



PORT TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON • AUGUST 2022



Volunteer museum host Ron Replee with a new item on display at the Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum at Fort Worden: an Army hand cart based on a design from the 1880s. It's possible the cart was at Fort Worden for many years; it was inspected at Fort Worden in 1951 and apparently assigned to the post stockade. Each company had a cart to collect commissary and other goods.



Gary Kauffman and his wife, Patt, became "hosts" with the Washington State Parks program that allows them to provide essential staffing for museums, gift shops, etc. The Kauffman's assignment at Fort Worden State Park in 2021 was key to the Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum's renovation.

Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum reopens with updated displays, better visitor experience

A chance meeting between two "can-do" men at the Fort Worden State Park campground led to a major overhaul in 2021 of the Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum at Fort Worden. In fact, it's never looked better.

The non-profit, volunteer-led Coast Artillery Museum (CAM) closed in March 2020 due to the pandemic. The extended closure seemed like a good time to make repairs and update displays within Building 201 (opened as an Army barracks in 1904) where the opened in 1985. CAM's financial resources are stable but the pool of volunteers is thin, and that's why the chance meeting proved so important.

Gary Kauffman retired early in 2021 as head of maintenance at a grocery warehouse in the Everett, Washington area, capping a 30-year career in the commercial and industrial construction trades. Kauffman and his wife, Patt, were looking forward to retirement and

using their RV. The Kauffmans became certified as Washington State Parks "camp hosts" in which people trade their services to "host" so many hours a week at a campground, museum and/or gift shop in exchange for an RV spot.

Early in 2021 the Kauffmans were visiting Fort Worden when they met Ron and Suzann Replee, camp hosts and museum volunteers at Fort Worden, Fort Flagler and other parks for six years. Ron led the reorganization of Fort Flagler's small museum and was looking at what could be done at the Fort Worden museum. The couples hit it off and Ron talked with Gary about needing help at the Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum.

"I said, 'just come on over and take a look around.' He did. He went back home, loaded the trailer, and was back here two days later," Ron recalls.

They volunteered their time and skills to improve Building 201's main level,

floor to ceiling; the Museum reopened in September 2021.

It's amazing what a new floor, paint and replacing fluorescent lights with LEDs can make inside an old building. The entire museum has been repainted, the walls a light yellow consistent with typical U.S. Army practice. The LED lighting overhead and within display cases is a vast improvement.

"It's been fun. It's kept me out of trouble," said Gary Kauffman, who was a radioman with an Army combat infantry platoon in Vietnam in the late 1960s, where he came away with the nickname of "Mudbone."

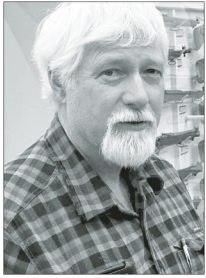
"Gary and Ron have been tremendous," said Greg Hagge, CAM Board president and museum director. "We can't thank them enough for what it means to CAM and our effort to better serve the public."

Hagge was involved with CAM here

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News From the Front

The past two years have been eventful, even though CAM has been closed like most other museum venues. We opened



Greg Hagge
Board President &
Museum Director
Puget Sound Coast
Artillery Museum

our doors in August 2021 featuring an extensive remodeling of the galleries with emphases on all new LED lighting thought the building. A complete new paint scheme of yellow

walls, going back to the way it was when the museum opened in 1985. Much work was done realigning the flow and time line. Existing displays were moved around and freshened up. New items were installed thought the galleries and a new gallery dedicated to the fire control process is in the works. CAM owes a great deal of thanks to tow of our hosts who had the needed skill sets and dedication to remodeling the museum (Thanks Ron and Dave!). We started 2022 with this new look and continue to improve in small ways as we go forward.

There have been changes in the management of Fort Worden. Washington State Parks and the Fort Worden Public Development Authority are evolving with changing times and so far this has been for the good. It has been a struggle dealing with the covid issues and the future seems to be getting back to something more normal.

The summer schedule is forming up. We have several events planned for the 9th CA District living history group set for August and September here at Ft Worden and Ft Casey. See the calendar of events elsewhere.

Fort Worden Area Parks Manager Brian Hageman has made inquiries about proposed improvements at Batteries Putnam and Stoddard. There are opportunities for interpretation and some cleanup that could make these more easily accessible batteries more appealing to visitors. CAM is happy to be of assistance with these and other projects that need some help with preserving the history at Fort Worden and providing resources otherwise difficult to find.



