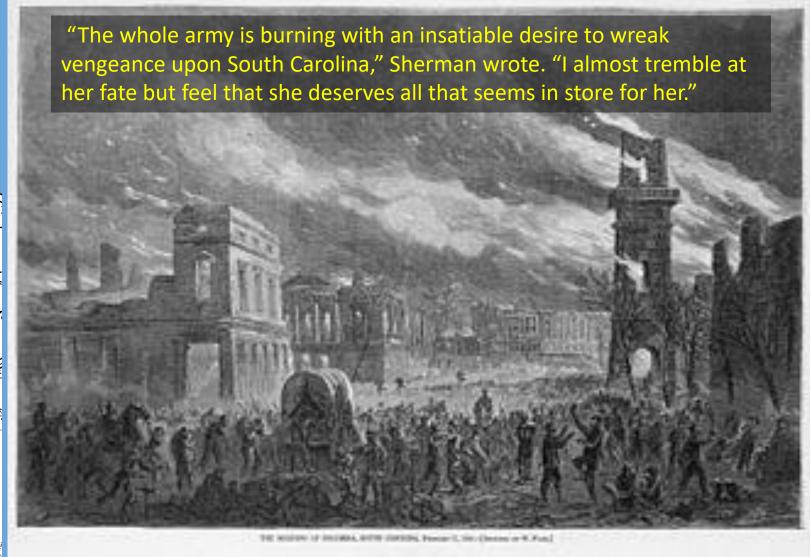


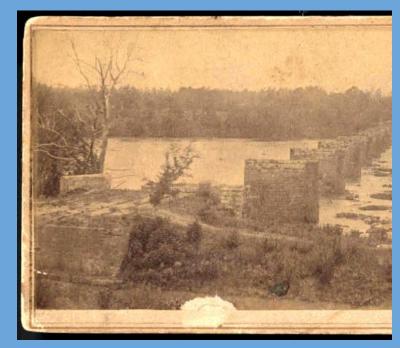
15 th Army Corns 20th Army Corns Cavalry Sherman's Army from Chattanooga to Atlanta Madison Augusta SOUTH CAROLINA

HISTORY OF THE CONGAREE RIVER CIVIL WAR ORDNANCE DUMP SITE





Site Origins February 1865



A Journal, Kept By
Emma Florence Leconte, From Dec. 31, 1864
To Aug. 6, 1865, Written In Her Seventeenth Year
And Containing A Detailed Account Of The
Burning Of Columbia, By One Who Was An
Eyewitness.

- **Feb. 12th or 13th.** Father brought in some news this morning. First and worst, the Yankees are skirmishing at Orangeburg. Second and more encouraging, Gen. Hampton says Sherman will not come to Columbia.
- **Feb. 14th, Tuesday**. What a panic the whole town is in! The Yankees are reported a few miles off on the other side of the river. How strong no one seems to know. It is decided if this be true that we will remain quietly here, father alone leaving. It is thought Columbia can hardly be taken by a raid as we have the whole of Butler's cavalry here.

- Friday, 17th Feb. One o'clock p.m. Well, they are here. Gen. Sherman has assured the Mayor, "that he and all the citizens may sleep securely and quietly tonight as if under Confederate rule."
- Saturday afternoon, Feb. 18th. What a night of horror, misery and agony! Strange as it may seem we were actually idiotic enough to believe Sherman would keep his word! A Yankee and Sherman! The fire on Main Street was now raging, and we anxiously watched its progress from the upper front windows. In a little while however the flames broke forth in every direction. The drunken devils roamed about setting fire to every house the flames seemed likely to spare.
- Sunday, Feb. 19th. While we stood by the front window the house was shaken by a terrible explosion. Henry has just explained it. Our men had buried a number of shells near the river an attempt was made to excavate them and one going off accidentally exploded the rest, killing wounding a great many Yankees. How I rejoice to think of any of them being killed.

Site Origins February 1865

Columbia, S. C., February 18, 1865.

I have in charge, at the citadel where the South Carolina Military School was kept, a large quantity of infantry and artillery ammunition; parts of gun carriages; guns, large and small; cavalry equipments; tools, and a large amount of other property useful to the service, which all portions of the army needing the same are requested to call for and appropriate. The officer in charge is directed to recognize all requisitions, however informal.

