Archaeological (Phase I) Testing of Ft. Hatch (8DU21544), Jacksonville, Florida

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A Jacksonville Based Non-Profit Company

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ABSTRACT

During the Summer and Fall of 2013, the Cowford Archaeological Research Society (CARS) conducted shovel testing in three empty grass covered lots belonging to Lee & Cates Glass in downtown Jacksonville, Florida. The area is near the suspected location of Ft. (John P.) Hatch. Ft. Hatch was built by Union forces in 1864, during the last days of the Civil War, to protect the walled and contested town of Jacksonville. The goal of the project was to confirm the presence of Ft. Hatch, or at least, Civil War activity in the area. The lots are currently used as parking areas for local businesses. Our thanks go to Mr. Tom Lee of Lee & Cates Glass for allowing access to the property.

Cultural items related to the Civil War were found in several units, primarily in one of the three lots, confirming war activity. An abundance of more modern, assorted debris was encountered in the upper portions of most units; the result of rebuilding and occupation after the Civil War. Once the upper levels were penetrated, the Civil War era material appeared to be in place and undisturbed. The site was designated by the state as Archaeological Resource #8DU21544. CARS recommends further work to more clearly define activity areas.

The Field Director, Dean M. Sais, was assisted in the field and lab by Stirling Worden, Young Smith and several volunteers. Field photography is courtesy of Lisbeth Hammock. Elizabeth Blacker completed artifact photography and assisted with artifact research. Work was supervised by George R. Burns. All work conducted by CARS was on a volunteer basis.

George R. Burns, Principal Investigator Cowford Archaeological Research Society Jacksonville, Florida



INTRODUCTION

Between July and November, 2013, members of the Cowford Archaeological Research Society, Inc. a 501(c)(3) organization, conducted limited archaeological (Phase I) testing on three empty lots in the La Villa area of downtown Jacksonville, Florida. The lots are owned by Tom Lee of Lee & Cates Glass, who graciously allowed us to test for historic land use. More specifically, CARS was interested in finding evidence of Ft. Hatch, a gun emplacement erected and manned by the Union army in 1864, during the last days of the Civil War to protect the walled city of Jacksonville from once again falling into Confederate hands. Coincidentally, testing began on July 3, the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. Testing ended on November 11, about a week before the 150th anniversary of the Gettysburg Address.

The area is bounded by W. Adams Street on the north, Houston Street on the south, N. Jefferson Street on the east and N. Davis Street on the west. The project was led by Field Director Dean M. Sais and overseen by George R. Burns, M.A., and Principal Investigator. Crew Chiefs included Stirling Worden and Young Smith.

Initial visual investigation of the lots revealed the presence of historic brick and glass thinly and randomly scattered on the surface. A datum point was designated for each lot and transect lines were flagged in 10 meter intervals across the lots. Test pit locations were dug at 10 meter intervals along transects. As testing proceeded and results were returned, the primary area of investigation became a concentrated section in Area A, the lot at the corner of N. Davis Street and W. Adams Street. Areas surrounding more prolific test pits were tested further while unproductive areas were abandoned.

RECORDS SEARCH AND CULTURAL HISTORY

The project area is located in the La Villa section of Jacksonville, Florida, in Section 40 of T. 2S., R. 26E. An August 12, 2013 search of the Florida Master Site File revealed a total of 339 standing structures, six archaeological sites, four bridges, four cemeteries and four resource groups recorded within this section. The standing structure sites are primarily frame or masonry buildings constructed for commercial or residential purposes between the early 1900s and 1950.

The greater Jacksonville area has been occupied for thousands of years, as early as 2500 BC by the Timucua & Seminole Indians. The earliest documented name of a settlement in the Jacksonville area was the Timucuan village of Ossachite, as noted on Spanish maps (Davis 1925:24). Once cattle were introduced to the area, the Timucuans referred to the narrow spot in the river as Wacca Pilatka, meaning "a place where the cows cross". For the same reason, the English referred to the area as Cow Ford, a name that followed Jacksonville well into its formative period (Davis 1925:25). The first permanent settlement in the Jacksonville area, dating to 1791, was also known as Cow Ford. At a narrow point of the river near the end of present day Liberty Street, cattle could be walked at low tide to the center of the river and from there would swim to the other side (Jacksonvillestory.com, Wikipedia 2013a).

