



Chris  
Newspaper article  
1-09  
+ e mails re  
Placing an artillery  
piece at the  
Lighthouse

**Ken Hinshaw**

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**From:** "Kevin Howe" <khowe@montereyherald.com>  
**To:** <KenL@redshift.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 29, 2008 7:30 PM  
**Attach:** 155mm GPF rifle M1918 (GOGA 18856) 02.jpg; 155mm\_GPF\_rifle\_M1918\_(GOGA\_18856)\_02.jpg  
**Subject:** FW: 155 mm guns at Monterey

--- Original Message ---

**From:** johnamartini@comcast.net  
**To:** khowe@montereyherald.com  
**Subject:** FW: 155 mm guns at Monterey  
**Date:** Mon, 29 Dec 2008 18:51:12 -0800

Hello Mr. Howe. I greatly enjoyed your story about the 54th Coast Artillery Regiment at Pacific Grove. This is indeed an overlooked piece of our central California coast history, and I'm glad Pacific Grove is trying to commemorate the Coast Artillery's presence there.

I used to be curator of Military History at the Presidio of San Francisco, and was fortunate enough to interview one of the veterans of the 54th CA. (His unit was actually stationed at Santa Cruz during

WWII.)

However, the "Long Tom" gun you describe in the article is actually a different type of weapon from the ones used by the 54th. The historic

photo you included in the article shows the artillerymen firing an earlier version of the weapon, called a 155 GPF howitzer Model 1918,

that dated back to World War I. My interview with the Santa Cruz vet confirm this is the type of gun they used, not the later-model Long Tom (which was technically a 155 mm M1 or M2) shown in the photo from

Camp Marby, TX.

Attached is a photo of an 155 GPF howitzer currently on display outside the former Presidio Army Museum that illustrates the differences between the two weapons.

I'm only bringing this up because I hope the folks of Pacific Grove don't go to a lot of trouble locating a Long Tom only to end up with the wrong type of seacoast gun!

Best,

-John A. Martini

Historical Consultant  
62 Redwood Road  
Fairfax, CA 94930  
415-453-9504  
johnamartini@comcast.net

**Ken Hinshaw**

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**From:** "Kevin Howe" <khowe@montereyherald.com>  
**To:** <KenL@redshift.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 29, 2008 5:31 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Pt. Pinos

Hi ken, got a call from Ed Crankshaw, formerly of the California State Military Reserve, who knew some of the soldiers who served with the 54th CAC. His phone is 277-8694. Another email advised me that the gun actually used wasn't the 155 "long tom" but an earlier version of the 155mm, the M1917/18 based on a French design. I'll forward that email to you. kevin

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [KenL@redshift.com](mailto:KenL@redshift.com)  
**To:** [khowe@montereyherald.com](mailto:khowe@montereyherald.com)  
**Subject:** RE: Pt. Pinos  
**Date:** Mon, 29 Dec 2008 14:04:21 -0800

>Kevin: Thanks for the article. I've gotten some positive comments.  
>Pat Hathaway showed me a picture of the 155mm gun that he thought  
>were at the lighthouse. It had a shorter barrel. I "googled around"  
>and found that there were several versions, Pat's picture was of a M1  
>14.  
>Ken



155 GPF Howitzer

6/18/2007

# M114 155 mm howitzer

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia  
(Redirected from M114 howitzer)

The **M114 155 mm howitzer** was a towed howitzer used by the United States Army. It was first produced in 1942 as a medium artillery piece under the designation of **155 mm Howitzer M1**. It saw service with the US Army during World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War, before being replaced by the M198 howitzer. The gun was used by the armed forces of many nations, including Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Ecuador, Greece, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, South Korea, Lebanon, Libya, Norway, the Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Venezuela, Vietnam, and Yugoslavia. One hundred sixteen surplus howitzers were sent to Bosnia in 1997. In some countries the M114 still remains in service.

