and fee as soon as possible (we already have 40 paid attendees). We will not likely do this conference to Oahu again, so you should view this as a once in a lifetime experience!

Pearl Harbor on Oahu is the US Navy's most important Pacific base, so the US Army built a strong network of coast artillery forts and batteries on Oahu. These efforts begun shortly after the territory's occupation in 1907 through the tense pre-war period and

CDSG Meeting and Tour Calendar

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

2026 CDSG Conference

May 5 - 10, 2025

Oahu, Hawaii

Terry McGovern, tcmcgovern@att.net

2027 CDSG Conference

March-April

Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island

Chris Zeeman, c_zeeman@hotmail.com

2028 CDSG Special Tour

Spring

Bermuda

Terry McGovern, tcmcgovern@att.net

2028 CDSG Conference

San Francisco, California

Mark Berhow, berhowma@comcast.net

Other Meetings and Tours

February 2026

ECCOFORT Study Tour

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

April 16 -18

INTERFEST Annual Meeting

Dresden

Oliver Zauzig, praesident@interfest.de

June 2026

Association Vauban Annual Congress

Alain MONFERRAND, contact@association-vauban.org

September 2026

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Festungsforschung Annual Meeting

Andreas Kupka, AKupka@Juelich.de

September 2026

Association Vauban Study Tour

Alain MONFERRAND contact@association-vauban.org

September/October 2026

ECCOFORT Study Tour

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

October 2026

Fortress Study Group Annual Conference
David Clarke, chair@fortressstudygroup.org

October 2026

International Fortress Council Annual Meeting
Jeroen van der Werf,
secretariat@internationalfortresscouncil.org

the devastating Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941 then to the impressive wartime enhancements. At its culmination in 1945, Oahu boasted the strongest coast defenses of any American harbor. Many unique batteries were constructed such as the 14-inch turrets off the *USS Arizona* or the 8-inch turrets of the *USS Lexington* and *USS Saratoga*, as well as the land defense batteries with small caliber casemate emplacements. The island's defenses include the well-known Forts Ruger, DeRussy, Kamehameha, and Weaver with large caliber disappearing and barbette guns and mortars. The CDSG has undertaken extensive research from the National Archives and on-site investigations to organize this conference to the key surviving fortifications built between 1904 and 1945. The CDSG has reached out the US Navy, US Marine Corp, Hawaiian National Guard, and other groups to gain permission to visit the surviving elements of Oahu's WWII coast defenses. We have gained approval from the US Navy (for JB Pearl Harbor-Hickam), Battery Hatch, Battery Arizona, Battery #303, Battery #304, Battery #405, and several other locations. We plan that by the end of the year we will have gain permission for all the key sites. Please remember many sites are still active military sites so our schedule is subject to change right up to the day we are scheduled to visit.

Our current plan is for a four-day conference with one add-on day for special sites. The schedule is as follows:

Day Zero (May 5) – Arrive in Oahu and check-in to the hotel by 4pm for mandatory orientation.

Day One (May 6) will be the coast defenses on Western side of Oahu. This would include Fort Barrette (Battery Hatch), Battery Arizona (14-inch turret) and Pu'u O Hulu (Battery #303/Battery Hulu).

Day Two (May 7) would be to the coast defenses in the Central part of Oahu. This would be to JB-Pearl Harbor-Hickam (Batteries Hasbrouck, Hawkins, Jackson, Selfridge, and Closson) and to Ford Island (Batteries Adair and Boyd). We would also go to Sand Island to visit Battery Harbor (7-inch pedestal).

Day Three (May 8) would be to the coast defenses on the Southern side of Oahu. This would include the Punchbowl (Battery #304 and Station D), Fort DeRussy (Battery Randolph and US Army Museum of Hawaii), and Fort Ruger (Batteries Harlow, Birkhimer, Dodge, Hulings, #407, and HDGP in the Mule Tunnel).

Day Four (May 9) would be to the coast defenses on the Eastern side of Oahu. This would be Battery DeMerritt (#405), Marine Corp Base Hawaii (Battery Pennsylvania (14-inch turret), the HDGP, and Battery French (#301)), and Battery Cooper (#302). We would also have our annual business meeting and banquet that night, which would be the official end of the annual conference.

On Day Five (May 10) we are having a special add-on day to OA-63-L/C Nike Site, Battery Riggs (8-inch turret), Battery Kirkpatrick (8-inch turret), and we would try to visit the Army-Navy Joint Command Center and Station C complex at the Aliamanu Crater. Members will be asked to carpool using their own rental vehicles (4-wheel drive) on this day as these sites are hard to visit using a bus. Access to these sites many not occur due to difficult access and uncertain site owner permission. Depending on time available we might try to visit the Lehi Fire Control Complex at Diamond Head, but this site requires tickets and will be a very hard climb for some members.

Members could stay on extra days on their own to visit the Battleship Arizona Memorial/Visitor Center, Battleship Missouri Memorial, and Pearl Harbor Aviation Museum as well as other tourist sites.

The estimated costs per person (based on 50 members attending) would be airfare (\$1,300 round trip from Washington, DC), hotel (\$700/shared room), meals (\$400/2 meals per day) and, ground transport (\$300/at \$75 per day – we need to use coaches to meet site requirements) and other costs (including annual banquet, hand-out, access fees, and meeting room) (\$100/person) for a total around \$2,800 per person. There would be an additional transportation expense for the special add-on day for those attending and need to rent vehicles. We have so far identified shared conference costs which include the ground transportation, hotel meeting room, an annual banquet, permits, daily handouts, and other miscellaneous costs. These costs will vary depending on the number of members attending this conference, so we have not yet arrived at a final cost. **Therefore, we request each member or guest attending to pay the current estimated cost of US\$400.00 per person for these shared costs at this time to reserve a place at the conference.** We will then adjust the per attendee costs at the conference once we have final numbers, but we think the \$400 is very close to the final number. We ask that you complete the registration form and return it with a check made payable to the "Coast Defense Study Group" with memo that this check is for the "2026 Annual Conference". You can also go to the CDSG Store at www.cdsg.org/shop to select the 2026 Annual Conference item and pay by credit card or PayPal your registration fee. Please see attached conference flyer to this newsletter to sign up for the 2026 Annual Conference.

Most CDSG members will be flying to Oahu (it's a long boat ride) to the Honolulu International Airport. Please remember to **arrange your own flights and hotel rooms for the conference.** You might want to rent shared rental vehicles to take you to non-conference sites and to your independent meals. The daily cost to park your vehicle at the hotel is \$21 plus tax (which the hotel reduced for us). The hotel runs a free shuttle to and from the airport which is about 10 minutes away.

