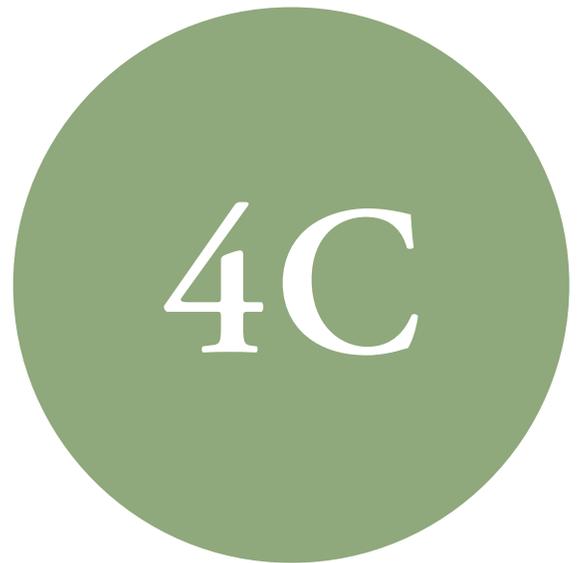


Batteries



Fort Monroe
resource inventory

BATTERY DERUSSY



DATE OF CONSTRUCTION
1898-1901

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE
Defense Structure

HEIGHT AND AREA
One story;
37,840 square feet

USE (ORIGINAL / CURRENT)
Fortification/Same

DESCRIPTION

Located outside the boundaries of the original historic fort, Building 212 is a cast-in-place concrete structure with chamfered columns and beams combined with black painted steel columns and beams and simple pipe railings to create a bold, if utilitarian, architectural composition. A central tower encloses the Battery stair. Painted shields of the different Coast Artillery groups are mounted on the rails.

As this building is a defensive structure used primarily for firing mounted artillery, fenestration is minimal. It is comprised mostly of a series of single-leaf flush steel doors, with hinged steel panels covering most of what could be considered window openings on the upper levels.

Building 212 faces east with a view of the Chesapeake Bay.

HISTORICAL DATA

The construction of this series of fortifications was undertaken along the Chesapeake Bay to the east and north of the original fort following recommendations of the Board of William Endicott, Secretary of War under Grover Cleveland. Monumental and symmetrical, the formed concrete walls, piers, and stairs were often decorated to mimic wood and masonry detailing, particularly in the case of Battery DeRussy. The most architecturally ambitious of the Endicott batteries, it once

held three 12-inch disappearing rifles. In 1944 the Battery DeRussy guns were taken away for scrap metal.

On July 21, 1910, Gun Number 1 of the 69th Company, Coast Artillery Corps, prematurely discharged, blowing out the breech and killing eleven soldiers. Six more were injured. A macabre post card, tucked into the July 20, 1934, Adjutant Officer's diary page, depicts the gun responsible for the accident on its front. The reverse side tells the history of the accident, names the dead and injured, and states, "The accident is the most serious in the history of Fort Monroe and the scene was horrible beyond description." The human loss and suffering caused by the accident are rightfully the focus of articles about the accident.

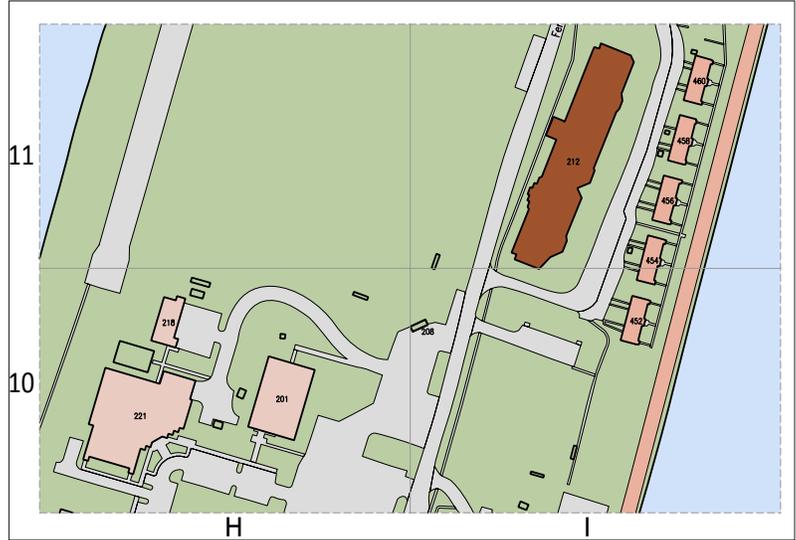
The batteries were the most advanced defense systems of their day, and together with the sea wall they marked the peak of coastal fortification before long-range weaponry and air power outflanked traditional defense strategy.