Living History volunteers with the 9th Coast Artillery District host regular public events at Fort Casey Historical State Park, and visit Fort Worden annually in the uniform of the 248th Coast Artillery Regiment.
- Photo from 2021

LIVING HISTORY NEWS: 9th District Coast Artillery Living Historians to set up at Fort Worden Sept. 4

The 9th District Coast Artillery Living Historians are visiting Fort Worden on Saturday, Sept. 4, 2022, setting up camp (10 am to 4 pm) representing the 248th Coast Artillery Regiment, circa 1940-1941. The 248th was stationed at Fort Worden during that time period. Set-up outside the Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum (Building 201), the Living History "mini museum" includes tent, spotting scopes, ephemera, uniforms and gear.

The 9th District volunteers use Fort Casey Historical Park on Whidbey Island as home base complete with a restored 1940 field kitchen, mess table and collection of 1930s/1940s dishware and serveware. The volunteers have different uniforms to represent various eras of Army service.

The group's other Living History encampments for 2022 are set at Fort Casey the weekend of Aug. 7-8, Sept. 4-5 (when the volunteers are not at Fort Worden), and a Veteran's Day event Nov. 12-13.

The 9th District living history group describes itself as having an emphasis on U.S. Army Coast Artillery operations and organization on the Pacific Coast. Their interpretive efforts are geared towards the time frame of 1937-1945 with a focus on the daily life and material culture of the enlisted artilleryman. "We seek to interact with the visiting public in a positive, non-political manner and to expose our visitors to original and authentic items of the period to help them better experience and understand the lives of our nation's service personnel generations ago."

MUSEUM HOURS ARE THURSDAY THROUGH SUNDAY

The Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum at Fort Worden is scheduled to be open from 11 am to 4 pm each Thursday through Friday. Admission by donation. In 2021, our non-profit, volunteer-led Museum underwent a substantial renovation so it is "better than ever before."

The non-profit, volunteer-led Museum is located in Building 201 at Fort Worden. Our mailing address: Coast Artillery Museum, 200 Battery Way, Port Townsend, WA 98368.



From a Coast Artillery Corps historical perspective, the most important part of this Fort Casey photo (circa 1912) is the kerosene lantern near the soldier's left foot. Read the story to learn why.

—Photo from Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum Collection

A Coast Artillery Soldier at Fort Casey, Circa 1912

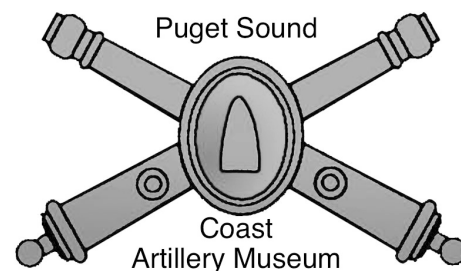
The more things change, the more things remain the same. Here is a U.S. Army Coast Artillery soldier at Fort Casey, Washington, circa 1912, posing by his bunk. Along with displaying his musical taste (banjo) he's also showcasing photos of his family, fellow soldiers, his favorite girls and professional sports figures – much the same as you would find in a military barracks today.

From a Coast Artillery Corps historical perspective, the most important part of this photo is the kerosene lantern near the soldier's left foot. This photo helped the Fort Casey Volunteer Battalion determine exactly what type of lanterns were used at Fort Casey. Army records indicated railroad lanterns were used by the Coast Artillery, but the exact type was unspecified. This photo clearly shows the unique lantern style made by Dietz Vesta. Researching a railroad history database that included the company's lantern sales, records were located that Dietz Vesta sold to the U.S. Army Ordnance, Medical Department and Infantry. The Ordnance Department were responsible for equipping Coast Artillery forts.

Railroad lanterns had a globe shorter than a typical lantern, and a baffle system which allowed it to be swung side to side – making it more able to withstand the concussion from a 10-inch cannon located about 15 feet away.

There are reports of a 1903 night-firing exercise involving mortars at Fort Casey which indicated the need for electrical power because the lantern glass was being broken by the concussion.

Lanterns were used less at Fort Casey starting in 1910 as electric power arrived to individual batteries. But after lantern hooks were removed it was discovered that some lanterns were still needed, so new hooks were purchased from Sears & Roebucks. By 1916, there was a stable electric power supply at Casey so lanterns were no longer needed.