## Contents

- 1 Development
- 2 Carriage variants
- 3 Self-propelled mounts
- 4 Ammunition
- 5 Notes
- 6 References

## Development

A new carriage was under development for much of the 1930s for the existing World War I-era M-1918 155 mm howitzer, which was a license-built French Canon de 155 C modèle 1917 Schneider until 1939 when it was realized that it didn't make a whole lot of sense to put a new carriage underneath an obsolete howitzer. So development began anew with a carriage designed to be used for either the 155 mm howitzer or the 4.7-inch (120 mm) gun. This was completed by 15 May 1941 when the Howitzer M1 on the Carriage M- was standardized. The howitzer itself differed from the older model by a lengthened barrel of 20 calibers and a new breech

**M114 155 mm Howitzer**



<b>Type</b>	Howitzer
<b>Place of origin</b>	United States
	<b>Service history</b>
<b>In service</b>	1942–?
<b>Wars</b>	World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War
	<b>Production history</b>
<b>Designed</b>	1939–1941
<b>Produced</b>	1941–
<b>Number built</b>	6,000+
	<b>Specifications</b>
<b>Weight</b>	5,800 kg (12,787 lbs) (traveling) 5,600 kg (12,346 lbs) (combat)
<b>Length</b>	7.315 m (24 ft) (traveling)
<b>Barrel length</b>	bore: 3.564 m / 23 calibers overall: 3.79 m / 24.5 calibers
<b>Width</b>	2.438 m (8 ft) (traveling)
<b>Height</b>	1.803 m (6 ft) (traveling)
<b>Crew</b>	11
<b>Shell</b>	separate-loading bagged charge
<b>Caliber</b>	155 mm
<b>Breech</b>	slow-cone interrupted screw
<b>Recoil</b>	hydropneumatic system
<b>Carriage</b>	split trail
<b>Elevation</b>	-2 to +63 degrees
<b>Traverse</b>	24 degrees (left)

**Ken Hinshaw**

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**From:** "Kevin Howe" <khowe@montereyherald.com>  
**To:** <dmsebby@sbcglobal.net>  
**Cc:** <kenL@redshift.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 29, 2008 7:53 PM  
**Subject:** 155mm GPS guns

Dear Sgt. Maj. Sebby:

The Pacific Grove Heritage Society is interested in restoring the old 155mm. gun emplacements at Point Pinos Light in Pacific Grove, where a battery of the 54th Coast Artillery Regiment (Colored) was stationed during World War II. The Herald ran an article about that project and I assumed in writing it the 155mm. M1 would be the gun, but I have since been advised that Coast Artillery used the French 155mm GPF gun. Are there any surviving specimens of the 155 GPF in the state, and would the owner(s) be willing to provide one or more for this project? Kevin Howe (831) 646-4416

12/30/2008

**Ken Hinshaw**

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**From:** "Nancy McDowell" <Mcdeaver@comcast.net>  
**To:** "Ken Hinshaw" <KenL@redshift.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 22, 2009 7:35 PM  
**Subject:** Beach Patrol guy

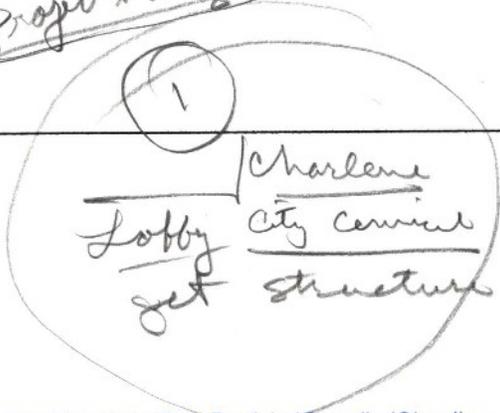
Ken, while cleaning out my lighthouse information, I found this address of a visitor. He was here for 6 months during the war. I have notes from him saying there were 4 in the LH at that time. There were 24 men and 8 dogs. He said there were about 4 guns, 8", that could shoot 20 miles.

He may be able to answer many of your questions. Here is his name:

Jerry Doescher  
P.O Box 1089  
Columbia, CA 95310  
Phone: (209)533-0861

Nancy

*Project manager*



**Ken Hinshaw**

**From:** "Marsha Tarmina" <marsha@tarmina.net>  
**To:** "Ken Hinshaw" <kenl@redshift.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 05, 2009 8:12 PM  
**Subject:** Fw: Heritage Society Board meeting

Another one.  
D.