LOCATION
Fenwick Road
Fort Monroe
Hampton, Va.

MANAGEMENT ZONE
Endicott Batteries

CLASSIFICATION
Contributing Structure

CONDITION
Fair



PRESERVATION CONSIDERATIONS

Despite that this is a utilitarian building, created for use in the defense of the fort, Battery DeRussy still exhibits detail work in the casting of its concrete walls and supports. The piers that support the battery’s upper levels have chamfered corners, and the bottom edges of the concrete balconies are also chamfered. The piers have flared capitals and bases, referring back to the more traditional representations of classical columns used on other buildings at Fort Monroe.



The central stair tower and the painted shields mounted on the rails distinguish this building from the other Endicott Batteries.

Battery DeRussy’s location near the coastline leaves it subject to damage from continual exposure to spray from the Chesapeake Bay’s brackish water, and there is extensive rusting of the metal components. Where cracks and spalls in the concrete have allowed moisture to penetrate to the reinforcing steel, large sections of concrete have broken away and further exposed the metal to the elements.



BATTERY RUGGLES



DATE OF CONSTRUCTION
1899

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE
Defense Structure

HEIGHT AND AREA
One story;
28,500 square feet

USE (ORIGINAL / CURRENT)
Fortification/Same

DESCRIPTION

Located within the boundaries of the original historic fort, Building 213 is a largely concrete structure. Its monumental concrete walls, gun pits and observation towers are somewhat disguised by vegetation and built-up dunes from the bay side.

Battery Ruggles, one of the two northernmost Endicott batteries, held eight M-1 mortars in two mortar pits. It is adjacent to and south of Battery Anderson, and the two are nearly identical in purpose and appearance. Unlike the other Endicott Batteries, these are still surrounded by dunes and vegetation and are more ruinous.

Building 213 faces east with a view of the Chesapeake Bay.

HISTORICAL DATA

The construction of this series of fortifications was undertaken along the Chesapeake Bay to the east and north of the original fort following recommendations of the Board of William Endicott, Secretary of War under Grover Cleveland. The Endicott Plan advocated decentralized firepower through the implementation of detached concrete fortifications protected by earthen parapets. Along with the adjoining Battery Anderson, Battery Ruggles employed four twelve-inch breech loading mortars in each of its four bays. Less accurate than rifled cannon or Howitzers, mortars were normally used in groups of four. The desired result was for the heavy projectile, launched at a high trajectory from the mortar, to come down on the lightly-armored decks of enemy vessels. In 1942, the mortars from Batteries Anderson and Ruggles were the first of the post's armaments to be removed for scrap metal.

