

**Primary Battery File**

**National Archives, Washington D.C.**

**Record Group 77**

**Correspondence of the Chief of Engineers**

**Entry 103**

**File, Fort, Battery:**

**47137**

**Ft. Taylor**

**Btty Ford**

3

7  
SUBJECT  
1  
2

*Office of the Chief of Engineers,  
United States Army,*

*Washington, August 19, 1903.*

Capt. F. R. Shunk,  
Corps of Engineers,  
Jacksonville, Fla.

Captain:

1. On May 16, 1903, plans and estimates were requested from you for emplacements for six 3-inch rapid-fire guns on pedestal mounts at Key West, Fla.

2. It has been found desirable to transfer two of these guns from Key West to another locality. The instructions of May 16th are therefore so modified as to call for plans for emplacements for four 3-inch guns instead of six. It is requested that the plans and estimates for these emplacements be submitted at as early a date as your other duties will permit.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

*[Signature]*  
Acting Chief of Engineers.

47137

## UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.,

August 24, 1903.

Brigadier General G. L. Gillespie,  
 Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army,  
 Washington, D.C.

(Through the Division Engineer, Southeast Division).

General:-

1. I have the honour to acknowledge Department letter of August 19, 1903 (47137), concerning plans and estimates for emplacements for 3-inch rapid fire guns at Key West, Fla.
2. Being aware of the fact that The Board of Engineers had under consideration a new project for Key West, I recently wrote (unofficially) to the secretary of the Board asking when this project would probably be submitted. In return I received a letter from the President of the Board, a copy of which is inclosed herewith. In view of this letter and of the fact that the sites selected by me would probably not coincide with the sites to be recommended by the Board, I would respectfully request that this matter be postponed.
3. The survey of Man-of-War Harbour will probably be completed in September and a report thereon submitted in October, 1903.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

*Francis R. Shunk*  
 Captain, Corps of Engineers, U.S.A.

47137

WAR DEPARTMENT

Jacksonville, Fla.,  
Aug. 24, 1903.

SHUNK, Capt. Francis R.

Ackgs. receipt Dept. letter of Aug. 19, 1903 (47137) in ref. to plans and estimates for 3-inch R.F. guns at Key West, Fla. In view of enclosed letter from Pres. of Board of Engineers, in ref. to new project for Key West etc. requests that submission of plans and estimates for these emplacements be postponed.

Survey of Man-of-War Harbor will probably be completed in Sept and report thereon submitted in Oct., 1903.

1 enclosure, E.D.  
NOV 18 1903  
BACK, OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS  
NOV 2-4: acc'd

1st Indorsement  
OFFICE OF DIVISION ENGINEER,  
SOUTHEAST DIVISION,  
Savannah, Ga., August 25, 1903.

Respectfully submitted to the Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army, with recommendation for approval of the reasons stated within, of which I have no knowledge beyond that obtained from the enclosed letter.

*James P. ...*  
Lt. Col. Corps of Engineers  
S. E. Div.

Office Chief of Engineers

1. Respectfully returned to Capt. Shunk on September 2, 1903.  
2. It is considered important that the construction of the defenses of Key West should proceed without delay, and paying Shunk is therefore requested to submit plans for the construction of these emplacements, with recommendation as to their location, in advance of the completion of the Board project for defenses.

3. These papers to be returned.

By Command of Brig. Gen. Gillespie:  
*Frederic V. ...*  
Major, Corps of Engineers

Incl. 2 accomps.  
47137  
JAMES B. ...  
Corps of Engineers,  
SOUTHEAST DIVISION,  
Savannah, Ga., Sept. 18, 1903.

Respectfully forwarded to Captain Shunk, inviting attention to the preceding indorsement.

*James P. ...*  
Lt. Col. Corps of Engineers,  
S. E. Div.

1. Respectfully returned to the Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army, with report of this date.  
2. It is recommended that the battery at Martello tower No. 1, the battery at Fort Taylor Reservoir should not be located so near the 8-inch battery, since the construction of the two 8-inch guns would be too severe for the guns at the 15-pdr. battery and would materially interfere with the service of the guns. There should be at least 300 feet between the 8-inch and the nearest 15-pdr. gun.  
3. With this change in location, the project is recommended for approval.

4th Indorsement  
OFFICE OF DIVISION ENGINEER,  
SOUTHEAST DIVISION,  
Savannah, Ga., Sept. 21st 1903.

