

Summer 2010

VOL. 24, NO. 2

THE LEWIS ARMY MUSEUM—WHERE WE ARE TODAY

By Myles Grant, Museum Director

In September 2009, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District, awarded Wade Perrow Construction (WPC) of Gig Harbor, WA, the job of renovating and restoring the historic World War I era building which houses our museum – formerly the Fort Lewis Military Museum and now called the Lewis Army Museum after the merger of Fort Lewis and McChord Air Force Base to form Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM). Funding from the project was provided primarily from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) with some funding to complete the project to be contributed from other sources. While the building has been modified several times since it was first completed in November 1919 and inaugurated as the Red Shield Inn on 6 December 1919 – none of these renovations have been as extensive as the current top to bottom restoration that our historic home is currently undergoing. This renovation represents an example of the Army's good stewardship of historic structures on our installation in order to preserve our historic heritage while making effective use of all available square footage to develop facilities to educate, train and prepare Soldiers for generations to come. Once completed, our building will not only house the museum, which is a significant training and educational venue for Soldiers and the public in its own right, but also a state of the art Soldier training facility on the formerly derelict third floor of the building.

Before delving into the details of the project itself, in order to provide the context as to why this renovation is so significant, I think it important to address how our historic building fits in the fabric of the history of the establishment of Camp Lewis, how it has served our nation during peace and war, and how this renovation will enable this structure to serve the public and service members for decades to come.

The Lewis Army Museum building is the large grand white structure which can be easily seen from the Interstate 5 freeway in both directions and is the most prominent public feature of the Army's presence at JBLM. The imposing building was built between 1918 and 1919 using Western Stick architecture which was popular around the turn of the twentieth century. What many people don't know is that the museum building is one of only two historically significant buildings on JBLM which date back to World War I, the

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President's Report-Ian Larson



At *The Friends* Board meeting in September, Board members were able to walk through the Museum to see firsthand how the renovation work was coming along. Escorted by Myles Grant and a member of the contracting

company, the building tour gave us an appreciation of the scope of the project. The Museum is undergoing a truly major renovation. We all agreed that although much work remains to be done, the Museum when it reopens will be worth the down time, and will be a Joint Base Lewis-McChord asset for many years to come! Myles has more details about the renovation in his Director's column.

Despite its "closed" status, the Cannon Shop has continued to sell some of the items that we held from storage. Challenge coins and replica Civil War sabers have been popular sellers. Rental of sabers during the summer was also popular. And of course, the online gift store has continued to remain open.

The Museum staff has been active as well. Besides the routine day to day activities, Myles and his staff have begun to do preliminary planning for the return of the Museum artifacts from storage. Because of the nature of the Museum structural modifications that needed to be made for seismic protection, the layout of some of the galleries in the Museum will need to be modified. Some of the display cabinets will no longer fit, and some of the galleries will need to be relocated. Other new galleries are also being planned.

Our Brunch on 24 October at Patriots Landing will feature another one of our own as the guest speaker. Board Member Marion Ball will speak on Army Nurses during and after D-Day. It promises to be an interesting topic, so please plan on joining us!

Again, we hope you will consider switching to on-line receipt of "The Banner" if you have access to the Internet. Go to *The Friends*

website at www.fortlewismuseum.com and click on "Newsletters." It is convenient, saves us postage, and lets you access previous issues of "The Banner."

Sadly, Nettye Knoop, wife of Board member COL (Retired) Paul Knoop, passed away at home in August, after a long battle with cancer. Devoted Army wife for 53 years, very active in community and volunteer organizations including the Girl and Boy Scouts, Nettye was also a wonderful cook; she edited an Officers Wives Club Cookbook while at Fort Lewis. She will be missed. A donation from *The Friends* was made to Franciscan Hospice and Palliative Care in her memory. Please keep the Knoop family in your prayers.

Director's Report-Myles Grant

In this issue it has been my privilege to provide the cover article detailing the ongoing renovation efforts on the museum building and our building's significant role in the history of the post.

It was also my honor to lead the board of directors from the Friends of the Museum through the museum facility last month so that the board could see firsthand what progress is being made and how the facility is shaping up in preparations for our re-opening in late 2011. In addition to the building restoration project, the museum staff has significantly expanded and improved the satellite museum, "heritage center," in the I Corps Headquarters, with many laudatory comments on the resulting interpretive displays, nearly completed the reorganization and cataloging of books in the museum's library and made significant headway in organizing the backlog of thousands of photographs, newspapers and other material in the museum's archives. At the risk of repeating myself, I want to thank CMH and our dedicated team of volunteers, because, without them, these accomplishments would not have been possible.



last surviving structure of a huge morale and recreation complex established in 1917 called Greene Park.