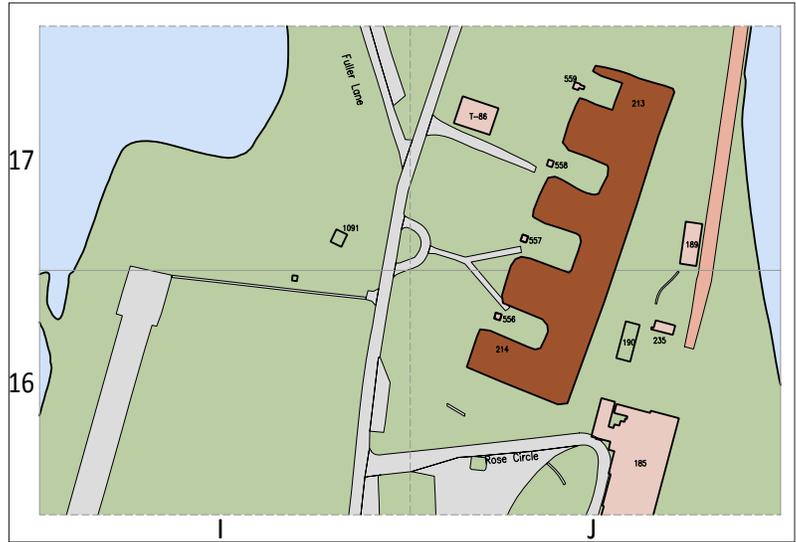
The batteries were the most advanced defense systems of their day, and together with the sea wall they marked the peak of coastal fortification before long-range weaponry and air power outflanked traditional defense strategy.

LOCATION
 Fenwick Road
 Fort Monroe
 Hampton, Va.

MANAGEMENT ZONE
 Endicott Batteries

CLASSIFICATION
 Contributing Structure

CONDITION
 Fair



PRESERVATION CONSIDERATIONS

While earlier surveys have not considered the Endicott Batteries to be significant contributors to Fort Monroe’s architectural character, they are still an asset worthy of stabilization and maintenance for passive use by tourists and others interested in military history. These fortifications are able to yield a great deal of information about the nation’s history and defense and are popular visitor destinations.

Battery Ruggles is essentially a ruin, with heavy infiltration from the surrounding vegetation due to its being built into the side of a dune.

BATTERY ANDERSON



DATE OF CONSTRUCTION
1899

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE
Defense Structure

HEIGHT AND AREA
One story;
28,500 square feet

USE (ORIGINAL / CURRENT)
Fortification/Same

DESCRIPTION

Located outside the boundaries of the original historic fort, Building 214 is a largely concrete structure. Its concrete walls, gun pits and observation towers are somewhat disguised by vegetation and built up dunes from the bay side. Battery Anderson, one of the two northernmost Endicott batteries, held eight M-1 mortars in two mortar pits. It is adjacent to and south of Battery Ruggles, and the two are very similar in purpose and appearance. Unlike the other Endicott Batteries, these are still surrounded by dunes and vegetation and are more ruinous.

HISTORICAL DATA

The construction of this series of fortifications was undertaken along the Chesapeake Bay to the east and north of the original fort following recommendations of the Board of William Endicott, Secretary of War under Grover Cleveland. The Endicott Plan advocated decentralized firepower through the implementation of detached concrete fortifications protected by earthen parapets. Along with the adjoining Battery Ruggles, Battery Anderson employed four twelve-inch breech loading mortars in each of its four bays. Less accurate than rifled cannon or Howitzers, mortars were normally used in groups of four. The desired result was for the heavy projectile, launched at a high trajectory from the mortar, to come down on the lightly-armored decks of enemy vessels. In 1942, the mortars from Batteries Anderson and Ruggles were the first of the post's armaments to be removed for scrap metal.

The batteries were the most advanced defense systems of their day, and together with the sea wall they marked the peak of coastal fortification before long-range weaponry and air power outflanked traditional defense strategy.

LOCATION
 Fenwick Road
 Fort Monroe
 Hampton, Va.

MANAGEMENT ZONE
 Endicott Batteries

CLASSIFICATION
 Contributing Structure

CONDITION
 Fair



PRESERVATION CONSIDERATIONS

While earlier surveys have not considered the Endicott Batteries to be significant contributors to Fort Monroe’s architectural character, they are still an asset worthy of stabilization and maintenance for passive use by tourists and others interested in military history. These fortifications are able to yield a great deal of information about the nation’s history and defense and are popular visitor destinations.

