



# Fort Vancouver National Historic Site

## News from Your National Park

Fall 2013/Winter 2014

### Lantern Tours light up the night

This fall and winter, our popular Lantern Tour series returns! On these tours, visitors are led by a Park Ranger through the lantern-lit fort, where they view historical vignettes presented by costumed volunteer interpreters. Vignettes are presented in the Chief Factor's House, the Barclay Quarters, the Counting House, and other buildings throughout the fort site.

At the end of the tour, visitors enjoy cups of hot cider in the Kitchen, and have the chance to mingle with fort staff and volunteers.

"Lantern Tours are an excellent way for visitors to our site to learn about what life was like at Fort Vancouver at night. Seeing the fort by candlelight is a unique and beautiful experience," says Fort Vancouver Park Ranger Aaron Ochoa.

Reservations are required for Lantern Tours, and can be made by contacting the Fort Vancouver NHS Visitor Center at (360) 816-6230. Upcoming tour dates are November 2, November 16, December 7, and December 21. All tours begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. Cost for these tours is \$10 for visitors ages 16 and over, \$7 for ages 15 and under. These tours are not recommended for children under the age of 10.



### What's Happening at Fort Vancouver

#### Lantern Tour Series

Join in a wonderful opportunity to tour the Fort at night. Each adult attending will carry their own lantern and tour with a Park Ranger through Fort Vancouver. Reservations required.  
**Nov. 2, Nov. 16, Dec. 7, Dec. 21, Jan. 4, Jan. 18, Feb. 1, Feb. 16**



#### Exhibit Opening Reception

A free reception for the opening of *A New Birth of Freedom*, at the Fort Vancouver Visitor Center.  
**Nov. 19, 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

#### Heritage Holidays at the McLoughlin House

Enjoy period music, parlor games and refreshments at the McLoughlin House in Oregon City. **Sunday, December 1, 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

#### Christmas at Fort Vancouver

Experience the sights and sounds of the season! Enjoy caroling, wreath and handcraft making, holiday music, dancing, and refreshments inside the reconstructed Fort Vancouver. **Saturday, December 14, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

For more information on our special events and programs, contact the Visitor Center at (360) 816-6230.

#### Interested in hosting an event at Fort Vancouver?

Fort Vancouver offers a unique landscape for your special event. For more information on holding an event at the park, check the website or for initial inquiries contact Park Ranger Aaron Ochoa at: (360) 816-6233 or aaron\_ochoa@nps.gov

### Revealing Our Past iBook shares Vancouver Barracks' history

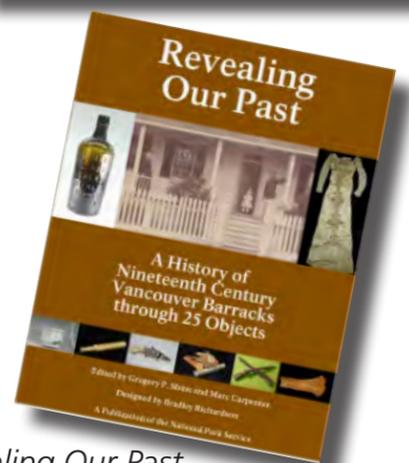


This summer saw the release of *Revealing Our Past: A History of Vancouver Barracks through 25 Objects*, a new iBook created by students in Portland State University's Public History Field School and National Park Service Chief Ranger and Historian Greg Shine.

Using 25 items from the Fort Vancouver museum collection, *Revealing Our Past* shows how these objects - which include archival documents, archaeological artifacts, and historic objects - possess individual stories that can help us to understand what life was like at Vancouver Barracks in the 19th century.

For his work on *Revealing Our Past*, Greg Shine was recently selected for this year's National Park Service Freeman Tilden Award, which recognizes creative and effective educational and interpretive publications and programs. The book was also featured during a special public program at McMenamins Edgefield in June.

The book is available on our website at <http://go.usa.gov/Dv2G>. An enhanced version of the book, with video, external links, enhanced images, and interactive historic artwork, is available as a free download on Apple's iBookstore through iTunes.



*Revealing Our Past* is available as a **free** download on iTunes!

#### Want to learn more about Fort Vancouver?

Find us online at [www.nps.gov/fova](http://www.nps.gov/fova) and on Facebook and Twitter:

[www.facebook.com/fortvancouver](http://www.facebook.com/fortvancouver)

@FtVancouverNPS

Download the Fort Vancouver Mobile App for iPhone and Android to discover even more!

#### Heritage Holidays at the McLoughlin House

Celebrate the holidays 1850s-style! On December 1, the historic McLoughlin House in Oregon City, a unit of Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, will be open from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. as part of Oregon City's Heritage Holidays event. Family friendly activities include period music, parlor games and refreshments at the Barclay House. The McLoughlin House and grounds will be lit by candlelight to chase away the winter gloom. Inside the McLoughlin House, living history interpreters will tell stories and share the history of the house and the McLoughlin family with visitors.



