



# WEBFOOTER EXTRA

## FEBRUARY 2026

CELEBRATING



1966-2026

### C.S. GODDARD★THE SOLDIER★PHOTOGRAPHER OF FORT STEVENS OREGON

BY AARON BUDA



AARON BUDA COLLECTION

# COVER POSTCARD

Goddard real photo postcard of soldiers raising a toast at the bar at Fort Stevens, Oregon, circa 1912. Postally unused.

Editor's Note: Sources for this article include:

1920 United States Federal Census (Ancestry.com)

1930 United States Federal Census (Ancestry.com)

1940 United States Federal Census (Ancestry.com)

Massachusetts, U.S., Marriage Records, 1840-1915 (Ancestry.com)

Roster, Coast Artillery Troops of the Pacific Northwest: Coast Defenses of Puget Sound and Coast Defenses of the Columbia, February 1914, published by G. Brown, Fort Worden, WA.

U.S., Army, Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914 (Ancestry.com)

US, Returns from Regular Army Coast Artillery Corps Companies, 1901-1916 (Fold3.com)

World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918 (Ancestry.com)



Goddard real photo birdseye view postcard of Fort Stevens, Oregon, circa 1913. Postally unused.

## C.S. GODDARD★THE SOLDIER★PHOTOGRAPHER OF FORT STEVENS OREGON

BY AARON BUDA

Thanks in part to Calvin S. Goddard – The Soldier Photographer, who served there from 1911 to 1914, we have a well-documented record of life at Fort Stevens, Oregon. Ft. Stevens is located near the mouth of the Columbia River on the northern Oregon coast near Astoria and Hammond, in the northwest corner of the state.

Goddard was born in Portland, Maine in 1889. He enlisted in the U.S. Army on his 19th birthday on March 14, 1908 at Fort Slocum, New York. Goddard was first assigned to the 37th Company, Coast Artillery at Fort McKinley, Maine for a three-year enlistment. However, he was discharged after a year in June 1909.

After a couple of years, Goddard enlisted in the army once again, in October 1911 at Fort Logan, Colorado. The enlistment record states he was a carpenter. On this enlistment, Goddard was assigned to the 34th Company, Coast Artillery, stationed at Fort Stevens, Oregon. He would serve his full three-year enlistment at Fort Stevens, being discharged in October 1914.

It is unknown what led to Goddard's interest in photography, but it was strong enough that he made a business out of it – an advertisement of his can be found in a locally published roster of Coast Artillery troops in the Pacific Northwest from 1914. The ad coins Goddard "The Soldier Photographer" and touts "Portraits, Views, Commercial page 9.

When you see a Fort Stevens image from the early 1910s, it is very likely you will run across one of Goddard's photographs. His views give a spectacular view of life in and around the fort from about 1912-1914. There are several ways that Goddard's real-photo-postcards are marked. Most commonly seen is Goddard's signature, which features what is likely a "G" with a slash through the bottom (though it looks like a "6") in a diamond. Sometimes this is accompanied with text.