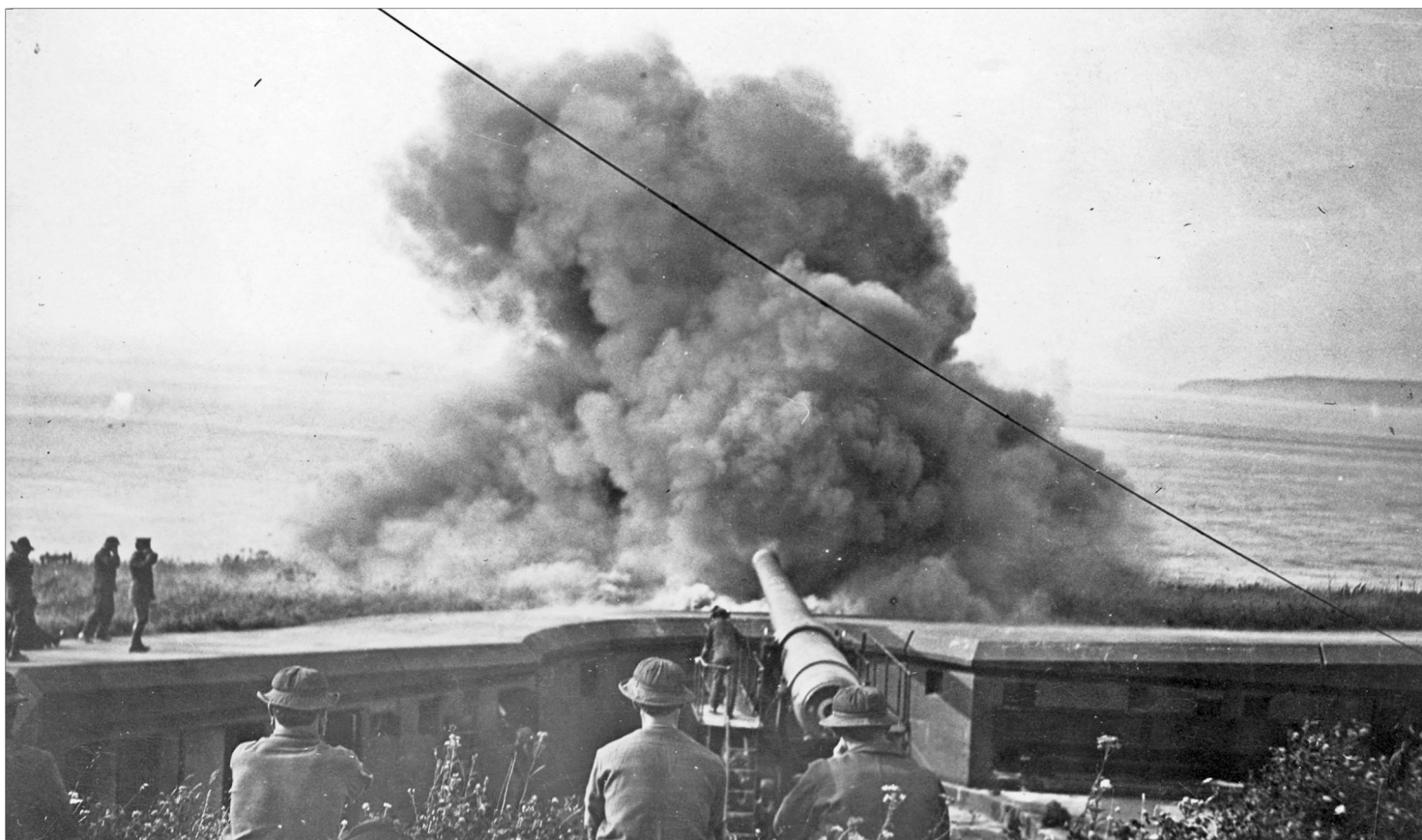
About the Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum

The Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum is a non-profit, independent association founded in 1976 by veterans of the 14th Coast Artillery Regiment and the 248th Coast Artillery Regiment to protect, preserve and present the history of the U.S. Army Coast Artillery and their duty with the Harbor Defenses of Puget Sound in Washington State.

Thanks to Washington State Parks and the Fort Worden Public Development Authority, our dedicated volunteers have been able to present our Museum in Building 201 at Fort Worden State Park in Port Townsend. Our Museum covers the complete military history of Fort Worden (circa 1897 to 1969) and other uses.

ALL-VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

As of 2022, our Coast Artillery Museum Board includes: Greg Hagge, President; Steven Kobylk, Vice President; David Harrah, Treasurer and Patrick J. Sullivan, Secretary; and Kevin Alexander, Aaron Buda, Mike Cornforth and Paul Fischler. The Board of Directors (volunteers) has several vacancies. Becoming a board member does not mean you would be rushed into a leadership position; it means you are able and willing to help the CAM in some active capacity with our mission to preserve and interpret the history of the Harbor Defenses of Puget Sound. Most but not all of our current board members live on or near the Olympic Peninsula. For more information, message the Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum Facebook page or email coastartillery@gmail.com.



