



WOMPATUCK NEWS

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Friends of Wompatuck State Park

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Bare Cove Park dock house exhibit center.



Park ranger Scott McMillan standing next to exhibit area in the dock house.

Hingham Naval Ammunition Depot and Annex History on View at Bare Cove Park

By Jim Rose, FOW News Editor and Historian

Bare Cove Park in Hingham will open an exhibit center at the dock house on the Back River this summer. The center will display historical memorabilia related to the former Hingham Naval Ammunition Depot and the Cohasset Annex.

"The exhibit center was a long time in coming," said Bare Cove Park ranger Scott McMillan. "Jim Rose and myself have dedicated many hours to make our dream come true. We'll show items such as ordnance, military uniforms, flags, Navy cookware, detonators, powder cans, old bottles, Navy photos...you name it. These are history pieces of the former depot that we've found here and at the Annex. Plus, there are items donated by former workers and military personnel."

The dock house was once a Navy dock office for the loading and unloading of ammunition. It functioned

from the early 1950s to the time the depot closed in 1962.

After the Navy departed, the building was mainly used for storage by the town of Hingham. McMillan spent the last several years cleaning and painting the building. Lighting was installed this spring.

I first thought of an exhibit center in 2001. It was then that I bumped into Wompatuck State Park director Steve Gammon while on a hike at the park. He put me in touch with the late Leo Parenti who once worked at the Annex and park.

With his help I started the ammunition depot reunions in 2002. It was there that I met the former ordnance workers who urged me to open a museum or exhibit center.

Several years later while touring Bare Cove Park, I met ranger Scott McMillan. We talked about the possi-

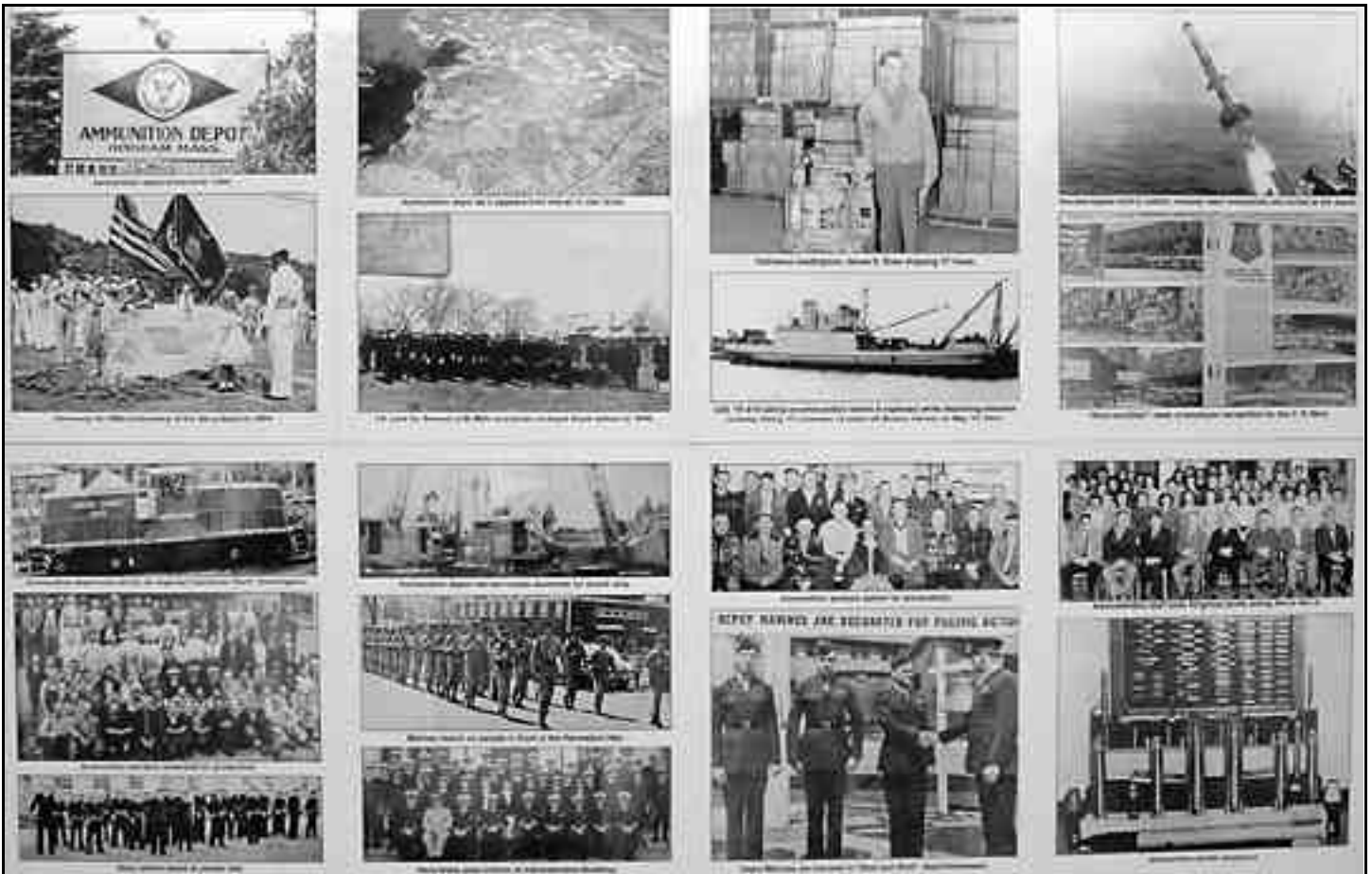
bility of a place to display items that we accrued over the years...found, donated and handed down from our dads. McMillan's father was stationed at the ammunition depot as a marine during World War II. My father was an Ordnance Leadingman at the Annex from 1941 to 1962.

We looked at a variety of locations for the exhibit center. From the powder test building and gate house office to the railway museum's back room and the fire museum's front room... the quest was not easy. The journey had it's frustrations. Finally, McMillan settled on the dock house as the best location.

The hours are 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The dates are July 18 and 24, August 15, September 19, and October 17. Please come over and enjoy a trip into our park's history. It's well worth it! ■

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Hingham Ammunition Depot and Annex History on View at Bare Cove Park (cont. from page one)



Hingham Naval Ammunition Depot history photos on display at dock house exhibit center .

MEMORABILIA ON DISPLAY

AT THE GREEN DOCK HOUSE
10:00AM – 2:00PM

SUNDAY JULY 18TH

SATURDAY, JULY 24TH

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15TH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17TH



Bare Cove Park Committee and
The Friends of Bare Cove Park



Order of events produced by The Friends of Bare Cove Park. Military honor guard and former workers are featured on July 24.