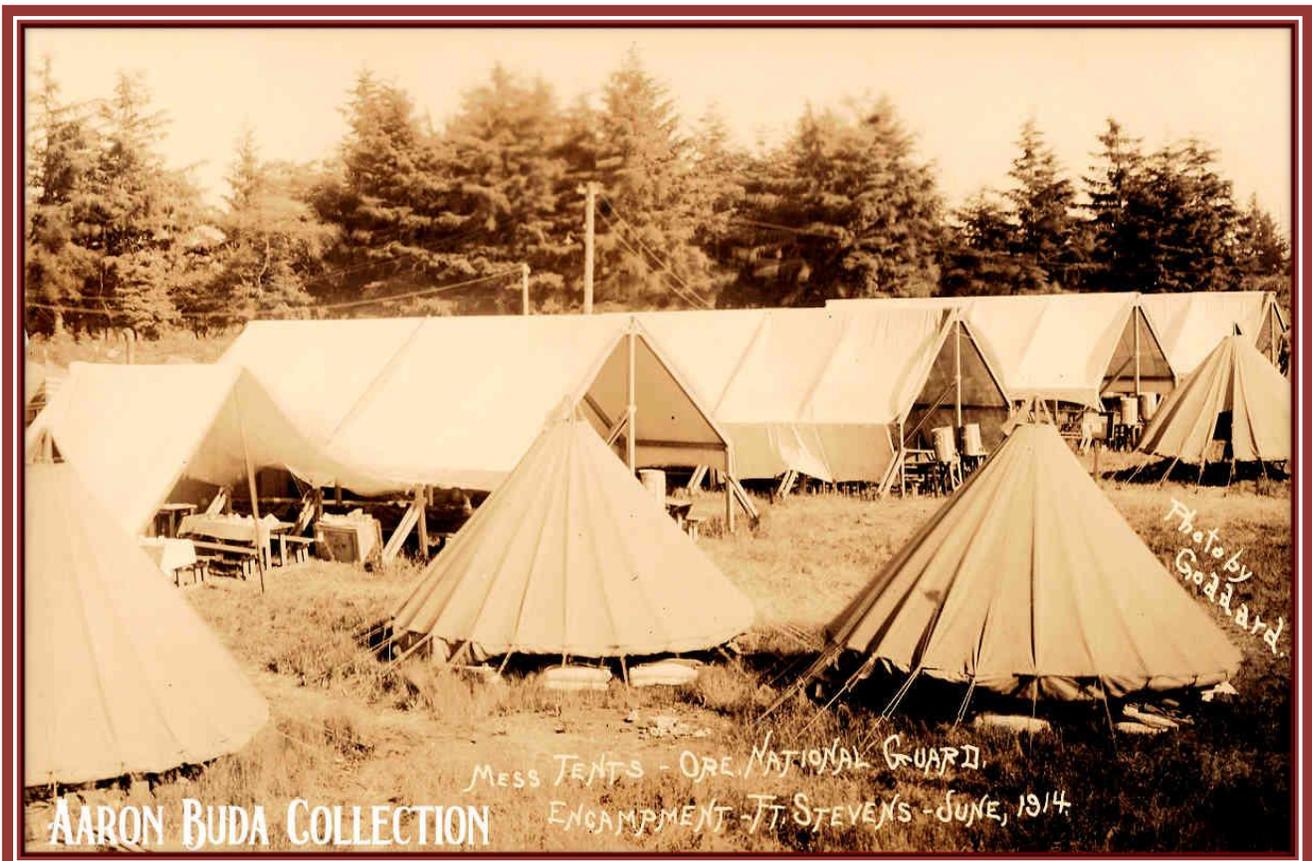
Goddard real photo postcard of 93<sup>rd</sup> Company Guard Mount at Fort Stevens, circa 1912. Postally unused.

Rarely do we find text without Goddard's signature. Occasionally the images are marked "Photo by Goddard" instead of the diamond signature. Many of Goddard's views are numbered as well. Finally, some of Goddard's views are marked on the postcard's reverse in black ink, with the stamp saying "C.S. GODDARD, 34th Co., / C.A.C. FT. STEVENS, OREGON." Images with the stamp often do not appear to have any writing on the actual photo. A sample of the back can be seen on page 7.