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Janet Cohen  
**To:** Carrol Patterson ; Barbara Lazarony ; Barbara Nelson ; Betty Aickelin ; Bob Davis ; Carrol ; Claudia Sawyer ; Craig Riddell ; Darlene Billstrom ; Dennis Tarmina ; Don Beals ; Donna Stewart ; Linda Danofrio ; Marsha Tarmina ; Maryanne Spradling ; Steve Honneger  
**Sent:** Monday, January 05, 2009 10:55 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Heritage Society Board meeting

Hi, I agree with Barbara and Craig about the gun placement at the Lighthouse. I would rather change the time represented rather than have that there; but use of the WWII time frame is fine with me if the guns aren't memorialized. I already have problems with some of the representation PG has in the Good Old Days parade.  
Janet

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Carrol Patterson  
**To:** Barbara Lazarony ; Barbara Nelson ; Betty Aickelin ; Bob Davis ; Carrol ; Claudia Sawyer ; Craig Riddell ; Darlene Billstrom ; Dennis Tarmina ; Don Beals ; Donna Stewart ; Janet Cohen ; Linda Danofrio ; Marsha Tarmina ; Maryanne Spradling ; Steve Honneger  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 04, 2009 8:01 PM  
**Subject:** Heritage Society Board meeting

Hi and Happy New Year. Almost forgot to send out a reminder of our Board meeting Tuesday (Jan 6<sup>th</sup>), at 6:30 p.m. If there is some reason why you can't make it, would you please advise either Darlene or I by email? Thanks.  
See you Tuesday evening.

Carrol

# P.G. group seeks Army's long field gun

## ARMAMENTS USED TO GUARD ENTRANCE TO MONTEREY BAY

By KEVIN HOWE  
Herald Staff Writer

The Pacific Grove Heritage Society wants to roll out the big guns.

Specifically, one or more of the Army's 155 mm "Long Tom" field guns, the type that were set up in emplacements around the Pacific Grove Lighthouse at Point Pinos to guard the entrance to Monterey Bay during World War II.

The role of Point Pinos as a coast artillery bastion is a

chapter from the state's black history, said Ken Hinshaw, member of the Heritage Society's Lighthouse Preservation Committee.

The society, he said, has received a \$53,000 grant from a bequest of landscaping, and plans to restore some of the look and feel of the lighthouse's grounds during World War II, when soldiers of the 54th Coast Artillery Regiment (Colored) were posted there

Please see **Guns** page A4



Credit: National Park Service, Golden Gate NRA, Point Pinos

COURTESY OF NATIONAL PARK

**Black troops of the 54th Coast Artillery Regiment (Colored) fire a 155 mm gun on the California coast.**

A4 THE MONTEREY COUNTY HERALD, MONDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2008

LOCAL/ST

A 155 mm "Long Tom" sits at Artillery Park, Camp Mabry, Texas.



COURTESY OF BOB PETTITS

## Guns

From page A2

with four 155 mm guns shortly after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

The segregated unit manned their guns through the early years of the war at Point Pinos, where a lookout tower staffed by Civil Defense volunteers of the Ground Observer Corps who watched through binoculars and telescopes for enemy ships and planes was also built.

Security regulations at the time precluded photos from being taken of the shore battery,

Hinshaw Society is photos of.

The 155 originated served the Vietnam ern art

# P.G. Lighthouse may get World War II-era guns

By KELLY NIX

THE PACIFIC Grove Lighthouse could soon be restored to its World War II status as an armed bastion of national defense.

The Heritage Society of Pacific Grove is taking steps to locate and display 155 mm guns on the lighthouse grounds to honor their vital role in deterring a Japanese invasion of California.

The emplacement, which was in place from 1941 until the

war ended, was top secret at the time, and many current Peninsula residents have no idea it existed. The U.S. Army manned four heavy guns at Point Pinos during World War II in an effort to protect Monterey Bay — considered an ideal setting for a Japanese invasion, with its gently sloping shoreline and ready access to a major coastal highway.

Pine Cone publisher Paul Miller, who lives near the lighthouse, said the owner of his home in the 1940s, Ruby Botchford, wrote a letter to relatives bitterly complaining about the artillery practice disrupting her life as the soldiers tested their accuracy by firing shells into the bay.