The first European contact with north Florida came in 1562 when Jean Ribault landed and erected a stone monument to claim the area in the name of France. Two years later, Rene de Laudonniere arrived and established Ft. Caroline near the mouth of the St. Johns River. This French fort would be taken over by the Spanish, led by Menendez, in 1565 (Davis 1925: 7-10).

A 20 block area of the town, which would become known as Jacksonville, was first mapped in June, 1822. That same month, 61 residents signed and submitted a petition to the Secretary of State asking that the town be recognized as a port of entry. This petition contained the first recorded mention of the name Jacksonville. It was named in honor of General Andrew Jackson, the former provisional governor of the Florida territory and later, the seventh United States president (Ward 1982: 121-123).

Specific to this project, extrapolating from an 1864 map of Jacksonville (Map 1), the Lee & Cates property is located near Ft. Hatch, a gun emplacement built in 1864 to protect the western gate to the Union controlled, walled city of Jacksonville (McEachen 2013). The actual gate may have been located beneath a present day building on the northwest corner of Houston and Madison Streets. As an important port on the St. Johns River, Jacksonville changed hands four times during the Civil War, finally ending up under Union control. Determined to hold it from once again falling into Confederate hands, the Union army encircled the city with a line of breastworks extending from Hogan's Creek, northwest to McCoy's Creek. In addition to Ft. Hatch (number of guns is unrecorded), other gun emplacements included

Battery Hamilton (nine guns), Fort Foster and Redoubts Sammon (four guns), Fribley (8DU14638) (five guns), McCrea (two guns), Reed (four guns), Battery Myrick (field guns), and Moore (number of guns is unrecorded) (McEachen 2013), Payette 2009). Redoubt Fribley, recorded in 2001, is evidenced solely by subsurface material.

Perhaps the most notable residents of Ft. Hatch, albeit for short time, were members of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry, one of the first units comprised of freed slaves. Massachusetts was the first state to call for black soldiers after the December 1862 passage of the Emancipation Proclamation cleared the way for freed slaves to be recruited into the army. By February 1863 the 54th, which was featured in the movie "Glory" (Neighborhoods 2008), grew to over 1000 men (History.com 2014) and at the time of their 1864 role in the Battle of Olustee, they numbered about 510 (McEachen 2013). The 54th retreated to this area after Union forces were routed at Olustee.

Twenty years after the conclusion of the war, the section of town around Houston Street, known then as Ward Street, began to thrive. With the train station located just a couple of blocks away, industries, bars and hotels opened, catering to the needs of transient travelers and railroad employees. It became Jacksonville's red light district, featuring high-end bordel-los such as the Hotel de Dream and The Court (Neighborhoods 2008, Ward 1982:154).

On May 3, 1901 a fire originated at the Cleveland Fibre Factory, a mattress manufacturer just blocks north of the project area. Sparks from a nearby cook stove landed on moss-drying platforms outside the factory. Moving east through drought dried wooden houses, the fire covered 146 city blocks, destroying over 2300 buildings and left almost 10,000 people home-less in just eight hours (Ward 1982: 175-196).

What followed was an unprecedented period of growth and reconstruction in downtown Jacksonville. Most notable of the post-fire architects was Henry Klutho, who built some of the city's first skyscrapers. These included the 10 story Bisbee Building and the 11 story Florida Life Building (Ward 1982: 187, Wikipedia 2013c). The Bisbee Building was the first concrete reinforced highrise in the southern United States and one of the tallest buildings in Jackson-ville at the time. Both of these buildings remain standing today, two members of the "Laura



Street Trio". Many of his other innovative "Prairie School" style buildings from that period also remain standing and have become part of our heritage.