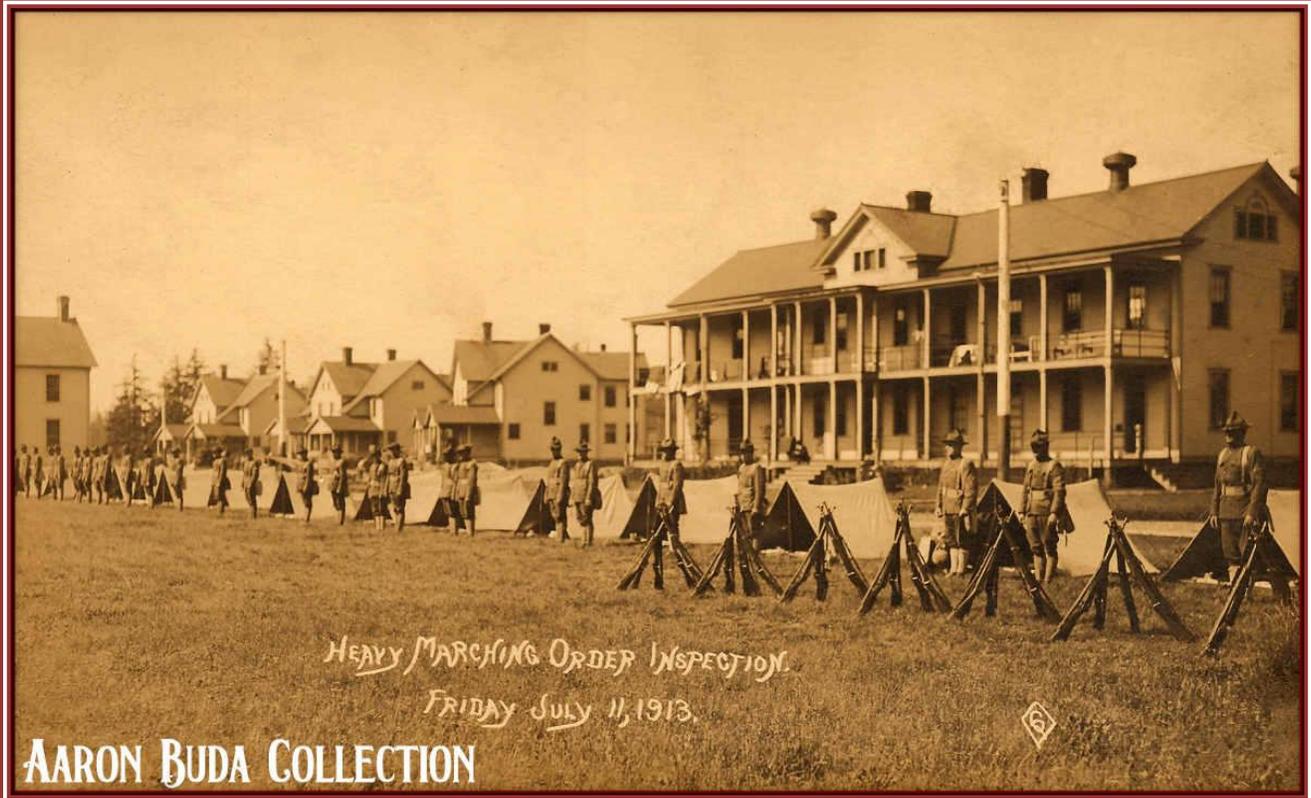
Goddard was honorably discharged October 20, 1914 at Fort Stevens. The November 30, 1914 Post Return for the 154th Company, Coast Artillery at Fort McKinley, Maine shows Goddard as having reenlisted with the rank of Private. Goddard must have missed Maine. Shortly after his return to the east coast, Goddard married Ruth C. Mayer in March of 1915 in Boston.

Goddard's final enlistment came to an end in 1917. His World War I draft registration lists him as working in the insurance business in Boston. The 1920 census shows him as a draftsman in Boston. Ten years later he is back in Maine as a field engineer with a daughter, Maria. Finally, the 1940 census lists Goddard as a structural engineer with two children, Maria and John. Goddard died in 1947 and he is buried in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Calvin Goddard's photographic work lives on over 110 years later, giving a well-documented look into the lives of soldiers stationed at the coast defenses of the Columbia River.