We are staying at the **Best Western The Plaza Hotel** which is near the airport and the interstate at **3253 N Nimitz Highway, Honolulu, HI 96819**. While a good location for our field trips and low room prices (for Oahu) is not an exotic beach hotel, it's an airport hotel surrounded by warehouses. The BW The Plaza Hotel has agreed to a daily rate of \$199 single or double occupancy, plus applicable taxes (which total to 18%), including free breakfast. This rate is also good for 5 days before and after the conference dates. For those who are attending, **you must call the Best Western The Plaza Hotel at 808-836-3636 or email to reservations@bwhonolulu.com to make reservations (ask for the CDSG 2026 Annual Conference rate) for number of nights you wish to stay**. You have until April 15, 2026 to book a room at this rate or you will subject to the market rate. We will send out an attendee contact list so you can see about sharing rooms.

To assist in planning your travel to and from the conference, on-site registration will take place from 4pm to 6pm on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, with mandatory conference orientation session and coast defense presentations to follow. The formal conference ends at 10pm on Saturday, May 9th with a special add-on day on May 10th ending at 7pm. Presentations will be held on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. Please consider giving a presentation during the conference

Please keep in mind that Oahu is a tropical and volcanic environment so it will be warm/humid and the ground is rarely flat. You will need to be able to walk on rough ground short distances to sites on road and trails, though we are not visiting fire control stations, 155mm Panama mounts, and other former sites that require climbing or walking long distances. You will be required to sign a Hold Harmless Agreement to attend the conference. Conference members wanting to tour the active military bases (such as JB Pearl Harbor-Hickam and Marine Corp Base Hawaii) will be required to complete a background form and provide their driver's license details at least 30 days in advance of our visit so background checks can be performed by security personnel. You will also need to show your driver's license upon entering these bases. **Foreign nationals** will need to complete a more detailed form and possibly be unable to gain clearance for these active bases. Ned Libby has agreed to coordinate this demanding process. We will need this info for all attending by April 1, 2026. You can always forgo those sites if you do not want to agree to these terms.



The CDSG's "first group photo" to Battery Randolph at Fort DeRussy, Oahu, Hawaii.

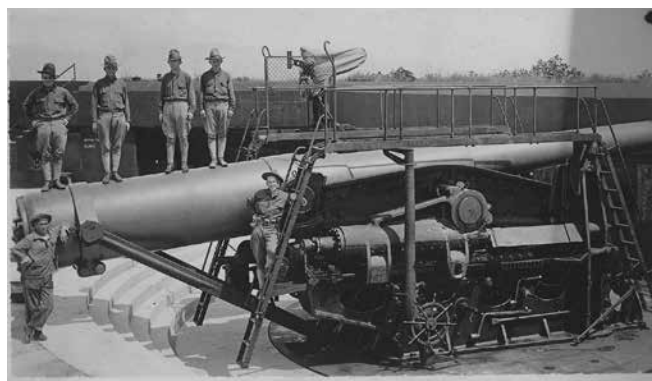
Please see the registration flyer attached to this CDSG newsletter to sign up for this conference.



Recent photo of one of the 8-inch Navy mount gun well for Battery Kirkpatrick, Oahu, Hawaii



Recent photo of Battery Hasbrook, Fort Kamehameha, Oahu, Hawaii.



Battery Selfridge, Fort Kamehameha, Oahu, Hawaii in 1932.



Test firing of Battery Pennsylvania at Mokapu Peninsula, Oahu, Hawaii.



Battery Brodie (8-inch Navy mounts) on North Shore, Oahu, Hawaii.

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CDSG 2025 Conference at Boston Report

Gordon Bliss

The CDSG 2025 conference was held 23-27 April at the former harbor defenses of Boston. This conference covered the forts on the islands of Boston Harbor and to the south. Military sites to the north of Boston were covered during the 2016 conference.

The attendees gathered Wednesday evening at the same hotel, now the Nantasket Beach Resort, and in the same meeting room, in Hull, Massachusetts as we used for the previous Boston conference in 2007. We had quite a good turnout with over 60 attendees. The first two days involved water transportation provided by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to islands in the harbor. The weather cooperated for this. The third day involved the land-based transportation and would end up being the only day with significant rain. The last day, Sunday, included a visit to Fort Independence in South Boston in the morning with an optional visit to the heavy cruiser USS *Salem* in Quincy in the afternoon. The Monday add-on day was a visit to Fort Adams in Newport, RI. One site that was considered, Fort Banks in Winthrop with its Abbott quad mortar battery, was originally planned but was dropped when attempts to gain permission to enter the interior fell through and all that would be left would be a quick exterior view of one gun pit which is used by the town's DPW.



The LCM-8

Thursday morning found us at the DCR dock in Hingham next to the commuter ferry terminal there to board our transportation for the day – a Navy surplus landing craft (LCM-8). The initial destination was Lovell's Island, the site of Fort Standish. The landing craft ran up on the beach and in classic fashion the ramp dropped and disgorged us onto the island. People individually or in small groups spread out to explore the gun batteries which are spread across the length of the island. Battery Terrill, at one end of the island is much more broken up and affected by erosion than it was during the previous conference. The rest of the batteries are still in reasonable shape, though Battery Williams at the other end of the island has been significantly undermined by erosion.



Battery Terrill (3-6-in DC) Fort Standish



Battery Whipple (2-6-in Ped), Fort Standish

After departing Lovell's Island, we took a scenic route towards Outer Brewster Island, the site of Battery Jewel. Due to the size of the landing craft and difficult approach to the only viable landing area, we did not land on the island. On the way back in, we got a good look at Boston Light, the oldest continuously in use lighthouse in the US. To have more time at Fort Warren, we did not stop at Great Brewster which only has a mine casemate (used for storage) and an AMTB battery up a steep hill at one end of the island.

At George's Island, site of Fort Warren, we did not use the dock, but once again hit the beach and dropped the ramp and we surged off. There wasn't a chance then but as we re-boarded at the end of the visit, we got most everyone on the ramp to take one of the two group pictures for the conference. Though it was the off-season and the museum there is normally closed, DCR opened it for us so people could view the exhibits. DCR person-



Outer Brewster Island



Boston Light

nel helped facilitate the visit and allowing us to see the various features of both the original Third System fort and the later Endicott period batteries and structure. Upon returning to the hotel, after dinner there were presentations in the meeting room.



the Mine Storage Bulding at Fort Warren



Visitor's Center in the Mine Storage Building



Fort Warren

Friday morning once again found us at the pier in Hingham. Unlike the day before, this time we would be using the DCR's work boat. As the boat could not accommodate all of us at once, we would be shuttling the group, half of us at a time. Since the two sites we would be visiting were a lot closer to the pier, the boat could get to (and between) them quickly. First up was Long Island, site of Fort Strong. The former cantonment area of the fort is now the site of a seasonal youth camp with some new buildings built for that. There are two batteries in this area but no remaining original structures. The long-closed Long Island Hospital occupies the other half of the island, which we did not enter. Apart from the two batteries mentioned above, all the remaining batteries and tactical structures are concentrated on or adjacent to the elevated head of the island. There is also a lighthouse on the head. Besides the Endicott batteries, thanks to Andy Grant and two volunteers from Fort Mott making and marking a path, we were also able to see some of the 1870's battery constructed just below the top of the head on the seaward side.