METHODOLOGY AND FINDINGS

Area A

Of the three lots made available to CARS, the 0.69 acre lot at the SE corner of W. Adams and Davis Streets (Tax Parcel #0747630000) is the nearest open space to the suspected actual location of Ft. Hatch. Overlaying current maps with the rough 1864 map, the fort itself is estimated to lie about a block to the northwest, near the intersection of Lee and W. Adams Streets (Map 2). Overview photos of the lots are included as Appendix A.

The datum point chosen for this lot, designated Area A, was at the SW corner of the property, just inside the sidewalk at the intersection of Houston and N. Davis Streets. A bridge spike driven into the ground at this point was assigned the location of 0 meters (m) (3.28 ft) north, 0 m east. Beginning from this datum and moving north, east to west transects were laid out with 10m spacing and were given numerically ascending numbers proceeding north. Proposed shovel test units were marked with flagging tape along each transect, also with 10 meter spacing. They were given designations in meters east along their given transect. To demonstrate the location a given test pit, a unit 30 m (65 ft) north and east from the datum point was given the designation Tr4 / ST4. Refer to the site map (Map 3) for transect and test pit locations.

Archaeological excavations are generally dug in 10 centimeter (cm) (4 inch) levels. Since the purpose of this shovel testing was to determine the presence or absence of cultural material, this methodology would not be followed. All material was screened through 1/4" hardware mesh to recover or assess the cultural remains. A length of flagging tape was left at the corners of the positive test pits to aid in relocation.

It quickly became apparent that the ground here has been disturbed and mixed from years of construction and rebuilding. The upper disturbed level was designated as Level 1. Natural soil levels were not present in the mostly disturbed upper portion of the test units, thus the arbitrarily assigned Level 1. Depending on individual test pits, this level extended to 50-60 cm (20-24 in) through mottled, dark, yellow-brown sand. Building debris, including burned and unburned brick, concrete rubble, window and bottle glass, square cut nails and many unidentifiable iron fragments with various degrees of rust, as well as other modern trash such as plastic straws and metal fragments was intermixed throughout the disturbed soil in all test pits. A fragment of a wood burning stove leg and a crescent wrench were also recovered. Both were covered with thick rust. A representative sample of the modern debris was kept for analysis. See the Artifact Assemblage Tally Sheet (Table 1) for a detail of artifacts recovered from the three test areas.

While the deposit dates of artifacts recovered from this level could not be determined, the level nonetheless yielded some interesting and datable items. A zinc identification plate bearing the USL logo of the United States Light & Heating Company was found here (Figure 1a). A patent date of October 1, 1912 is visible on the plate. This New York based company manufactured batteries which were used primarily on fire trucks. They boasted their batteries would propel 10 ton trucks to a maximum speed of 36 mph. A USL Battery Flyer may be seen in Appendix B.





Table 1. Artifact Assemblage Collected from Site 8DU21544

	Area A	Area B	Area C	Total	Comments
<u>Glass</u> Fragments Complete Bottles	472 2	18 1	29 1	519 4	A representative sample was collected
<u>Ceramics</u> Plate / Stonewear Fragments Pipe Fragments Marbles	193 3 3	16 - 4	15 - -	224 3 7	A representative sample was collected Glass and Clay
Brick Fragments	22	5	2	29	A representative sample was collected
<u>Metal</u> Nails Fishing Weight Brass Items Tag O-Ring Unidentified	146 - 1 1 156	13 1 - - -	5 - 3 - 5	164 1 3 1 1 162	U.S. Light & Heating ID Plate A representative sample was collected
<u>Buttons</u> Military Everyday	1 15	1 3	- 1	2 19	Union Eagle uniform button Misc. underwear & clothing buttons
<u>Faunal Remains</u> Animal Bones Oyster Shells	31 8	-	- 1	31 9	A representative sample was collected
<u>Misc</u> Rifle Cartridge Canon Vent Pick Clock Gear Oil Lamp Wick Frag Statue Frag Cup Handles Wood Stove Leg Drawer Knob Adj Wrench (Modern?) Coins	1 1 2 2 1 1 1 1	- - - - - - - - - - - -	- - - - - - - 2	1 1 2 2 1 1 3	Rimfire Spencer cartridge Chinese Coin, 1885 & 1917 Pennies
Totals	1067	62	64	1193	



a. US Light and Heating ID plate



b. Chinese Coin

Figure 1. Artifacts from 8DU21544, Area A, Level 1.