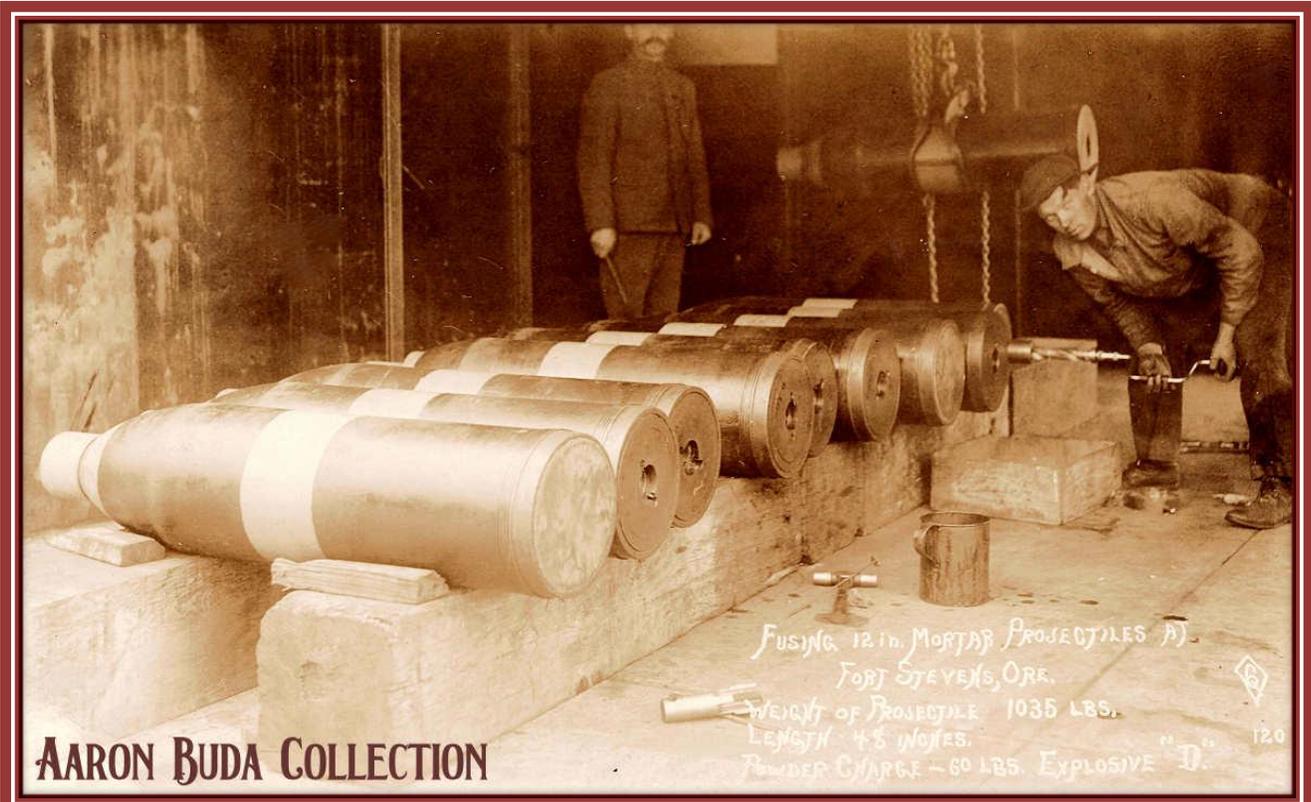
Goddard real photo postcard of Mess Tents at the Oregon National Guard Encampment at Fort Stevens in June of 1914. Postally unused.



HEAVY MARCHING ORDER INSPECTION  
FRIDAY JULY 11, 1913.

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Goddard real photo postcard of a Heavy Marching Order Inspection on Friday, July 11, 1913 at Fort Stevens. Postally unused.



FUSING 12 in. MORTAR PROJECTILES AT  
FORT STEVENS, ORR.

