

WHERE THE DIFFERENCE BEGINS...

1883 - 1914

“The Marines have landed, situation well in hand.”
-Richard Harding Davis



CHAPTER | ONE

FORGED THROUGH VICTORY

PRIZE MONEY! PRIZE MONEY!
WHO WANTS A CHANCE?

Wanted for the U. S. Marine Corps
ABLE-BODIED, SOBER, INTELLIGENT MEN,

Between the ages of 18 and 35 years not less than five feet four and a half inches high, and of good character. Soldiers serving in this Corps perform duty at Navy Yards, and on board Vessels of War on Foreign Stations. Term of Service four years. Minors will be enlisted with the consent of their Parents or Guardians.

	PAY PER MONTH	PAY PER YEAR	PAY FOR 4 YEARS
ORDERLY SERGEANT,	\$20	\$240	\$960
SERGEANTS,	17	204	816
CORPORALS,	13	156	624
MUSICIANS,	12	144	576
PRIVATES,	13	156	624

In addition to the above pay, each Soldier receives ample supply of Clothing, and one ration per day, besides medical attendance during sickness, and \$100 Bounty when discharged; also, with the chances of **PRIZE MONEY.**

A Soldier who may re-enlist at the expiration of his term of service, will receive \$2 per month in addition to his former pay.

A Premium of \$2 will be paid immediately to any person bringing an accepted recruit. Apply at the **OFFICE, No. 18 BOWERY,** or at the **MARINE BARRACKS, FLUSHING AVENUE, BROOKLYN.**
A. GARLAND, Maj. Command'

BARNES & GARDNER, Printers, Printing House Square, opposite City Hall, N. Y.

Purchased in 1715 by Alexander Parris, Parris Island overlooks Port Royal Sound, one of the best deep-water harbors along the eastern seaboard.

Parris Island’s modern military era began early in the Civil War. In 1861, Union forces captured the harbor for use as headquarters for the Navy’s South Atlantic Blockading Squadron and the Army’s Department of the South. The area’s strategic location allowed federal forces to strike at the Confederacy, and greatly contributed to final Union victory.

After the Civil War, a major commercial port developed. The port, together with a new railway connecting Port Royal and inland coal fields, enticed the Navy to establish a coaling station. Throughout the 1870s ships of the Atlantic Fleet were regularly anchored in the harbor.

An act of Congress, approved 7 August 1882, authorized the establishment and construction of a coaling dock and naval store house at Port Royal Harbor, SC, and appropriated \$20,000 for that purpose. A board of naval officers appointed by the Secretary of the Navy selected Parris Island as the site.

By 1891, construction was in progress on a dry dock, employing a large number of laborers, “Very vicious characters from the cities in the vicinity,” to protect the interests of the government, a Marine guard of one sergeant, two corporals, and ten privates was assigned to Port Royal. It was thus, that the first Marine post at Parris Island came into being on 26 June 1891.



#6

Pf Royal 70 ft diam 8/29/95 #6
Per Capt. [unclear]

The island's potential drew South Carolina politicians to successfully lobby for a permanent military installation. A portion of Parris Island was purchased in 1881 for a naval station. (Aerial view pictured here.) By 1891 Marines were assigned here, and in 1915 the island was permanently turned over to the Marine Corps.

NAVAL
STATION
-
PORT
ROYAL

1891

First Marine detachment assigned to Parris Island. The Marines are living in tents at this time.

1892

Marines move into a coal storage shed.



USS Indiana 1896



Parris Island Marine officer candidates circa, 1909.

1893

Wooden barracks constructed.

1896

Detachment formally designated "Marine Barracks, U. S. Naval Station, Port Royal, South Carolina."

1909

The Corps transfers an officers' school to Parris Island.

1911

A recruit depot is established. The Navy also opens a disciplinary barracks, which is operated by Marines.



circa 1900



circa 1910



circa 1900



circa 1900

Port Royal



Pt Royal, Md
Per Capt Rockwell USN.

On 29 August 1895, the 2,800 ton monitor *Amphitrite* became the first ship to enter the dock. As a test, the ship initially entered bow first, then came in a second time by the stern.



Overview of Quarters one (left) and Dry Dock construction, circa 1895.



Officer Training

On 1 January 1909, the Marine Officers School was first established at the U.S. Naval Station, Port Royal, South Carolina. Lieutenant Colonel Eli K. Cole (pictured right) arrived to take command from First Lieutenant Clarence L.A. Ingate, who was currently acting as the existing detachment commander for the Marine Barracks in place. Organized for the purpose of indoctrinating newly commissioned officers, the school graduated 27 Marine officers that December and 16 more in December 1910.

Many notable and historic Marines attended the Marine Officers School during this time, to include, Alexander Archer Vandegrift, who was later awarded the medal of honor, became the first Marine 4-star general and eventually served as the 18th Commandant of the Marine Corps; Alfred Austell Cunningham, who attained the rank of lieutenant colonel, became the first Marine Corps aviator and the first Director, Marine Corps Aviation; and Lieutenant General Roy Geiger, who, during World War II, became the first Marine to lead a field Army into battle.

On 1 June 1911, the recruit depot began operations, processing newly enlisted recruits on a three-company basis, as a subordinate activity of the Marine Officers School currently in place. Shortly thereafter, the Navy Department decided to use its property at Port Royal for a disciplinary installation. On 28 August 1911, by General Order No. 122, it changed the designation of the U. S. Naval Station, Port Royal, to the U. S. Naval Disciplinary Barracks, Port Royal, South Carolina. Two days later the Marine Corps turned over its buildings there to the Navy and transferred its activities. The Marine Officers School, including two companies of the recruit depot, went to Norfolk; the remaining company of recruits continued training at Charleston, where a one-company recruit depot was operated from this time until June 1912.

Later in October of 1915, the recruit depot operations were moved from the Marine Officers School at Norfolk, back to Port Royal, where, on 25 October 1915, it was established as Marine Barracks, Port Royal, South Carolina. The Marine Officers School remained in place at Norfolk, Virginia, until July of 1917, when it was later consolidated and relocated to Quantico, Virginia, where it remains today.



Initial Class, circa 1909

