

Primary Battery File

National Archives, Washington D.C.

Record Group 77

Correspondence of the Chief of Engineers

Entry 103

File, Fort, Battery:

47137

West Martello Tower

Btly Inman

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.

RECEIVED

47137

WAR DEPARTMENT

3462. Jacksonville, Fla.,
Aug. 24, 1903.

SHV, Capt. Francis R.

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Acks. receipt Dept. let-
ter of Aug. 19, 1903 (47137). In
ref. to plans and estimates for
3-1 in R. F. guns at Key West, Fla.
In view of enclosed let-
ter from Prest. of Board of En-
gineers, 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 complet-
ed in Sept. and report thereon
submitted in Oct., 1903.

1 enclosure, E. D.

BACK OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS
17205 2-4-ACC 0

REC'D, Engr's Office SAVANNAH, GA. NOV 16 1903
REC'D, U.S. Army SAVANNAH, GA. SEP 28 1903
REC'D, U.S. Office Chief of Engrs. SAVANNAH, GA. SEP 28 1903
REC'D, U.S. Office SAVANNAH, GA. AUG 25 1903

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
for the reasons stated within, of
which I have no knowledge beyond
that obtained from the enclosed
letter.

Lt. Col. Corps of Engineers,
Div. Eng., S. E. Div.

Office Chief of Engineers,
U. S. Army.

September 3, 1903.

1. Respectfully returned to Cap-
tain Shunk.
2. It is considered important
that the construction of the de-
fenses of Key West should proceed
without delay, and Captain Shunk is
therefore requested to submit plans
for the construction of these em-
placements, with recommendations as
to their location, in advance of
the completion of the Board project
for defense.

3. These papers to be returned.

By Command of Brig. Gen. Gillespie: 4
Major, Corps of Engineers.

Incl. 2 accomp.

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

3rd Indorsement.
OFFICE OF DIVISION ENGINEER,
SOUTHEAST DIVISION,
Savannah, Ga., Sept. 5th 1903.

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

Lt. Col. Corps of Engineers,
Div. Eng., S. E. Div.

1 enclo. accomp.

9462
Rec'd U. S. Office Chief of Engrs. Jacksonville, Fla.

4th Indorsement.
U. S. ENGINEER OFFICE,
Jacksonville, Fla., Sept. 18, 1903.

Respectfully returned to the
Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army, with
report of this date.

Rec'd U. S. Office Chief of Engrs. U. S. A.
CAPTAIN, CORPS OF ENGINEERS

5th 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 Reser-
vation should not be located so
near the 8-inch battery, since
the concussion of the two 8-inch
guns would be too severe for the
gunners 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 recom-
mended for approval.

Lieut. Col. Corps of Engineers,
Div. Eng., S. E. Div.

2 enclo. accomp.
1 enclo. in sep. roll.

9462
BACK OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS
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:

James 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
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. P. Daskin
Division Clerk.

9462.

2 enclos. accomp.
1 enclo. (B/P) in sep. roll.

LECD, OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. NOV 18 1903

UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.,

Sept. 18, 1903.

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

(Through the Division Engineer, Southeast Division).

General:-

1. In compliance with Department letter of May 16, 1903 (47137), and of second indorsement dated September 3, 1903 (47137/1), I have the honour to recommend the following sites for 15-pdr. batteries at Key West, Fla. (Blue print herewith shows the proposed locations).

2. Two 15-pdr. emplacements at the west Martello Tower. It is proposed to construct these emplacements within the outer inclosing wall, necessary modifications in this wall being made.

3. Two 15-pdr. emplacements to the east of Battery Covington, and in line with the emplacements at that battery.

4. The reason for these locations is as follows: there is a channel called the southeast channel which will permit vessels drawing about 19 feet of water to enter the harbour. This channel does not appear at present to be adequately protected. It will have to be closed by torpedoes and both of the batteries herein proposed can fire upon the torpedo field. They will also be of use in preventing landing on the south shore of the island.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

1 inclo.
in sep. roll.

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

47137

3

WAR DEPARTMENT

Jacksonville, Fla.,
Sept. 18, 1903.

Shunk, Capt. F. R.

In compliance with E. D. letter of May 16, 1903, (47137) and 2nd ind. O. C. E., Sept. 3, 1903 (47137-1), submit a room-warden as to location of 15-pdr. batteries at Key West, Fla.; together with blue print showing proposed sites.

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

Also 4 in Map Files, R. 76, Sh. 213.

Sept. 18, 1903.

(Through the Division Engineer, Southeast Division).

General:-

1. In compliance with Department letter of May 16, 1903 (47137) and of second ind. O. C. E. dated September 3, 1903 (47137-1), I have the honor to acknowledge the following sites for 15-pdr. batteries at Key West, Fla. (Blue print herewith shows the proposed locations).

2. Two 15-pdr. emplacements at the west end of the Key West Tower. It is proposed to construct these emplacements within the old tower. Necessary modifications in the wall will be made.

3. Two 15-pdr. emplacements to the east of Battery Taylor.

4. The reason for these locations is as follows: Since a channel called the southeast channel will be cut, it will be growing about 10 feet or more to enter the harbor. This channel does not appear at present to be a navigable waterway.

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 5-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>

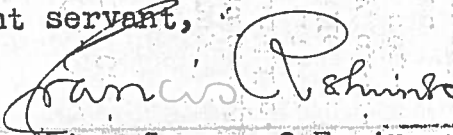
For two emplacements east of Battery Covington.

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,



Inclosures:

3 trcs. in sep. roll.

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

OFFICE, CHIEF OF ENGINEERS
147137
WAR DEPARTMENT

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

SI K, Captain Francis R:

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

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

Enclos. 6-8 - 2/13.
2/15.
3 enclos. E. D. (tracings)
in sep. roll.

Fwd. by Div. Engr.

RECD, U.S. Army, SAVANNAH, GA. NOV 16 1903
RECD, U.S. Army, SAVANNAH, GA. NOV 16 1903

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:
Division Clerk.

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

November 20, 1903.
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-----
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.

47137
5
Inclos. 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, Ge., Nov. 23rd 1903.

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

Lt. Col. Corps of Engineers,
Div. Engr., S. E. Div.

9462
3 enclos. in sep. roll.

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

4th Indorsement.
U. S. ENGINEER OFFICE,
Jacksonville, Fla., March 3, 1904.
Respectfully returned to the
Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army, pro-
ceeding having been made for the
files of this office.
Francis R. Shunk
Captain, Corps of Engineers, U. S.
3 inclos. (tracs.),
in sep. roll.
RECD, OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGRS. MAR 5 1904