

**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**

**Btty 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.

47137  
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WAR DEPARTMENT

Jacksonville, Fla.,  
Aug. 24, 1903.

Capt. Francis R. SHU

REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Ackgs. receipt Dept. letter of Aug. 19, 1903 (47137) in reference to plans and estimates for R. F. guns at Key West, Fla. In view of enclosed letter from Prest. 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 Men-of-War Harbor will probably be completed in Sept. and report thereon submitted in Oct., 1903.

1 enclosure, E.D.

BACK OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGINEERS  
NOV 18 1903  
17205 2-4. ACCO

REC'D, Eng'r Office SAVANNAH, GA. NOV 16 1903  
REC'D, U.S. Army SAVANNAH, GA. SEP 28 1903  
REC'D, U.S. Army SAVANNAH, GA. SEP 28 1903  
REC'D, U.S. Army SAVANNAH, GA. SEP 28 1903

REC'D, Eng'r Office SAVANNAH, GA. SEP 21 1903  
REC'D, U.S. Army 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 of the reasons stated within, of which I have no knowledge beyond that obtained from the enclosed letter.

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

Office Chief of Engineers,  
2d Indorsement  
U. S. ARMY,  
September 3, 1903.

1. Respectfully returned to Captain Shunk.
2. It is considered important that the construction of the defenses of Key West should proceed without delay, and Captain Shunk is therefore requested to submit plans for the construction of these emplacements, 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:  
*Franklin V. Allen*  
Major, Corps of Engineers.

47137  
Incl. 2 accompgs.

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 attention to the preceding indorsements.

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

1 enclo. accompgs.

9462  
Rec'd U. S. Army Jacksonville, Fla.

4th Indorsement,  
OFFICE OF DIVISION ENGINEER,  
SOUTHEAST DIVISION,  
Jacksonville, Fla., Sept. 18, 1903.

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

*Franklin V. Allen*  
CAPTAIN, CORPS OF ENGINEERS, U. S. A.

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 Reservation 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 recommended for approval.

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

2 enclo. accompgs.  
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

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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>Rec'd inc. 5</sup>  
Captain, Corps of Engineers,  
U.S.A.

47137

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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. Dasky*  
Division Clerk.

9462.

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

LECD, OFFICE CHIEF OF ENGR. 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,

*Francis R. Shunk*

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

1 inclo.  
 in sep. roll.

47137  
3

WAR DEPARTMENT

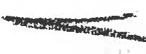
Jacksonville, Fla.,  
Sept. 18, 1905.

Shunk, Capt. F. R.

In compliance with E. D. letter of May 16, 1905, (47137) and 2nd ind. O. C. E., Sept. 3, 1905 (47137-1); submit's room-mendation 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, P. 76, Sk. 213.*



Sept. 18, 1905.

General: -  
In compliance with Department letter of May 16, 1905 (47137) and of second ind. O. C. E. dated September 3, 1905 (47137-1), I have the honor to recommend the following sites for 15-pdr. batteries at Key West, Fla. (Blue print herewith shows the proposed locations). Two 15-pdr. placements at the water article Tower. It is proposed to construct these placements within the outer line of the battery wall, necessary modifications in this wall being made. Two 15-pdr. placements to the east of Battery Tower.

The reason for these locations is as follows: A channel called the southeast channel which will be formed by growing about 10 feet of water to enter the harbor. This channel does not appear at present to be a regular inlet.

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,

*Francis P. Shink*

Inclosures:

3 trogs. in sep. roll.

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

