

Primary Battery File

National Archives, Washington D.C.

Record Group 77

Correspondence of the Chief of Engineers

Entry 103

File, Fort, Battery:

30189

Ft. Wetherill

Btly Cooke

Subject: Emplacements for two 15-pdr. P.F. guns at Dumplings, R.I.

U. S. Engineer Office,

Newport, R. I., March 3, 1899.

Brig. Gen. John M. Wilson,

Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to forward this day in a separate package plans, elevations and sections of emplacements for two 15-pdr. rapid-fire guns at the Dumplings, R. I.

The water front towards the sea of the Dumplings site is narrow and is almost entirely occupied by the emplacements for 12-inch guns, the concrete work for which is about completed; in addition the natural level of the ground or rocky site is low towards the south west, so that in order to give the smaller pieces any field of fire towards Fort Adams, they must be raised to fire over a part of the parapet of the 12-inch emplacements, as well as natural obstacles in front.

The site selected for the two emplacements is in prolongation of the main work, close to it, and as far to the front as possible to increase the field of fire in the direction of Fort Adams. Trial sites were taken further to the right of the main work, but it was found that in order to obtain a sufficient field of fire, the emplacements would have to be raised to a considerable height, and that practically no earth protection could be secured on account of there being so little room, besides the ravine to the right of the main work would have to be filled up and a high rocky point in

front removed; even then the field of fire would extend but a little to the north of Castle Hill. The interior crest of the battery is the same as that of the main work and the level of the passage way in rear of gun platforms has been lowered one foot below what is shown in type drawings, for greater protection.

The unfavorable conditions incident to the contracted site, will make the cost of this work undoubtedly more than was contemplated for emplacements of this character, but so far as I can determine, this increased expense is necessary to enable the guns to be of much use, i.e., to give them a sufficient field of fire to justify their being mounted at all.

My experience in placing heavy masses of concrete on comparatively thin floors of concrete on earth fill has been such, that I cannot recommend its being done in this case, and I have therefore planned the work to be built up solid from the foundation, using a low grade concrete with random stone for the base. Some saving in actual concrete might be effected by supporting the magazines, &c., on built up walls, the spaces between them being filled with rammed earth, but the cost of forming would be considerable.

The following is the estimated cost of constructing the two emplacements.

Natural cement concrete.		
Foundation,	600 cu.yds. @ \$4	\$ 2400.00
Superstructure,	450 cu.yds. @ \$6	2700.00
	Carried forward,	<u>\$ 5100.00</u>

		3.
		\$ 5100.00
Brought forward,		
Portland cement concrete.		
Ordinary,	80 cu.yds. @ \$10	800.00
Facing,	63 cu.yds. @ \$20	1260.00
Earth fill,	3300 cu.yds. @ \$ 1.25	4125.00
Sod,	1300 sq.yds. @ 70 ¢	910.00
Drain Pipe,	200 ft. @ 40 ¢	80.00
Asphaltum,	54 sq.yds. @ \$ 1.20	64.80
Railing,	80 ft. @ \$ 1.20	96.00
I Beams,	3000 lbs. @ 4 ¢	120.00
Doors and fittings,	2 @ \$40.00	80.00
Removal of retaining wall		
Main battery to reference 28'		300.00
Total,		\$ 12935.80
Deduct quantities included in estimate for		
12-inch battery:		
Fill, 1948 cu.yds. @ \$1.25	\$ 2435.00	
Sod, 630 sq.yds. @ 70 ¢	441.00	\$ 2876.00
Balance,		\$ 10059.80
Contingencies, engineering, &c., 10%		1005.98
Total,		\$ 11065.78

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

W. H. Wood

2 inclos., in sep. roll.

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

Thro'

Col. G. L. Gillespie,
Corps of Engineers, U. S. A.,
Division Engineer, Northeast Division.

38

Atty, March 11

OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS

30139

WAR DEPARTMENT

Lockwood,
March 3, 1899 -

Lockwood,
Major Gen

Dismissed Plans and

Sections of replacement
gun two 15-pdr. M.C. guns
at the Dumpings.

Difficulties of site now
the existing gun cavity
that would be 44,092.38.

2 miles (15.)
dredge, 1 and 2 in Chap. City, Pa. 26, 84. 52.
28652.

Received 9/12/06

RECD. BACK OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. MAR 16 1899

recd, 14 2 accordingly

1st Indorsement.