1. Respectfully submitted to the Chief of Engineers  
2. It is recommended that the location be approved for the battery at Martello tower No. 1, the battery at Fort Taylor Reservoir should not be located so near the 8-inch battery, since the construction of the two 8-inch guns would be too severe for the guns at the 15-pdr. battery and would materially interfere with the service of the guns. There should be at least 300 feet between the 8-inch and the nearest 15-pdr. gun.  
3. With this change in location, the project is recommended for approval.

*James P. ...*  
Lieut. Col., Corps of Engineers,  
S. E. Div.

2 encls. accomps.  
1 encls. in sep. roll.  
SEP 23 1903  
BACK, OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS

REC'D, Eng'r Office SAVANNAH, GA. SEP 21 1903  
REC'D, U.S. Army SAVANNAH, GA. AUG 25 1903  
REC'D, U.S. Army SAVANNAH, GA. SEP 23 1903

6th indorsement.

Office Chief of Engineers,

U. S. ARMY.

September 25, 1903.

1. Respectfully returned to Captain Shunk, approved as recommended by the Division Engineer in the preceding indorsement.
2. The plans and estimates for these emplacements should be submitted at the earliest practicable date.
3. These papers to be returned.

By command of Brig. Gen. Gillespie.

*Francis V. Allen*

Major, Corps of Engineers.

47137

1

Inclos. 2 & 3 accomp.

Inclo. 4 in sep. roll.

Through Lieut. Col. JAMES B. QUINN,

Corps of Engineers,

Division Engineer, Southeast Division.

9462.

7th indorsement.

OFFICE OF DIVISION ENGINEER,  
SOUTHEAST DIVISION.

Savannah, Ga., Sept. 28, 1903.

Respectfully forwarded to Capt. Shunk, inviting attention to the 5th & 6th indorsements hereon.

*James B. Quinn*  
Lt. Col., Corps of Engineers,  
Div. Eng., S. E. Div.

8th indorsement.

U. S. ENGINEER OFFICE,  
Jacksonville, Fla., Nov. 13, 1903.

1. Respectfully returned to the Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army, with letter of even date.

*Francis R. Shunk* <sup>See inc. 5</sup>  
Captain, Corps of Engineers,  
U. S. A.

47137

1

Inclos. 2 & 3 accomp.

" 4 in sep. roll.

Through Lieut. Col. James B. Quinn,

Corps of Engineers,

Division Engineer, Southeast Division.

9th indorsement.

OFFICE OF DIVISION ENGINEER,  
SOUTHEAST DIVISION.  
Savannah, Ga., November 16, 1903.

Respectfully forwarded to the Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army.

In the absence of the Division Engineer:

*Chas. L. Dasher*  
Division Clerk.

9462.

2 enclos. accomp.

1 encl. (B/P) in sep. roll.

J.E.C.D., OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. NOV 18 1903

UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.,

November 13, 1903.

Brig. Gen. G. L. Gillespie,  
 Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army,  
 Washington, D.C.

(Through the Division Engineer, Southeast Division).

General:-

1. As directed by Department indorsement dated September 25, 1903 (47137/1), I have the honour to submit herewith plans and estimates for four emplacements for 3-inch rapid-fire guns, at Key West, Fla. Two of these emplacements are at the west Martello Tower, and two a short distance east of Battery Covington. The sites have already been approved. It is proposed to use broken brick in the concrete, the brick to be obtained from Fort Taylor and from the necessary demolition of the west Martello Tower, and to do the work by hired labour and to purchase materials under sealed proposals invited by circular letter, this method being most economical and advantageous to the United States.

2. Estimates.

For two emplacements at west Martello Tower.

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| 803 cubic yards of concrete @ \$9.35, - - - - -              | \$ 7,508.00 * |
| 3,000 " " of sand fill @ 50¢, - - - - -                      | 1,500.00      |
| 800 sq. yards of plaster @ 50¢, - - - - -                    | 400.00        |
| 1,100 " " of surfacing and sodding @ \$1.00, - - -           | 1,100.00      |
| Doors, speaking tube, lamp recesses, etc., - - - - -         | 400.00        |
| Ransome bars, channels, railings, ringbolts, etc., - - - - - | 500.00        |
| Ventilating pipe, drain pipe, etc., - - - - -                | 150.00        |
| Carried forward,   | \$ 11,558.00  |

(\* Including forms).

