



Parris Island Post Cards from World War II

Part III : 1942



B. B. McBreen
Editor, 2008

Parris Island Post Cards from World War II

Parris Island Marine Corps Recruit Depot during World War II

During World War II, Marine Corps recruits training aboard Parris Island sent thousands of post cards home to their families. Today, in 2008, almost seventy years later, each card is a historical snapshot of what Parris Island looked like during the war years.

Curt Teich Post Cards of Parris Island

The Curt Teich (*kurt-tike*) Company of Chicago was the nation's leading postcard publisher during the middle of the 20th century. The Company was founded by Curt Otto Teich, 1877–1974, who immigrated into the United States from Germany in 1896.

In 1930, a new printing process enabled brightly colored post cards to be printed on heavy paper that had the look and feel of textured linen. Curteich published linen postcards from 1930 through about 1955.

The Curt Teich Archives are maintained by the Lake County Discovery Museum in Wauconda, Illinois.

Parris Island Post Cards from World War II

Part III: Curt Teich 1942

In 1942, the Curt Teich company published a series of ten (10) images of Parris Island, numbered **2B-H1236** through **2B-H1245**. The company used a unique numbering system: the first character is the year, the second – the decade, the third – the type, and the remaining digits are the card’s serial number. So for card “2B-H1236” – “2B” is the second year of the 1940 decade: 1942. “H” is a linen card, and “1236” is the card number.

The title of the card, one line of serif italics text, appears on the front. The term “Marine Barracks” was used until 1946. The serial number appears on the front bottom-right corner. The card size is 3.5 x 5.5 inches.



Main Post Exchange Building, Marine Barracks, Parris Island, S. C.



Curteich 2B-H1236: 1942

Main Post Exchange Building. Built in 1941 as the Post Exchange, this building was re-dedicated in 1977 as the *Douglas Visitor's Center*, named after World War II Marine Senator Paul Douglas. Today, in 2008, it also houses the Library, the Book Store, the Base Photography Office, and the Public Affairs Office.

Yacht Basin and Officers' Club, Marine Barracks, Parris Island, S. C.



Curteich 2B-H1237: 1942

Yacht Basin and Officers' Club. The Yacht Basin is located near the officer's housing area. Today, in 2008, the Yacht Basin is too shallow to use, having been silted up over the years. The building in the background is the Officer's Club. The original club building, dating from 1918, was moved in 1939 from a location adjacent to the Lyceum to this location at the Yacht Basin. This same club, with only minor renovations, is known today in 2008, as *Traditions*.

Entrance to Parris Island, Marine Barracks, Parris Island, S. C.



Curteich 2B-H1238: 1942

Entrance to Parris Island. The main gate provided access across the single causeway leading to Parris Island. The second causeway was not built until after 1987. The well-known and distinctive red brick entrance sign to Parris Island, that welcomed over one million recruits between 1943 and 2001, was not yet built.

Main Dock, Marine Barracks, Parris Island, S. C.



Curteich 2B-H1239: 1942

Main Dock. The Main Dock is located at the east end of the base, adjacent to the original dry dock. Before the causeway was built during World War I, Parris Island was completely separated from the mainland. New recruits arrived by boat at this dock. Today, in 2008, the dock is little used, except for fishing, but appears exactly the same. The street in the foreground is Nicaragua Street, lined with officer's houses facing the water.

Administration Bldg, with Major General's Flag, Marine Barracks, Parris Island, S. C.



Curteich 2B-H1240: 1942

Administration Bldg. The Depot Headquarters Building was built in 1941. The general's office was then moved from the Old Headquarters Building next to the Lyceum. It was called the "Post Headquarters Building" until "Depot" became the official name for Parris Island in December 1946. At left is the Headquarters & Service Battalion Building, built in 1938, and used during the war as Recruit Training Headquarters. Today, in 2008, the newly planted oak and palm trees in the foreground are all fully grown, blocking this view entirely.