The battery line at Fort Strong

After thoroughly exploring Fort Strong, we shuttled over to Peddock's Island, site of Fort Andrews. This fort has fewer batteries to see but still has several of its other structures. The wooden buildings, mostly officers' quarters and the hospital, were demolished some years ago but at the same time the remaining brick structures were mostly stabilized and sealed to protect them from the weather. A few of the brick structures are still used for various purposes including the original guardhouse, which is now



Fort Andrews

the visitor center for the island. It was opened for us to both relax in and view the exhibits inside. The outside porch and steps were used for the second of our group pictures for the conference. The one exception to the demolishing of the wooden buildings is the chapel, which was fully restored quite a few years ago and is still used for weddings and some special events. Unfortunately, the person with the key to it didn't make it out to the island that day and thus we weren't able to see the interior. Some attendees made it through the woods to the top of the hill that has some fire control and other structures. The DCR is in the process of making a marked trail to that area. It was another successful and busy day and by the end of our visit at Fort Andrews, many of attendees were taking the opportunity to relax in and around the guardhouse before shuttling back to the pier in Hingham and a final night of presentations at the hotel.



Barracks buildings at Fort Andrews



Battery Cushing, Fort Andrews

Saturday started rainy as we headed down to Fourth Cliff in Scituate to visit Battery 208 (2x6" BC), which still has its original diesel generators. The site is now an Air Force recreation area and has both a fire control tower and an original fire control cottage still in place. We were able to see the generators inside the battery thanks to the local site manager. Part of the point of land where the site is has been washed away and the fire control tower is now a lot closer to the edge than it used to be. Similarly, the bluff that Battery 208 is located on has steadily eroded over the years and the battery itself will eventually be undermined.



The power room at Battery 208



Fourth Cliff fire control station

Departing Fourth Cliff, some people traveled further south to see the fire control tower at Brant Rock before heading back to Hull to see sites there. By the time we got back to Hull, the rain had mostly stopped, and the rest of the day was fine. The fire control sites on Point Allerton are all in private hands and those were only drive-bys. The main destination was Fort Revere which still has a pair of open and intact 6-inch batteries, as well as a couple of buried ones. It also has a remaining and intact double officers' quarters which the current occupant is working to fully restore and was kind enough to open part of as one room on the first floor is a mini museum for Fort Revere. Upon departing Fort Revere, many of us took the opportunity to drive through Spinnaker (formerly Hog) Island, site of Fort Duvall and Battery Long (2x16" M1919 guns, later casemated during WWII). The small island is now completely covered by a condominium complex. As we no longer had a contact there, all we could do drive around a loop road a view the exterior parts of the battery.

We then headed back to the hotel to prepare for the banquet and annual meeting, held at a restaurant a block away from the hotel.



Restored officer's duplex, Fort Revere



Battery Long casemate on Spinnaker Island



Fire control tower at Point Allerton

Sunday started with some attendees going to Fort Independence in South Boston for a tour there. Officially, the conference ended at this point, but many took advantage of some add-on activities. From Fort Independence they, along with some who just went there directly, then proceeded to the USS *Salem* in Quincy at the former Fore River Shipyard where the ship was built. A guided tour was provided for those that wished to join it.



Fort Independence



The USS *Salem* in Quincy

Then on Monday, many of us went to Fort Adams in Newport, Rhode Island for a tour hosted by Chris Zeeman. The tour included both the Third System fort and some of the Endicott batteries. Once again, the weather cooperated and we had an excellent visit there.



St. Babs XLII group photo at Fort Andrews



St. Babs XLII group photo at Georges Island (Andy Grant)

2025 CDSG Boston Meeting Attendees:

G Banner, Tom Batha, Robert Baylor, Matt Bell, Andy Bennet, Mark Berhow, Gordon Bliss, A Bohn, Erno Bonebakker, Aaron Buda, G Chappell, I Cox, Robert Creedon, Nigel Cunningham, Roger Davis, Robert Duchesneau, Craig Dyson, Mike Fleming, Karl Fritz, Maurice Gehlen, Andy Grant, Robert Grimm, CJ Gutch, B Hartzell, Roy Hatanaka, Marvin Heinze, Stephen Hurley, Chuck Kenneally, David Larsen, Christopher Leblanc, Ned Libby, Scott Logan, Mike Malone, Dale Manuel, Robert McCormack, Terry McGovern, Bruce Nordmark, Don Parks, Paul Prentiss, William Preston, Bill Ricker, Chuck Ruby, David Ruebsamen, Raymond Ruhlmann, Norm Scarpulla, John Scholes, Roger Stevens, Rolf Thoendel, James Touza, Tom Vaughan, Steve Waldron, Robert Walk, Glen Williford, Greg Wolf, Robert Wong, Chip Woodman, Chris Zeeman

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**Journal of the United States Artillery,
Coast Artillery Journal, and
Anti-Aircraft Journal**

Bolling Smith

Reprinted from the *Coast Defense Study Group News* Volume 6, Number 1, February 1992 pp. 57-58

Most members of the CDSG are familiar with the abbreviations *JUSA* and *CAJ*, two of the most common sources for the study of American coast defenses. The *Journal of the United States Artillery* and its successor, the *Coast Artillery Journal*, were the



Chris Zeeman, Enforcer!

focal points for the discussion of a wide variety of subjects and issues of interest to the Officers of the Coast Artillery.

JUSA came into being at a critical point in the history of American Coast Artillery. The Endicott Board had published its recommendations in 1886, Congress was slowly beginning to make appropriations for modern defenses, and the Ordnance Department had developed the first generation of high powered breech loading guns, although the carriages were still under development and debate. Although muzzle loaders constituted the overwhelming majority of America's seacoast defenses, Artillery officers looked forward, whether with anticipation or apprehension, to the day they would have batteries of modern weapons,

with all the newest accessories. Meanwhile, developments in metallurgy, chemistry and gunnery continued at the most rapid change in the history of artillery. These changes produced a need for artillery officers to know the latest developments, and for the wide discussion of new ideas on their employment.