Of particular interest was a fragment of a Chinese coin (Figure 1b). One side bears the mark of the Board of Works mint in Peking (Beijing). The other side bears a character identifying it as a coin from the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). Emperor Gao Zong ruled from 1736 to 1795 and this style of coin was cast out of bronze during the early part of his reign (www.primaltrek. com N/D). The diameter of the coins was 26 mm, which is consistent with the coin recovered from the site.

Articulated bricks lying horizontally at a depth of 50 cm (30 in) in Tr7 / ST4 suggested the presence of a floor, footer or wall fall in the area (Appendix A). Based on the depth of the bricks, they may be associated with a building dating to the late 1800s - early 1900s. Cultural material found with the bricks included the ubiquitous brick, metal and glass fragments. To preserve the integrity of the articulated bricks, they were left in place and the unit was terminated just below the bricks.

Items found in many units were various sizes of nails and spikes. Length of the nails ranged from 4.1 cm (1.6 in) to 13 cm (5.1 in), suggesting different scales of building projects in the area. The nails in Area A which contained little enough rust to distinguish any features were all square cut. They appeared to be Type B nails, a style made of iron from about 1810 and popular through most of the 1800s until the advent of steel wire nails (Visser N/D). Except for a crescent wrench, a small O-ring and a leg from probably a wood burning stove, the numerous other metal fragments were too rusted and irregularly shaped to allow identification.

Glass fragments were the most common items found on the site. A few of the fragments were melted. Colors included light green, amber, olive, clear and a few amethyst fragments. Between 1880 and 1920, glass manufacturers added manganese dioxide to make the glass clear by offsetting iron oxide impurities found in sand. Over time, prolonged exposure to UV light turns the glass to amethyst, with the amount of manganese affecting the intensity of the color change. Glass without manganese turned various shades of light green or aqua depending on the amount of iron oxide present. Amber glass was also common during the same period (Ibid, Peterson 2014). Thickness of the walls ranged from thin and consistent to thicker and irregular. As construction methods improved, so did the consistency and quality of the glass. Well made, clear glass bottles became widely available after 1910 with the invention of automatic machinery (Barretto 2014).

Bottle construction methods included Blown in Mold (BIM) with tooled or applied lips and well as two-piece molded. The BIM method places bottle construction to pre-1905 since the two-piece molded method of construction was an innovation of 1905 (Lindsey 2014). Several other bottle neck fragments were found in both levels of Area A test pits. Features of the necks and other fragments are consistent with bottles manufactured between 1860 and 1920. The lone makers mark found on glass at the site was ACB CO, embossed on a broken amber bottle bottom. This is the logo for the Aire and Calder Glass Bottle Company, of Castleford, Yorkshire, England. This company commonly made bottles for Lea & Perrins Worcestershire Sauce. The bottle dates from the late 1850s or early 1860s to about 1877 (Lindsey 2014). The variety of glass types found exemplifies the multi-component nature of the site.

Level 2, extending roughly from 60-100 cm (20-39 in) consisted of consistently finer and lighter, yellow-brown sand. This was the more intact soil and contained Civil War era artifacts. Since the depth of the disturbed Level 1 varied in each test pit, the top surface of Level 2 also varied within each test. In each case, however, Level 2 was identified by the exposure of the finer and lighter sand. Each test pit was dug to a depth of at least 10 cm (4 in) below the

deepest cultural material encountered to ensure the sterility of deeper soil. In several of the units, a 10 cm (4 in) diameter auger was used to reach another 50 cm (20 in) below the lowest encountered cultural material. While the same yellow-brown sand was found to the bottom of the auger tests, all were culturally sterile.

Of the 30 shovel tests dug in Area A, 18 yielded cultural material from the yellow-brown sand of Level 2. The most productive section of Area A lay within a 15 m (50 ft) radius around Tr5 / ST4 and 5. This area is located 20 m (65 ft) south of the subsurface articulated bricks. Based on the amount of cultural material recovered from this area, several more test pits were opened to further define the activity area.

