Queen Anne's Revenge Shipwreck Project



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Intrusive Materials Collected from Shipwreck 31CR314 Queen Anne's Revenge 1996 - 2004

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Cover photo: Queen Anne coin weight for 1 guinea gold coin. Recovered from site Fall 2006

Introduction

During artifact analysis a small group was placed in a miscellaneous, intrusive category since they lay outside the mainstream based on date of manufacture, material used, or function. Thirty-eight specimens appear to be naturally occurring objects, most of which were catalogued for further analysis after having been retrieved from dredge spoils during excavation and screening. These include numerous small fish bones, several sediment samples, and a sample of local water-worn gravels. These intrusive objects are not essential to the identification of the wreck, though they have been recorded, recovered and remain with the collection

Of more interest are the thirty-nine intrusive artifacts that post-date the early eighteenth-century assemblage. Their introduction and presence likely occurred during periods of inlet migration and intense storm driven currents when the shipwreck site was open to the elements due to scouring (McNinch 2005). The same process that removed sediment from the site also mobilized cultural debris. This waterborne debris, which might have been refuse from vessels under sail but just as likely washed from shore during storms, came to rest at 31CR314 because its exposed elements created a catchment area. Modern sand fence and a golf ball represent this process during recent scouring events, while cultural material dating to earlier periods may indicate when the shipwreck was naturally uncovered some years after its loss. Another class of artifacts, fishing gear has been collected from the site and indicates periods of exposed wreckage that was substantial enough to encourage finfish congregation and subsequent human interest. All gear related to fishing is very recent in origin coinciding with exposure during the last several decades.

Post-Wreck Cultural Artifacts - Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Century

Remnants of two glass bottles, a ceramic bottle, a tin can, and a cannon ball fall into this classification. Their presence may indicate a period in the mid to late nineteenth century or early twentieth when the inlet channel passed over the shipwreck. As more post-wreck materials are recovered and analyzed they will continue to provide clues related to historic inlet movement and catastrophic storm events that have affected shipwreck site 31CR314 in the past.

A glass bottleneck and associated shards were of olive green glass (5Y 5/8 Munsell). They represent a blown neck with applied and tooled lip and string rim (Figure 1). The lip treatment on this bottle puts its manufacture from late 1820s to early 1870s (Jones 1986:94), however, their use continued into the twentieth century.



Figure 1: QAR060.001DI002



Figure 2: QAR118.002060.001DI002

A tin can was recovered from the lower levels of the Test Unit One excavations during 1997 fieldwork. The can is cylindrical with a height of 3.4 inches (8.6 centimeters [cm]) and diameter of three inches (7.6 cm) and contains a soldered filler hole with vent hole (Figure 2). The top and bottom plates and the body seams are soldered. Due to corrosion it was not possible to determine whether edges were hand or machine cut or whether the seams were lapped or interlocked. The general period of manufacture is 1820 to 1920, although these can persist to present in condensed milk cans (Wright 2000; Rock 2000).

A whole ceramic bottle with cork pushed inside was found loose with very little growth in a scoured area on the west side of the exposed mound near cannon C4. The bottle is a salt-glazed,

wheel thrown vessel with poorly defined shoulders and flat bottom similar to the Bertrand Bottle Class 1 Type 1 (Switzer 1974: 9) (Figure 3). It has a rounded lip finish with a single applied coil collar just below the lip. The lower body is white while the shoulder and neck are a pale yellow ochre color. The bottle is stamped in the body near the base with "Price/Bristol" mark that angle slightly downward. The original content was more than likely ale (Switzer 1974: 9- 14). Bottles of this general type were manufactured beginning 1820 and lasted into the twentieth century with a median date of 1860 (South 1970).



Figure 3: **QAR260.000DI00**

The remaining artifacts are reported elsewhere in this report because they fall in an analytical gray zone where they could be associated with the vessel loss but likely are not. Three shoulder fragments (QAR230.002) from a personal drinking flask that was blown in a mold may have been manufactured as early as 1700 but is just as likely nineteenth century (Wilde-Ramsing and Carnes McNaughton 2007). A solid shot, 24 lb. cannonball (QAR010.000) does not correspond to any cannon associated with the shipwreck. Alternate explanations are that it was used for a non-military purpose aboard the vessel but more likely it is an intrusive artifact since the nearby nineteenth century fortification, Fort Macon, was armed with 24 lb. cannon (Henry 2009).

Post-Wreck Cultural Artifacts - Late Twentieth Century

Examples of modern intrusive materials recovered from the site include a plastic bottle, fragments of a *Busch* beer bottle, an aluminum can and a food tray, a wooden cigar tip, a golf ball, a board with a common galvanized nail, and plywood. Nine wood artifacts are pieces of modern sand fencing (Newsom and Miller 2009). During a sweep of the site in 1998, modern fishing line, net, lures, and polypropylene rope were collected, catalogued, and retained as samples. A wooden archaeological datum board was also recovered and catalogued to document marine fouling and woodborer damage after a year's immersion at the site (Figure 4).



Figure 4: QAR410.000DI001

Non-Cultural - Faunal, Floral, Geological

Thirty-eight naturally occurring intrusive objects have also been recovered from the site for further examination, most of which came from dredging screens. This includes small bones (vertebrae, cranial) and scales from fish, a skate egg casing, a worn bivalve shell, a marine mammal bone, a tar ball and some natural pebbles, all of which do not appear to be associated with cultural activities related to the shipwreck.

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Quick Key to Temporal Features: Bottles, Jars, Food/Beverage Cans. USDI, Bureau of Land Management, Salmon, Idaho.