W. B. HAZEN, Major-General.

Numbers 5. Report of Bvt. Brigadier General Orlando, M. Poe, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army, Chief Engineer. WASHINGTON, D. C., October 8, 1865.

On the 17th a pontoon bridge was built just above the ruins of the former bridge over Broad River, three miles above Columbia, and the Right Wing crossed to the north bank and occupied the city, the greater part of which was burned during the night. Many reasons are given for this flagrant violation of General Sherman's orders, but, as far as I could judge, it was principally due to the fact that the citizens gave liquor to the troops until they were crazily drank and beyond the control of their officers.

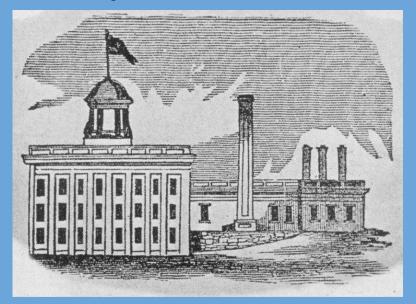
February 19. A detail of 500 men each from the First and Second Brigades, properly officered for fatigue duty, together with the pioneer corps and fifty wagons, reported to Captain Buel, chief ordnance officer, to destroy public works, machinery, ordnance, ordnance stores, and ammunition, of which there were large quantities. February 19, the work of demolishing stores of all kinds continued.

During the day an explosion took place near the river, where a detail of the Sixty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry were unloading ammunition and throwing it into the river, caused by the reckless habits our soldiers get into by their familiarity with danger. By this explosion Capt. W. M. Davis, Jesse Johnson, and James Kilpatrick, of Company F, Sixty-third Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and Coleman P. Wright, of the Tenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, were instantly killed. Twenty-one men of the Sixty-third Illinois were severely burnt and wounded. (Sergeant Dalbey is dead.) One wagon and six mules were burned up and a number of animals more or less injured. I am unable to report the amount of machinery, ordnance, ordnance stores and ammunition destroyed by the detail from my command, but some idea may be formed from the fact that it occupied 1,200 men (including pioneer corps) and 50 wagons from 1 p. m. on the 18th until 6 p. m. on the 19th. I am, major, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JNO. E. SMITH,



SC State Armory/Palmetto Armory 1865 www.historiccolumbia.org



Maj. MAX WOODHULL, Assistant Adjutant-General, Fifteenth Army Corps.

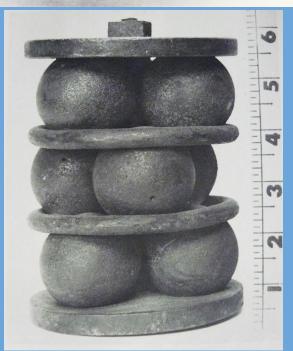
[Inclosure.]

Inventory of ordnance and ordnance stores captured in Columbia, S. C., February 17, 1865.

Ball cartridges (no caps)	1, 200, 000
Percussion caps	100,000
Powderpounds	26, 150
12-nounder can ammunition fixedrounds.	1,007
6-pounder gun ammunition, fixeddodo	3, 852
6-pounder gun ammunition, fixed do24-pounder gun ammunition, fixed dodo	546
8-inch shot and shelldo	2, 364
10-inch shot and shelldo	1, 320
Stands of arms	10, 410
Unfinished arms	6,000
6-pounder guns	14
James guns	2
James guns	5
12-pounder mountain howitzers	4
Blakely guns	3
18-pounder rifled guns	
Wiard gun	1
3-inch rifle	1
10 pounder guns	2
4-inch gun	1
4-inch mortars	2
6-inch Coehorn	1
Bronze guns, caliber 1½ and 2 mches. 4-inch gun, smooth-bore	4
4-inch can smooth-hore	1
10 nounder Parrotts	2
10 pounder Parrotts Repeating battery	1
Gun carriages.	9
Gun caissons	14
Guil Calssons	3
Gun (mountain howitzer) caissons. Forges.	2
Forges	4
Anvils	20
Blacksmiths' vises	
Sponges and rammers	1, 125
Sponges and rammers Sabers, cavalry, artillery, and naval	3, 100
Saber knots	700
Pairs cavalry pistol holsters	300
Saber belts	800
Bayonet scabbards	4,000
Cartridge-hoves (infantry)	5, 150
Cartridge-box plates	3,500
Cartridge-box belts and plates	2,500
Waist-belts	2,900
Waist-belt plates	3, 600
Ball screws	2,000
Pistol cartridge-boxes	550
Pistoi cartriage-boxes.	600
Gunners' shot-pouches	1, 100
Knapsacks	900
Haversacks	500
Slow matchyards	
10-inch fuses	900
Tents	58
DILLID M. CCAHIL	r.