Battery Benson mounted 10-inch cannons on disappearing carriages which were hidden from enemy view unless in firing position. Of course, once fired, the smoke clouds would have given enemy warships a fair idea of a gun's location.
-Photo from Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum Collection

'In Battery, Trip!' Fort Worden was 'supreme' Coast Artillery duty station from Corregidor to Panama

Bob Forbes watched his father at Fort Worden with 248th Regiment

In 1901, the Army created the Coast Artillery Corps so the Navy would not be burdened by seacoast defense, only a year before Fort Worden opened. Coast Artillery was quickly seen as the most technologically advanced armed service, thanks to its range-finding and target tracking equipment.

"Fort Worden was considered to be one of the supreme duty stations of the entire Coast Artillery system. Small, beautiful and having an excellent relationship with the people of Port Townsend, Worden was considered prime duty from Corregidor to Panama," said Dr. Robert B. Forbes during a 1995 interview.

In 1922, Fort Worden was selected as one of three training camps for National Guard, drawing from Washington and Oregon. Robert B. (Bob) Forbes was the son of Robert W. Forbes, a Washington National Guard

officer and a Coast Artilleryman, who rose to the rank of Brigadier General.

Starting at age 12, Bob Forbes observed his father's Washington National Guard unit in action at "summer encampments" and recalled this typical scene along Fort Worden's main gun line:

"I can see the shot trucks lined up with all the projectiles underneath the ramp ready to serve the piece," Bob Forbes recalled in 1995, during his tenure (1991-2001) as president of the Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum at Fort Worden.

"The doors open going into the corridors down to the outer magazines with men at the ready, with trays ready to serve the piece with the [nitro-cellulose] powder bags; the ramming crew standing in back of the gun down in the service position ready to shove the projectile home, then throw the ram back until the powder detail

could come up with the tray; the ramming crew shoving the powder bags in behind the projectile.

"Then, the Chief of Breach winds the breach home and then comes this great command, 'In Battery, Trip!' and he hit that trip lever and this huge gun would come up off its haunches and up to its knees to poke its muzzle over the parapet. Then came the command, 'Fire!'"

In 1939, Battery B of the 248th Coast Artillery Regiment (Washington National Guard) fired a practice course at a range of nine miles and destroyed the first target raft with the second round fired, and a second target raft with the sixth round fired.

FORBES FAMILY AT FORT WORDEN

When the National Guard was federalized in 1940, the Forbes family (Robert W. and wife, Hope, with sons Robert and Norman) moved from

their home in Aberdeen, Washington, into Officers' Quarters No. 15, south of the Fort Worden Parade Ground. Field grade officers had an entire house with fireplaces surrounded by Venetian tile, woodwork of finely carved oak, sinks of copper, tin ceilings and sturdy furniture.

"It was a great place for a kid to grow up. We played tennis and football on the parade ground. There were parades on Saturday mornings; parade and review past the commanding general. Gasoline cost nine cents a gallon. Bread was delivered up to the doorstep every morning, three cents a loaf, still warm from the bakery," Bob Forbes recalled.

Fort Worden was an "open post" before America's entry into World War II, and the public were welcome to observe the "shoots" when Washington National Guard units competed with Coast Artillery regulars. Firing schedules were published in the Port Townsend newspaper (many residential neighbors would open their windows to lessen the concussion).

"Everyone enjoyed the shoots – the firing of the guns. People would come from Port Townsend and sit on a hillside and watch the firing," Forbes re-

called. "The batteries competed both for accuracy and the way they served the gun; training and training... There were sequential firings. Battery Benson in the morning, Battery Kinzie in the afternoon; firing schedules published in Port Townsend."

Bob Forbes graduated with the Port Townsend High School Class of 1941 and attended Linfield College for a year before enlisting in the Army. He became a lieutenant with the 11th Airborne Division. For his combat service in World War II, he was awarded two Purple Hearts and the Silver Star.

After the war, he attended the University of Oregon, then the University of Washington, where he received a bachelor of science degree in 1950. From 1950 to 1956, Forbes worked as a civilian Arctic and mountaineering expert for the Army, including being part of the team that brought the bullet-proof vest and insulated arctic boot to soldiers in the Korean War. He joked that he was more scared as a civilian in Korea than he'd been in combat during World War II because he couldn't shoot back.