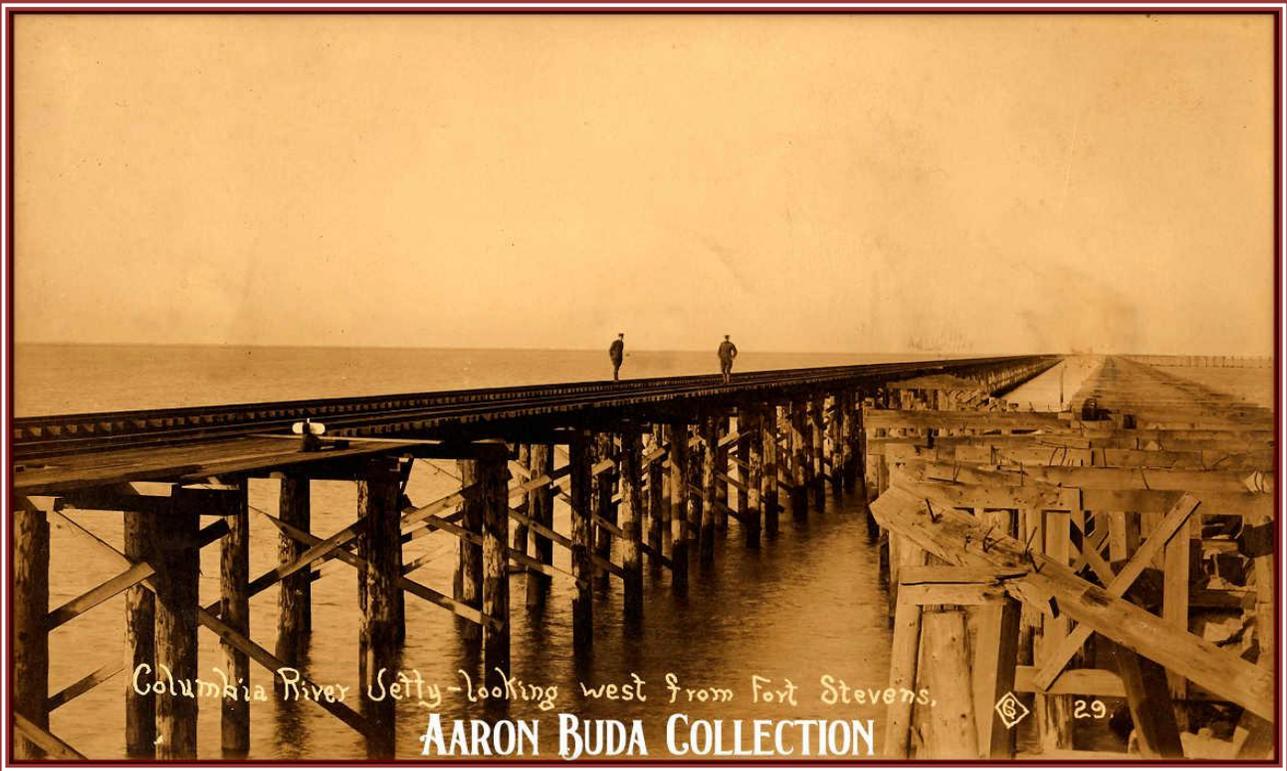
WEIGHT OF PROJECTILE 1035 LBS.  
LENGTH 48 INCHES.  
POWDER CHARGE - 60 LBS. Explosive "D."

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Goddard real photo postcard showing the fusing of 12 inch Mortar Projectiles at Fort Stevens, circa 1913. Postally unused. Each projectile weighed 1,036 pounds and they were 48 inches in length.