PHILIP MACCAHILL,
Lieut. and Actg. Ordnance Officer, First Div., Fifteenth Army Corps.

Total Control of the Control of the



38RD286

THE POTENTIAL ORDNANCE ASSEMBLAGE



Articles.	Citadel.	Magazine.	Arsenal.	Total.
Ball cartridges (no caps)	580, 000 100, 000	620, 000		1, 200, 000 100, 000
Rifle powder (kegs)pounds Cannon powder (kegs and boxes)do Meal powder (kegs and boxes)do		13, 600 8, 750 3, 800		13, 600 8, 750 3, 800
Total powder				26, 150

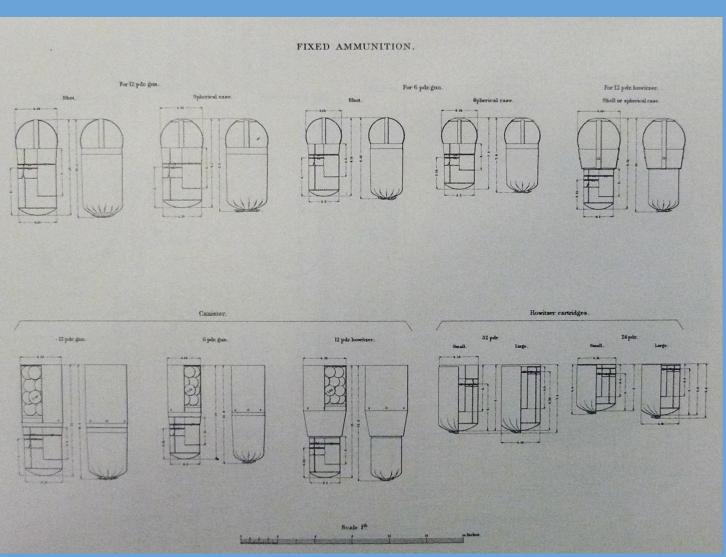
The Confederate ordnance stored in Columbia in 1865

Articles.	Citadel.	Magazine.	Arsenal.	Total.
Case-shot, fixed, 12-pounder gun		. 183	•	183
Fuse-shell, fixed, 12-pounder gun		216		216
Grape, 12-pounder gun		100		460
Canister, fixed, 12-pounder gun				148
Total 12-pounder gun projectiles				1,007
Shot, fixed, 6-pounder gun		1,680		1, 680
Case, fixed, 6-pounder gun		550		550
Fuse-shell, fixed, 6-pounder gun		372		372
Canister, fixed, 6-pounder gun		1, 250		1, 250
Total 6-pounder projectiles				3, 852
Shot, fixed, 24-pounder gun		112		112
Shell, fixed, 24-pounder gun		120		120
Canister, fixed, 24-pounder gun	•••••	314		314
Total 24-pounder projectiles				546
Shell, fixed, 8-inch	64			64
Shot and shell, not fixed, 8-inch			2, 280	2, 280
Total 8-inch projectiles				2, 344
Shot and shell, not fixed, 10-inch			1, 320	1, 320
Total artillery projectiles				9, 069



