DATA RECOVERY OF THE CSS GEORGIA: PRELIMINARY RESULTS

Stephen James
Panamerican Consultants Inc.
SHA Conference 2016
Washington, D.C.
Wreck site sits within the SHEP channel expansion area.
Contemporary Lithograph and Photograph (?)
Vessel History

1871 Ludlow Map
Previous Investigations

1980 Texas A&M Investigation
Previous Investigations

1986 Site Plan
Recovered Dahlgren and Brooke Shells
2003 Panamerican Investigation - Labeled Sidescan Sonar Image
Multibeam WreckSight Program
2013 Recovery & Integrity Testing
U.S. NAVY MOBILE DIVING SALVAGE UNIT (MDSU)
Casemate Section Recovery
Casemate Railroad Armor Integrity Test
2015 Archaeological Recovery

PARTICIPATING AND PERMITTING AGENCIES

► U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District
► Georgia Ports Authority
► U.S. Navy, Naval History and Heritage Command (NHHC)
► Georgia State Historic Preservation Officer
► South Carolina State Historic Preservation Officer

TEAM MEMBERS

► Panamerican Consultants, Inc.
► Dial Cordy & Associates, Inc.
► U.S. Navy, Supervisor of Salvage (SUPSALV)
► Donjon Marine
► U.S. Navy, Mobile Diving Salvage Unit 2 (MDSU)
► Conservation Research Laboratory at Texas A&M University (CRL)
PROJECT PHASES / OBJECTIVES

- Objective 1—Archaeological Site Assessment & Mapping
- Objective 2—UXO Recovery
- Objective 3—Large Artifact Recovery
- Objective 4—Casemate Recovery
- Objective 5—Mechanized Clearance
- Objective 6—Reburial of Non-Significant Artifacts
- Objective 7—Artifact Conservation
- Objective 8—Report Preparation
Site Mapping with Electronic Grid And USBL

January 6 to June 1
Diver Tracking System

- Dive Vessel
- Diver’s Track
- Diver
- Round Shot Location

Image of a map showing a diver tracking system with labeled markers for a dive vessel, diver’s track, and round shot location.
Site Mapping & Small Artifact Recovery
Trunnion Cap

Eyes for Tackle
Gun Carriage with Trunnion Cap & Eyes For Tackle
Conservation of Recovered Leg Shackles
HEAVY LIFT / LARGE RECOVERY PHASE
BY MUDSU / SUPSALV
JUNE 22 TO SEPTEMBER 10

- Objective 1—Ordnance Recovery
- Objective 2—Large Artifact Recovery
- Objective 3—Casemate Recovery
UXO RECOVERY PHASE

- Objective 1—UXO Identification and Recovery
- Objective 2—Ordnance Inerting and Transportation
Cannon Recovery Locations
Large Artifact Recovery
Casemate Recovery

West Casemate
FY 2017
Mechanized Recovery

September 14 to October 23
Grappling
Mechanized Recovery
Grapple Recovery
Artifact Processing
9-Inch Dahlgren Cannon
Brooke Rifled Shells
214 UXO Recovered to date
Vessel Components
Small Finds
Backriver Reburial
Conservation Methods

- Artifact Field Stabilization, Accessioning, Storage, and Shipment
- Artifact Shipment To the Conservation Research Laboratory at Texas A&M University
THANK YOU