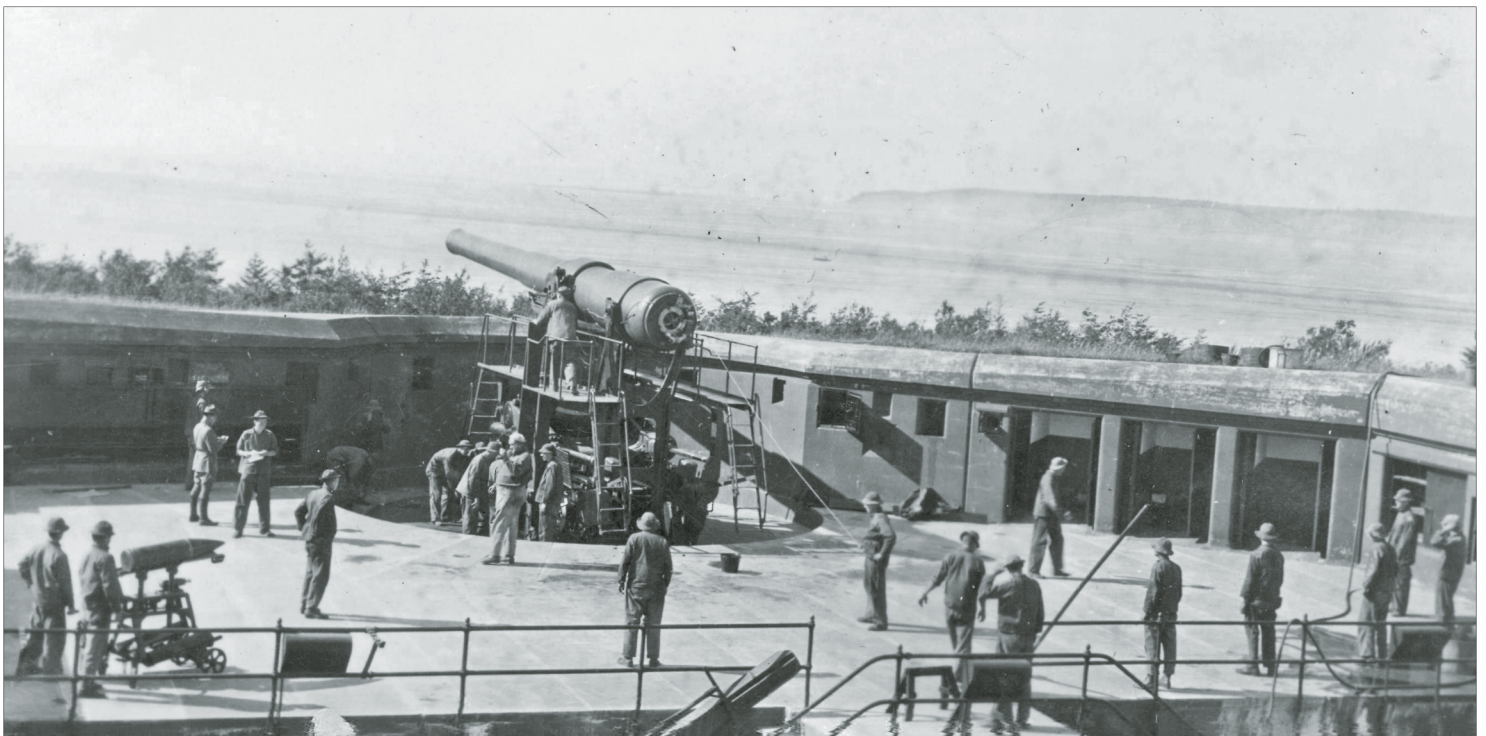
In 1959, after earning his doctorate in geology at UW, he went back to

Alaska with his family. Forbes joined the geology faculty of the University of Alaska at Fairbanks and was with the Department of Geology and the Geophysical Institute until 1978. In 1986, he was appointed state geologist and director of the Alaska Geological and Geophysical Surveys. When he retired as state geologist in 1991, the Alaska legislature passed a resolution honoring him for his contributions.

After retirement, he returned to Port Townsend where he served on the Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum Board and as museum director from 1991 until shortly before his death in 2001. The non-profit Museum association was founded in 1976 and the Museum in Building 201 at Fort Worden State Park opened in 1985 to "interpret, for the benefit of present and future generations, the story of the coastal fortifications of Fort Worden, and Puget Sound, and those who manned them."