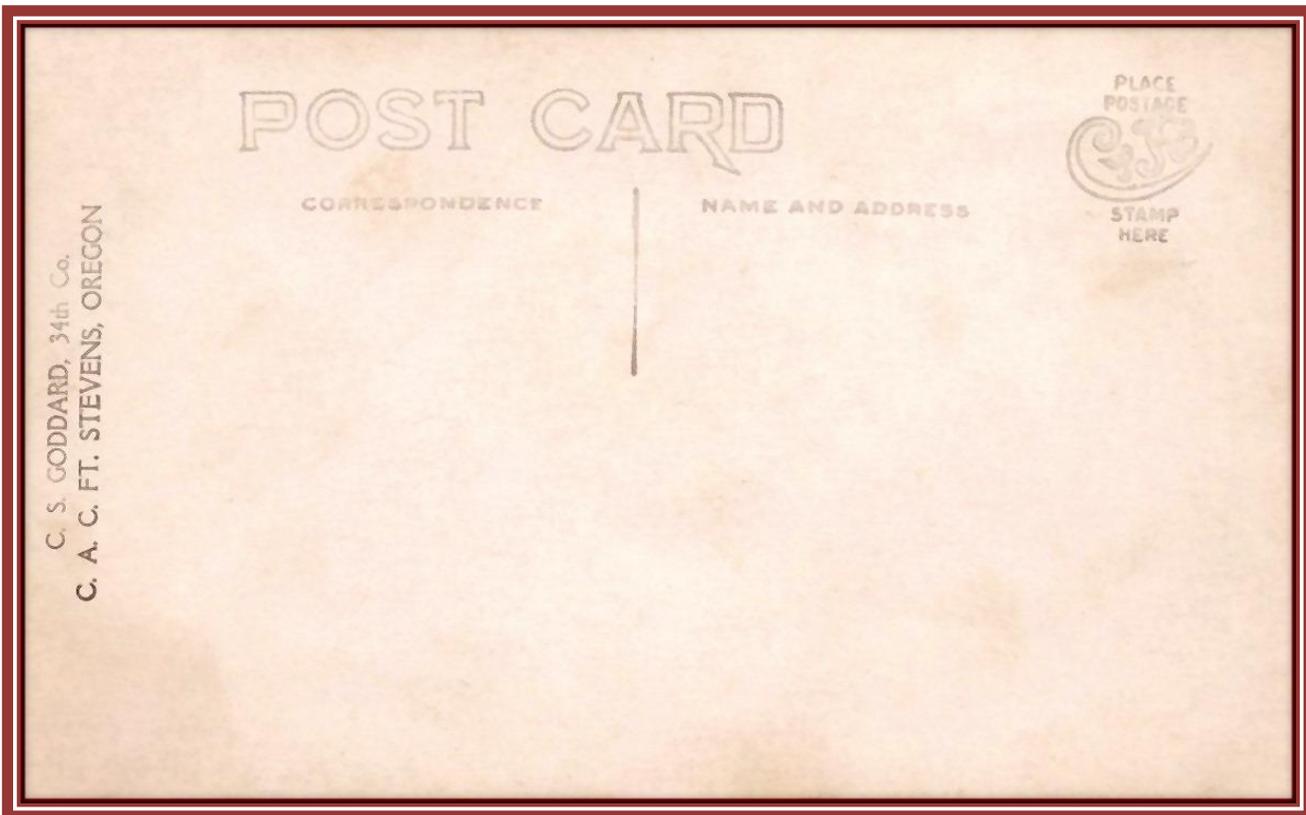
Goddard real photo postcard view of the Q.M. Steamer "Guy Howard" at Fort Stevens, Oregon, circa 1913. Postally unused.