In 1892, the Artillery School produced the first issue of *JUSA*. Early issues dealt heavily with theoretical gunnery and ballistics, and featured articles by many artillery officers who later achieved prominence. This was also the period of greatest change in Naval technology, and a surprising amount of space was devoted to developments in armor and ship design. Indeed, some issues, seem as concerned with naval developments as artillery. Field artillery was not forgotten, but the emphasis was clearly on seacoast artillery.

As the artillery entered the Twentieth Century, and more of the basic questions of ballistics and gunnery were solved, attention shifted more towards organization and tactics, and the development and employment of the newest technology. Submarine mines, searchlights, observation instruments, telautographs and telephones all had to be improved and incorporated into the harbor defenses.

JUSA continued to serve as both school and debating society for the artillery officer, and with the demise of the old artillery regiments it filled a valuable role in fostering esprit de corps.

With the advent of the *Field Artillery Journal* in 1910, *JUSA* focused on the now separate Coast Artillery Corps. Antiaircraft Artillery (AAA) became a CAC responsibility, and WW I saw space devoted to this new problem. Similarly, the war brought increased coverage of the new CAC roles, such as trench mortars, heavy artillery and railway guns. Some of these roles were relinquished after the war, while others, especially AAA, assumed an increasing importance. In 1922, after 190 issues as *JUSA*, the name was changed to the *Coast Artillery Journal*, to reflect the concentration on the CAC.

The twenties were lean years for *CAJ*; the editorial offices were moved to Washington in 1929. There was grumbling that the *Journal* was becoming the voice of the Chief of Coast Artillery, and to resolve the issue, an advisory council was formed which evolved into the United States Coast Artillery Association (USCAA) in 1931. Coming just as Congress banned advertising in service journals staffed by active officers, the USCAA kept *CAJ* afloat by subsidies from dues and book sales. To contain costs, *CAJ* shared articles of general interest with the *Cavalry Journal* and the *Field Artillery Journal*, although it had to increase its size and change its format to conform.

The thirties continued two earlier trends, as more space was devoted to organizational and social coverage, and AAA assumed increasing importance, both in the CAC and in *CAJ*.

With the onset of WW II, the emphasis shifted further toward AAA, especially after the fall of the Philippines ended seacoast artillery action, although this was not so apparent at the time. For the remainder of the war, coverage was more and more shifted to AAA until by VJ Day, *CAJ* had become an antiaircraft journal in all but name. This was corrected in 1948, when it was renamed to the *Antiaircraft Journal*, although USCAA did not change its name until 1950.

Even as *AAJ*, however, the *Journal* continued to devote some space to the final developments in seacoast artillery. 1954 finally saw the last issue of *AAJ*, as the USAA merged with AUSA, and AAA was handled by a special editor of AUSA's *Army Combat Forces Journal*.

As *JUSA*, *CAJ*, and finally *AAJ*, the *Journal* served several broad purposes during its long life. Initially conceived of as a means of modernizing artillery officers and making them more professional, it served as textbook and sounding board for those building the new Coast Artillery Corps. Adapting to changing roles and technology, the *Journal* increasingly served as a unifying force and reflected the activities and interests of the CAC between the wars. As AAA became the dominant CAC role during WW II, the *Journal* served as a unifying force, giving a sense of community to scattered AAA units composed for the most part of officers and men with no memories of the prewar, regular army CAC while serving as a training aide, passing on the lessons of combat. It continued this role through the Korean War, until it finally ceased publication, due in part to the tremendous increase in training produced by the Army itself. No longer did an officer need a periodical to learn his profession.

All that is left today is yellowing volumes, inscribed with the names of forgotten officers. More than anything else, they show us what these officers were thinking and what they considered important. They represent the best opinion of the men who led the Coast Artillery and for this reason will always be of value to those of us who honor their memory and study their now vanished profession.

Source: *Military Periodicals: United States and Selected International Journals and Newspapers*, by Michael E. Unsworth, Greenwood Press, Westport CT, 1990; Pages 25-34.

Copies of complete sets of *JUSA* (1892-1922), *CAJ* (1922-48), and *AAJ* (1948-54), along with *Liaison* (1918-1920) have been scanned and PDF copies are now available on the internet, or by request from the CDSG ePress. They are generally as images so are not text searchable and have not been electronically indexed.

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Today's USMC Coast Defense Mission

Charles H. Bogart

After the founding of the United States Marine Corps in 1798 one of the first missions assigned to it was the guarding of U.S. Navy bases. During World War II the Marine Corps fielded twenty Defense Battalions charged with defending advanced naval bases and stations from enemy ship and air attack. Between WW II and the Korean War, the concept of the Marines defending naval bases and stations against ship and air attack withered and died.

However, the 21st century has seen the Marine Corps re-embracing its mission of defending U.S. Navy bases with the increasing belligerence of the People's Republic of China and their commitment to building aircraft carrier killing missiles and drones. With Guam now serving as the U.S. Navy's Pacific forward deployment base the Marine Corps finds itself embracing its old mission of naval base defense. The ongoing war between

the Ukraine and Russia being an eye opener on the ship killing power of modern missiles and armed drones.

The result of the Marine Corps re-embracing its base defense mission is that it is acquiring and developing an anti-missile mobile defense platform under the "Long Range Precision Fires of Anti-ship Missile and Medium Range Air Defense Program" (LRPF). The LRPF program consists of three sub programs, the High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS), the Medium Range Intercept Capability System (MRIC), and the Navy Marine Corps Expeditionary Ship Interdiction System (NMESIS). MRIC is currently based around the "Iron Dome" surface to air missile system. The Marines have not had a SAM missile system since the early 1990s when they stood down their HAWK SAM Batteries. The HIMARS anti-ship mission is based on a truck mounted fire unit armed with two Kongsberg Naval Strike Missiles with a range of 125 miles.

Strangely the Marines are transferring all of their anti-ship configured surface to surface Tomahawk missiles to the U.S. Army. The Marines state that the Tomahawk will be replaced with extended range U.S. Navy Strike Missile now under development.

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Identifying Fire Control Station Locations and Assignments:

Working towards a CDSG database

Mark Berhow (berhowma@cdsg.org)

For a number of years some members of the CDSG have talked about building a database of historical information on the various elements that comprised the modern harbor defenses of the United States. Thirty years ago, very little information had been entered into electronic text or spreadsheet form and the task of creating a database was daunting. However, here in 2025 a significant collection of historic records has been digitized. Some data on the various harbor defense locations and the gun batteries has been entered into text files and spreadsheets in connection with the work done for the American Seacoast Forts book series.