"I can't stand it anymore from the day and night shelling. I would like to sell my house, but of course nobody would buy it," Botchford wrote, according to Miller.

"The lighthouse is such a peaceful setting and we don't want to unsettle that," said Ken Hinshaw, a member of the heritage society and the Lighthouse Preservation Committee. "But we do want to be true to history."

Hinshaw said the heritage society would like to obtain at least one but preferably four guns for the lighthouse grounds.

In World War II, the guns were placed at Point Pinos and manned by black soldiers with the 54th Coast Artillery unit who in the day positioned them along sand dunes west of the Lighthouse. At night, the arms were tucked away.

"This all-black Army unit with its tractor-drawn French 155 mm guns put the teeth in the local coastal defense network," according to P.G.

See **CANNONS** page 17A



PHOTO/P.G. MUSEUM

They were considered top secret and aren't shown in any known photos, but heavy guns were deployed next to the Pacific Grove Lighthouse during World War II (above) to help repel a possible Japanese invasion.

Get your complete Carmel Pine Cone every Thursday evening in convenient pdf format via email. Free subs

January 2, 2009

# ior Livin

## CANNONS

From page 1A

Lighthouse records.

The black servicemen, some of whom were former players of the Negro Baseball League, spent their off hours competing with Pacific Grove teenage "twilight" softball leaguers, who were so-called because of the wartime restrictions on using artificial light after dark.

Hinshaw said he's already received a phone call from someone upset at the idea of placing guns on the lighthouse grounds. He said he's going to meet with the caller to further discuss the concept.

But Hinshaw said the guns are a reminder of the danger of a Japanese invasion of the United States.

"It might be d  
Howe said h  
National Guard a  
Sacramento  
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Hins  
donate gu

Hinshaw  
until he can mee  
will meet with the her  
officials in the near future.

The placement of the guns will

**Ken Hinshaw**

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**From:** "Darlene Billstrom" <billstrm@pacbell.net>  
**To:** "Ken Hinshaw" <ken@redshift.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 05, 2009 10:23 AM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Heritage Society Board meeting

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Craig Riddell <riddell1@comcast.net>  
**Date:** January 4, 2009 9:32:37 PM PST  
**To:** Carrol Patterson <Carrol@CarrolPatterson.com>  
**Cc:** Barbara Lazarony <blaz18@yahoo.com>, Barbara Nelson <bnelsonpg@aol.com>, Betty Aickelin <baickelin@sbcglobal.net>, Bob Davis <rtdavis@aol.com>, Carrol <carrol.patterson@sbcglobal.net>, Claudia Sawyer <claudiasawyer@att.net>, Darlene Billstrom <billstrm@pacbell.net>, Dennis Tarmina <dennis@tarmina.net>, Don Beals <savilleb@aol.com>, Donna Stewart <dstewnp@mindspring.com>, Janet Cohen <janetcohen333@comcast.net>, Linda Danofrio <trixielsd@comcast.net>, Marsha Tarmina <marsha@tarmina.net>, Maryanne Spradling <frogmbay@aol.com>, Steve Honneger <mshone@redshift.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Heritage Society Board meeting

Hi folks

Unfortunately I will be out of town on Tuesday and won't be able to Attend the meeting. However I wanted to express my concerns about the two recent articles in the Herald and Pine Cone. While I support the our efforts at the Pt Pinos Lighthouse I feel it would me a tremendous mistake to install the artillery guns at the site. We certainly could acknowledge their existence in photos and print at the site. I beleive it would be wrong to place the hardware on the grounds. It would leave visitors with the impression that PG was an armed encampment giving folks a very different impression of the history of PG. I will not support there placement on the site.

Thank you  
Craig

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 4, 2009, at 8:01 PM, "Carrol Patterson" <Carrol@CarrolPatterson.com> wrote:

Hi and Happy New Year. Almost forgot to send out a reminder of our Board meeting Tuesday (Jan 6<sup>th</sup>), at 6:30 p.m. If there is some reason why you can't

make it, would you please advise either Darlene or I by email? Thanks.

See you Tuesday evening.

Carrol

Darlene Billstrom  
billstrm@pacbell.net