392/D-281
Vol 3

WriteRight 25¢

COMPOSITIONS

Name Fort Sumter Williamson

NUMBER 11

SAVE THIS COUPON WriteRight VALUE 5 COUPONS THE RIGHT MANUFACTURING CO. KNOXVILLE, GA.

2550

REPORT LEVEL AVIATION

1

Excavation — 1958

Chitwood House moving Co.

March 19th

W.T.B. Work began this morning with a continuation of the grading of the parade ground preliminary to seeding.

Workmen also continued removal of fill behind the right face gunrooms and have broken a much larger opening into these rooms.

More of the tunnel has been dynamited and removed by bulldozer. Tunnel seems to lead underneath Battery Huger.

Rock debris has also been removed from behind the left face wall.

Wilbur is presently grading the fill which was thrown behind the fort, and we are continuing to blast and remove the tunnel behind the right face. We have just found another underground room running into this tunnel.

March 20

W.T.B. Crew continued grading the parade ground and cleaning the

removing of the left face gunrooms. a few more shells were uncovered.

Cons began removing the post-war retaining walls from behind the right-face gunrooms. also continued sloping the fill behind these gunrooms and continued blasting and removing the tunnel leading into them.

March 3 T.B.

Mr. Cochrane visited fort. Examined for repointing and waterproofing jobs. Workmen continued sloping fill behind right face gunrooms and removing part of tunnel behind the gunrooms. With one of the bulldozers.

also began pushing rubble from behind fort out onto sand bar and to the left flank of the fort.

March 4 T.B.

Continued removing retaining walls behind right face of fort. Also grading

3

the parade ground & spreading fill and rubble to rear and left of fort!!

B began mounting the 15-inch Rodman behind left piece.

ends
45
T. B.

Continuation of spreading fill to rear and left. Completed mounting the Rodman on its gallinite pedestals!

Crew worked lowered removed of fill between right face gunrooms and B battery Wagon, and are still removing the right face retaining walls.

n. 26

B.

Continued removing fill between right face gunrooms and B battery Wagon.

Still working on the removal of the right face retaining walls.

Willow still spreading fill and rubble at left and to the rear.

mch
7th

Cloudy day with high wind with rain beginning about 9:30, but not heavy enough to halt work.

Small tractor and truck removing fill between B. Huger and salient point.

Men shaping slope behind right face by lines established by Gillespie. Too steep for machinery.

Also the gathering last of shells from left face for storage in B. Huger.

Bulldozer leveling left plank parade for seeding.

Willis continues dispersal of fill at rear and moving of heavy rubble stone to left plank.

Mr. Seay arranged to rent jack hammer to remove rest of retaining arches and tunnel leading from salient point directly under B. Huger.

Took picture of this tunnel and brick tower alongside even though conditions poor.

Found a small file or knife blade in the 6th gunroom east of the salient point.

March 30 - Crew came over late this morning about
W.T.B. 10 o'clock. Wilbur continued his dispersal of stone and rubble and fill at the rear of the fort.

The rest of the crew continued working on the parade ground. They are placing sod atop parade ground, which they are smoothing and raking. (This is in preparation for fertilizing + seeding)

Mr. Seay still awaiting Jack-Hammer to begin removing rest of retaining arches and tunnel leading from salient point.

James now assisting Wilbur on dispersing fill behind the fort.

The Barge brought over a welder and equipment for repair of the tractor.

March
31 Have excellent jack-hammer at work hour removing right face retaining

arches. Small Tractor being used to clean floor of left flank where stones dropped from roof.

Two bulldozers spreading fill at rear.

Mr. Seay preparing gunner monument for removal.

Took picture of gorge work and jack hammers at work. Old gunner first west of redoubt.

april 1st

Bulldozers continue dispersal of fill to rear of gorge. Jackhammers (2) removing right face retaining walls.

Tractor removes fill to rear of redoubt.

Have gathered excellent granite blocks from fill and will mount Redoubt T. 200 pounder Parrott.

april 2

Continued work on right face, redoubt, & esplanade along same lines as previously.