Faunal remains, primarily saw cut animal long bones, probable cow molars and oyster shell, were found here. This suggests that oysters and cattle were a food source for the residents. Both burned and unburned bone was recovered.

Non-diagnostic artifacts from Level 2 included various metal fragments, clay marbles (Figure 2a1), numerous utilitarian ceramic plate and crockery fragments, cup handles, a drawer pull (Figure 2a2), many buttons (wood, glass, bone and metal) (Figure 2b), a small heart locket and a fragment of a uniformed officer ceramic figurine (Figure 2c). While not temporally diagnostic, these items are clues to the lifestyle of the residents. Artifacts for which information could be found included two complete rectangular medicine style bottles and various other bottle necks, an expended, rim-fire Spencer rifle cartridge, a cannon vent pick and a Union Eagle uniform button. Of these artifacts, the Spencer cartridge and the Eagle button identify the site as a Union related component of Ft. Hatch. The vent pick suggests the use of cannons or other heavy artillery and the bottles also represent the period. A total of 1067 artifacts were recovered from Area A.

The medicine bottles recovered from Level 2 (Figure 3a) are both Blown in Mold (BIM) style, with the side seams extending most of the way up the necks. The light green, asymmetrical bottles have tooled lips and small bubbles in the bodies. Several other bottle necks of similar construction were also found. Additionally, an apparent liquor bottle neck made of olive glass, BIM with an applied lip was recovered. At least one bottle bottom had a pontil mark, indicating it was hand blown. Features of these bottles also indicate manufacture between 1860 and 1920 (Lindsey 2014).

Priming wires, or vent picks, were used to puncture the powder bag inside cannon chambers and draw powder up through the vent to allow firing. They were also used to clean powder from the fuse hole (Ballard 2006:84). Picks were made in a variety of styles, including straight smooth shaft and with a pointed, blunt or corkscrew end. Some had wooden handles while on others, the body of the pick continued to form a circular handle (Radcliffe N/D, Walker 2014). The pick from this site is all metal with a circular handle and is twisted along most of its body (Figure 3b). The shaft of the pick measures 26.4 cm (7.25 in) long. Its presence further confirms Civil War activity.

The expended, copper, rim-fire cartridge from a Spencer rifle (Figure 3c) found in Level 2 confirms Union Civil War activity. Shortly after the design for the Spencer repeating rifle was completed in 1860, the rifle was put in use by the United States Army during the Civil War. It gave the Union Army a significant advantage over the Confederate troops. In addition to being shorter and lighter than the commonly used Sharps rifle, its attraction was the faster rate of fire. The magazine-fed, lever-action Spencer could fire up to 20+ rounds a minute



a. Clay Marble, Drawer Pull



b. Buttons



c. Ceramic Statue Fragment

Figure 2. Artifacts from 8DU21544, Area A, Level 2.



a. Medicine Bottles



b. Vent Pick





d. Union Eagle Button

Figure 3. Artifacts from 8DU21544, Area A, Level 2.

as opposed to the muzzle-loading Sharps, with a firing rate of about 2-3 rounds per minute (Wikipedia 2014d).

The Union Eagle coat button measures 2 cm (0.8 in) in diameter (Figure 3d). The vertical lines through the shield do not associate it to any particular type of military unit. The intact metal back still contains the shank loop and is engraved with the words "EXTRA QUALITY". Taken in sum, the abundance and variety of Civil War era material recovered from a depth of 60-120 cm (1.9-3.9 ft) indicated a significant activity area.

Area B

Extrapolating from the 1864 map, the wall passed N-S through the grass covered lot designated as Area B (see site map and photographs in Appendix A). This empty 0.25 acre lot located at the SW corner of W. Adams and Madison Streets (Tax Parcel #0747600000 and #0747590000) was investigated with eight test pits, using the same methodology and 10 m (30 ft) spacing. The same intermixed soil level containing post-war artifacts was found in all test pits to about 60 cm (1.9 ft). Material recovered from the upper levels was dominated by the same ceramics, rusted metal, glass and red brick fragments as were found in Area A. A complete perfume bottle (Figure 4a) was also found.