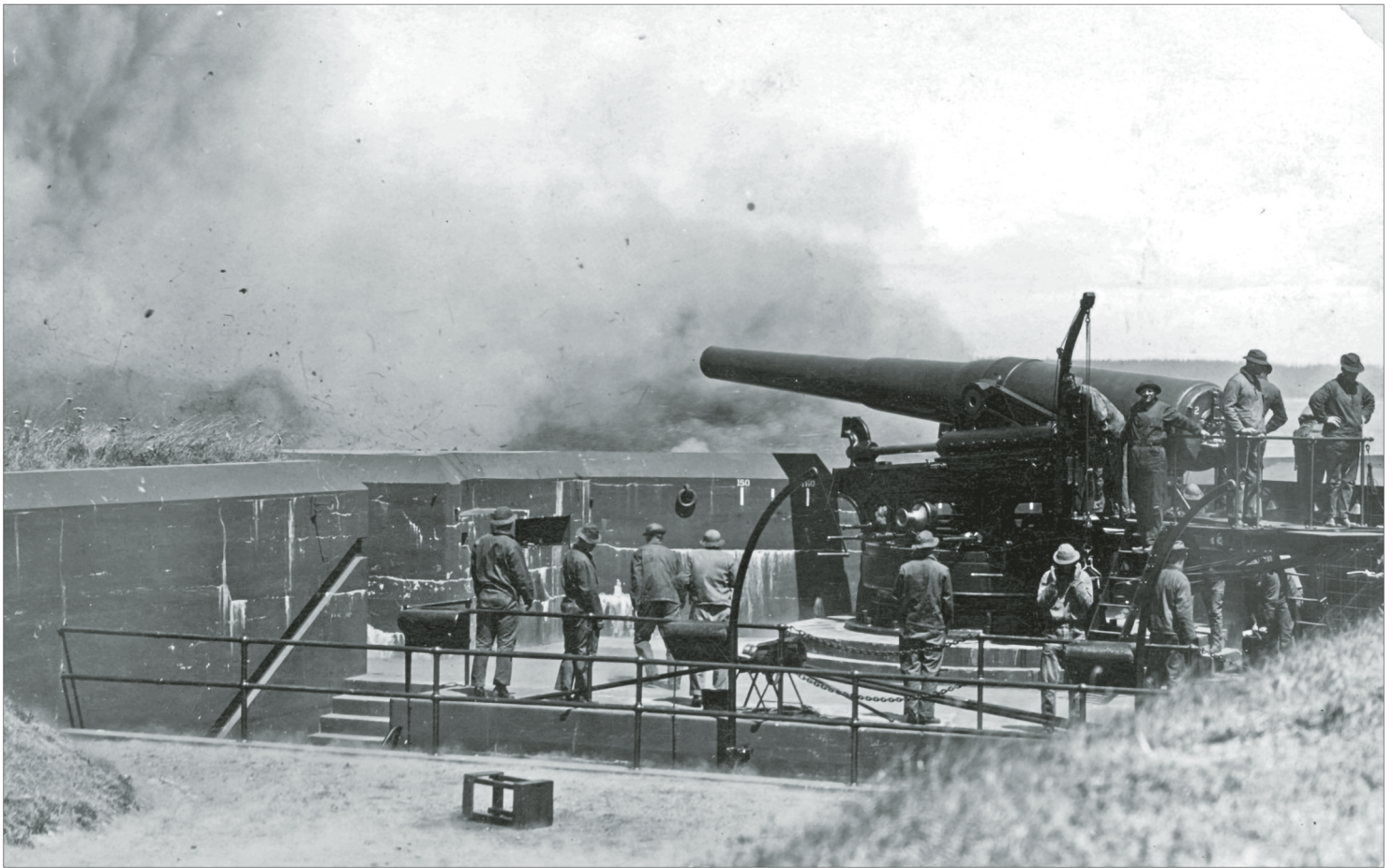
Asked in 1995 what he most recalled about his early years at Fort Worden, Bob Forbes said:

"I believe I miss most of all the sound of the bugler blowing Reveille and Retreat, and the lowering of the flag, and the sounding of the gun."



Fort Worden Battery Benson's "A Battery" tracking a target during service practice (using a "real" projectile instead of a practice round). In this photo from the 1930s, Benson's No. 1 gun has been "tripped" and is ready to fire. Emplacement Officer during this "shoot" was Lt. Robert W. Forbes, who advanced to become a brigadier general. His oldest son, Robert B. Forbes, who witnessed many of these practice sessions at Fort Worden, went on to become a decorated Army officer in his own right.