April 3rd

Dismantled section of concrete steps in front of office and at door of B. Huger. Large piece measured: 10'6" x 2'-6" x 3'4".

April 6th
Shelby

Took in Bulldozer and jack Hammer. Had taken out all but a small part of concrete still to be removed. This will be done manually. Are establishing slope and removing sand from gunrooms.

April 7th
Shelby

Bulldozer is now aiding in removing sand from gunrooms of right face. Have to postpone work on esplanade. Men are now sodding slope. Work has slowed down in absence of other machine.

Found A. C. Dispensary bottle in pill just in front of Battery Huger about 3 feet from floor.

April 8th
Shelby

Dozer and crew continue to move sand from right face.

Sodding of slope going well.

Talked with Gillespie concerning outcroppings.

of concrete in center of slope (Magazine and Tunnel). Will remove them below level of slope so can sod over them.

Will not carry slope up from bottom in easternmost corner over the Tunnel that is to remain. Instead will take fill out leaving Tunnel as eastern retaining wall. Will have to take off about 3' 11" of magazine approximately 12' in length X 12' wide.

Tunnel will have to be removed to a depth of 4' 2" for several feet.

April 9th W.T.B. The crew is continuing to remove fill from the right face of the port. The final right face retaining walls are also being removed.

We have dynamited the tunnel behind the right face all the way back to the service magazine (a distance of 7½ feet from where we started work this morning). This was done to allow room for sod to be placed atop it and still fall in line with the required slope.

The crew also began dynamiting the square

mass of concrete sitting atop the service magazine. It measures 12 feet x 12 feet x 6 feet deep. It, too, was in the line of the desired slope.

The following are measurements of the Tunnel as well as could be gotten from what was left when I arrived this morning:

Height of Tunnel inside → 7½ ft. (at highest point)
Width " " " → 8'2" (at widest point)
" " " Walk → 4½ ft (on both sides)

Thickness of Top of the Tunnel → 6 ft.

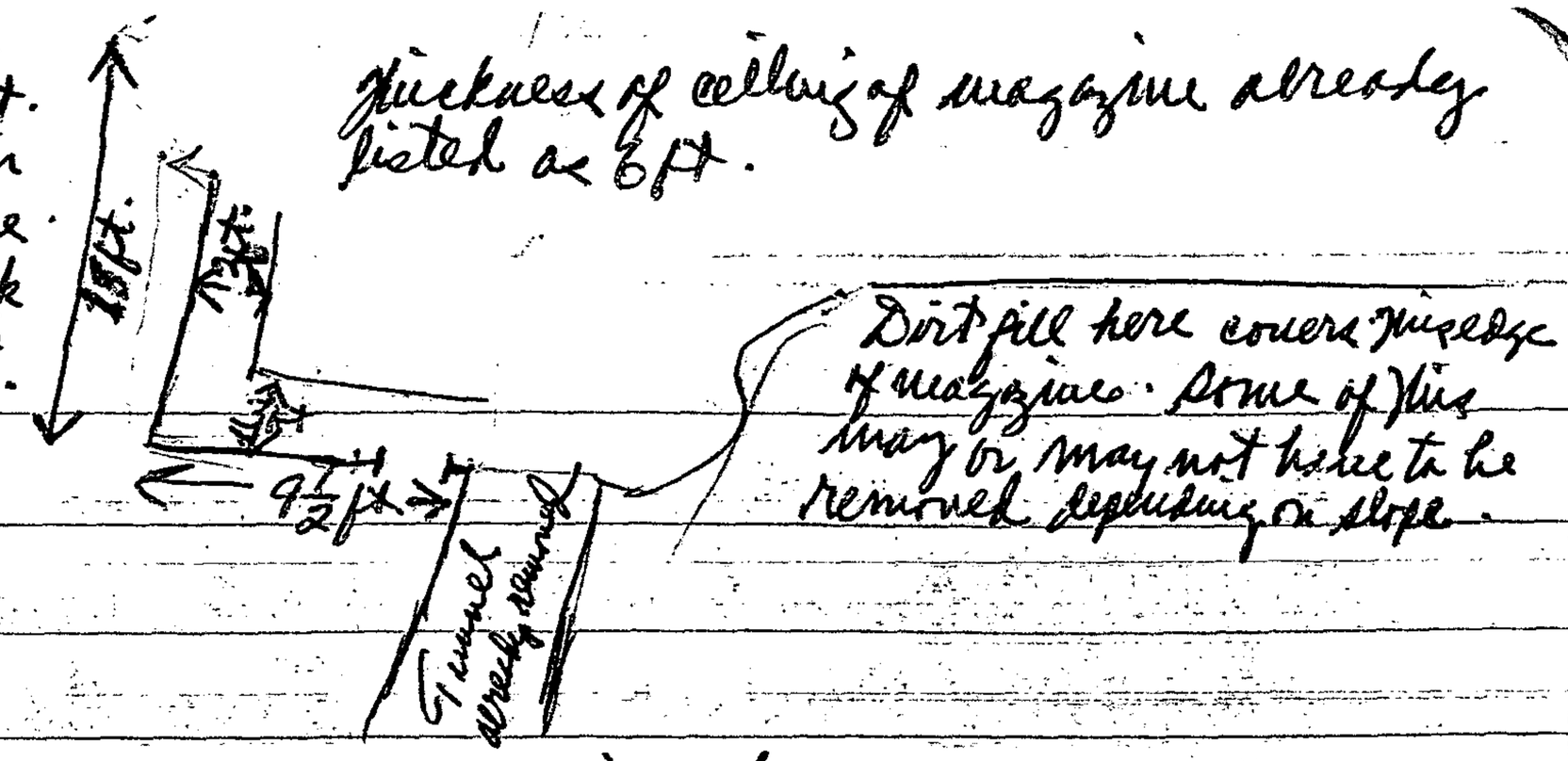
The distance (height) from the present slope to the top of the inside of the Tunnel is 5 feet.