Six tests yielded artifacts from the Civil War era yellow-brown soil level. Included were marbles (Figure 4b), clothing buttons, including a small Union Eagle button, and ceramic plate fragments. A total of 62 artifacts were kept, including a representative sample of the fragmented material.

All nails recovered from Area B were round wire types. The manufacture of this type of steel nail originated in the 1890s and by 1913, most nails were made of wire. Manufacture of round nails continues today (Visser N/D).

The clear perfume bottle recovered from Area B is of two-piece molded construction with the seams extending to the top of the lip, a manufacturing method dating to post 1905 (Lindsey 2014). It contains a fragment of a plastic stopper. While the plastic era officially began with the unveiling of "Parkensine" at the 1862 London Great International Exhibition (Bellis 2014), the origin of this bottle is obviously much later based on its clarity and construction method.

Several buttons were recovered, including a Union Eagle button (Figure 4c1) and buttons made of bone (Figure 4c2) and ceramic (Figure 4c3). The Eagle button is smaller than the one recovered from Area A, measuring 1.5 cm (0.6 in.) in diameter. It too retains its shank loop. It is highly encrusted from 150 years of burial so the Eagle is barely discernible and no other features can be defined.

Area C

According to the 1864 map, the empty 0.09 acre grass covered lot (Tax Parcel #0751560000) designated as Area C lay just inside, or east of the wall (see site map and photographs in Appendix A). This lot is located at the SE corner of W. Adams and Madison Streets. Methodology and soil deposition in the 12 test pits was similar to Areas A and B.

Much less cultural material was found in Area C. In addition to the usual glass, ceramics, crockery, metal and bricks, several interesting and temporally sensitive items were recovered from Level 1. These included a button, bike tire repair part, a medicine bottle and two



a. Perfume Bottle.



b. Marbles.



c. Buttons.

Figure 4. Artifacts from 8DU21544, Area B.

pennies. Again, a representative sample of the brick, metal, ceramics and glass was kept although it could not be attributed to any particular time period between the Civil War and present time. Oyster shell, assorted glass and metal fragments were recovered from Level 2.

A snap-type closure with the words Blue Bell and the company logo of a bell imprinted in the face was found in Level 1 (Figure 5a1). This was identified as the logo of the Blue Bell Overalls Company. This company began as the Hudson Overall Company in Greensboro, NC in 1904, changed its name to Blue Bell in 1919 and in 1947 became known as Wrangler Jeans (The Vintage Traveler 2011, www.wrangler.com 2014). Considering that the railroad passed just blocks from here in the late 1800s – early 1900s and the tendency for railroad employees to wear the traditional overalls, its presence here is not surprising.

A small round piece of brass was found, engraved with the name of the Sampson Brass Plug Company (Figure 5a2). This company, run by Robert William Sampson, was a major manufacturer of pneumatic bicycle tire repair parts in the late 1800s. Mr. Sampson received at least six related patents between 1898 and 1916 (www.treasurenet.com/forums 2014). The recovered piece appears to be one of three parts to the innovative method of repairing tires (Figure 5b).

One complete bottle was found in the disturbed post-War soil. The bottle is made of clear glass, with seams extending to the top of the screw top rim (Figure 5c). It appears to be a medicine bottle, with "2 oz" on the side in raised letters. Two-piece molded bottle construction originated in 1905 and screw tops were developed about 1923 (Lindsey 2014). This effectively dates the bottle to post 1923.

Two pennies were found, both in deteriorated condition (Figure 5d). The oldest was an Indian Head, dating to 1885, found in the disturbed soil about 60 cm (24") deep. The newer one was a Lincoln Penny, dating to 1917, found about 15 cm (6") deep.

