



W. Marshall Taylor Jr., Acting Director

*Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment*

February 19, 2015

Mr. Raymond Livermore  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Wilmington District  
69 Darlington Ave  
Wilmington, NC 28403

Dear Mr. Livermore:

Re: Camp Sevier and Camp Wetherill  
Greenville County, South Carolina

Dear Mr. Livermore:

On February 13, 2015, we visited the Greenville County Hughes Main Library (SC Room) to conduct a file search on Camp Sevier aka Fort Sevier I04SC0028. According to FUDS PIRS, no location or file information was available during the Corps' historical records search; therefore the site was categorically excluded. Based on our records search, Camp Sevier was an over 1,900 acre World War I training facility located around Taylors, SC. Attached are copies of historical maps and miscellaneous documentation. The American Legion post 3 in Greenville, SC has a museum dedicated to historical military training in Greenville, SC. It appears that other non-contiguous ranges in the upstate area such as the Paris Mountain Range may be associated with Camp Sevier and Camp Wadsworth in Spartanburg, SC. This information also led us to investigate another Greenville historical military training facility, Camp Wetherill. Additional documentation is available through the Greenville Historical Society and the Upstate Museum.

We are hoping the Corps can use resources to gain further information to see if these sites and any affiliated ranges qualify for further investigation. Thank you for allowing the Department to be involved in the CERCLA site investigation process. If you need any additional information or have questions, feel free to contact Kent at (803)898-0255.

Sincerely,

Susan Byrd  
FUDS Project Manager  
Bureau of Land and Waste Management

Kent Krieg  
DoD Corrective Action Section  
Bureau of Land and Waste Management

Cc Stacey French  
File #21085



Paris Mountain State Park

**LEGEND**

- Woods or wooded areas
- US property line (Apr. 1918)
- Brigade headquarters
- Buildings

SCALE · 1:40,000



### CAMP SEVIER

Approximately six miles from Greenville, SC, located at the foot of the Blue Ridge on elevated plain three miles SE of Paris Mountain, in Greenville County



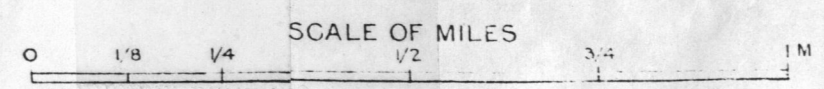
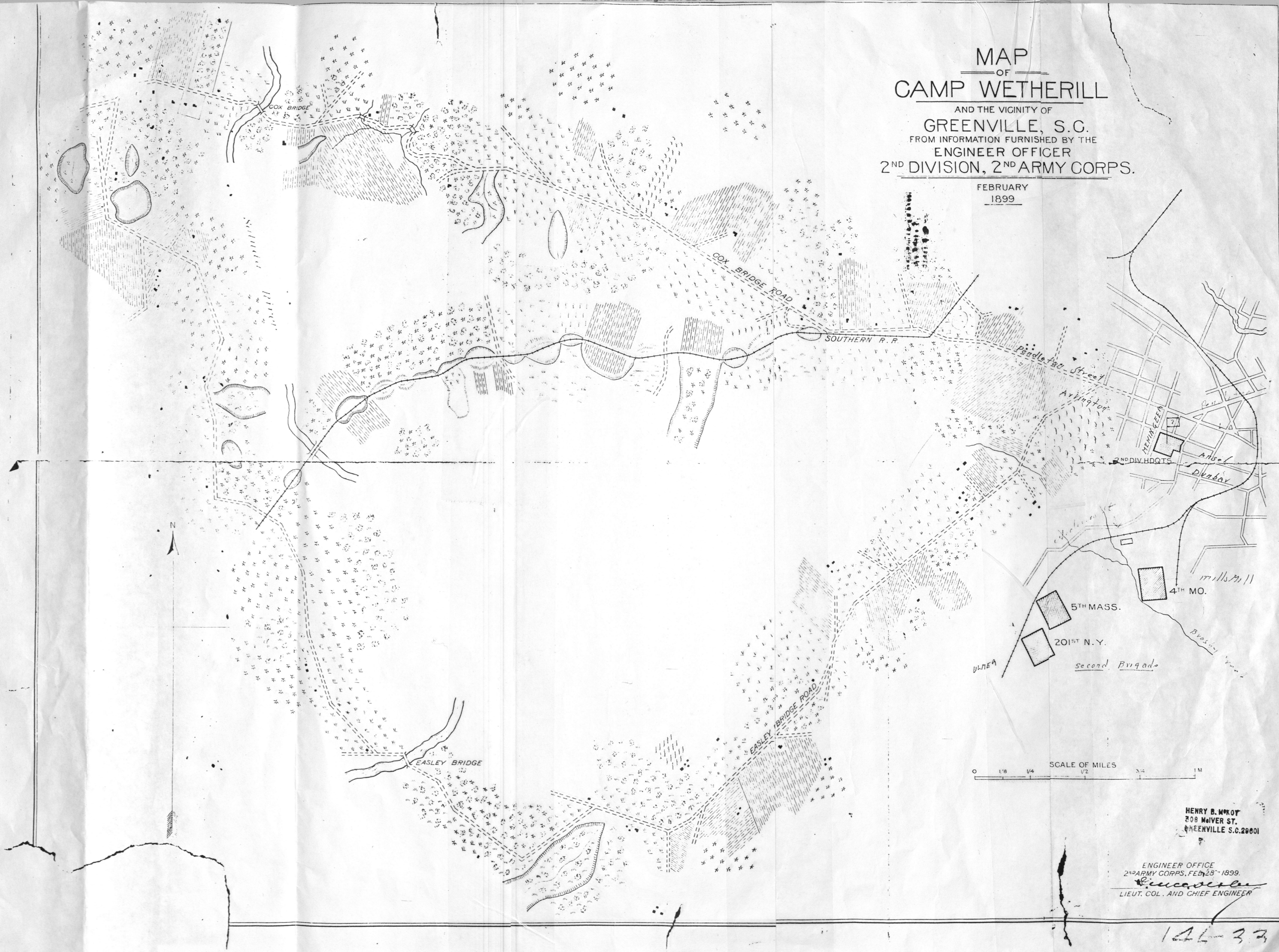
The total camp area covered approx. 1,900 acres - Elevation at Base Hospital 1,200 feet above sea level