One of the last cataloging tasks of coast artillery structures that needs to be accomplished by the CDSG is an inventory of the many fire control structures built by the US Army for command observation and battery fire control. It is proving to be a laborious task. The information to complete a digital inventory of the fire control elements is here, we just need to complete the correlation and data entry from the source documents and compile information from the field. Other tasks remaining include separation into individual pages and cataloging the Reports of Completed Works and the Quartermaster building records for depositing into location database entries and cataloging the various photograph and postcard collections.

The development and changes in the optical instrument fire control system from 1900 to 1945 was a long and complicated process that changed equipment, operating procedures, and designations frequently. By 1905 the Army had adopted a system of optical instruments that used trigonometry connected by a communication network to plot the interception of the target by the long-range artillery shells. Optical equipment included the

Depression Position Finder (DPF), the Azimuth Instrument (AI), and the Coincidence Range Finder (CRF) to provide information for the plotting room. These instruments provided azimuth information via telephones and other data transmission devices and were coordinated by the time interval bell systems. These systems were used though the early years of WWII when they were essentially replaced by radar.

Cataloging the Fire Command Stations

The development and changes in the optical instrument fire control system from 1900 to 1945 was a long and complicated process that changed equipment, operating procedures, and designations frequently. By 1909, each battery was under the immediate command of the officer stationed at the battery commander's station (BC). Each battery may have had one or more additional base end stations (B) with optical spotting instruments. Small caliber batteries usually had a coincidence range finder station (CRF) nearby. Mine commanders manned their posts at the mine primary (M') station. In the defended harbor areas, called the Coast Defense Command, batteries were grouped into Fire Commands, each under the overall command of the fire commander stationed at the fire command primary station (F'). The Fire Commands were then grouped together by geographical areas under the command of the officer in command of that entire sector of the coast defense. This command was initially called the Battle Command but later was changed to the Fort Command. This officer was stationed at the primary fort command station (C'). In 1925, this chain of command was changed slightly. All forts and/or groups were under the Harbor Defense command (H). Forts (F) were also used as tactical commands. Individual gun batteries were assigned to a gun group (G). Later an additional tactical organization, the groupment (C), was added below the Harbor Defense command composed of two or more groups.

In general, batteries in each coast/harbor defense were assigned tactical number designations, generally in numerical sequence from the south (Tactical Battery #1) to the north (Tactical Battery #2, 3, 4, etc.) on the Atlantic coast; from the north to the south along the Pacific coast; and from the east to west on the Gulf coast and along the Puget Sound during the 1940s. Note that by 1935 base end stations (B) and spotting stations (S) were often combined. This is useful in deciphering the symbols for designating the fire control observation stations on the maps: B'1, B"1, etc. The lower number is the tactical battery number to which the station is assigned, the upper "prime" mark (later designated by a number) is the station designation number in the series of stations assigned to that tactical battery. The number of base end stations assigned to each battery ranges from a single station to as many as 14 stations. Each station had at least one azimuth scope (Az) and/or depression range finder scope (DPF) as well as connected telephone communication equipment, that were connected to fire control switchboard rooms (SBR). The 3-inch small caliber batteries had a single base station with a coincidence range finder (CRF) located close to the battery that were added in the WWI years. During the period 1905 to 1940 the fire control structures were generally located on existing military reservations.

Deciphering the battery tactical number assignments is the key to modern day efforts in identifying and tabulating the locations and current status of these fire control elements. Naturally this is complicated by changes in fire control assignments between when they were built, some as early as 1903, through their use in the 1930s, and the new program structures and reassignments of 1942-1945.

During the period 1903 to 1935 the fire control structures were generally located on existing military reservations. The location and designations of these stations—usually designated by their abbreviations—are found in the CDSG ePress harbor defense document collection:

- Confidential Blueprint maps (1915-1945)
- Reports of Completed Batteries
- Reports of Completed Works
- Engineer Notebooks of the Harbor Defenses (1900-28)
- Supplements and Annexes, Harbor Defense Projects

After 1940 the ranges for the new guns were longer and the fire control stations were more dispersed, which resulted in the acquisition of a number of new small reservations along the coastline of each active harbor defense. All of these can be used to provide information on the fire control stations that were built and ferret out their locations.

Transferring the information on the B' and B'' stations for each battery 6-inch and larger should be fairly straightforward, but not all base end stations listed in the Engineer Notebooks are provided with a precise location. Cross referencing the information in the RCWs with the FC assignments provided on the various maps should provide a definitive list of base end stations built between 1903 and 1920. The fire control stations built between 1928 and 1936 are a bit more difficult to identify, found only on the maps dated 1934-38 and RCW collections. The assignments of the new fire control stations for the 1940 modernization program are comprehensively listed in the 1944-45 Supplements along with the maps of the various locations. These have already tabulated in both spreadsheet and text documents.

That leaves the effort to determine the current status of the over 500 or so Fire Control stations built during the period

1904-1945. Determining which ones remain and which have been destroyed, as well as their ownership status, will be a difficult task. While early frame and plaster stations have largely disappeared, a number of the early brick and concrete stations survive, and many 1940s stations still exist, their concrete and steel nearly impervious to time and weather. A few stations have been demolished or pushed from their former locations by erosion or to make way for new development. The greatest loss has been the tower stations. A few steel towers dating back to the first decade of the century still stand, along with some 1930s steel towers. The steel towers, however, are rapidly showing their age, and except where strenuous preservation efforts have been made (notably at Fort Mott, NJ), those that have not been removed are on borrowed time. Most concrete towers along the East Coast, newer and stronger, still survive and some have even been converted into homes. Many fire control stations are preserved within national state and local parks.

Please contact Mark Berhow for more information and copies of the text files.

Key references on Coast Artillery Fire Control:

Bolling W. Smith. The Birth of Seacoast Artillery Fire Control and Direction 1896 - 1904. *Coast Defense Journal* Volume 34, Issue 4, Fall 2020 p. 12

Captain H.L. Morse, Coast Artillery Corps. The Evolution of Our System of Position Finding and Fire Control. Originally published in: *The Journal of the United States Artillery*, Vol. 39, No. 2 (March-April 1913), pp. 137-190. Reprinted by the CDSG in 1999.

War Department Chief of Staff *Coast Artillery Drill Regulations United States Army 1914*. Washington D.C. Government Printing Office 1914.

War Department Coast Artillery Field Manual 4-15 *Seacoast Artillery Fire Control and Position Finding*. Washington D.C. Government Printing Office 1940 and revised 1943.