Camp Lewis was founded in January 1917 when the residents of Pierce County voted to purchase and donate 62,433 acres of land to the War Department in order to attract one of the 16 National Army training camps that were being built across the country to prepare for the American entry into World War I. Construction began in July, under the supervision of CPT David L. Stone, and by September the camp was ready for the first recruits. In just 90 days, an army of 10,000 carpenters, plumbers, electricians and other tradesmen had built 1,757 major buildings and 422 other structures. Just as quickly, various entrepreneurs began to set up their own establishments on the outskirts of the Army camp hoping to cash in on this new boom town. Camp Lewis had become the fourth largest city in Washington virtually overnight. Some of these establishments outside the Camp's gates were termed by the camp's first commander, MG Henry Greene, to be "diverse and open dens of vice." This wasn't a new problem, and certainly not a problem unique to Camp Lewis, as similar problems plagued other training camps. Concerned mothers were writing the President of the United States and complaining that the camps were "hell holes" and that America's sons would be returned home ruined by the alcohol and vice that surrounded the camps. President Woodrow Wilson, a strong progressive, created the Commission on Training Camp Activities (CTCA) and directed it to repress alcohol and vice by creating alternative outlets.

In order to provide wholesome recreational outlets for the Soldiers of Camp Lewis, MG Greene ordered the construction of a recreational complex on 100 acres of land just northwest of, what was then, Camp Lewis' main gate. At its height, this recreational area had more than 40 buildings and businesses and became known as "Greene Park" in honor of the Camp Commander. Today, our historic museum building, the former Red Shield Inn, is the only surviving remnant of this once thriving complex.

The first hotel in Greene Park was the 100 room Salvation Army Hut which was established in 1917. The Hut proved too small for the demand and in 1918 the Salvation Army hired the Pratt and Watson Construction Company of Spokane, WA to build the 150 room Red Shield Inn, which is now the Lewis Army Mu-



seum, at a cost of \$107,000. The building was completed in November 1919 and was a state-of-the-art facility in its day which featured electric lights, telephone service, hot and cold running water in all rooms – and many rooms with private baths – and a refrigeration system for the hotel's kitchen. In 1919 the press and local dignitaries lauded the building for its

architectural style and appointments and predicted that it would become a prominent “social center.”

Initially the Red Shield Inn saw significant service as Soldiers returned from the First World War but, once the draw-down was complete, the hotel saw few customers and the Salvation Army sold the Inn to the U.S. Army for \$1 in July 1921. The hotel was then renamed the Camp Lewis Apartments and shortly afterward, the Camp Lewis Inn. In 1927, when the Camp became a Fort, it was renamed the Fort Lewis Inn and remained as an Army guest house until 1972. Over the decades the guest house serviced generations of service men and women and their families throughout periods of peace and war to include a number of members of the Friends of the Museum. In 1973 the building was converted to museum and office space use and in February 1979 it was placed on the National Registry of Historic Places.

While the historic building did receive a new roof in 1988 as part of a renovation contract which also constructed the vehicle park shed the last few decades saw the building falling into decay and disrepair — particularly the third floor area which had gone vacant since 1972. The



third floor had numerous leaks and had become host to decay, mold, falling plaster and several colonies of bats. In September 2006, when I was the chief of

