

From: Steele, Jim <jim.steele@dncr.nc.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, September 16, 2025 10:23 AM

To: Lecount, Charles <charles.lecount@dncr.nc.gov>; Backstrom, Parker <parker.backstrom@dncr.nc.gov>

Cc: Lanier, Michelle <michelle.lanier@dncr.nc.gov>; Bockert, Jeff <jeff.bockert@dncr.nc.gov>

Subject: RE: [External] Plaques

Good morning Parker,

All four of these plaques represent major financial gifts to the Friends of Fort Fisher, who in turn awarded the money raised by their capital campaign to the Fort Fisher project. The capital campaign presented donors with naming opportunities for various spaces in the new visitor center. These spaces included our rotating exhibits gallery, activity hall, theater, and gift shop. The permanent exhibit gallery plus a couple other spaces have yet to be named.

Site and division staff, plus Friends leadership, have worked through the details of the plaques internally and with the donors. Historic sites PIO Terra Schramm has approved the plaques. Our grants person Kimberly Kandros has also been involved with this, particularly with the PNC Foundation donation and getting the language to their satisfaction.

Donors honored on the plaques are sponsoring or naming spaces. For instance, George Rountree took the opportunity to put his name on the Activity Hall, and it cost him I believe \$200,000 donated to the Friends of FF. Similarly, other people and organizations sponsored/named other spaces. The Friends gave the capital campaign funds to the state to push the Fort Fisher capital project across the line into construction.

All plaques are 9x12 inches, and the size of the fonts will be determined by the number of characters and available space. We will be as consistent as possible. We went into this just naturally thinking bronze plaques. But after thinking about the appearance of bronze against our gray and black color schemes, we decided aluminum would look better. The plaques will be installed above entrances or beside them, whichever works with the available space and has nice aesthetics.

Thanks so much for your help with this. I am out the next couple days but if you have questions feel free to call my cell 910-859-0146. Have a great day!

Jim Steele

Manager, Fort Fisher State Historic Site

Division of State Historic Sites and Properties

North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources

910-251-7341

jim.steele@dncr.nc.gov

1610 S. Fort Fisher Blvd.

Kure Beach, NC 28449

12"

PNC Foundation Gallery

9"

12"

Orientation Theatre

9"

Sponsored by

**Michael McCarley
and
Nancy Langevin**

12"

Activity Hall

Sponsored by

George and Sylvia Rountree

9"

12"

Gift Shop

Sponsored by

Chemserve Terminal

9"