April 10th
W.T.B.

Workmen continued the removal of the fill from the right face today. Also the breaking down of the small timber arches on the right face gunroom.

Crew had to break out upper portion of the service magazine to allow for the desired slope. Measurements of the magazine are below. Only those which can be determined at this point—

Next Page.



Bulldozer is now removing the cracked up portion of the service magazine.

Workman continued removal of dirt from right face gunrooms. Measurements on service magazine will include the 18ft length as concrete was blasted to Mr. Burke's 18ft market, part of concrete of service magazine was dumped into room. Blasting is somewhat impeded by obsolete method used.

by Kendall J. Shaker

April 17 Sodding slope, spreading fill at rear of fort. Plake Columbiad took following pictures: Columbiad in place, eastern slope from atop gun rooms, and two of gorge fell.

April 20

Sodding completed. Moved bulldozer around to right flank to push out the rubble. Had very bad luck in getting it into a hole from which trouble to move it. High tide has now covered it. We will be able to recover it before late tomorrow.

Meantime continuing removal of sand fill in right face rooms and filling roof holes with concrete.

April 23 Have finished filling holes on right face roofs with concrete. Continue to move sand from those rooms.

Found usable portion of musket stock & trigger on left face.

Found badly deteriorated metal cup behind pier between 3rd & 4th gunrooms counting from the east on right face.

April 24 Found and removed 18 6.4" projectiles from the east side of the 6th pier (going from south to east) of left place; also one grape shot with them with diam of 2.83 Of the 18 projectiles, 16 are pointed with solid noses and 2 are cylindrical. All have copper bands held to projectile by a center bolt. The long projectiles measure 10" in length, the cylindrical measure 9".

Found 3 elongated solid projectiles & removed them from base of the west pier ~~[illegible]~~ same size as the above.

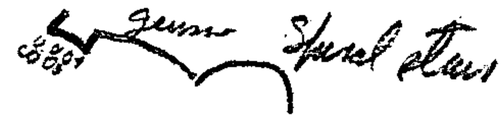
A big shell with fuse fling but fuse removed out was found between 1st & 2nd piers left shoulder yesterday before yesterday. Don't know where it came from. Some worker found it. It is 6.4" diam., 12½" long and has an iron expansion band at rear.