Example of data entered into electronic text:

Fire Command Stations Boston Harbor 1904-1920 (From Boston Harbor Engineer Notebook)

First Battle Command (Forts Warren, Revere, Andrews)

Station	Location	Structure	Notes
C/1	Rear Stevenson, Warren	4 room plaster wood	1907

First Fire Command (Batteries Pope, Sanders, Ripley, Fort Revere)

Station	Location	Structure	Notes
F'/1	rear left Sanders, Revere	6 room wood canvas	1906
F''/1	right Burbank, Standish	6 room wood canvas	1906
B'/1 Pope	rear right Pope	2 room wood canvas	1906
B'/2 Sanders	rear left Sanders	6 room wood canvas	1906
B''/2 Sanders	right Burbeck	6 room wood canvas	1906
B'/3 Ripley	rear left Sanders	6 room wood canvas	1906
B''/3 Ripley	right Burbeck	6 room wood canvas	1906

BC Ripley	rear right Ripley	6 room brick	1904
SWBR	rear left Sanders	2 room wood canvas	1906
Met St	rear F'/1 Revere	1 room wood canvas	1906
Quarters	rear F'/1 Revere	2 room Wood Plaster	1906
Quarters	right Burbeck	2 room Wood Plaster	1908

Second Fire Command (Batteries McCook and Rice, Fort Andrews)

Station	Location	Structure	Notes
F'/2	Rear McCook	6 room Brick	1904

Third Fire Command (Batteries Cushing and Whitman, Fort Andrews)

Station	Location	Structure	Notes
F'/3	Rear OQ Andrews	3 room Wood Plaster	
F''/3	Pt Allerton	5 rm Wood Concrete Plaster	1907, 1913
F'''/3	Strawberry Hill	4 rm Wood Concrete Plaster	1907-1913
F''''/3	Outer Brewster		
B'/4 Whitman	rear OQ Andrews	3 room Wood Plaster	1907
B''/4 Whitman	Pt. Allerton	5 rm Wood Concrete Plaster	1907, 1913
B'''/4 Whitman	Strawberry Hill	4 rm Wood Concrete Plaster	1907-1913
B''''/4 Whitman	Outer Brewster		
SWBR	rear F'/3 Andrews	2 room Wood Cement Plaster	1907
Tide St	Wharf Andrews	1 room Wood canvas	1907

Fourth Fire Command (Batteries Lowell, Bartlett, Stevenson, Jack Adams, Fort Warren)

Station	Location	Structure	Notes
F'/4	rear Bartlett	2 room brick canvas	1903
F''/4	left B Field, Revere	3 room wood canvas	1905
B'/5 Bartlett	left F'/4, Warren	3 room wood canvas	1906
B''/5 Bartlett	left B Field, Revere	3 room wood canvas	1906
BC Bartlett	B'/5 left F'/4, Warren	3 room wood canvas	1906
B'/6 Stevenson	left F'/4, Warren	3 room wood canvas	1906
B''/6 Stevenson	left B Field, Revere	3 room wood canvas	1906
BC Stevenson	Left flank Stevenson	no records	
B'/7 Adams	rear Adams	2 room brick	1903 fort signal 1914
SWBR	rear F'/4, Warren	2 room Wood canvas	1906
Met Stn	left SWBR Warren	2 room brick	1900, to be rebuilt
Tide Stn	Wharf Warren	1 room wood	1906
Quarters	right C/1 Warren	2 room wood cement plaster	1907
Quarters	left B Field Revere	2 room wood cement plaster	1908

First Mine Command (Batteries Plunkett and Williams)

Station	Location	Structure	Notes
M'M'	rear Adams, Warren	2x2 room wood plaster concrete	1908
M''M''	left Sanders, Revere	2 room wood canvas	1906

Second Battle Command (Forts Standish, Strong, Health, Banks)

Station	Location	Structure	Notes
C'/2	North Deer Is	2 room wood concrete plaster	1907
C''/2	south Deer Is	1 room wood concrete plaster	1907
Quarters	right C'/1 Deer Is	5 room wood concrete plaster	1907

Fifth Fire Command (Batteries Whipple, Brubeck, Terrill, Weir, Vincent)

Station	Location	Structure	Notes
F'/5	left Vincent, Standish	2 room brick concrete	1904
F''/5	North Deer Is	3 room wood concrete plaster	1907
B'/8 Burbeck	left Vincent, Standish	2 room wood cement plaster	1907

B ⁿ /8 Burbeck	North Deer Is	3 room wood concrete plaster	1907
B ⁿ /9 Terrill	left Vincent, Standish	2 room wood cement plaster	1907
B ⁿ /9 Terrill	North Deer Is	3 room wood concrete plaster	1907
SBR	left Vincent, Standish	2 room wood plaster	1907
Met Stn	left Vincent, Standish	1 room wood plaster	1907
Tide Stn	wharf Standish	1 room wood canvas	1907
Quarters	rear of FC left Vincent	2 room wood plaster	1908

Sixth Fire Command (Batteries Stevens, Smyth, Ward, Hitchcock, Taylor)

Station	Location	Structure	Notes
F ⁿ /6	rear Drum, Strong	2 room concrete wood	1900
F ⁿ /6	North Deer Is	3 room wood concrete plaster	1907
B ⁿ /10 Ward	rear Drum, Strong	8 room wood	1905
B ⁿ /10 Ward	North Deer Is	3 room wood concrete plaster	1907
BC Ward	center Btty Ward		
B ⁿ /11 Hitchcock	rear Drum, Strong	8 room wood	1905
BC Hitchcock	with B ⁿ /11		
B ⁿ /11 Hitchcock	North Deer Is	3 room wood concrete plaster	1907
SBR	rear Drum, Strong	2 room wood	1906
Met Stn	left SBR	1 room wood canvas	1906
Tide Stn	Wharf Strong	1 room wood	1905

Seventh Fire Command (Batteries Winthrop, Kellogg, Lincoln)

Station	Location	Structure	Notes
F ⁿ /7	rear left Winthrop, Heath	2 room brick wood	1901
F ⁿ /7	Nahant	6 room wood concrete plaster	1907
B ⁿ /12 Winthrop	rear left Winthrop's, Heath	2 room brick wood	1901
B ⁿ /12 Winthrop	Nahant	6 room wood concrete plaster	1907
B ⁿ /13 Kellogg	left Winthrop, Heath	3 room wood plaster	1907
BC Kellogg	with B ⁿ /13		
B ⁿ /13 Kellogg	Nahant	6 room wood concrete plaster	1907
B ⁿ /14 Lincoln	left Winthrop, Heath	2 room brick wood	1902
BC Lincoln	with B ⁿ /14		
B ⁿ /14 Lincoln	Nahant	6 room wood concrete plaster	1907
SBR	rear left Winthrop, Heath	2 room wood plaster	1907
SBR	rear left Lincoln, Banks	2 room wood plaster	1907
Met Stn	rear Winthrop, Heath	1 room wood plaster	1907