Nine test units yielded a total of 59 cultural items from Level 2. Included in the collection was a light green bottle neck of similar BIM construction to the medicine bottles found in Area A. The side seams disappear just above the shoulder and bubbles are visible in the glass. The lip appears to be tooled, rather than applied. A fragment of amethyst glass was also found. Features of the glass fragments are consistent with bottles manufactured between 1880 and 1920 (Lindsey 2014).

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This site contains several historical components. The oldest dates to the Civil War and is an activity area related to Ft. Hatch. Extrapolated mapping information suggests that the defensive wall built around Jacksonville in 1864 bisected the tested area and the gate which Ft. Hatch protected may lie beneath a building located across Houston Street from Lee & Cates Glass. What may be left of any Ft. Hatch structure proper lies buried a short distance to the northwest, perhaps beneath the paved streets at the intersection of Lee and W. Adams Streets. Empty lots bordering the intersection may hold additional clues to its presence.

For the purpose of this recording, the later component encompasses all the time periods represented above the Civil War era stratum. The cultural materials found in the upper portions of most test units are consistent with previous construction on the lots, including an abundance of brick, metal and window glass. The soil and cultural remains were completely out of context from reworking of the ground during an unknown number of building projects.



a. Bluebell Button (1) and Sampson Plug (2). b. Complete Sampson Plug.



c. Bottle.



d. Pennies - 1885 and 1917.

Figure 5. Artifacts from 8DU21544, Area C.

This would be expected given the location in downtown Jacksonville and the continual urban renewal projects over the years. Definite dates include pennies with dates of 1885 and 1917 and the USL zinc plate with a 1912 patent date inscription. The Sampson tire plug piece dates to perhaps the late 1800s to early 1900s and several bottles and glass fragments date from 1860 to post-1923.

Based on the abundance of Civil War era material found at the site and its relation to Redoubt Fribley (8DU14638), this component of Ft. Hatch is considered to be potentially eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. It meets the criteria set forth at 36CFR60.6 (a), in that it is associated with a significant event in our history (the Civil War) and (d), in that it has yielded and has potential to yield further information important to our history. Given the sites association with Redoubt Fribley and the other yet to be relocated wall fortifications, it may also be considered eligible as a contributor to a National Register District.

Regarding the post war levels of the site, individual periods of occupation would be difficult, if not impossible, to differentiate given the amount of admixture from construction over the years. Considering the decomposed and fractured state of most of the later material, significant information other than general lifestyle clues may be difficult to extract from the upper strata. Regardless of the random and deteriorated state of cultural materials, however, consideration for National Register inclusion should be given to the upper strata using criteria (d), in that it has yielded and has potential to yield further information important to our history. These blocks of land, as well as all others in the downtown area should be treated with respect to our past when considering future building projects.

Phase II testing to Phase III excavation in two portions of Area A is recommended. The first is the area containing the bulk of the subsurface Civil War era remains, in the vicinity of Tr5 / ST4 and 5. The objective would be to locate and delineate the character and extent of the cultural level. This area is rich in Civil War era remains and will undoubtedly produce much more period material once the targeted depth is reached and explored.

Phase II testing centered on Tr7 / ST4 is also recommended. This was the area containing the articulated bricks. Again, the purpose of the additional testing would be to delineate the extent of the bricks and identify the associated structure.

In both cases, bulk removal of the disturbed modern soil would be helpful to expedite excavation. Although this level does contain a substantial amount of potentially significant material from Jacksonville's past, the material is so intermixed that definable levels are impossible to discern. Even though it would be mechanically removed, all material should still be screened to recover evidence of Jacksonville's history.

No further testing is recommended in Areas B or C. That being said, these blocks of land, as well as all others in the downtown area, should be treated with respect to our past when considering future building projects. Monitoring of construction activities and recovery of artifacts would be considered a minimum mitigation plan. Additional excavation as needed should be an option in all cases.

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Appendix A. Site Pictures.

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Area A. Facing NE art Work on Tr7 / ST4.



Area A. Facing W at Bricks in W. Wall Tr7 / ST4.



Area A. Facing N art Work on Tr5 / ST4.



Area C. Facing SW at work on Tr2 / ST2.

Appendix B. USL Battery Flyer

Cowford Archaeological Research Society

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