—Photo from Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum Collection



A round is being fired from the 10-inch M1888 rifle on an M1893 Barbette carriage in the No. 2 emplacement at Fort Flagler's Battery Revere, circa 1910. When a historian (or someone who simply likes to buy postcards or photos being sold on-line) looks at such an undated photo, there are clues to its age. For starters, the U.S. Army did not allow civilian photographers to record images of gun positions until 1910. Another clue to dating a photo is paint. For example, in this image the concrete emplacement remains dark (green paint) with only a little weeping from weather exposure, which indicates it was still fairly early in the fort's active time period. Dating a photo also can depend on the type of uniforms, from leggings to hats, that soldiers are wearing.

-Photo from Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum Collection

FORT FLAGLER: Target practice at Battery Revere, 1910

Fort Flagler on Marrowstone Island in Jefferson County, Wash., was activated on July 27, 1899, the first of the U.S. Army Coast Artillery Corps' "triangle of fire" forts that anchored the Harbor Defenses of Puget Sound, Washington. It was followed by Fort Casey (1901) and Fort Worden (1902).

Flagler's original main gun line consisted of six guns put into service

in 1902 which in 1906 were designated into three separate batteries: Rawlins (10-inch), Revere (10-inch), and Wilhelm (12-inch altered gun lift), each with two guns.

Battery Revere is named after Col. Paul Joseph Revere, commander of the 20th Massachusetts, who died of wounds suffered at the battle of Gettysburg on July 4, 1863. Revere was

posthumously breveted to the rank of Brigadier General. He was the grandson and namesake of Revolutionary War patriot Paul Revere.

Flagler was the first of the three forts to lose its active duty status after World War (1918). After deactivation by the Army (1953) it sold as surplus property to Washington State Parks (1957).

Coast Artillery Museum Needs You

The non-profit Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum is an all-volunteer organization and help is always welcome. The Board of Directors (volunteers) has several vacancies. Becoming a board member does not mean you would be rushed into a leadership position; it means you are able and willing to help the CAM in some active capacity with our mission to preserve and interpret the history of the Harbor Defenses of Puget Sound. Most but not all of our current board members live on or near the Olympic Peninsula. For more information, message the Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum Facebook page or email coastartillery@gmail.com.

Remembering Alfred Chiswell, Dave Thomas

This is the first Salvo newsletter since the passing of two men, both U.S. Army veterans, who were stalwart volunteers with the Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum at Fort Worden.



Alfred Chiswell (1944-2020) was associated with the Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum since 2001. If Alfred was your tour guide, you remember how he liked to talk about all things Coast Artillery. He also “walked the walk” by donating thousands of hours at Fort Worden State Park, in service to both Washington State Parks (2005 Volunteer of the Year award, 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award) and to CAM. He was a CAM Board member for 18 years, CAM Board president for 11 years, and museum director for 11 years. Alfred elevated our volunteer organization to provide more historical interpretation on Artillery Hill (viewsheds, guided walking tours, HECF tours, mortar battery plotting room tours, military collector vehicle shows, etc.) along with improving the museum itself and our collection. Alfred’s Army service concluded at the rank of captain and with two Bronze stars.



Dave Thomas (1934-2021) was a CAM volunteer from 1994 to 2015 and Board member since 2009. The first time Dave entered Fort Worden Building 201 – home to the Coast Artillery Museum – was in 1939. As a young man he worked at Fort Worden from spring 1950 to spring 1953. Dave is the last in a long line of distinguished CAM Board members to have experienced Fort Worden as an Army post. He spent many hours on the CAM Museum front desk as the exhibits were being developed. He had plenty of Fort Worden stories to keep visitors entertained. Dave, who was born and raised here in Jefferson County and Port Townsend, served in the Army 1953-56, with time in South Korea.

MUSEUM: Building 201 last original barracks without a remodel

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in its early days – he staged the museum when it first opened in 1985 – and returned in 2014 upon his retirement as a museum specialist for the Army Ordnance Museum at Fort Lee, Virginia. Hagge draws from a deep well of Coast Artillery knowledge. He’s been updating the language used on many existing displays, the fine-tuning of which is ongoing. Progress is

Care was taken to keep things original, when possible. For example, a porch light from Fort Flagler replaced the 1950s institutional style fixture over the Building 201 front door.

The East Wing, in what’s known as the World War I Room, the original galvanized sheet iron ceiling now supports a 1911 light fixture that had been in storage at Fort Flagler. When the barracks were renovated in 1957-58 for use by the Fort Worden Diagnostic and Treatment Center, the original ceilings were hidden by “drop ceilings” and institutional lighting. When these modifications took place, supports for the “new” lighting were hacked and

drilled into the sheet iron ceiling as interior spaces were reconfigured in size and shape. By accident, this one room was too small to support anchor wires for the drop ceiling so the pressed steel was left intact – which Hagge discovered in 1985 when he first served as CAM director. Building 201 is the only former Fort Worden barracks that has not been substantially remodeled since it was last used in the diagnostic center years.

