

William Wallace tombstone

After David Leroy's presentation, Kathleen Benoun, librarian and archivist at Western State Hospital, drove back to the Settler's Cemetery "to find out if anything remained of the tombstone of William Wallace. I had been told that the tombstone had been destroyed by vandals. This is not true. The tombstone has been pushed off its pedestal and lies face-down in the grass.... I went to our photo archive room and searched until I found pictures of the Wallace tombstone. Apparently, the original tombstones were replaced in 1951...."

Kathleen followed up by looking through Clare Cooley's manuscript on the history of the hospital, finding the following excerpt:

"Directly across from the laundry and in back of Wards K, L, and M, is the military cemetery where Fort Steilacoom soldiers and members of their families were buried. In the third biennial report (1904 to 1906) it was requested that the old military cemetery either be properly fenced, improved, and cared for through appropriate funds, or that the bodies be exhumed and removed to a more appropriate place. No action was taken. However, in Dr. Keller's time the cemetery was cleaned up and a few shrubs added to the landscaping, which consisted mostly of native trees which were trimmed and pruned. A privet hedge was planted enclosing the area.

"In the 1930s when the hospital was in the rebuilding stage, the architectural plans called for a future wing of one of the buildings to be erected on the site of the old cemetery. Negotiations were again made to obtain authority for the removal of the bodies to another cemetery. However, when all the plans were approved, Governor Clarence K. Martin reconsidered. The Governor and Dr. Keller decided not to disturb the historic ground.

"From time to time the tombstones have been repaired, but otherwise



Photos provided by Kathleen Benoun

William Wallace's marker was found to be knocked down and broken in 2013. Plans are being made to restore the historic stone.



A more appropriate historical Wallace monument was placed in 1951. Inset shows original plain markers.

the cemetery remains the same with one exception. A new monument was erected to the memory of William H. Wallace. Mr. and Mrs. Wallace are both buried in this cemetery. The memorial was placed by the Washington State Parks and

Recreations Commission. Wallace was the fifth territorial governor of Washington and the first territorial governor of Idaho. When the monument was unveiled on August 25, 1951, over 300 persons attended the ceremony."

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Fort Steilacoom Moves Ahead

by John Roten and Lawrence Bateman

Happy 30th Anniversary HFSA! We would like to thank and congratulate the original 1983 HFSA Board for their vision to save the last four remaining buildings of the 1857 Fort Steilacoom era by having them placed on the National Register; for reconstructing the fort back to its original appearance; and for developing a museum complex and education programs.

Thirty years later, as members of the 2013 HFSA Board, we would like to think that we are in keeping with their overall goals of the preservation of the buildings and education of the public on the fort's history and its importance to the Puget Sound area. Over the last thirty years we have come a long distance in the way we present fort life to the public, especially in the interpretation of the different quarters. Some of those changes are as follows:

Quarters #1

Quarters #1 has not had much changed on the inside, other than the rearranging of furniture. In the summer of 2012, we received the addition of two 1850-60 era chairs donated by Col. Isabelle Schwartz.

Also in the summer of 2012, the large tree-like laurel bush that was hiding the building was removed by Bernie Bateman, Lawrence Bateman, John Roten, Alan Archambault, and Tom Allen in preparation for the 2013 painting project.

In May 2013, also in preparation for the painting project, Bernie Bateman, Lawrence Bateman, and John Roten made repairs to the quarters, which included porch repairs,



New "Suds Room" display created by John Roten and Bernie Bateman in the upstairs of Quarters 2 next to the "Sergeant's Room." Washer women used such appliances to do the soldier's laundry at the fort for pay.

lattice replacement, and covering of holes in the siding.

Quarters #2

Quarters #2 has gone through some changes and updating in recent years. First, Ken Morgan created a barracks space in one of the large upstairs rooms. The display includes two complete sets of cribs (2 man tiered bunk beds sleeping 4), a table and two benches, two gun racks and a clothes rack with uniforms and equipment on them.

Recently, another bench, footlocker and more uniforms and equipment were added by John Roten. In 2012-13, the addition of personal items and knapsacks on loan from Lawrence

Bateman, John Roten, Tom Allen, and John McPherson, and help give the barracks that soldierly lived-in look.