Compiled from photostatic reproduction of drawing by 105th Engrs. and 306th Engrs. dated June 1918

# MAP OF CAMP WETHERILL

AND THE VICINITY OF  
GREENVILLE, S.C.  
FROM INFORMATION FURNISHED BY THE  
ENGINEER OFFICER  
2<sup>ND</sup> DIVISION, 2<sup>ND</sup> ARMY CORPS.

FEBRUARY  
1899



HENRY B. MCKAY  
308 MAVER ST.  
GREENVILLE S.C. 20601

ENGINEER OFFICE  
2<sup>ND</sup> ARMY CORPS, FEB 28<sup>TH</sup> 1899.  
*Henry B. McKay*  
LIEUT. COL. AND CHIEF ENGINEER

146-33



SITE FOR ARTY RANGE - 27th DIVISION, U.S.A.  
 GREENVILLE & SPARTANBURG COUNTIES, S.C.

Scale 1" = 1/3 Mile

1" = 1/3 MILE (1760')

- ② BATTERY FIRING POSITIONS
- ② OBSERVING POSTS
- ALL OTHER CHARACTERS SHOWN REPRESENT TARGETS.

SC  
 Map  
 912.7572  
 SC  
 Greenville  
 1915-  
 1918

30th DIVISION FOR ARTILLERY  
 © CLEVELAND, MILL.