Battery Anderson is essentially a ruin, with heavy infiltration from the surrounding vegetation due to its being built into the side of a dune.

WATER BATTERY



DATE OF CONSTRUCTION
1819

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE
Defense Structure

HEIGHT AND AREA
One story;

USE (ORIGINAL / CURRENT)
Fortification/Ruins

DESCRIPTION

Located just outside the boundaries of the original historic fort, what was once a long, single-story rectangular block of casemates is now only a remnant of the former powder storage room. Like the other casemates but different from the concrete batteries, it has stone foundation, stone walls, brick and earth roof. Portion of brick segmental arch casemate ceiling is exposed.

The ruins of Building 216 face west, bordering the moat.

HISTORICAL DATA

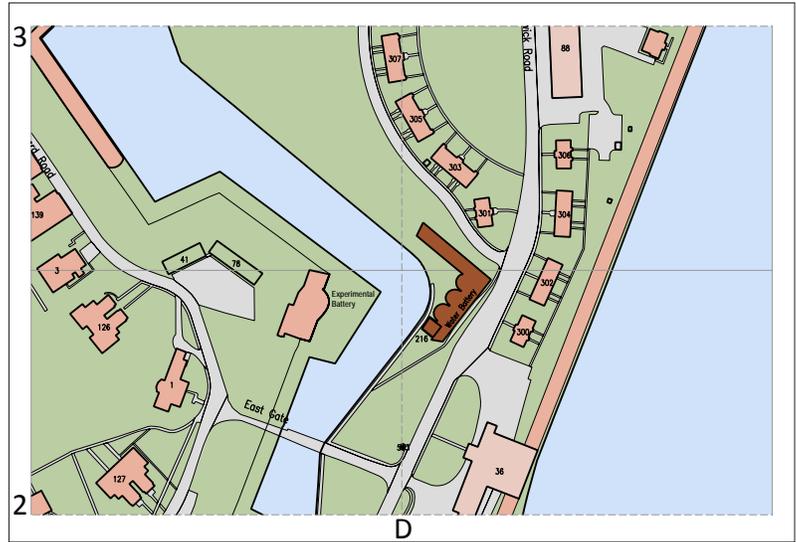
Built in 1832, this casemated battery protected the seaward approach to Fort Monroe. It was obsolete by the 1890s and demolished in the 1930s – what remains is part of the powder room. The high ground beyond it is all that remains of a redoubt which was designed to protect Fort Monroe from an attack by land. Of the nearly 150 buildings constructed before 1860, there remain sixteen (including the individual casemates of the Fort) at Fort Monroe – Water Battery is one of them. The construction of Parrott Battery resulted in the demolition of the Water Battery. As part of the original fortification, Building 216 derives its significance from its age, its role in the defense and training of army personnel, its excellent engineering, and its context as part of the fort.

LOCATION
Off Fenwick Road
Fort Monroe
Hampton, Va.

MANAGEMENT ZONE
Zone E – Stone Fort and Moat

CLASSIFICATION
Contributing Structure

CONDITION
Poor



PRESERVATION CONSIDERATIONS

The Water Battery is essentially a ruin, with little of the original structure remaining. This ruin provides the observer with a unique cross section of a casemate, and reveals a portion of a vaulted brick ceiling and earth roof. It is an exceptional dissection of the casemates at Fort Monroe.

Because so much of the original battery is gone, what remains is especially subject to damage from exposure to the elements. Preserve as it is and avoid future damage is one of the key issues of preserving historic ruins.



BATTERY CHURCH



DATE OF CONSTRUCTION
Ca. 1898

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE
Defense Structure

HEIGHT AND AREA
One story;
24,160 square feet

USE (ORIGINAL / CURRENT)
Gun Emplacement / same

DESCRIPTION

Located toward the northern tip of the property, Battery Church is constructed of cast-in-place reinforced concrete. The building is far beyond the boundaries of the original historic fort. It faces southwest, toward the Chesapeake Bay.