Adjacent to the barracks space is the Sergeant's Room. First started by Gideon Pete in 2006, it contains a desk and chairs (from Western State Hospital), a bed, a coat rack, a footlocker display from Ken Morgan, a First Sergeant's uniform from Lawrence Bateman, and several wooden boxes used to represent the company's ready supplies.

Just down the hall from the Sergeant's Room, in April 2013, Bernie Bateman and John Roten cleaned out one of the rooms used for storage

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President's Message



Hello all, time to let you know what is happening at the fort. Let me start out with our past events. Our Living History Open House and School

Visitation Day on April 20 drew a nice crowd with reenactors in period dress showing the historic buildings and answering questions. Larry Cederbloom of the Magic Lantern group put on a show, inviting guests to make their own slides.

In cooperation with the Steilacoom Historical Museum, David Leroy, former Lt. Governor of Idaho, portrayed William Wallace, a Steilacoom resident who was appointed Territorial Governor of Washington and then Idaho by his friend President Abraham Lincoln.

On May 18th members of the FSHA Company M, 1st Artillery and Company A, 4th Infantry participated with other living history/reenactment groups, and active duty military units, in the annual Armed Forces Day at JBLM. The day was spent talking to the public about the fort and the Regular Army on the frontier.

May 26th the fort museum was opened for the Memorial Day week-



Richard Blumenthal signs a copy of his newest book, *Maritime Place Names – Inland Washington Waters*, for Joe Lewis at the June 9 program.

end. Bernie Bateman, who opened the museum, said that he had people waiting at the door. He reported that there were over 50 visitors.

June 9th author Richard Blumenthal talked about his new book, *Maritime Place Names, Inland Washington Waters*.

After getting another grant from the Nisqually Tribe, and with gracious donations from you and our guests, the FSHA Board approved the repainting of Quarters 1. Bernie Bateman, John Roten and myself did some repairs to the porch in preparation for the painting. The work was to have started back in May, but with bad weather was postponed. I was informed that the painters would start on the 17th of June and that the work would be done by Saturday.

Pauline Hainse has stepped in to a temporary position as treasurer of the association. We are very appreciative of her willingness to do that important work. This job will need to be filled again at the Annual Meeting elections in October.

Now for some up-coming events. On July 4th members of FSHA will man a booth at the Steilacoom 4th of

July celebration. July 13-14 John Roten and myself will be at Summer Fest at Fort Steilacoom Park. We will have a tent set up and will talk to the public about Historic Fort Steilacoom. August 25th will be our annual Founders' Day Picnic. Bring a potluck dish and join us from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

September 28th will be the second Smithsonian National Museum Day. The Smithsonian will advertise all museums that participate that day. We will have Living Historians here to bring the fort to life for the public. Check out our web site for further events at www.historicfortsteilacoom.org.

Thank you for all your support.

Lawrence Bateman

FS Moves Ahead (from page 1) and set up the "Suds Room." Using supplies that were in storage from living history days gone by, they made our new laundress display.

Downstairs in the parlor the main change came about in early 2012 with the relocation of the model of the Hudson Bay ship *Beaver* and its blue prints from Quarters #2 to the

William Wallace, a friend of Lincoln



David Leroy portrays William Wallace, a friend of Lincoln.



William Wallace



A relief of Abraham Lincoln, part of the mementos displayed by Leroy.

David Leroy, former lieutenant governor of Idaho, personified William Wallace at the Fort Steilacoom Living History Open House on May 20th. "Wallace" spoke of his close friend Abraham Lincoln who had appointed him to be the first governor of the Idaho Territory after it was split from the Washington Territory in 1863.

William Wallace was born July 19, 1811, near Troy, Ohio. He studied law in Indiana and married Luzanne (Luzena) Brazelton. Two of their three children died in infancy.

His interest in politics took him to Iowa where he developed a friendship with Lincoln.