SUPPORT FROM STATE PARKS, PDA

Building 201 is owned by Washington State Parks (which had a new slate roof installed in 2019) and leased to the Fort Worden Public Development Authority, which is responsible for general exterior and interior maintenance. The major interior repair issue was East Wing floor damage attributed to a broken water pipe. Building 201 is one of three Worden barracks waiting a complete renovation for which there is no budget or timeline.

The PDA maintenance staff re-

sponded to the problem and replaced the East Wing flooring. The job went so well, CAM is financing matching flooring in the entryway.

Brian Hageman, the Washington State Parks ranger responsible for Fort Worden Area Parks (which includes Flagler), has been supportive of historical interpretation efforts, Hagge noted.

MUSEUM OPEN TO PUBLIC

Today, the Coast Artillery Museum can satisfy visitors who have a basic “why are we here?” interest in Fort Worden, those curious about how soldiers worked and lived in the Coast Artillery era (1900-1944), and historically accurate interpretation (in the form of artifacts, photos, drawings, film, videos, etc.) of the U.S. Army Coast Artillery and the Harbor Defenses of Puget Sound.

The Museum in Building 201 on Fort Worden’s Barracks Row is scheduled to be open to the public from 11 am to 4 pm daily, as volunteer staffing allows. So far in 2022, the regular hours have been 11 to 4 Thursday through Sunday.

The last Army unit at Fort Worden operated long-range radar, 1957-61

The U.S. Army lowered the flag and officially vacated Fort Worden on June 30, 1953 – but it was not the last time Army personnel would use the Coast Artillery fort that became active in 1902. While the “campus” section of Fort Worden was used by the Washington Department of Institutions as a Diagnostic and Treatment Center for juveniles (1958-1971), Artillery Hill and the beach remained under military control. These photos are from 1960, when the Army had a Nike Missile Command long-range radar unit on Artillery Hill.

NAVY ON DUTY AT HECP

The U.S. Navy still had some 90 personnel using the Harbor Entrance Control Post (HECP) on the tallest point of Artillery Hill as part of its Puget Sound Harbor Defense mission that included the use of hydrophones and magnetometer to detect enemy submarines. While the Army was in control of Fort Worden’s guns, by World War II the Navy was responsible for monitoring vessel traffic at Point Wilson using the HECP (opened in 1944 as the post’s only true “bunker”) with signal light and radio. Sailors were at Fort Worden until



This view looks westerly up the Strait of Juan de Fuca at the original Coast Artillery fire control building. The Harbor Entrance Control Post (with stairs) is in the center background; it's the tallest point on Artillery Hill. The rooftop of the 1908 Ready Barracks (where soldiers on duty at an Artillery Hill gun battery, for example, would stay), located in a depression below the HECP, is also visible. Washington State Parks burned/demolished all these wooden structures in the early 1970s. -Photo from Coast Artillery Museum Collection

1959 and reserve Navy units used hill and beach facilities until 1969.

ARMY RETURNS, 1957-1961

The Army returned to Fort Worden in late 1957 with a long-range radar built adopt Battery Benson for the Nike Missile Command headquartered at Fort Lawton in Seattle. These ground-to-air missiles were a defensive measure

against long-range enemy aircraft. In 1960 there was a contingent of 14 soldiers manning the radar at Fort Worden.

The Army vacated the Fort Worden site by March of 1961, presumably since the U.S. Air Force had similar long-range radars at Neah Bay (Olympic Peninsula) and Birch Bay (Bellingham) that were each 100 miles closer than Fort Worden to any impending enemy bomber attack.

The photos here were taken in 1960 by newly arrived enlisted man Ron Novak, who in the early 2000s was a volunteer and board member with the Puget Sound Coast Artillery Museum.



Here's a view of the long range radar unit mounted on a cinderblock structure built atop Battery Benson (the 10-inch cannons had been removed in 1944). All that remains today from this photo is the main cinderblock building. -Photo from Coast Artillery Museum Collection



This helicopter appears to be a Piasecki H-21 Workhorse/Shawnee commonly called "the flying banana." The Army created a Landing Zone atop Fort Worden's original 2 million gallon water cistern (three air vents show). The cistern, which was last used as a music recording studio, has been closed to all public access since 2009.

-Photo from Coast Artillery Museum Collection