NORTH EAST DIVISION

ENGINEER OFFICE

New York, Mch. 4, 1899.

Respectfully forwarded to
the Chief of Engineers.

By direction of Colonel
Gillespie, in his absence:

Wm. H. Blandford,
Clerk.

38-1899.
Inclos. 1 & 2 (trs) in sep. roll.

2nd Indorsement.

Office Chief of Engineers,

U. S. ARMY.

March 9, 1899.

Respectfully returned approved.

The sum of \$11,065 is hereby
allotted from the appropriation
for "Gun and Mortar Batteries",
for construction of gun and mor-
tar batteries, Act of July 7,
1898, to be applied to the con-
struction of emplacements for
two 15-pdr. rapid-fire guns at
the Dumpings, Conanicut Island,
R. I.

These papers to be returned.

By command of Brig. Gen. Wilson:

30139

Wm. H. Blandford,
Major, Corps of Engineers.

Inclos. 1 & 2 in sep. roll.

Through Col. G. L. GILLESPIE,

Chief of Engineers,

Division Engineer (C), North East Division.
Recd at St. March 11, 1899.

3rd Indorsement.

NORTH EAST DIVISION

ENGINEER OFFICE

New York, March 11, 1899.

Respectfully returned to
Major Lockwood.

By direction of Colonel
Gillespie, in his absence:

Wm. H. Blandford,
Clerk.

38-1899.
Inclos. 1 & 2 in sep. roll.

4th Indorsement.

U. S. Engineer Office,
Newport, R. I., March 14, 1899.

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

Wm. H. Blandford

Major, Corps of Engineers.

30139.
Inclos. 1 & 2 in sep. roll.

Thro Col. G. L. Gillespie,
Corps of Engineers, U. S. A.,
Division Engineer,
Northeast Division.

Recd at St. March 15, 1899.

5th Indorsement.

NORTH EAST DIVISION

ENGINEER OFFICE

New York, Mch. 15, 1899.

Respectfully returned to the
Chief of Engineers.

By direction of Colonel Gil-
lespie, in his absence:

Wm. H. Blandford,
Clerk.

38-1899.
Inclos. 1 & 2 in sep. roll.

RECD. OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. MAR 13 1899

Subject: Two 15-pdr.R.F.guns at Fort Wetherill,R.I.

U. S. Engineer Office,

Newport, R. I., May 24, 1900.

Brig. Gen. John M. Wilson,

Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to state that I am in receipt of information that Two 15-pdr.R.F.Guns and Mounts have been ordered sent to Fort Wetherill, R.I. To complete the emplacements for these guns and mount them ready for service will cost as follows:

60 barrels Portland cement at work @ \$3,.....	\$ 180.00
Labor making and placing 60 yds.concrete @ \$3.50,.....	210.00
Moving guns and mounts to site from dock,.....	50.00
Mounting, &c.....	75.00
30 cu.yds.sand @ \$1.50,.....	45.00
Forms, &c.,.....	20.00
Assistant Engineer and incidentals,.....	250.00
Total,.....	\$ 830.00
Balance on hand from allotment of \$11,065.00, March 9, 1899,.....	430.90
Amount required to complete,.....	\$ 399.10

I have the honor to request that an additional allotment of \$399.10 may be made to complete the work.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

W. W. Wood

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

OFFICE OF CHIEF OF ENGINEERS

MAY 26
30139
1900

WAR DEPARTMENT Newport, R. I.

May 24, 1900,

Lockwood,

May: R. O.

Requests an addl. allotment of \$399.10 to cover these emplacements for two 15 inch Q. S. Guns at Fort Mitchell, R. I., and to mount the guns.

1st indorsement.

Chief of Engineers,

U. S. Army.

May 31, 1900.

Respectfully returned to Major Lockwood.

The sum of \$400 additional is hereby allotted from the appropriation for "Gun and Mortar Batteries", for construction of gun and mortar batteries, Act of July 7, 1898, to be applied to the completion of two emplacements for 15-pounder rapid-fire guns at Fort Wetherill, R. I.

This paper to be returned.

By command of Brig. Gen. Wilson:

Joseph B. Michie
Captain, Corps of Engineers.

30139

5

2nd indorsement.

U. S. Engineer Office,
Newport, R. I., June 2, 1900.

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

Richard Wood

30139

Major, Corps of Engineers

RECD, OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. JUN 4 1900

RECD, BACK, OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. JUN 4 1900