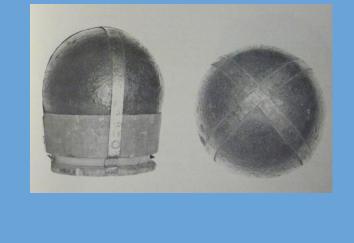
Fixed Ammunition

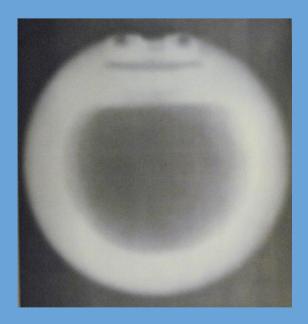


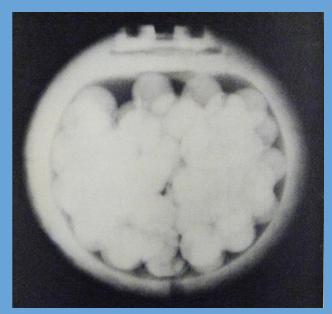


- Smoothbore field artillery ammunition was usually manufactured and issued as fixed rounds
- 6-pounder shells attached to their wooden sabots
- Common shell meant to burst into shrapnel
- Spherical case shot filled with smaller balls

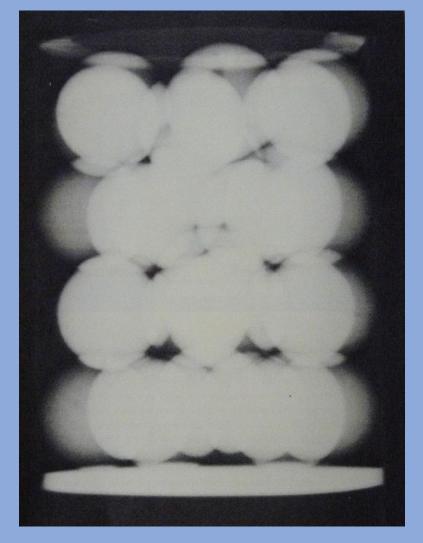




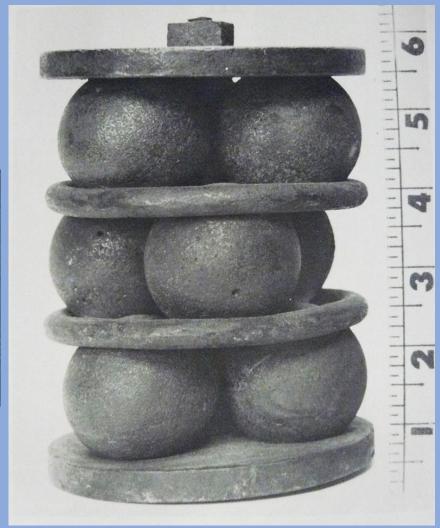




Canister Shot





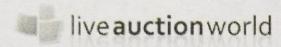


SMOOTHBORE HEAVY ARTILLERY AMMUNITION





CS 10" COLUMBIAD CANNONBALL





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Extr Fire

ITEM | James D. Julia Auctions / Extraordinary Antique & Collectible Firearms / CS 10" COLUMBIAD CANNONBALL

2008 CS 10" COLUMBIAD CANNONBALL

Currency: USD Category: Collectibles / Militaria Start Price: 150,00 USD Estimated At: 300,00 - 450,00 USD



SOLD 675.00 usp to floor + (135.00) buyer's premium + taxes, fees, etc...

This item SOLD at 2005 Oct 04 @ 17:15 UTC-5 : EST/CDT

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Item Description

Location & Preview

BP, Taxes & Fees

Shipping & Payment

Terms

CS 10" COLUMBIAD CANNONBALL. Excellent excavated condition. Unfired. This cannonball came from the Congaree River in Columbia, South Carolina. There is a "D" stamped near the fuse hole, which indicates Atlanta or Charlotte manufacture. This is where General William T. Sherman's troops destroyed the Confederate ordnance by dumping them into the river. Accompanying shell is a wooden time fuse adapter and a paper time fuse. CONDITION: Excellent condition for an excavated cannonball. 4-55791 JM59 (300-450)