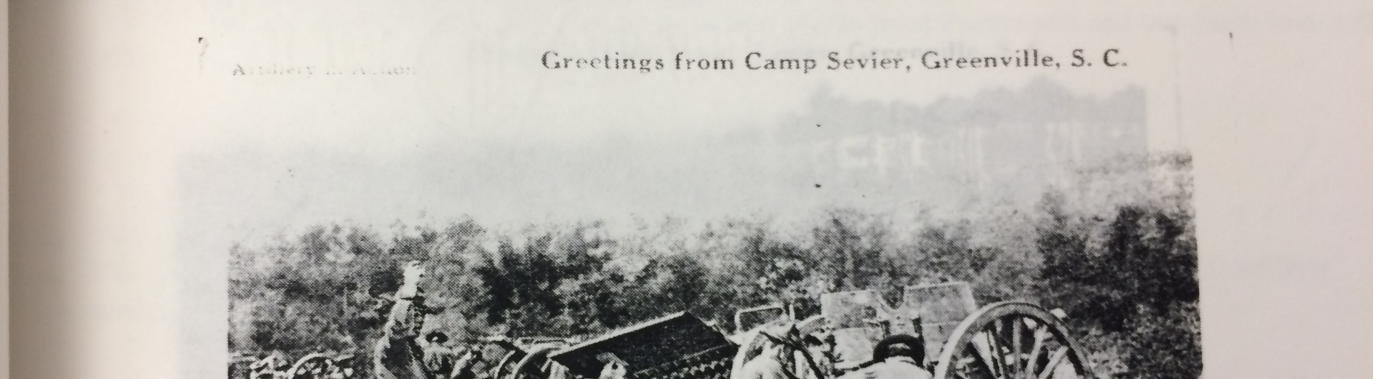
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*Handwritten notes and signatures:*  
 [Illegible scribbles and signatures]

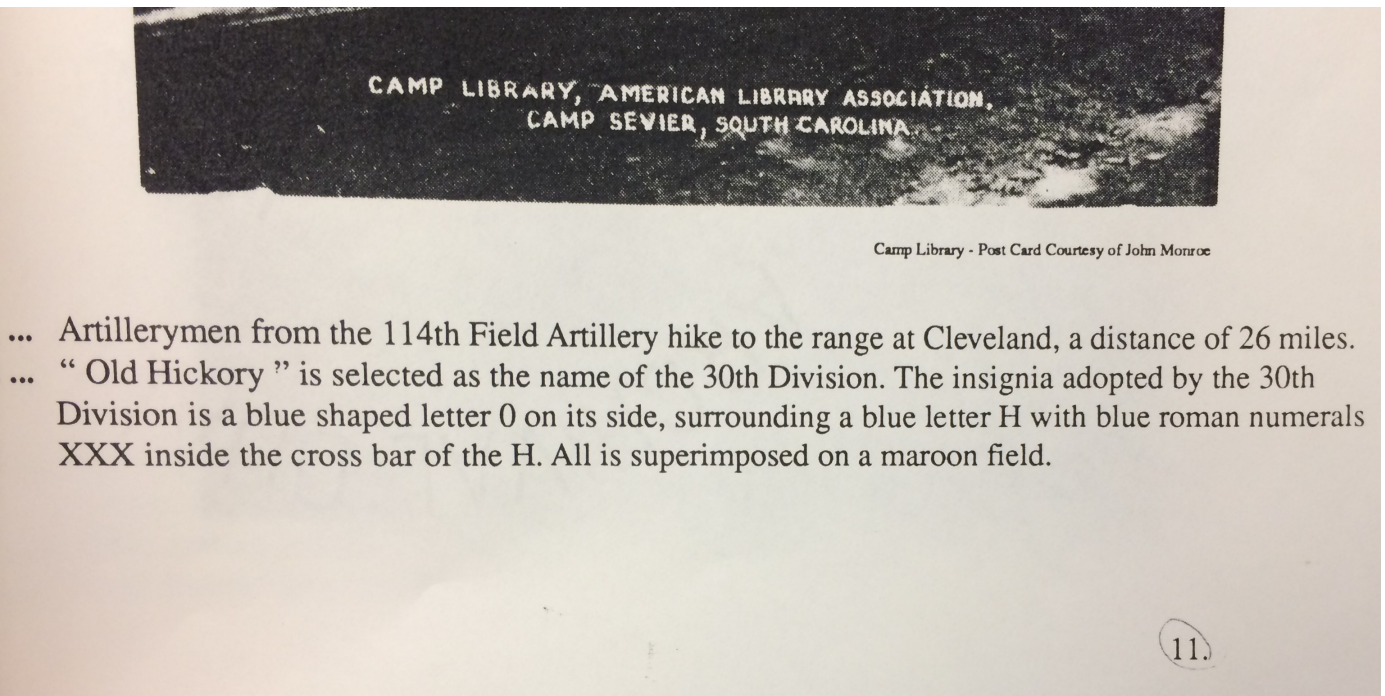
Pictures from a Camp Sevier reference outlining the timeline of events in one of the standing folders about Camp Sevier in the Greenville County Library's SC Room.