Today I have found ~~on the~~ a small metal wheel in the dump back of the defenses. It is a chain wheel.

In the same area I found a brass belt buckle - shaped like this ▢.

Began repairs to damaged wall-ruins, officer quarters barracks. Finished on Sat, the following day.

the rest of shells were found here



Apr. 25 A large number of shell fragments were uncovered on right front at Nemnet point after Bat. fire & the Hot face and piled with the adjacent gunnery — estimated to be 50. In addition there were about 3 stands of grape plus a canister shot

Apr. 27 Commander Crosscraft called by telephone & reported he had collected 14 projectiles from boys who previously had called him, reporting shells probably dangerous having been brought by scows from Sumter. The boys were over here Sat. p.m. (Apr. 24). Near of them danger given to both radio + TV so that those having shells in their possession would call and notify Com. Crosscraft.

Thus am. we found only 2 projectiles — one an 8" offset shot and one an elongated solid shot 6.4" X 13½". These were all that remained of the estimated 50. Also there was the framework of one stand of grape and the top plate of one canister. Shortly afterward the little shovel uncovered our 6.4" X 13½" solid shot in pile of sand near fire 7 (going eastward from left shoulder of fire). Also soon found a 10" solid shot in a large pile of

Lost track

and filed on the parade. This day
was longest day that ever dying before
Bat. Hazen & the main salient — picked up by
the little shovel.

This pm. They are excavating for the
foundation which is to be poured to accommodate
the Garrison Monument stone foundation.

April 28 Found six elongated projectiles 6.4" x
10.5" Monday evening on right (left?) face. Also
wheel of 8" in to frame which is the front
wheel of a carriage chassis. Found here two a
one 8" round solid shot and three annister
shot about 2.5" each. One blunt nose
shot 12.5" x 6.4". These found in fill
lying in front of 3rd embrasure west of salient.

Tuesday morning also found a
large elongated * 18.5" x 6.4 shell. * Between 5th & 6th embrasure west of salient.

After lunch found a large shell
of gauge 8" x 10" and the nose of a
Bolge shell in the fill pushed out over
the esplanade. Afternoon over found
cannon wheel and part of frame.

Bulldozer back on job moving fill on esplanade. Pouring foundation preparatory to moving Lawson monument.

Gillespie back, checked level of parade fill. Found 6 pounder solid shot on esplanade fill.

Tues. 29 Finished ~~out~~ (Everett) foundation for gun on mount. Trotter removing fill away from ~~the~~ esplanade and adjacent areas. Hum grading and top soiling, ~~very~~ light loader. Mounted second 15" Rodman on 2 stones. Found the following relics:

(1) Butt-end of an 8" shell (2) Front-end chassis shell (3) Large carriage wheel; (4) 6-pdr. solid shot — all in the pile of wood on parade brought from N. end Bad. Hugo. Found shell tongs. Found stand of grape, a piece of pitting with part of pad as enclosed; "Butt...." & 10" solid shot on the fill beyond the esplanade.

Also found one slightly flat-nose solid projectile 13 X 6.4" out beyond the esplanade; and on the pile of wood adjacent to 7th ~~co~~ lerch column, left face, going eastward from left shoulder angle, found one 9 X 6.4" cylindrical shot & a butt-end of 4½" shell.

Apr. 30 Sealed the entire parade today. Began moving Anderson Garrison monument from Plymouth storage truck. Using tractor to shove earth or spread earth beyond esplanade.
~~Hon~~ Mr. Seay found an artifact on right face in one of the drains

May 1 They are moving the garrison monument, piece by piece, to its new site. This am. Engineer Gillespie located the exact spot for its location on the sub-foundation. This am. Pinckney Ezekiel & his crew arrived to handle the replacement of the monument foundation, composed principally of flagstone.

May 4 Setting up the garrison monument on the parade. Pinckney Ezechiel brought over to relay the stones.
Bulldozer pushing fill on east flank before lunch. Now working on fill on esplanade area.
Took pictures of monument being placed, of cannon behind left face,

and of salient area showing removal of fill there.