Second Mine Command (Batteries Drum and Basinger)

Station	Location	Structure	Notes	M ⁿ M ⁿ
	left Drum, Strong	4 room wood canvas	1906	
M ⁿ M ⁿ	rear left Terrill, Standish	2 room wood plaster	1907	
M ⁿ M ⁿ	North Deer Island	2 room wood concrete plaster	1907	
District Signal Station	right of SBR, Andrews	4 room brick	1909	
Emergency Station Standish		6 room brick	1904	

Changes 1917

BC Bⁿ Lincoln, BC Bⁿ Cushing, Bⁿ Winthrop, Fort Command Fort Heath moved to a dwelling in Winthrop Heights

Bⁿ Lincoln and Bⁿ Cushing were moved to Deer Island

Fort Commander Station Fort Andrews, BC Cushing-Whitman moved to dwelling on lot adjacent to Ft. Andrews

BC Burbeck-Morris built in rear parados

Fort Commander Station Fort Standish and secondary station Deer was moved to the slope of Burbeck-Morris at Fort Standish

Three new secondary (tertiary) stations were established for
Lincoln-Kellogg and Winthrop

1936 Maps		Strong	CRF BC Basinger	Deer Island	B''/16 Kellogg
Location	Station		M'M'/2		B''/17 Lincoln
		Warren	M'M'/1		B''/18 Gardiner
Andrews	CRF Bumpas		BC Stevenson		B''/12 Winthrop
	B'4 Whitman		H-G4		G1
	BC/5 McCook		B'/8 Stevenson		
	DPF/5 McCook		Tide Stn	Heath	G3
Revere	BC-B'/2 Sanders	Standish	M''M''/2		BC-B'/16 Kellogg
	BC-B'/3 Ripley		B'/12 Winthrop		BC-B'/17 Lincoln
	B''/8 Stevenson		B''/2 Sanders		B'/18 Gardiner
	M''M''/1		B''/3 Ripley	Nahant	B''/16 Kellogg
			CRF Williams		B''/17 Lincoln
			CRF Whipple		B''/18 Gardiner
					F-BC Gardner

Boston World War II-era Site Locations.

Stations housed in a single structure are connected by dashes (-)

location	Loc#	Purpose
Sagamore Beach	109	
Manomet Point	110	
Gurnet Point	111	C1-BS1/208, SL 1,2
Brant Rock	112	BS2/208-BS1/Long-BS1/105, SL 3,4
Holly Hill	112A	SCR296-208
Flower Hill	113	military reservation-planned
Fourth Cliff	114	Batt. Tact. #2 BCN 208, BC-BS3/208, BS7/105-BS2/Long, BS1/Jewell-BS1/Murphy-G1
Strawberry Pt	115	G2-BS4/208-BS3/Long, C1-BS2/Jewell-BS2/Murphy, BS3/105-BS1/207, BS1/Gardner-BS2/206, SCR296-208, SBR
Strawberry Hill	116	BS1/Whipple, SL 9
Fort Andrews	117	Batt. Tact. #3 Bumpas, Batt. Tact. #4 McCook, BC/Bumpas, BC-BS1/McCook, SL 12
Fort Duval	118	Batt. Tact. #5 Long
Fort Revere	119	AMTB, SBR
Point Allerton	120	C1-BC-BS4/Long-BS2/Gardner,BS3/Jewell-BS2/207-BS2/206), BS4/105-BS3/Murphy, SCR682, SCR296-McCook, SL 10,11
Fort Warren	121	G5, M1/1, SL 15, SBR, MC, Mines
Fort Strong	122	Batt. Tact. #6 Stevens, Batt. Tact. #7 Basinger, BC/Stevens, BC/Basinger, M2CP, SL 17
Fort Standish	123	Batt. Tact. #9 Whipple, Batt. Tact. #10 Williams, BC-BS2/Whipple, BC/Williams, AMTB, SL17, SBR
Grt Brewster Is	124	MC, AMTB, M2/2
Calf Island	125	SCR
Out Brewster Is	126	Batt. Tact. #11 Jewell, BC-BS4/Jewell, SCR296-Jewell, SBR
Fort Dawes	127	Batt. Tact. #12 BCN 105, Batt. Tact. #13 BCN 207, HECF, C2, G4, BC/207, BC/105, AMTB, SCR582, MC, BS3/207, BS3/Whipple, BS3/McCook, M1/2, SL 18
Fort Banks	128	HDGP, G3, SBR, Met
Fort Heath	129	B3/McCook, SCR296-Whipple, AMTB
Fort Ruckman	130	Batt. Tact. #14 Gardner, C2CP, BC/Gardner, BS4/McCook, BS4/Whipple, SL10, SBR
East Point	131	Batt. Tact. #15 Murphy, Batt. Tact. #16 BCN 206, G6-BS3/206-BS3/Gardner, G7-BS5/Long-BS5/Jewell-SCR296-Gardner, BC/206-BS4/Murphy-BC/Murphy-BS5/105-BS5/207, SL 20
Phillips Point		SL 21
Marblehead Nk	132	SCR296-206, C2-BS5/Jewell-BS5/Murphy, BS6/Long-BS4/Gardner, BS6/105, BS5/207-BS4/206, SL 22,23
Gales Point	133	BS6/Murphy-BS5/206-BS7/105, SL 24,25
Coolidge Point	134	BS7/Long-BS5/Gardner, SL 26
Eastern Point	134A	BS7/Murphy-BS8/105, SL 27
Emerson Point	135	BS8/Murphy-BS9/105-C2OP3
Halibut Point	136	BS9/Murphy-C2OP4, SL 29,30
Castle Hill	137	BS10/Murphy

2025 Year-end Donation Appeal for the CDSG Fund

CDSG Fund Trustees (Terry McGovern, Quentin Schillare, Glen Milam and Mark Berhow)

The **CDSG Fund** supports the efforts of the Coast Defense Study Group by raising funds for preservation and interpretation of American seacoast defenses (both structures and artifacts). The CDSG Fund is seeking year-end 2025 donations from our members to fund projects that support our organization's goals. We have agreed to fund several projects in keeping with our goals and we have a list of potential projects which we may fund in the coming year, but only if we receive enough donations from our members to allow the **CDSG Fund** to provide these grants. These projects call for large amount of funds to be raised to reach completion so we need for you to make larger donations that you have made in the past to meet these preservation needs. Projects that the CDSG Fund Trustees and CDSG Board of Directors has already agreed to fund are:

Rare Coast Artillery Treatment and Coating, Fort Monroe, VA – Terry McGovern – Working with the Fort Monroe Authority, to treat and coat two rare 3-inch M1902 guns and a 90mm M3 fixed mount gun due to their failing coating system and the impact of graffiti/vandalism. The CDSG is taking the lead in contracting for this work and we have paid the \$20,000 bill. The CDSG Fund has raised \$7,925 (along with \$10,000 from CDSG Fund reserve) so far to cover this bill, so we are short \$2,075 to cover the project and to meet our \$5,000 donor challenge.