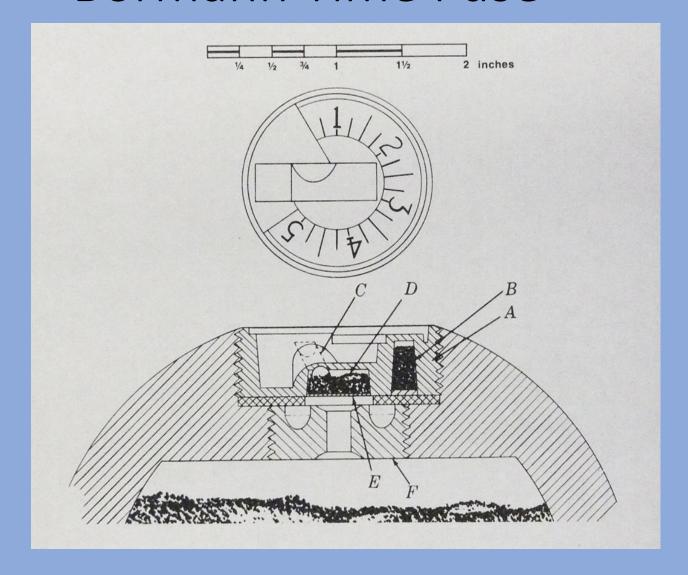


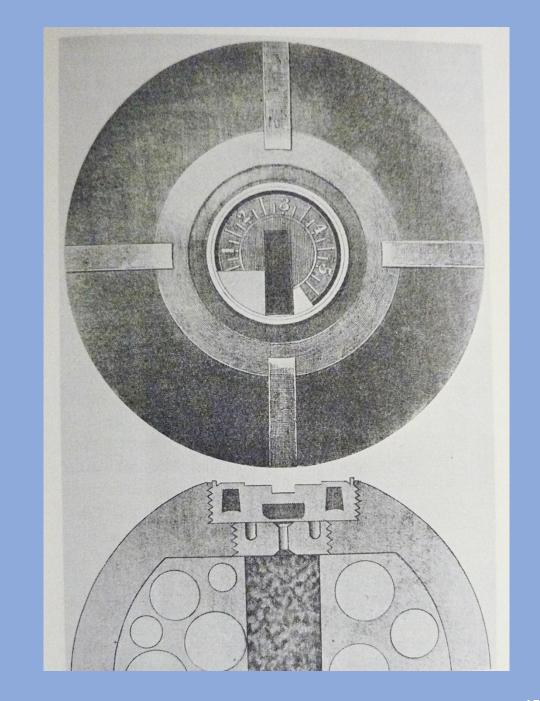




SMOOTHBORE PROJECTILE FUSING

Bormann Time Fuse





Miscellaneous





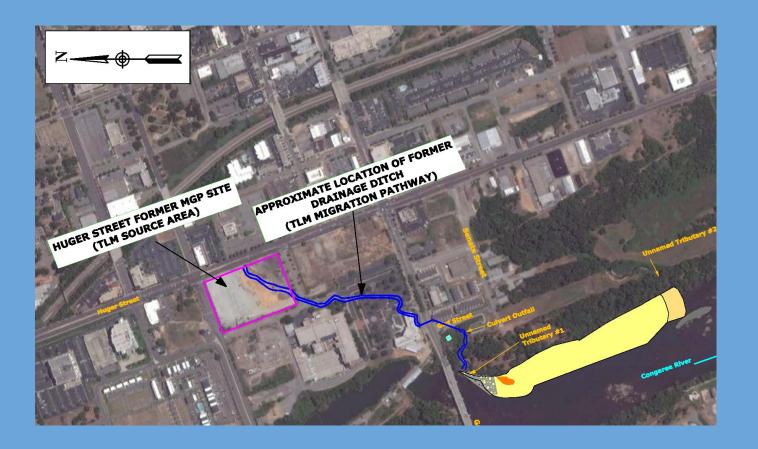
Articles.	Citadel.	Magazine.	Arsenal.	Total.
Ball cartridges (no caps)	580, 000 100, 000	620, 000		1, 200, 000 100, 000
Rifle powder (kegs)		8,750		13, 600 8, 750 3, 800
Total powder				26, 150

- For years after the war people would dive into the river and recover cannon balls and shells (Williams 1929).
- June 1930, The State reported that two fishermen recovered ammunition from the area of a small tributary near the base of the Gervais Street Bridge.
- Fall 1930, New Brookland Mayor L. Hall organize a project to recover the artifacts.
 - According to The State, Hall believed they had recovered practically all the ammunition that was deposited in the river.
- In 1938 the Spartanburg Herald, two New Brookland high school boys found an artillery projectile in the Congaree River.