### Camp Sevier Artillery Range

- ΓH. ... Major General Clarence P. Townsley temporarily assumes command of the 30th Division.
- ΓH. ... The first men other than South Carolina, North Carolina and Tennessee arrive for training at Camp Sevier. Draftees from Iowa, Minnesota, Indiana, Illinois, North and South Dakota began to break the all Southern Division.
- ΓH. ... 8,000 acres are acquired near Cleveland Mills for an artillery range.



Reference to 8,000 acres being acquired near Cleveland Mills for an artillery range



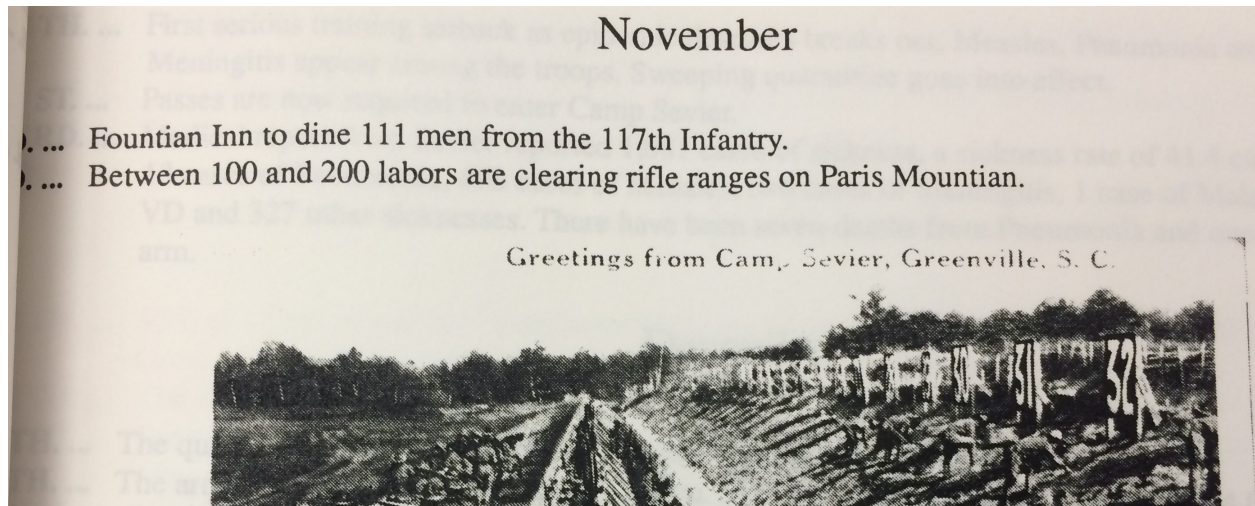
Camp Library - Post Card Courtesy of John Monroe

- ... Artillerymen from the 114th Field Artillery hike to the range at Cleveland, a distance of 26 miles.
- ... "Old Hickory" is selected as the name of the 30th Division. The insignia adopted by the 30th Division is a blue shaped letter O on its side, surrounding a blue letter H with blue roman numerals XXX inside the cross bar of the H. All is superimposed on a maroon field.

Reference to the Cleveland artillery range being 26 miles from Camp Sevier and its active use

Pictures from a Camp Sevier reference outlining the timeline of events in one of the standing folders about Camp Sevier in the Greenville County Library's SC Room.

Camp Sevier - Paris Mountain Rifle Ranges



Reference to rifle range clearing on Paris Mountain

Pictures from a packet in one of the standing folders about Camp Wadsworth (may have been part of Camp Sevier folder) in the Greenville County Library's SC Room.

Camp Wadsworth—Artillery Field



*Freed after 18-months detention, emissaries of the Industrial Workers of the World wait*

*morosely for a ride out of town. They had tried to stir up laborers at Camp Wadsworth.*

blacks," and that their only salvation lay in escape before the camp's completion. Not satisfied with the exodus of many Negro workers, these agitators boasted that they planned to poison the municipal water supply. This last threat led to the I.W.W.'s speedy ejection from the county and the state. Despite these obstructions, building operations continued apace. In all, 915 buildings were constructed, as well as 10 large storehouses and a hospital unit of 65 buildings. A remount station and six large Y.M.C.A. buildings were also completed.