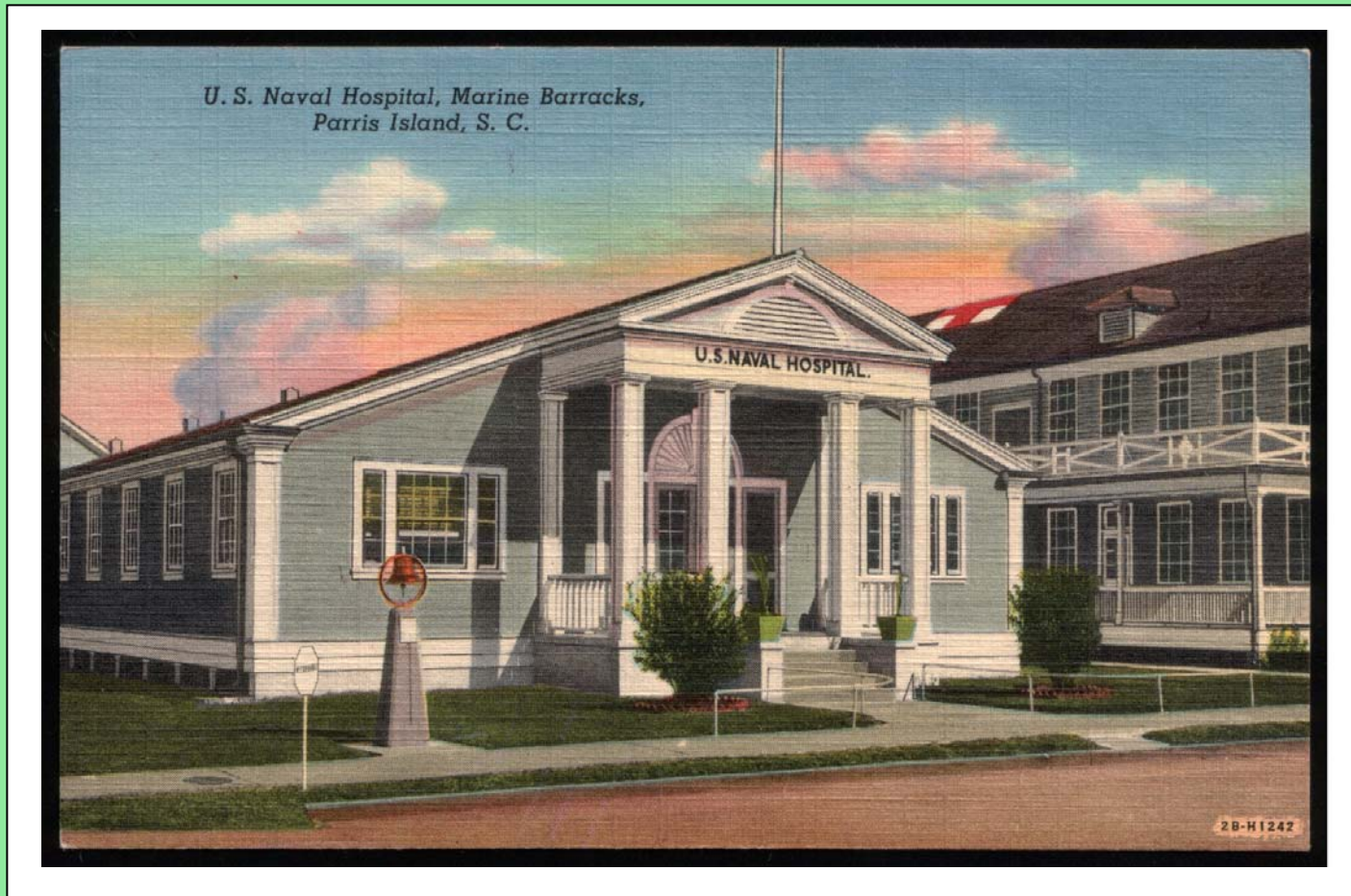
Post Exchange Service Station, Marine Barracks, Parris Island, S. C.