William moved to Steilacoom in 1853 when it was a fledgling town on Puget Sound. His wife and 10 year old son joined him there in 1855 not long before the outbreak of the Indian War. During the war Wallace, served with the Washington Territorial Volunteers, sending his wife and son to Fort Steilacoom for safety. After the war, Wallace was a defense attorney for Chief Leschi.

As a delegate to the legislature, Wallace worked to bring law and order to the new Washington Territory. He was appointed governor by

President Lincoln in 1861. That same year Wallace was elected a delegate to the U. S. House of Representatives and never took office as governor.

In 1863 Congress established the Idaho Territory and Wallace was appointed its first governor by his friend Lincoln. In her memoirs Luzena states that she suggested the name "Idaho." Following his new appointment as governor, the citizens of Idaho elected Wallace as their Congressional delegate.

Shortly after the close of the 1865 session of Congress, Abraham and Mary Lincoln invited the Wallaces to accompany them to a play at Ford's Theatre. It was Good Friday, April 14. The Wallaces declined, as Luzena was not feeling well. The Wallaces returned to their home in Steilacoom, greatly saddened by the president's assassination.

Wallace resumed his law practice and served for several years as judge of the probate court for Pierce County. When Steilacoom became the first incorporated city in Washington Territory in 1871, Wallace, one of the founding councilmen, was elected its first Mayor.

William Wallace died at the age of 68 on February 7, 1879, "honored

and respected by all his fellow citizens. Governor Elisha P. Ferry, first governor of Washington State, as Grand Master of Masons, officiated at the grave service at the old Fort Steilacoom graveyard."¹

Notes: Nancy Covert made arrangements to have David Leroy present his program "William Wallace, a friend of Lincoln." The program was co-sponsored by Historic Fort Steilacoom Association and the Steilacoom Historical Museum Association.

David Leroy is chairman of the Idaho Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission and chairman of the Governor's Council of the United States Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. A former prosecutor, Attorney General, and Lieutenant Governor, Leroy has been lecturing about Lincoln since 1976. He is the author of many articles and a book on the sixteenth president, and has a collection of historic artifacts relating to Lincoln's life that he uses to enhance his talks. His interpretations and comments tell of the unknown, the unusual and the "real animal," as Lincoln called himself.

¹ *Tacoma Daily Ledger*, September 23, 1892.



John Roten and Bernie Bateman show the tool room display in the back of Quarters 3. In the foreground is the billiard table and various games.

Quarters #4 Interpretive Center. The display case in which the *Beaver* had been on display was then filled by John Roten with ladies apparel donated by him and from other donations to the fort.

The biggest changes to Quarters #2 came about on the exterior in 2012. The porch was repaired, lattice replaced, and holes in walls covered. An oversized holly bush and the large tree-like laurel that was hiding Quarters #2 were removed. This work was accomplished by Bernie Bateman, Lawrence Bateman, John Roten, Alan Archambault, and Tom Allen in preparation for the painting project, which was completed by Tracy's Painting in September.

There were two projects completed on the inside that cannot be seen, but can be felt by all who visit when it's cold outside. They were the replacement of the heater (thank you Bernie Bateman and Hospital Maintenance) and the replacement of damaged heating ducts under the building (thank you Bernie and Lawrence Bateman and John Roten). One big interior project seen by all is the painting of the downstairs and steps by Bernie Bateman with paint donated by Rodda Paint.

Quarters #3

Quarters #3 has undergone a major transformation in the last ten years. Gideon Pete, in about 2004, started to refurnish the downstairs Bachelor Officer's Quarters (BOQ) room and added furnishings to the two upstairs rooms, previously closed to the public but now open for viewing. The bear rug furnished by Bill Arends that had been on display downstairs was transferred to one of the upstairs rooms to keep it safe from little feet. Over the years small items have been added to each of the three BOQ rooms by individuals to give them a more lived-in look.

In 2005, the billiards table, that is on loan from the Washington Historical Museum in Tacoma, was moved from the other front room to the back room of the building and placed on display with other games of entertainment from the period to make room for the Sutler's Store display.

Also on display in the back room since 2010, is a nice hand tool display on loan from John Roten and a knapsack display, a work currently in progress by Lawrence Bateman, with the contents furnished by Lawrence Bateman, John McPherson, and Tom Allen.