HISTORICAL DATA

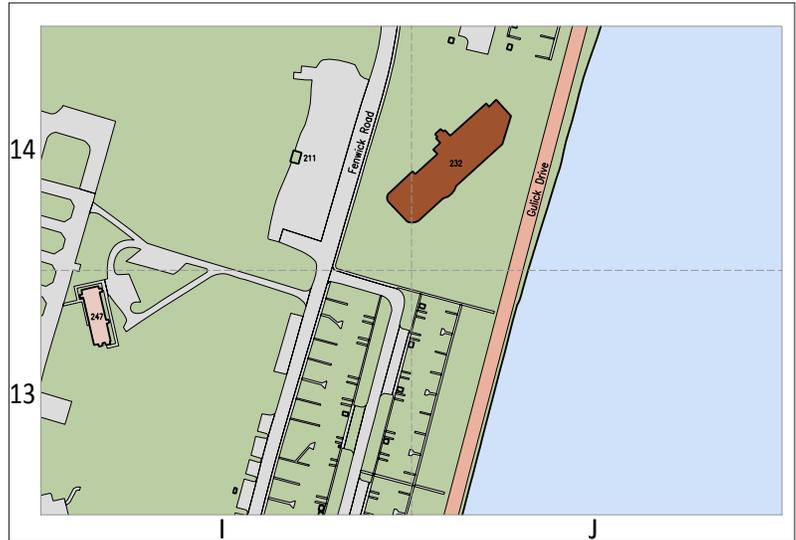
Battery Church is an Endicott Plan-era gun emplacement. The original part of Battery Church was called Redoubt B, a single 10-inch disappearing rifle emplacement. Begun in 1898, another 10-inch gun emplacement was added to it which was completed in 1901 and named Battery Church. It remains in place, although it was deemed obsolete soon after its construction; its two 10-inch breech-loading rifles (Model 1888 MI) were dismantled in 1946. All of the seacoast fortifications at Fort Monroe were obsolete by World War II, as warfare became more advanced technologically. The Battery still holds a significant place in the history of seacoast fortifications.

LOCATION
Off Fenwick Road
Fort Monroe
Hampton, Va.

MANAGEMENT ZONE
Endicott Batteries

CLASSIFICATION
Contributing Structure

CONDITION
Fair



PRESERVATION CONSIDERATIONS

While earlier surveys have not considered the Endicott Batteries to be significant contributors to Fort Monroe’s architectural character, they are still an asset worthy of stabilization and maintenance for passive use by tourists and others interested in military history. These fortifications are able to yield a great deal of information about the nation’s history and defense and are popular visitor destinations.

Battery Church’s location near the coastline leaves it subject to damage from continual exposure to spray from the Chesapeake Bay’s brackish water, and there is extensive rusting of the metal components. Where cracks and spalls in the concrete have allowed moisture to penetrate to the reinforcing steel, large sections of concrete have broken away and further exposed the metal to the elements.

BATTERY IRWIN



DESCRIPTION

Located just outside the moat surrounding the original historic fort, Battery Irwin is a reinforced concrete gun emplacement built into an earth embankment, and originally held four guns. There are several chambers located beneath the emplacements. The building faces south toward the confluence of the James River and the Chesapeake Bay.

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION
1903

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE
Defense Structure

HEIGHT AND AREA
One story;
4,274 square feet

USE (ORIGINAL / CURRENT)
Gun Emplacement / same

HISTORICAL DATA

Battery Irwin is another Endicott Plan-era gun emplacement. Named for First Lieutenant Douglas S. Irwin, who was killed in action at the Battle of Monterrey, Mexico, in 1846, it was located strategically to cover the channel at its narrowest point, between Fort Monroe and Fort Wool. Four three-inch rapid-fire guns, model #1898, were received in 1902 for Battery Irwin, and were dismantled in 1920. During World War II, one of the emplacements was filled in and a 3-inch anti-aircraft gun was mounted in that location. In 1946, two three-inch, model #1902 guns were mounted for use as the Fort Monroe saluting battery and are still in place.