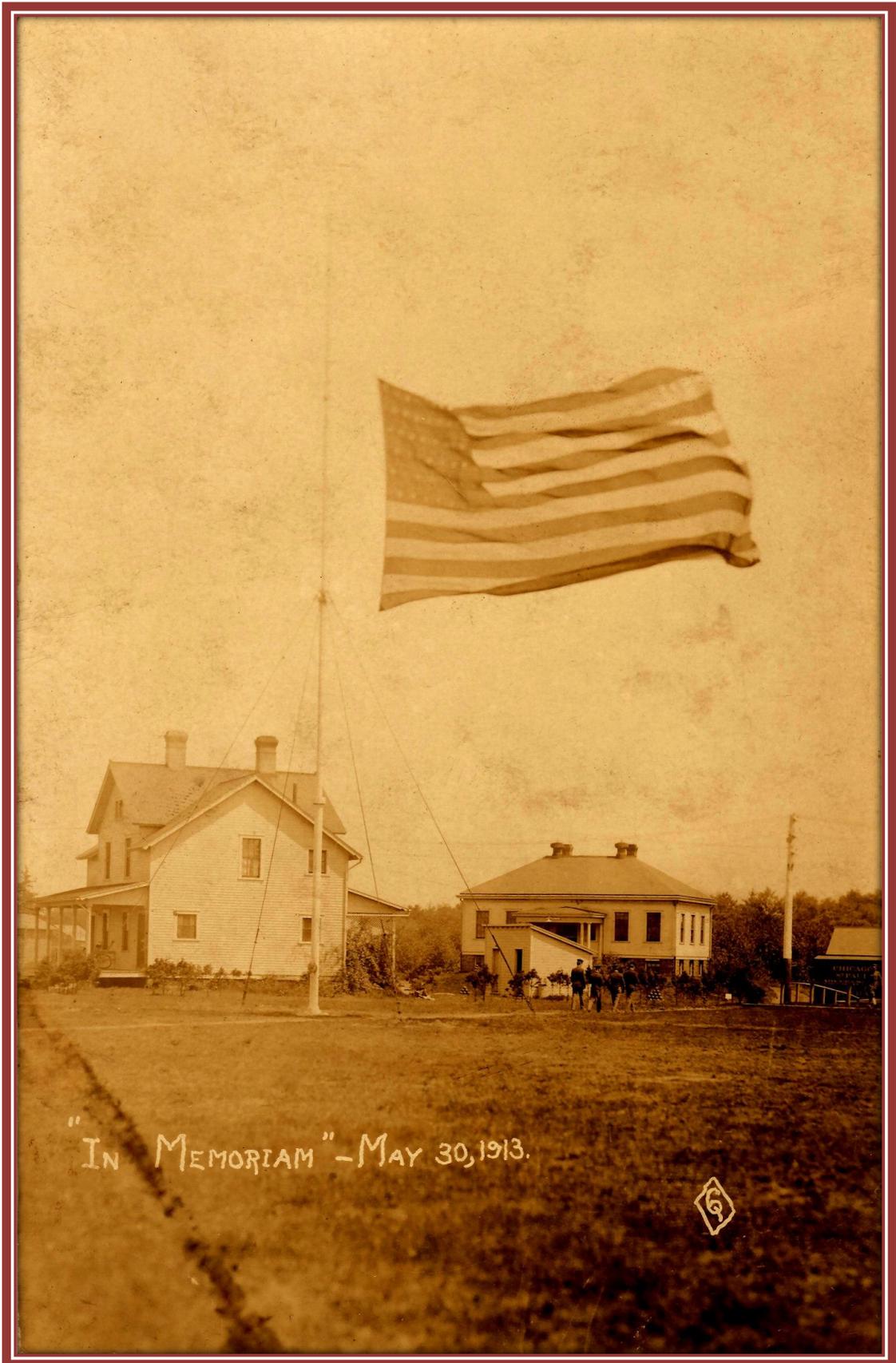
Goddard real photo postcard of the Columbia River Jetty looking west from Fort Stevens, Oregon, circa 1913. Postally unused.



Goddard real photo postcard of the South Fork Switchboard at Fort Stevens, Oregon, circa 1913. Postally unused.



Reverse side of a Goddard real photo postcard of the South Fork Switchboard at Fort Stevens, Oregon, circa 1913. Postally unused.



Goddard real photo postcard of Fort Stevens, Oregon, on Memorial Day, May 30, 1913. Postally unused.

# *The Soldier Photographer*

C. S. GODDARD

*Portraits, Views, Commercial Work*

*Expert Kodak Finishing*

*Fort Stevens--34th Company*

*Hammond opposite Post Office*

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Advertisement for C.S. Goddard, The Soldier Photographer at Hammond, Oregon from a locally published roster of Coast Artillery troops in the Pacific Northwest from 1914.

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