(2)

|  |                        |                           |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------|
|  | Brought forward, ----- | \$ 11,558.00              |
| Speaking tubes, etc., - - - - -                      |                        | 50.00                     |
| Water system, - - - - -                              |                        | 250.00                    |
| Electric conduit and fittings, - - - - -             |                        | 980.00                    |
| Engineering and contingencies, about 10 %, - - - - - |                        | <u>1,462.00</u>           |
|  | Total, - - -           | <u><u>\$14,300.00</u></u> |

For two emplacements east of Battery Covington.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 765 cubic yards of concrete @ \$9.35, - - - - -              | \$ 7,153.00 *                               |
| 3,000 " " of sand fill @ 50¢, - - - - -                      | 1,500.00                                    |
| 800 sq. yards of plaster @ 50¢, - - - - -                    | 400.00                                      |
| 1,250 " " of surfacing and sodding @ \$1.00, - - - - -       | 1,250.00                                    |
| Doors, speaking tube, lamp recesses, etc., - - - - -         | 400.00                                      |
| Ransome bars, channels, railings, ringbolts, etc., - - - - - | 500.00                                      |
| Ventilating pipe, drain pipe, etc., - - - - -                | 150.00                                      |
| Speaking tubes, etc., - - - - -                              | 50.00                                       |
| Water system, - - - - -                                      | 250.00                                      |
| Electric conduit and fittings, - - - - -                     | 980.00                                      |
| Engineering and contingencies, - - - - -                     | <u>1,467.00</u>                             |
|  | Total, - - - - - <u><u>\$ 14,100.00</u></u> |

(\*Including forms )

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

*Francis P. Shink*

Captain, Corps of Engineers, U.S.A.

Inlosures:  
3 trcgs. in sep. roll.

OFFICE, CHIEF OF ENGINEERS  
NOV 14 47137  
WAR DEPARTMENT

9462. Jacksonville, Fla.,  
November 13th 1903.

SIR K. Captain Francis R:

As directed by Dept. indt. d September 25, 1903, on E. 47137-1, submits plans a estimates for four emplace- ments for 3-inch rapid-fire guns, at Key West, Fla. Estimate for 2 emplace- ments at West Martello Tower, \$14,300. Estimate for two emplace- ments East of Battery Covington, \$14,100.

*In copy files:*  
Encls. 698 - Dn. 76, Sk. 213.  
" 7 - Dn. 76, Sk. 215.  
3 encls. E. D. (tracings)  
in sep. roll.

Fwd. by Div. Engr.

*File*

REC'D, BACK, OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. NOV 13 1904  
I 705.6-8 acc'g.

REC'D, Engr. Office SAVANNAH, GA. NOV 23 1903  
REC'D, U.S. Army, Engr. Office SAVANNAH, GA. NOV 16 1903  
U.S. Army

1st indorsement.  
OFFICE OF DIVISION ENGINEER,  
SOUTHEAST DIVISION.  
Savannah, Ge., November 16, 1903.

Respectfully forwarded to  
the Chief of Engineers, U. S.  
Army.

In the absence of the  
Division Engineer:  
*John N. Quinn*  
Division Clerk.

2d indorsement.  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS,  
WASHINGTON.

November 20, 1903.  
Respectfully returned to Cap-  
tain Shunk, approved.

1. Respectfully returned to Cap-  
tain Shunk, approved.  
2. With the large supply of  
brick apparently on hand, it may be  
well to line the magazines and shell  
rooms with brick, as being less like  
ly to become wet from condensation  
than portland cement concrete. Means  
should be provided for tightly clos-  
ing the ventilators both for con-  
trol of the ventilation and to  
avoid danger in action from sparks  
of shells exploding on the exterior  
slope.

3. For the construction of these  
batteries the following allotments  
are made from the appropriation for  
"Gun and Mortar Batteries," for  
construction of gun and mortar bat-  
teries, Act of March 3, 1903. \$14,300  
West Martello Battery----- \$14,100  
Near Battery Covington----- 14,100

4. The work should be vigor-  
ously conducted.  
5. When such record as may be  
necessary has been made, these pa-  
pers will be returned to this of-  
fice.

*John N. Quinn*  
Major, Chief of Engineers

47137  
5  
Incls. 6-8 in sep. roll.

Through Lieut. Col. JAMES B. QUINN,  
Corps of Engineers,  
Division Engineer, Southeast Division.

3rd indorsement.  
OFFICE OF DIVISION ENGINEER,  
SOUTHEAST DIVISION.  
Savannah, Ga., Nov. 23rd 1903.

Respectfully forwarded to  
Captain Shunk, inviting atten-  
tion to the preceding indorse-  
ments.

*John N. Quinn*  
Lt. Col., Corps of Engineers,  
Div. Engr., S. E. Div.

9462  
3 encls. in sep. roll.

Rec'd U. S. Engr. Office, Jacksonville, Fla.  
Nov. 24/03