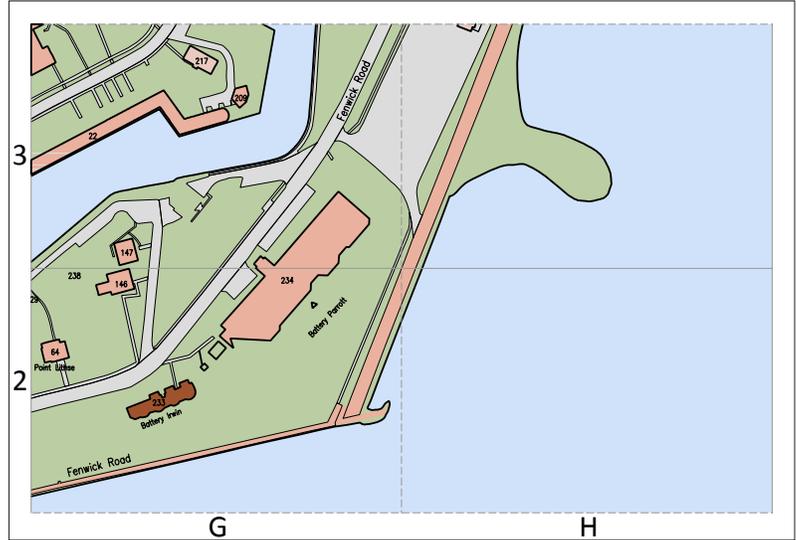
Like the other batteries, Battery Irwin became obsolete by World War II as warfare technology became more advanced.

LOCATION
Off Fenwick Road
Fort Monroe
Hampton, Va.

MANAGEMENT ZONE
Endicott Batteries

CLASSIFICATION
Contributing Structure

CONDITION
Fair



PRESERVATION CONSIDERATIONS

While earlier surveys have not considered the Endicott Batteries to be significant contributors to Fort Monroe’s architectural character, they are still an asset worthy of stabilization and maintenance for passive use by tourists and others interested in military history. These fortifications are able to yield a great deal of information about the nation’s history and defense and are popular visitor destinations.

Battery Irwin’s location near the coastline leaves it subject to damage from continual exposure to spray from the Chesapeake Bay’s brackish water, and there is extensive rusting of the metal components. Where cracks and spalls in the concrete have allowed moisture to penetrate to the reinforcing steel, large sections of concrete have broken away and further exposed the metal to the elements.

BATTERY PARROTT



DATE OF CONSTRUCTION
1905

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE
Defense Structure

HEIGHT AND AREA
One story;
30,543 square feet

USE (ORIGINAL / CURRENT)
Gun Emplacement / same

DESCRIPTION

Located outside the boundaries of the original historic fort, directly adjoining Battery Irwin, Battery Parrott is a cast-in-place concrete structure, with earth embankment and chambers underneath the gun mounts. Simple pipe railings detail the practical character of the works, and the bold profile of steps leading to the gun emplacements illustrates the need for efficient and unrestricted movement during battle or training.

HISTORICAL DATA

The construction of this and similar fortifications was undertaken along the Chesapeake Bay to the east and north of the original fort following recommendations of the Board of William Endicott, Secretary of War under Grover Cleveland. It was named for Captain Robert P. Parrott, who invented the Parrott gun and projectiles during the Civil War. The construction of Battery Parrott was begun in 1901. Composed of two 12-inch disappearing rifles, which were the most powerful guns ever mounted at Fort Monroe, Battery Parrott was completed in 1905. It was located strategically to cover the entrance to Hampton Roads. The construction of Battery Parrott resulted in the demolition of the Water Battery. Its two twelve-inch disappearing guns were removed in 1943, and two 90mm anti-aircraft guns were mounted in their place. One of them remains in place today.