Fort Wool, Rip Raps, Hampton, VA – Mike Cobb – Stabilization of the WWII Battery Commander's Tower – The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and Department of Wildlife Resources controls the island fort and they have converted it to a seasonal nesting habitat for seabirds. They have determined the dock and the historic structures are unsafe and banned the public from visiting. The WWII Battery Commanders Tower (the only standing tower of this type remaining in the USA) is in need of stabilization, especially on the "station" portion where only two steel support carry the weight of the cement roof. Mike has been using car jacks to try to add support of the roof but the whole roof is leaning due to its weight (plus trapped water). It is a real possibility that the tower may topple if these roof supports give way. A construction proposal to repair the BC Tower has been received with a current cost estimated to be \$150k. The Coalition will try to get the Commonwealth to fund these repairs, but we need to fundraise to pay for part of these repairs. The CDSG Fund has raised \$3,000 so far for this project.

WWII Fire Control Tower, Fort Michie, Great Gull Island, NY – Chris Zeeman – Stabilization of WWII Fire Control Tower due to rusting steel supports and spalled concrete. We have worked with Margaret Rubega through the AMNH to fund the hiring of structural engineer to design a stabilization plan for the tower. The structural assessment is now done, but raising funds to pay for the contractor to install supports still is required. Our membership has contributed \$5,000 so far towards this project so far, but is only a fraction of funding needed.

Rare 90mm Gun Mount – Terry McGovern - Fort MacArthur Military Museum Association has agreed to turn over the rare 90mm gun mount to the CDSG so we can have it restored (our original plan 25 years ago) and put on public display. The CDSG Fund will need to raise funds pay for the transportation costs (about \$9,000).

Other possible CDSG Fund projects – Fort Varnum Signage (Chris Zeeman), Appledore Island FC Tower Signage (Norm Scarpulla), Bermuda 9.2 Guns Repainting (Terry McGovern) & 25kw Motor Generator (Shawn Welsh).

The **CDSG Fund** can only fund these and other projects by receiving your donations, so without your donations we cannot move forward with these projects. Please consider donating when paying your membership dues for 2026. Please remember that your 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 the projects that are requesting grants. Your contributions are acknowledged annually.

Make checks or money orders payable in US funds to: the **CDSG Fund**.

Donations can also be made by credit card or PayPal via the CDSG website at <https://cdsg.org/donations/>

Send donations to:

CDSG Fund c/o Glen Milam,

22150 Pondsville Road, Smithsburg, MD 21783 USA

or use your credit card on the www.cdsg.org website.

* * * * *

Ward "Renny" Maier

CDSG member Ward "Renny" Maier died on October 26, 2025. Well known in the Boston area medical community as an anesthesiologist, he was active in CDSG attending conferences and local New England events between 2001 and 2011. He will be remembered for his humorous email address, which began with "zzzdoc".



Rear entrance to Battery Jewell (BCN 209) on an earlier trip to Outer Brewster Island (Gordon Bliss)



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.

The goals of the CDSG and CDSG Fund are the following:

- * Educational study of coast defenses
- * Technical research and documentation of coast defenses
- * Preservation of coast defense sites, equipment, and records for current and future generations
- * Accurate coast defense site interpretations
- * Assistance to groups interested in preservation and interpretation of coast defense sites

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 the CDSG Fund. Donations can also be made by credit card through the CDSG website at www.cdsg.org.

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 \$1,500 to \$5,000 grants per year. Upon conclusion of a project a short report suitable for publication in the CDSG *Newsletter* is requested. The trustees shall review such requests and pass their recommendation onto the CDSG Board of Directors for approval. The trustees for the CDSG Fund are Terry McGovern, Quentin Schillare, Mark Berhow and Glen Milam. Receive an oozlefinch pin for donations over \$150!

Send donations to (and made out to):

CDSG Fund c/o Glem Milam
22150 Pondsville Road, Smithsburg, MD 21783
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.



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 joining the CDSG.

The CDSG patches have been available for several years. Designed especially for the CDSG, these quality patches combine the Coast Artillery Corps, the Ordnance 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

Khaki 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 \$20 each)

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CDSG Color Decal: times \$ = Total \$
(domestic \$2) each

Hats: times \$ = Total \$
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Be sure to include your name and shipping address.

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

* * *

Support the CDSG.org and FortWiki.com Websites

The CDSG supports its websites ONLY through donations. If you use these websites, please help the CDSG continue to maintain them by donating a shareware fee. We suggest a minimum donation of at least \$5.00. You can donate online at cdsg.org/ donations or by check or money order. Thank you for supporting the CDSG and FortWiki websites!



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* * * * *

Company of Military Historians

This organization is dedicated to the study and preservation of military history in the Americas. Its objectives are to promote and advance the research of military history and traditions through publications, exhibits, and meetings. Members include anyone interested in military history, such as historians, collectors, writers, artists, and those involved in living history.

The company publishes the quarterly journal, *Military Collectors and Historian*, and an ongoing series of color plates— "Military Uniforms in America." Memberships start at \$60

For membership information contact:

Company of Military Historians

P.O. Box 910, Rutland, MA 01543-0910

Phone: 508-845-9229

E-mail: cmhhq@aol.com

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* * * * *

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The Fortress Study Group

www.fortressstudygroup.org

The Fortress Study Group is a charity registered in the UK with an international membership. Its purpose is advancing the study of post-medieval artillery fortifications throughout the World.

The benefits of Fortress Study Group membership include:

Our annual peer reviewed Journal FORT

Three issues of the CASEMATE Magazine

Two Webinars a month

An annual conference and tour in the UK

An annual international tour

UK Members Days and Study Tours

International digital memberships are £20.

The Coast Defense Study Group
<https://cdsg.org>

The *CDSG Newsletter* is published quarterly by the Coast Defense Study Group, Inc. along with the *Coast Defense Journal*. Submissions for the newsletter should be sent to the editor or publisher below.

Submission deadlines are the first of the month in February, May, August, and November of each calendar year. All rights are reserved. Comments on business matters should be addressed directly to the Chairman of the Board of Directors.

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