Men chipping mortar from stones of Anderson Memorial Flagpole base.

Bulldozer leveled earth right flank extension

May 5 Men began excavations beneath north end of Bd. Hugo (60-ft. block) preparatory to installation of a concrete block wall 8" thick with footing 1' thick — to hold sand-earth fill under the Battery. A large pile of ~~shell~~ projectiles are found under edge of Hugo (N.E. end — on both sides of the brick pier) — are poured, bearing at least 17 under the battery. They are so entwined with ~~the~~ rubble that to remove them would cause cave-ins. Also they are beyond the line of the proposed wall; also they probably run back under the battery for several feet.

Big bulldozer still pushing dirt back of Esplanade

May 7 Removing fill over area of officer's qtrs. adjoining Battery Hugo. Finding continuation of inner wall at window sill height

Found about half a wheelbarrow full of solid shot in a pile about ten feet from base of Garrison monument yesterday + about 2' below original parade level. appeared to have been burnt. Ranged in size from cannister balls to 6-pounders. Also removed 93 projectiles ranging as large as a 1.5-inch spherical ball found beneath the north end of Battery Huger.

Had a good rain last night to help out considerably in filling the cistern, also the grass seeded area + sod.

In area of parlor just east of where stage left from previous excavation came down over a sill, uncovered another sill. This one appears rather than marble. A large flagstone set just west of and in front of this sill. A foot or two east of sill two cast iron pipes came out over the wall, probably S.P. Ann. Was vintage.

Bulldozer excavating on esplanade area. Small trees and one bags removing the

shells from the end of B. Hyer and storing them.

Parade side wall of O's quarters about a brick high apparently not fully uncovered yet.

Also yesterday the retaining wall was destroyed at N. end Bat. Hyer.

Also yesterday the floor was daughted.

Found metal object that looks like ash tray in fill of O's quarters behind sill.

Found Button (Federal – Horstman of Philadelphia) alongside gorge wall, a few feet down and on top of a cement ledge. Seems likely to be WWI or II.

May 8 Cont. excavating in O's qtrs and spreading fill on esplanade area.

Found a key in a portion of lock behind rear western corner of fireplace just above original floor level.

Found door lock + several pieces of knob about two feet above floor level and on parade side of chimney.

Crates heavily rusted appearing on chimney beneath steps.
Mr. Seay reported hole in drainage

May 11 This am. I spotted 3 large spherical projectiles southerly beyond seaplanes (waters edge). Diameter to be 13". At least one is a shell.
This am. contractor painted the Columbiad (on carry) the 15" Rodman (the one that was relocated) + the flagpole (spot painted with red lead).
Bulldozer buzzy this am. - pushing sand beyond seaplanes + removing fill thrown by hardsheets from Off Lts to top of wall. This pm. men are still working on latter + Bulldozer is building a ramp road for left flank for removal of light loader to barge.
Mr. Chitwood called me this am. + said he'd be here around Wed., anyhow, + see us before starting anything on the extra work.
Found mucilage bottle, another window sash roller, + neck + bottom of beer bottles.

May 12

Continue fill removal + removal of concrete steps over c's gtrs.

Bulldozer leveling fill and establishing proper line of rip rap to left rear.

Uncovering grate facing Bal. Ruger. Oyster shells inside grate along with the sand fill suggest that the fill was brought in from the sandbar. If most of the post-war auburns came from dredge sand or the city, this fill must be post-war.

Cleaning out the conduit in the third pillar from the left and dislodged a large shell from the side of the pillar. Took picture of shell beside embrasure in wall near salient. Also picture of conduit and shell mentioned above.

May 13 The Chetwood Co completed the excavation job today. Their heavy equipment left here at 11 am. The morning was spent spreading top soil on an area which had been robbed of its sod (right flank). The bulldozer spent all am moving, levelling off the area behind the esplanade and opening a depression for drainage or water entrance to the fill area, and in smoothing up the left flank rip-rap of fill, and in sloping the restroom foundation.