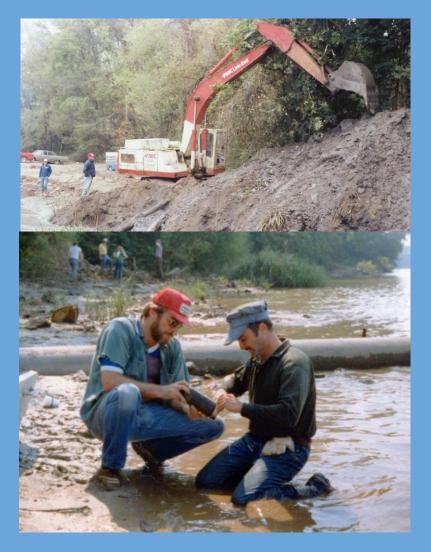




• From 1906 to the mid-1950s, a manufactured gas plant (MGP) that operated on Huger Street allowed coat tar runoff to empty into the Congaree River.



Photos Courtesy of WC Smith

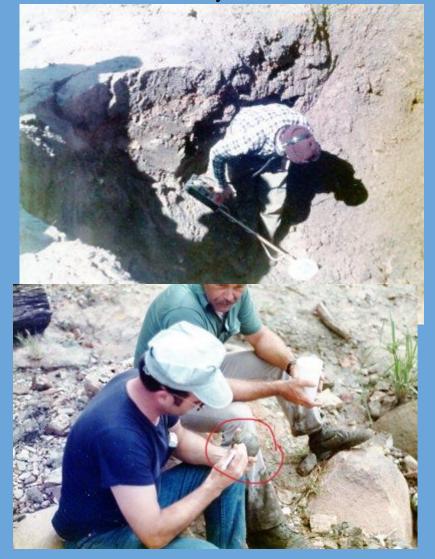


- Beginning in the 1970s a number of formal recovery and salvage projects have been conducted at the sites.
 - South Carolina Underwater Antiquities Act
 - 1980 SCIAA Salvage License Diving
 - 1983 SCIAA Salvage License Intensive excavation Site assigned the number 38RD286





Photos Courtesy of WC Smith

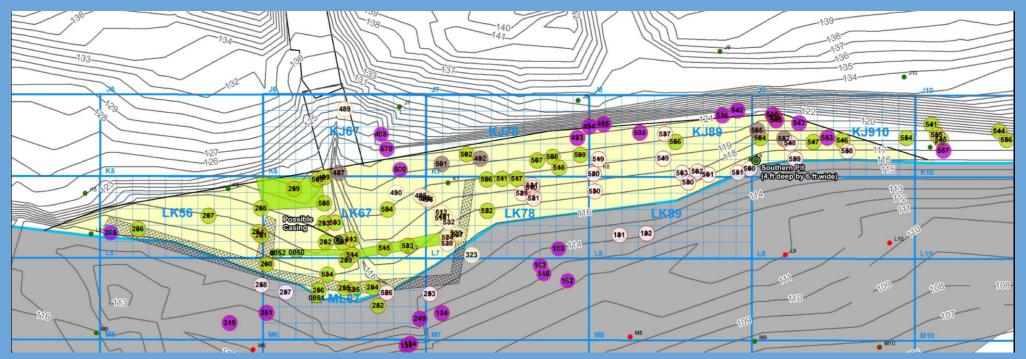




• 1983 SCIAA Salvage License –



- 2010 Congaree River Keeper gets a report of tar-like material in the river at the Senate St. Landing.
- Over a period of 18 months, from 2010 to 2012, Tidewater Atlantic Research, Inc. conducted remote sensing surveys within the course of the river and on the eastern bank.