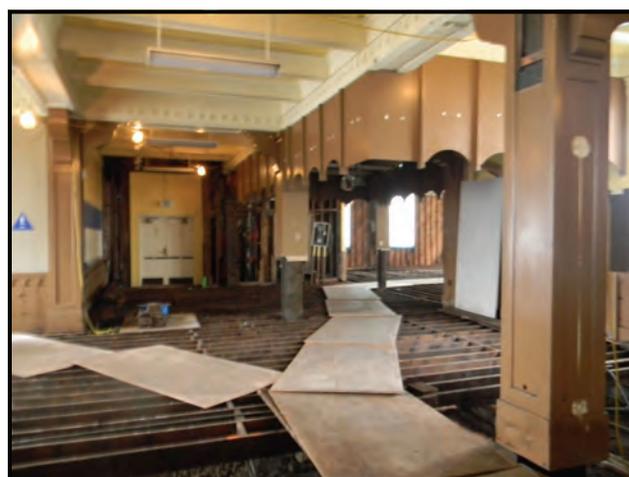
plans and operations for the Fort Lewis garrison, I convinced the Director of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, then COL Thomas Knight, to take a detailed tour of the building – to include all the unused portions – in order to illustrate what dire shape this National Treasure had become. The previous museum director, Mr. Alan Archambault, led the tour and at the conclusion, COL Knight agreed that the building was in bad shape and in need of repair and that the vacant third floor should be put to practical use as classroom space to mitigate training classroom shortfalls on the installation. COL Knight then engaged the Public Works department and the planning to rehabilitate the structure and make use of the vacant third floor began. In coordination with the Corps of Engineers, the former director, Mr. Archambault, developed a draft plan titled the “Rehabilitation of the Fort Lewis Military Museum,” which was completed in June 2008. The plan envisioned a comprehensive overhaul of the entire structure and proposed use of the approximately 15,000 square feet of vacant space on the third floor for classrooms. Funding for the project remained problematic through 2008, but in late 2009, Army Leadership at IMCOM (Installation Management Command) and Fort Lewis, approved the use of ARRA funds in order to renovate the historic museum building and develop a training facility on the third floor calling the project, “Repair DPT Training Facility, Fort Lewis Museum.” This project utilized the same draft plans of 2008.

Wade Perrow Construction of Gig Har-

bor, WA was awarded the contract to conduct the restoration and repair work in September 2009 with a winning bid of 9.6 million dollars. WPC is a contractor well known to Fort Lewis for excellent work performance, craftsmanship and value. At the time of the contract award, WPC had recently completed the reconstruction of the Fort Lewis Regional Confinement Facility and was currently building the new Fort Lewis National Guard Readiness Center. WPC promptly started work on the third floor in October 2009, but major construction did not begin until the museum's collection of irreplaceable artifacts, library and archives had been safely moved to secure climate controlled storage facilities by A&E Relocation Services of Olympia, WA during a five week period between February and March 2010 under the oversight of the museum staff, volunteers from the Friends of the Museum, and a team from the Center of Military History led by Mr. Archambault.

Since work started in earnest in March 2010, the progress has been steady, but has been complicated by the fact that the plans had to be revisited frequently in order to address items not considered in

the initial design. One of the key aspects was ensuring that the historic defining features of the interior of the building in the former hotel lobby, dining room and lounges was appropriately preserved or reconstructed in order to comply with the laws regarding historic places and to allow the building to retain its historic look and feel. Dr. Bret Ruby of the Cultural Resources Department of Public Works was highly instrumental in this area – providing expert guidance to the contractor and the Corps of Engineers in order to ensure that all aspect of this historic remodel were in compliance of the law. Additionally, as with any major remodel of and old building, many previously unidentified problems with the building were discovered as construction proceeded – notably the discovery of significant amounts of asbestos throughout the building, rotted subflooring on the first floor and significant electrical system shortfalls which required the entire electrical system to be redesigned. As a result of some of these challenges, the estimated completion date for the project has been pushed back to late 2011. In spite of these challenges, however, the team of professionals working on this project has



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risen to the occasion and I am optimistic that the result will be a first-rate product.

On 21 September 2010, it was my honor to lead the Friends of the Museum board of directors through the museum in order to show them firsthand the progress which is being made and describe the way ahead for this restoration of our historic museum.

When completed, our museum, the former Red Shield Inn, will retain its historic grandeur while once again becoming a state-of-the-art facility hosting the U.S. Army's only certified military museum on the West Coast – providing Soldier professional development and public education and outreach – as well as a first rate training facility for Soldiers training for combat operations in the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. When complete, the building will continue as a source of National Pride and superbly serve the public and our nation's service members for generations to come.



Colonel Patrick Sarsfield Madigan
1887—1944

Colonel Patrick S. Madigan, known as “the Father of Army Neuropsychiatry”, was assistant to the Surgeon General of the United States Army from 1940 to 1943, and medical advisor to the Adjutant General in 1943. He died in 1944 and in that year, on September 22, Madigan General Hospital was named in his honor.