# New exhibit tells the story of the Civil War era in Vancouver



Vancouver Barracks in 1860

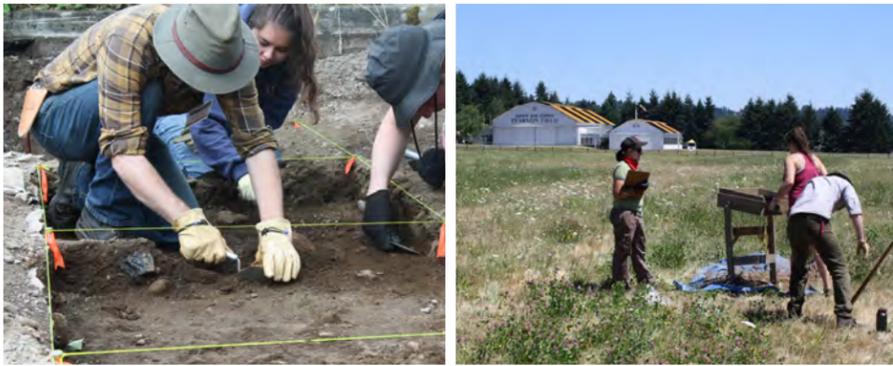
On November 19, the exhibit *A New Birth of Freedom* will open in the Fort Vancouver Visitor Center. This exhibit commemorates the 150th anniversary of the Gettysburg Address, and the impact of the Civil War on the city of Vancouver and Vancouver Barracks. This exhibit will use historic and archaeological artifacts, period costumes, and hands-on activities to share this important chapter in the history of the Northwest. Artifacts loaned from Gettysburg National Military Park will also be on display.

During the Civil War, soldiers from

Vancouver Barracks were deployed to the east coast, and post staffing dropped to 50 volunteers from the First Oregon Cavalry. Left behind in Vancouver were the families of these soldiers, including wives and children.

The exhibit coincides with a program on the Battle of Gettysburg presented by Clark College, and will begin with an opening reception on **November 19, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** Enjoy period music and refreshments, and have the chance to meet the exhibit's curators and mingle with costumed interpreters.

## This summer's Public Archaeology Field School excavates in the Village and Spruce Mill site



Last summer's Public Archaeology Field School, a partnership between the National Park Service, Washington State University - Vancouver, and Portland State University, continued exploration of the multicultural Hudson's Bay Company employee Village, the largest colonial settlement in the Pacific Northwest, ca. 1829-1845. Later, the Village was the site of the Army's Quartermaster's Depot, part of a World War I Spruce Mill, which cut aviation-grade spruce for the war effort, and a barracks and training compound for the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC).

This year's students used tablet computers, adapting existing archaeological paper forms used in field and laboratory work to a digital format. This year, the remains of two houses in the Village were explored: the house of Little Proulx, a French Canadian fur trapper married to a Chinook Indian woman, and the house site of William Kaulehelehe, a Hawaiian teacher and minister who served the many Hawaiian workers at Fort Vancouver.

The dig site was open to the public, and students learned how to speak to members of the public about their findings. To learn more, visit <http://fortvancouverarchaeology.blogspot.com>



Above: These porcelain fragments were excavated from the Little Proulx house site.

Below: This fork fragment was excavated from the William Kaulehelehe house site.



### Did you know?

Archaeology at Fort Vancouver NHS began in 1947 by National Park Service archaeologist Louis Caywood. One of the first buildings Caywood discovered was the stone foundation of the fort's Powder Magazine. All of the reconstructed buildings at Fort Vancouver NHS are built on the archaeological footprints of the original Hudson's Bay Company structures.



## Preservation work on the historic Vancouver Barracks Post Headquarters

In May, 2012, the East and South Vancouver Barracks transferred from the U.S. Army to the National Park Service. Since the transfer, the NPS has begun a multi-phased caretaking strategy for the 16 historic buildings which are now part of the national park.

This summer, NPS maintenance crews began work on the Post Headquarters - also known as Building 991. The first phase of work for this building involved removing intrusive masonry block on the northwest corner of the building, which was added in the 1950s, perhaps as a reinforced barrier for military communications equipment. Removing this masonry block revealed the condition of the original wood siding of the building, and restores the building to its historic appearance.

Next, the exterior of the building will be repainted and the roof will be replaced, ensuring that the Post Headquarters Building will stand in good condition for years to come.

## Fort Vancouver's costumes and training programs bring the fort to life



Fort Vancouver's Costume and Textile Department has a new home in the former Maintenance Department building. The new space has more room, is more easily accessible, and has more amenities. According to manager Eileen Trestain, the shop is busier than ever! The Costume and Textile Department supplies all of the historical costumes for interpreters at Fort Vancouver.

This year we are also continuing our highly popular Dame and Engagé School schools, which educate youth volunteers in 19th century skills, the history of the site, and the public speaking skills to interpret these things to members of the visiting public. Youth Volunteers provide interpretation at living history events like Campfires & Candlelight, Christmas at Fort Vancouver, and our popular Lantern Tour series. To learn more about this program, visit <http://go.usa.gov/Dv4V>

Photo courtesy of Christopher Communications