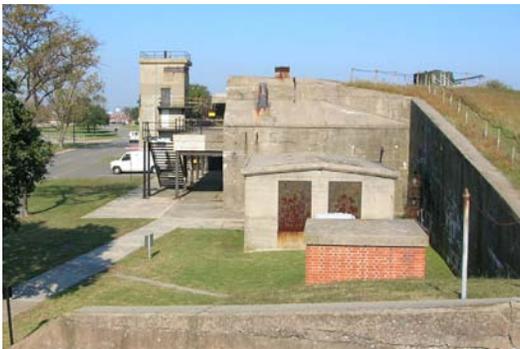
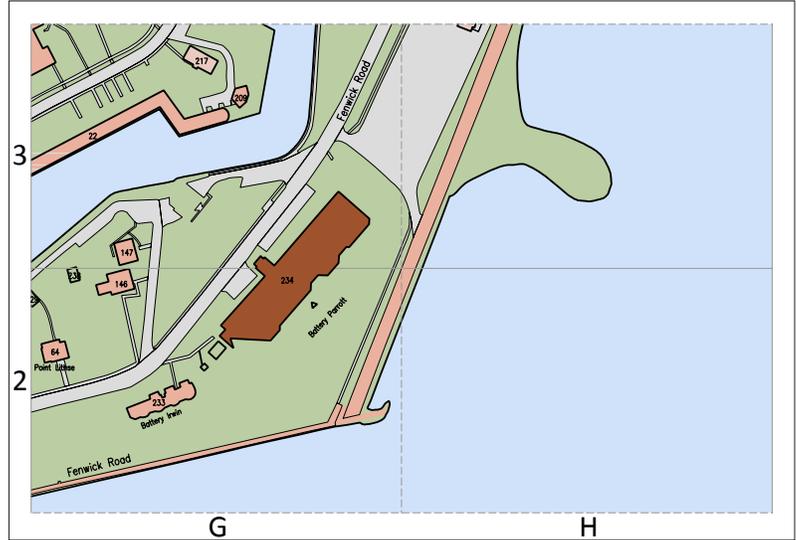
Battery Parrott is the only structure of this type on post that is still being used – all of the other batteries have been abandoned since World War II. The batteries were the most advanced defense systems of their day, and together with the sea wall they marked the peak of coastal fortification before long-range weaponry and air power outflanked traditional defense strategy.

LOCATION
Off Fenwick Road
Fort Monroe
Hampton, Va.

MANAGEMENT ZONE
Endicott Batteries

CLASSIFICATION
Contributing Structure

CONDITION
Fair



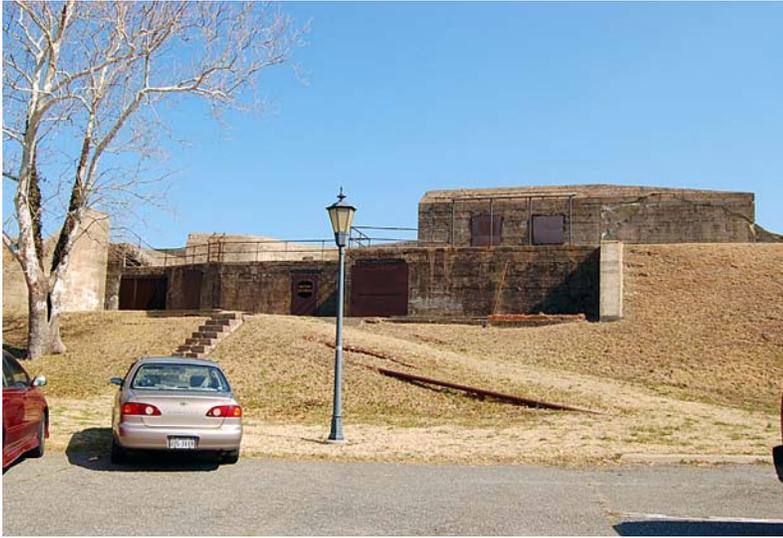
PRESERVATION CONSIDERATIONS

While earlier surveys have not considered the Endicott Batteries to be significant contributors to Fort Monroe’s architectural character, they are still an asset worthy of stabilization and maintenance for passive use by tourists and others interested in military history. These fortifications are able to yield a great deal of information about the nation’s history and defense and are popular visitor destinations.

