

ABOUT US

Mission Statement: To preserve the legacy of the Montford Point Marines, to collect, record, preserve and display, in a museum setting for the public education and viewing, the largest collection of photographs, documents, papers, and artifacts, forever capturing the unique history of African American Marines from 1942 to 1949.

EXHIBITS



SOUVENIR SHOP



An Experience
You Won't
Want to Miss



HOURS OF OPERATION

Tuesday-Thursday 10:00 - 5:00

2nd and 4th Saturday 10:00 -3:00

Group Tours by request.

The museum is located on Camp Johnson and requires base access or you must gain access to the base through the Wilson Gate visitors center. Please call to ensure you meet the base requirements before arriving at the gate.

VISITOR CENTER

The Camp Lejeune Visitor Center is located in Bldg. TT-13 adjacent the Wilson Boulevard Gate, just off N.C. Highway 24. The visitor center processes all visitors. Those visitors who have not been pre-vetted can expect longer wait times at the visitor center. Visitors can also arrange for their sponsor to meet them at the visitor center parking lot to be escorted onto the installation under the Trusted Traveler Program.

The visitor center is open Monday through Friday: 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and closed on weekends and holidays.

Phone: (910) 451-7734

Additional numbers: (910) 450-0281 / 0282 / 0283 / 0284 / 0286 / 0287 / 0288

Email: lejeunevisitorcenter@usmc.mil

CONTACT US

For additional information
Museumdirector@montfordpointmarines.org
or visit
<https://montfordpointmarines.org/Museum>

NMPMA® is a registered trademark with the United States Patent and Trademark Office and is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit veterans organization



NATIONAL MONTFORD POINT MARINE ASSOCIATION, INC.



MUSEUM

Montford Point

How Montford Point Was Established

During the colonial period, several African Americans served as Marines. After the U.S. Marine Corps was established in 1798, African Americans were no longer allowed to serve in its ranks.

In 1940, northern African Americans supported President Franklin D. Roosevelt to help him to be reelected to a third term in hopes that he would put forward advances for blacks in the segregated armed services. During the spring of 1941, African American leaders threatened to march on Washington, D.C. with a 100,000-man march if President Roosevelt did not keep his promises to the black community.



On June 1, 1942, the Marine Corps began enlisting 1,000 African Americans a month, eventually totaling 20,000 by 1949. The men went for training at a segregated training camp, at Camp Montford Point, Jacksonville, NC. In 1948, after executive order 9981 was signed by President Harry S. Truman, the Marine Corps was desegregated, and all Marines went to boot camp at either San Diego, California or Parris Island, South Carolina.

Montford Point Marines Museum
Building M101, Camp Johnson
Marine Corps Base
P.O. Box 7222 • Jacksonville, NC 28541
Tel. (910) 554-0808
www.montfordpointmarines.org



The Marines of Montford Point



Montford Point, and the men who trained here, brought the American people and the U.S. Marine Corps into a new era. During the 1940's their traveled road was not paved, but with hard work and dedication, it was widened and made secure by the contributions of a new breed of Marines who were honed at Montford Point.

In addition to our primary mission, another role of the museum is to display memories of the past and show how these experiences influenced events of today. We hope you will help the National Montford Point Marines Museum in our goal to show today's public this significant part of history and what it means to the next generation.

Location

The National Montford Point Marines Museum is housed in Building M101, located one-mile SE of Hwy 24 East on Montford Landing Road, Marine Corps Base Camp Gilbert H. Johnson, Jacksonville, NC. Visitors to the museum can expect to see artifacts, documents, photographs and personal papers that give insight into the demanding training completed by the first African Americans who earned the title United States Marine.

Acquisition

The acquisition committee of the National Montford Point Marines Museum is currently seeking material for display. This phase of the program is to seek specific material from WWII era. Items include but are not limited to: photographs, diaries, personal and military objects, and other material that reflects the lives, actions, and memories of original Montford Point Marines. Only items that spanned the specific years of 1942-1949 are needed for this phase.

There are two ways to contribute material to the National Montford Point Marines Museum:

(1) As a permanent gift or (2) On a short or long-term loan.

In all cases material will be handled with care, protection, and above all else with respect.

Items received during these acquisition drives will be used by the museum and will be made available to historians, researchers, and the general public for the advancement of historical preservation and awareness.

National Montford Point Marine Association

Members of the association and those working at the museum have dedicated themselves to preserving the legacy left by the Montford Point Marines and presenting to the public a vital aspect of U.S. Marine Corps history. Montford Point was the only Marine Corps boot camp for African Americans during WWII.

The men who entered through its main gate graduated to become Marines who went on to serve their Corps and country with pride, courage, and dedication. Many of the Marines who traveled through this groundbreaking period of American and Marine Corps history have contributed their life successes to the pain, sacrifices, and rewards that were earned at Montford Point.