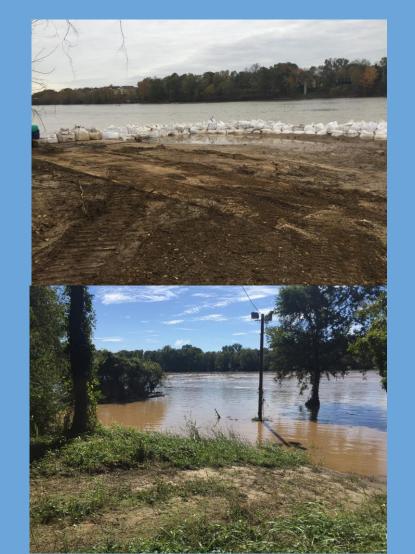
- 2012 Dominion/SCANA begins planning the removal of the contaminated sediment and the mitigation of the Ordnance Dump Site.
- 2014 Archaeological surveys on the riverbank to confirm the locations of other archaeological sites
- 2015 Plans approved. Tuesday September 29, 2015, excavations of the alluvial fan at the Senate St. Landing begin.







• Friday. October 2, 2015, it begins to rain.











- 2016-2023 Back to the drawing board
- 2023 WE ARE BACK





UXO Recovery





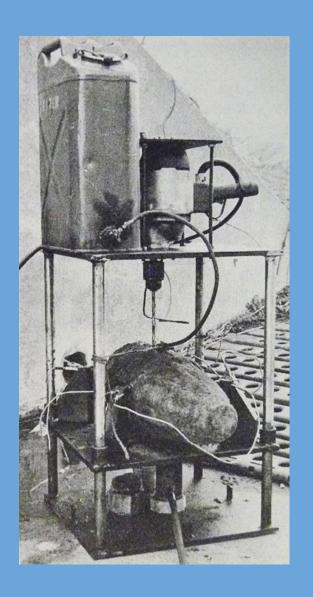
3JUN 2023 Grik KL9a 10" Cannon Ball UNFUZED

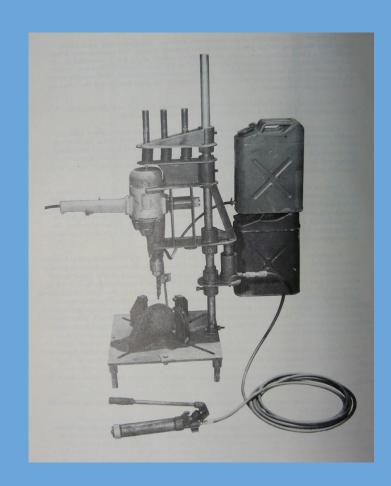


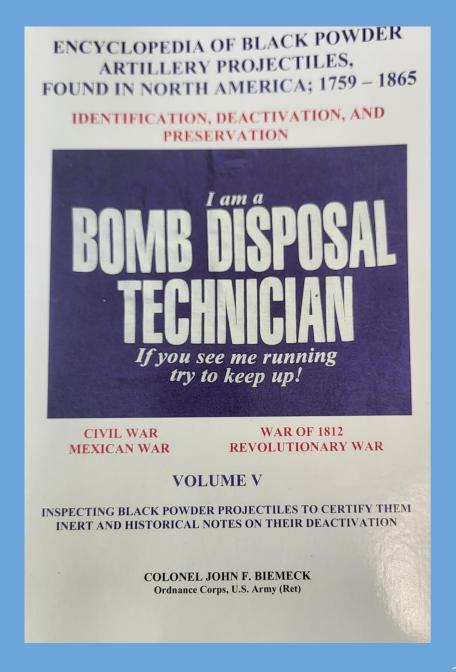
UXO Recovery



UXO Recovery













Sediment Removal















Artifact Recovery







- Iron canister balls, five sizes, mixed, N=461.
- Iron grapeshot balls, 2," N=4.
- Iron canister top plate for 24-pounder, N=9.
- 6-pounder solid shot cannon ball, N=5.
- 12-pounder common shells with wood fuse plugs (destroyed), N=2.
- 10" common shells with fuse wells for wood fuse plug, N=3.
- .69 caliber musket balls, N=4.
- .69 caliber Burton pattern Minie bullet, N=8.
- .577/58 caliber Pritchett bullet, N=2.
- .577/.58 caliber Pritchett bullets, short pattern, N=20.









Next Steps







