



## Fort Scavenger Hunt

Grades 5-6

The U.S. Army spent 18 years building Fort Pulaski. The army finished the job in 1847. The fort is more than 160 years old.

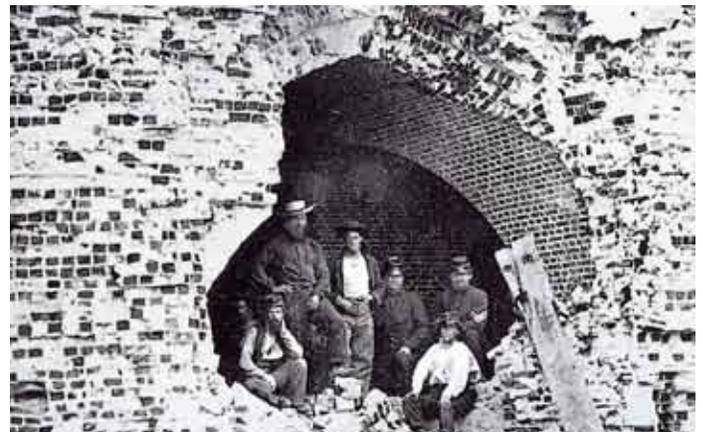
The outside walls are about six feet thick, and the fort was considered invincible. In 1861, the Civil War started and Confederate soldiers occupied the fort. In April 1862, the Union army and navy surrounded the fort. After 1 ½

days of bombardment by Union cannons, the Confederates surrendered the fort to the Union. The Union occupied the fort for the rest of the war. In 1924, Fort Pulaski became a national monument.

Use your compass and clues in the fort to answer the following questions. Begin your scavenger hunt at the fort's entrance.

1. Walk outside the fort and stop after you cross the first drawbridge. Use your compass to head south. After you cross the next drawbridge, walk east until you find the corner of the fort that was attacked during the battle. You will recognize this area by the obvious damage to the fort.

After a continual bombardment, the Union breached the fort by drilling two large holes in this corner of the fort. After taking control of Fort Pulaski, the Union soldiers repaired the breach in six weeks.



The original hole, or breach, after the battle.

How can you tell the difference between the original wall and the part that was rebuilt six weeks later?

The repaired section is made of a different color brick. It is more orange than the original bricks.

What other evidence do you see that the fort was attacked?

1. The muzzle of the cannon on the top of the fort is shattered.
2. There are numerous pock marks and smaller holes on the outside of the fort.
3. The dark circles visible on the outside wall are the back end of rifled projectiles, still lodged in the wall.

2. Return to the fort's entrance. Stand on the sidewalk just inside the entrance. Head north until you come to the Quartermaster's Room.

This room was used to issue supplies to soldiers. Once you have located this room, identify at least five items you observe.

1. Lanterns
2. Shoes
3. Shovels
4. Hatchet

5. Flags
6. Axes
7. Coats
8. Ropes

9. Pulleys
10. Your students may find other items.

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3. Continue walking north from the Quartermaster's Room. Find the magazine tucked away in the northwest corner. What was stored in the magazine?

### Gunpowder

Why was the magazine an important place in the fort?

All the gunpowder of the fort was stored there, and the cannons required gunpowder in order to fire. Also, the gunpowder was highly explosive, so the magazine had to be well protected to ensure that there were no mishaps causing the powder to explode.

4. After leaving the magazine, look to the east to find casemate 45. Go inside casemate 45 and start walking east through the casemates. Describe or draw what the Civil War soldiers left behind. (Hint: Look at the walls and ceilings.)

“H Q Drum Corps” is written on one wall.

On another ceiling, there are three messages left: 1) Soldiers Home; 2) This Way Out; and 3) the Union Now and Forever, accompanied by star-shaped design.

5. Continue walking through the casemates till you come to the two large cannons. Each cannon weighs about 12,000 pounds. The soldiers had to roll the cannons forward by hand to move them into firing position. How do you think they did this? (Hint: They used a simple machine.)

The soldiers were equipped with iron bars about three feet long, which they used as levers. The soldiers stood beside the wheels on the top part of the carriage, with two soldiers on each side. The soldiers put the iron bars into the holes of the wheels, and pulling together, they rolled the cannon forward on the carriage.

6. Keep walking through the casemates till you come to the prison. Originally, this part of the fort held cannons. By 1864, it was turned into a prison for captured Confederate soldiers. Look around the prison area to answer this question: What was the prisoners' ration (food)?

Sour corn meal, pickles, 75 loaves of bread. This sounds like a lot of bread, but this bread was for all the prisoners--several hundred men.

7. Leave the prison and walk on to the parade ground. Look to the south and you should see a stairway. Take the stairs to the top level. Be careful on the top of the fort. There are no railings. Once you reach the top, go to the corner and look to the southwest. The Union troops fired 5,000 shots at this corner of the fort from Tybee Island. The island is across the river that you are now facing. To your left, you will see an authentic cannon used during the battle for Fort Pulaski.

How many cannons were used against the fort?

1 - 1 ½ miles.

How far did the cannon balls travel before they hit the fort?

35

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Congratulations, you are now an expert on one of your national parks. There are about 400 national parks in the country.