Bill Arend's bear rug is now in one of the newly opened BOQ rooms.

In 2005 Lawrence Bateman moved his Sutler's Store display from the now Sergeant's Room of Quarters #2 to the front room of Quarters #3 for easier viewing by the public and for the enlisted soldiers during our Christmas at the Fort event. Mostly everything in the store display belongs to Lawrence Bateman. After talking about how to add to the Sutler's Store display for about 3 years, John Roten added the top skirting and base board to the store front and built the back warehouse portion in the back room of the building, just in time for Christmas at the Fort 2009. In December 2012, John Roten added the wooden floor to the warehouse portion of the display to help hide the carpet.

On the exterior of the building in 2011, Bernie Bateman and John Roten made repairs to the back porch and stairs, siding at the back door, and framing repairs underneath the wall adjacent to the back porch, all caused by bad downspouts and gutter, which they also repaired.

Quarter #4

The Interpretive Center has also undergone a major transformation in the last few years. First the changes were as simple as rearrang-

ing the location of the display cases and the mountain Howitzer. Then the real transformation into a new updated military museum started to take place. The last flag flown over Fort Steilacoom was removed from the 2-part display case and was framed and proudly displayed on the wall (paid for by HFSA in 2011).

Then, because of a change in the lease agreement, the rifles that had been in the barracks display in Quarters #2 had to be moved and secured. The items that were found during the reconstruction were taken out of their display case in Quarters #4 and put into storage, and the rifles displayed in their place.

The only change to the original Company M, 1st Artillery display, done by Shea Munroe and Orville Stout, with advisory assistance from Alan Archambault in 1996, was to incorporate the Joseph Heath farm painting by Steve Anderson, which had been on the fireplace mantel, into the display.

The 4th and 9th Infantry display was redone by Lawrence Bateman and John Roten by taking the picture of Lt. Kautz, his signage, and the nail display to Quarters #3 and placing them with the tool display in the back room and by taking the hand tools to the Sutler's Store display in Quarters #3. The mannequin was redressed from wearing a Hudson Bay shirt and slouch hat to a soldier on fatigue duty or campaign in the Puget Sound area in 1858-61 wearing a sack coat, forage hat, leather equipment, and canteen. The showcase was filled out with a laid out haversack display, a set of soldier's draws (underclothing), handmade by John McPherson's mom, and a model by Lawrence Bateman of a blockhouse as seen during the Puget Sound Indian Wars of 1855-56.

John Roten redid the bottom of the large 2-part showcase to contain the model of the Hudson Bay ship *Beaver* and its blue prints, on loan by Charles Collier. Ken Morgan and Gideon Pete rearranged the top portion of the showcase to contain an



New exhibits have been added to the Interpretive Center in Quarters 4 and other exhibits have been updated.

artillery display of the equipment used and reproduction artillery shells and original fuses from the 1860s (purchased by HFSA).

Pvt. Mannequin, Company M, 1st Artillery, circa 1855 Puget Sound Indian Wars, was originally on display in the back room of Quarters #3 along with a tent arranged by Gideon Pete. The mannequin was transferred to Quarters #4 in 2005 and was removed from his backdrop stand in 2010. Lt. Mannequin, Company M, 1st Artillery was redressed to become a Private in Company H, 9th Infantry, in full dress uniform circa 1859. John McPherson researched for vendors to supply an authentic uniform and Ken Morgan purchased it with funds from HFSA.

Alan Archambault made a 4th Infantry soldier cutout for picture taking of kids and anybody else who wants to use it. The "Theater" that had been recently sub-divided was returned to its original size to allow for larger audiences and possible use for future programs (Magic Lantern Show, etc.). In the adjacent hallway the "traveling pictorial boards" made by Orville Stout were attached to the

walls as a temporary display, opening up floor space in the theater. The Quarters #4 "Sutler Store" was renamed the "Gift Shop" in the By-Laws in 2012 so it would not be confused with the Quarters #3 Sutler's Store display.



A visiting youngster gets her picture taken in the dress uniform cutout made by Alan Archambault.