Curteich 2B-H1241: 1942

Post Exchange Service Station. This World War II Post Service Station is now, in 2008, the location of the Medical Center. The silver water tower on the right appears in other images beyond the parade deck.

U. S. Naval Hospital, Marine Barracks, Parris Island, S. C.



Curteich 2B-H1242: 1942

U. S. Naval Hospital. The original wooden U. S. Naval Hospital buildings were constructed during World War I at the east end of the base. The hospital complex and grounds were greatly expanded during World War II. In 1946, a new Naval Hospital was built off-base and these wooden buildings on Parris Island were razed. Today, in 2008, this is the site of the *Four Winds* club.

Recruit Depot Headquarters and World War I Monument, Marine Barracks, Parris Island, S. C.



Curteich 2B-H1243: 1942

Recruit Depot Headquarters and World War I Monument. The Headquarters & Service Battalion Building was built in 1938. It was used during the war as the Recruit Training Headquarters. “Iron Mike,” the 1924 bronze statue commemorating Marines who died in World War I, was dedicated by the 13th Commandant of the Marine Corps, Major General John A. Lejeune. The statue was created by sculptor Robert Ingersoll Aiken. It was moved from its original location near the museum to this corner location around 1940.

Rifle Range Barracks, Marine Barracks, Parris Island, S. C.



Curteich 2B-H1244: 1942

Rifle Range Barracks. The brick Rifle Range Barracks were built at the beginning of World War II. The extensive Parris Island rifle ranges are off to the right. The white wooden buildings at the water's edge hide a view of Hilton Head island. Today, in 2008, the white buildings are no longer there.

No. 1 Fire Department, Marine Barracks, Parris Island, S. C.