Battery Parrott’s location near the coastline leaves it subject to damage from continual exposure to spray from the Chesapeake Bay’s brackish water, and there is extensive rusting of the metal components. Where cracks and spalls in the concrete have allowed moisture to penetrate to the reinforcing steel, large sections of concrete have broken away and further exposed the metal to the elements.

EXPERIMENTAL BATTERY

Battery Gatewood



DATE OF CONSTRUCTION
1899

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE
Defense Structure

HEIGHT AND AREA
One Story; Partial Two Stories
N/A

USE (ORIGINAL / CURRENT)
Gun Emplacement / same

DESCRIPTION

Located inside the boundaries of the original historic fort, adjacent to the East Gate, Battery Gatewood is a board-formed concrete structure, with simple pipe railings detail the practical character of the works. The bold profile of steps leading to the gun emplacements illustrates the need for efficient and unrestricted movement during battle or training.

HISTORICAL DATA

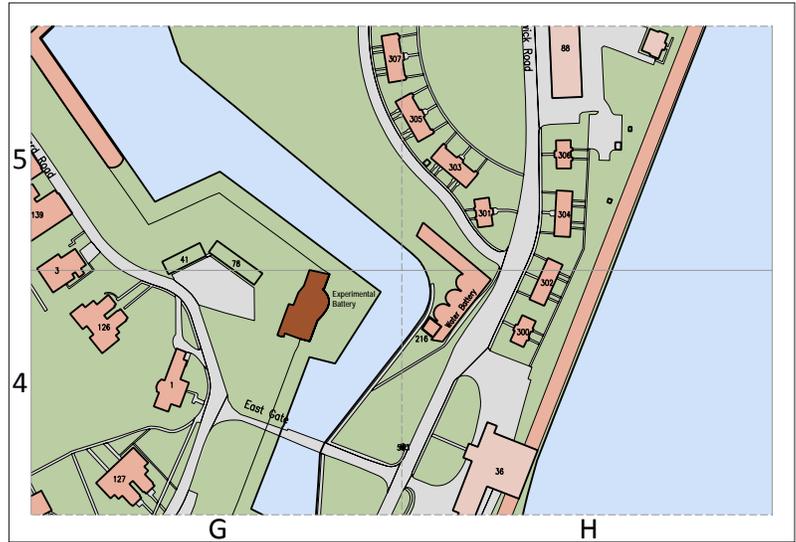
The construction of this and similar fortifications was undertaken along the Chesapeake Bay to the east and north of the original fort following recommendations of the Board of William Endicott, Secretary of War under Grover Cleveland. The battery of four 4.72-inch rapid-fire guns was completed in 1899 in the barbette of the Fourth Front and designated Battery Gatewood. These, the only rapid-fire guns at Fort Monroe during the Spanish-American War, were removed in the first years of the twentieth century.

LOCATION
 East Bastion
 Fort Monroe
 Hampton, Va.

MANAGEMENT ZONE
 Zone E - Stone Fort and Moat

CLASSIFICATION
 Contributing Structure

CONDITION
 Fair



PRESERVATION CONSIDERATIONS

While earlier surveys have not considered the Endicott Batteries to be significant contributors to Fort Monroe’s architectural character, they are still an asset worthy of stabilization and maintenance for passive use by tourists and others interested in military history. These fortifications are able to yield a great deal of information about the nation’s history and defense and are popular visitor destinations.