The camp's design was fairly simple. It was constructed in rectangles of 416 tents each, and plots of land approximately 1,000 by 750 feet in size were set aside for each regiment. The building cost until December 1917 was more than doubled by the summer of 1919.

An adequate artillery and rifle range was a necessary adjunct for a camp the size of Wadsworth. Consequently, work began in locating and establishing such a range, even before the heavy construction was pushed forward at the campsite. As early as July 31, Mayor Floyd and Col. Kilpatrick could be found scouting the territory between Sandy Plain and

Columbus, North Carolina, for a suitable spot. They settled on Glassy Rock, a site three miles from Landrum, South Carolina. This tract extended over a mountainous area seven miles long and from two to three miles wide along the outlying ridges of Hogback and Glassy mountains. Its topography was adapted to all types of artillery practice, and the mountain range served as a necessary backdrop for errant projectiles.

On Aug. 23, 1917, Maj. Gen. John Francis O'Ryan assumed command at Camp Wadsworth. In private life O'Ryan had been a lawyer, and now he enjoyed the distinction of being the youngest major general in the U.S. Army. He presented a demeanor of stern military aloofness while simultaneously maintaining a personal attachment with his men. O'Ryan's record on the Mexican Border rapidly spread through the city, and his fight there against prostitution, drunkenness and other vices allayed the fears of many citizens.

The men of the 27th Division executed their farewell parade before two million New Yorkers on August 30. Just prior to the parade O'Ryan ordered his 25,000 troops to "fix bayonets," and as this massive force

Reference to Camp Wadsworth artillery field at Glassy Rock, 3 miles from Landrum, SC

Pictures from a packet in one of the standing folders about Camp Wadsworth (may have been part of Camp Sevier folder) in the Greenville County Library's SC Room.

As a result, the less  
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... and everyone valiantly strove to  
add a significant measure to the festivities.

The New Year brought an intensification of the military training program at Camp Wadsworth. From dawn until dusk soldiers found themselves practicing everything from scaling enemy parapets to crawling under barbed wire entanglements. They were taught the benefits of natural and artificial camouflage in the surrounding countryside and they had to prove their effectiveness under live fire. But the truly dreaded segment of the training program was the course in chemical gas warfare. One veteran of a simulated gas attack recounted to his family:

We were "gassed" this afternoon. We passed through the gas chamber equipped, of course, with masks. Chlorine and lachrimatory gas were used. Chlorine is terrible stuff. It chokes to death, breaks down the tissues of the lungs, also the blood-vessels, and if the victim recovers, consumption generally sets in . . . .

The irrespressible Private Bill of the Gas Attack's "Dere Mabel" series described his experiences in more prosaic language:

They have been larnin us a lot about gas attacks lately.

Reference to Camp Wadsworth chemical warfare (World War I) training of chlorine and lachrymatory gas



Additional suggested reference for Camp Sevier, Camp Wetherill, and Camp Wadsworth  
- Not visited by SCDHEC due to weekend hours of operations

americanlegionmuseum.weebly.com

## American Legion Post 3 Cecil B. Buchanan War Museum

[Home Page](#)

[Directions](#)

[Displays and Artifacts](#)



This American Legion War Museum contains histories of military bases both local and abroad, exhibits of actual uniforms from local units, WWII artifacts and weaponry, military awards, decorations and souvenirs from foreign campaigns. Displays cover the Revolutionary War, Civil War, Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, Korean, Vietnam and Persian Gulf Wars.

The museum is dedicated in honor of and was named for Cecil B. Buchanan on June 23, 2013. His vision and hard work provided the underpinnings and impetus for the museum.

Special tours after regular hours for school groups and civic groups are available. Contact the Museum Director to schedule a time.

The museum is now the home of the wonderful model collection of John Willmott, donated by Jay Willmott.

Open Saturday 10am-5pm and Sunday 1pm-5pm.

Admission is free. Donations accepted.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Cecil B. Buchanan    Founder and Director Emeritus  
Peter Butchart     Director     864-884-0368  
Carroll Kelly       Assistant Director  
Bob Dicey           Curator     864-630-9108