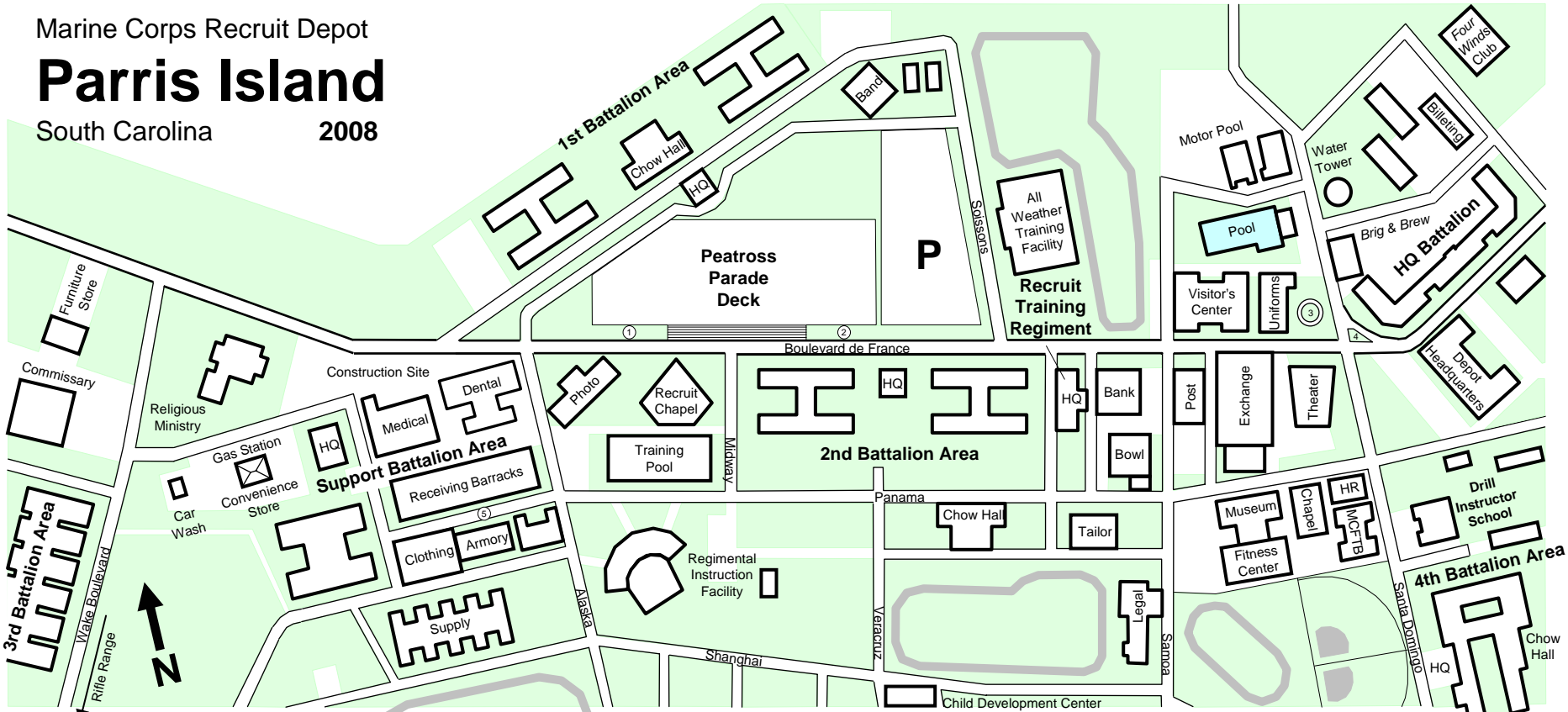


Curteich 2B-H1245: 1942

No. 1 Fire Department. This fire house was constructed in 1941. It stands across the street from the Headquarters Building. When the new fire station was constructed after 1987, this building was converted to the G-4, Depot Logistics office spaces.

Parris Island Today: 2008

Marine Corps Recruit Depot
Parris Island
 South Carolina 2008



<p>Recruit Training Regiment Support Battalion 1st Battalion 2nd Battalion 3rd Battalion 4th Battalion Drill Instructor School</p> <p>Clubs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brig & Brew Four Winds Club Traditions Club Golf Course Sand Trap 	<p>Commissary </p> <p>Convenience Store </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gas Station Car Wash Coffee Shop <p>Peatross Parade Deck </p> <p>Recruit Photo</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travel, Tickets, Finance <p>Recruit Chapel </p>	<p>Bank</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Navy Federal Credit Union Marine Corps Community Services <p>Tailor Shop</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dry Cleaning Cobbler Shop <p>Movie Theater </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Auditorium <p>Bowling Alley </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subway Restaurant 	<p>Douglas Visitor's Center </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Library MCA Book Store Public Affairs <p>Exchange </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gift Shop Barber Shop Snack Shop Food Court <p>Parris Island Museum </p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alexander Ship's Store 	<p>HR: Human Resources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red Cross Navy - Marine Corps Relief <p>MCFTB: Marine Corps Family Team Building</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semper Fit Recreation New Parent Support Program <p>Monuments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 - Drill Instructor Monument 2 - Iwo Jima Monument 3 - Molly Marine Monument 4 - Iron Mike Monument 5 - The Yellow Footprints
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100m 300m

BBM APR 07

Traditions

Page Field

Golf Course

Parris Island During World War I: 1918



U. S. Marine Emblem. This postcard depicts the Marine Corps emblem being formed by 2000 Marine recruits on January 23, 1918. The photograph was taken on the Parris Island parade deck in front of the 1st Recruit Training Battalion area. At that time, the great majority of the buildings aboard Parris Island were temporary wooden structures, intended for wartime training use only. These buildings were torn down during the 1930s. Note the old-style spelling of Parris Island with only one “r”.

Acknowledgements

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[Part I : Tichnor 1941](#)

[Part II : Tichnor 1942](#)

[Part III : Curteich 1942](#)

[Part IV : Tichnor 1945](#)