Colonel Madigan was born on 14 February 1887 in Washington D.C. He was a member of a distinct medical and military family. Two of his brothers were doctors in the U.S. Army. His eldest son, Emmett P. Madigan, served as an Army Medical Corps officer throughout the Second World War.

In 1912, Colonel Madigan received his Doctor of Medicine degree from Georgetown University. In August 1917 he accepted a commission in the Regular Army and served in France with the 64th Infantry of the 7th Division.

After the First World War, Madigan remained in the Army, Serving as a neuropsychiatrist at Walter Reed General Hospital. In 1926, he became Chief of Neuropsychiatry at Sternberg Hospital in the Philippines and, in 1929, Chief of Neuropsychiatry at Walter Reed General Hospital.

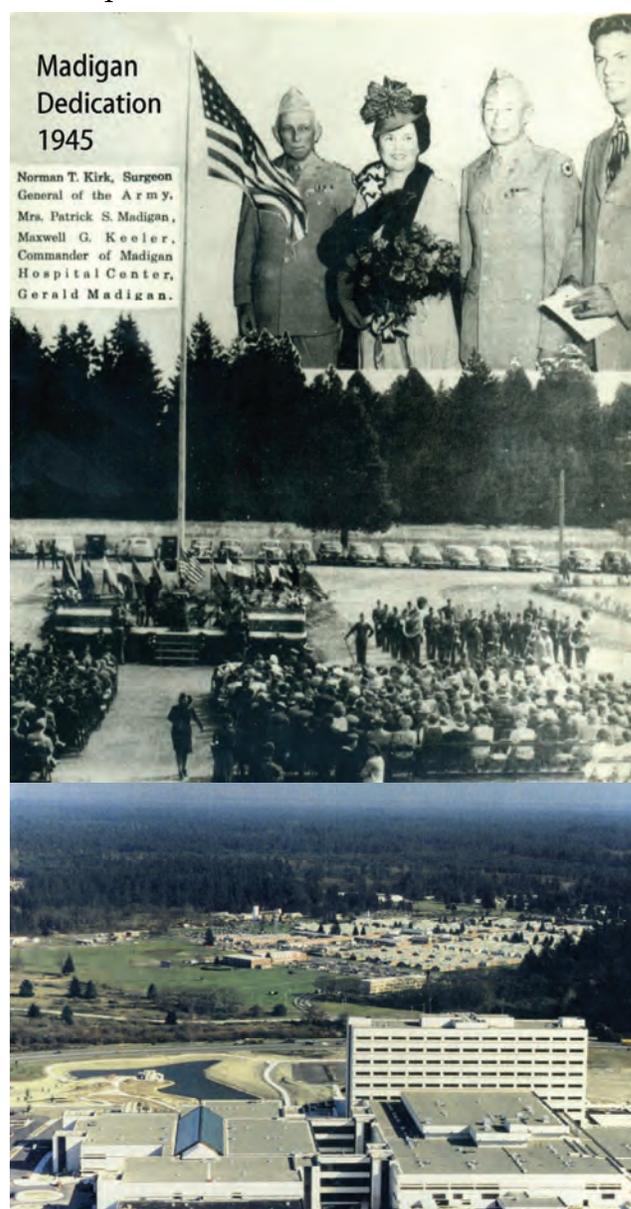
Madigan Army Medical Center

In 1985, ground was broken for a new, 1.2 million square foot, 414 bed hospital facility on Fort Lewis. The new Madigan Army Medical Center was opened on 28 February 1992. The final cost of the facility was \$280 million, which was \$95 million less than the original projected cost.

Madigan was the newest and most modern facility in the Department of Defense when it opened, and still boasts state of the art technology in the clinical

and administrative areas. The natural beauty of the Pacific Northwest was considered in the design of the facility and the panoramic views from the windows of the in-patient tower actually assist in the patient’s recovery process. The tower itself is considered an eight-story building, but in reality is a 15-story building with a complete mechanical floor between each nursing unit.

The center also includes a three-story outpatient Medical Mall complete with escalators and a magnificent skylight that opens and retracts.



Madigan Army Medical Center, with the old hospital area and Mt. Rainier in the background.

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The *Banner* is printed four times a year and is mailed to all members of The Friends of Fort Lewis Museum. Articles may be submitted to the Editor or left with the Director of the Fort Lewis Museum. The Friends assume no responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts or other materials submitted for publication.

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