A Report Prepared for:

RiverValley Partners, Inc.
Chattanooga Tennessee

A Phase I Archaeological Survey of the Proposed Tennessee Riverpark, Battery Place Extension

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Abstract

Interpretive historical research suggests that along the proposed right of way of the Battery Place extension of the Tennessee Riverpark Spanish explorer Tristan de Luna y Arellano, in company with Coosa Indians, raided two towns of the Napochie chiefdom in 1560. Cherokee Indian internment camps may have been present in the project area during the Removal, 1835-1838, and burials of Cherokees may be present. Confederate soldiers also may have been interred in the project area in 1862-63, although these remains were nominally reinterred in Citizens Cemetery in 1867.

The project area was utilized for industrial purposes in the late 19th century, principally sawmilling and brickmaking enterprises sited on the surrounding higher elevations. In the early 19th century, residential use of the higher portions of the project area took place. Modern road building and creation of the Manker Patten Tennis Center and Scrappy Moore Field have substantially modified the terrain to be impacted by the proposed construction.

Pedestrian survey of the corridor revealed obvious soil profile alteration and/or truncation over much of the surveyed route. Results from screened, hand-excavated, 50cm-square test pit evidence disturbed soil profiles dominated by modern historic demolition debris.

In lieu of more extensive, machine-assisted sub-surface testing, archaeological monitoring of initial site clearing and grading operations may be advisable.
Introduction

In response to a request for proposal from RiverValley Partners Inc., an infrastructure planning and design group in Chattanooga, Tennessee, the Jeffrey L. Brown Institute of Archaeology, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, prepared a technical proposal and budget for performance of a Phase I archaeological survey of the proposed route of an extension of the Tennessee Riverpark in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

The "project area" is a linear parcel running along the south bank of the Tennessee River from the intersection of Mabel and Battery Place north and east to the present terminus of the Tennessee Riverpark on the grounds of the Tennessee American Water Company west of Citico Creek. The corridor is more particularly described as beginning at the intersection of Mabel and Battery Place, thence running along the north side of Battery Place approximately 240 feet to the intersection with Douglas, thence along the west side of Douglas roughly 140 feet to a crossing of that street. The proposed Riverpark corridor crosses east over Douglas, then follows the curve of the driveway into the Manker Patten Tennis Center east and north about 240 feet to a junction with E. First Street, thence east 160 feet to a point at the southwest corner of Scrappy Moore Field. The walkway then follows the west side of the field 280 feet north to the bank of the river, thence east along the river 560 feet to the limits of the University property near the right of way of Baldwin Street (extended). The proposed Riverpark corridor continues to follow the high bank of the river [the Williams segment] some 700 feet east to a tract now occupied by the sewage pumping station. Crossing this parcel [the pumping station parcel] for a distance of roughly 220 feet, the proposed walkway joins the present terminus of the Citico Creek portion of the Riverpark that is on the boundary between the pump station parcel and the property of the Tennessee American Water Company. The overall length of the proposed extension of the Tennessee Riverpark is 2540 feet, more or less.

Of the proposed walkway extension, archaeological clearance has been previously obtained for the pumping station parcel and the eastern portion of the Williams tract (Honerkamp 1990). The archaeological survey described below commenced on the west bank of an unnamed creek or slough in the Williams tract and continued west and south to the junction of Mabel and Battery Place.
In addition to providing an archaeological reconnaissance of the proposed Riverpark extension, a second objective of this document is to provide an overview of topics and themes that might be addressed by interpretive signage along the walkway.

Recorded Archaeological Sites

Three previously recorded archaeological sites are documented in the State Site Files as falling in or near the corridor of the Tennessee Riverwalk (Figure 1).

Site 40HA120 encompasses low ground on the left or south bank of the Tennessee River from the Manker Patten Tennis Center east to, and including, Scrappy Moore Field, the football practice field of the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. The site is bounded on the south by Riverfront Parkway, and is called "Camp Cherokee," identifying the site as an internment camp occupied by Native Americans during the Cherokee Removal. This site was recorded on the basis of archival data, and is not defined by any subsurface testing or associated artifact collections. The source of the archival data used to define the site is not specified on the site form, but Govan and Livingood (1977: 96, 99) also describe the presence of Camp Cherokee in this location.

Site 40HA76 is situated on the left or south bank of the Tennessee River on the west bank of Citico Creek, in the location of the Tennessee American Water Company facility. The locale is called the Wells Clay Pit Site and was designated as a Mississippian - Dallas Phase archaeological site by the University of Tennessee at Knoxville on the basis of descriptions of artifact collections made by an amateur archaeologist named Weaning. It is noted that site 40HA76 is evidently associated with a larger adjoining site, 40HA65, the Citico Site, a now-destroyed Mississippian mound and village complex formerly on the east bank of Citico Creek. Site 40HA76 was recorded as having been destroyed by clay mining activities around 1915 by the J. W. Wells Brick Company.

The Citico Site, 40HA65, occupies a corridor around the mouth of Citico Creek and included a major prehistoric Dallas-phase Mississippian aboriginal component as well as an early-19th century Cherokee component. While the Dallas component has been explored to an extent as the result of archaeological testing in the early part of this century, the Cherokee component is known only from the documentary standpoint. The state site file form reveals that the Citico Creek vicinity was the site of a
pro-British Cherokee town established about 1776 and destroyed by Shelby in 1779. Scottish trader Daniel Ross settled in the area c. 1785, but had apparently quit the site by 1788. A Cherokee family occupied the vicinity in 1818.

The Jeffrey L. Brown Institute of Archaeology has conducted several archaeological surveys and construction monitoring projects in the vicinity of Citico Creek, including the area on the west bank of the creek now occupied by the existing Tennessee Riverwalk on the grounds of the Tennessee American Water Company (Honerkamp 1990). The Institute has also surveyed the corridor occupied by the Tennessee Riverpark east of Citico Creek (Honerkamp et al. 1989) and has monitored construction of the Lookout Rowing Club facility at the mouth of Citico Creek.

Historical Overview

A brief historical summary has been prepared to outline known or suspected cultural resources in the project area. This treatment is not exhaustive, and is intended only to provide a general historical overview of historically documented land uses in the project corridor.

Two historical epochs are of particular concern due to local sensitivity. The Chattanooga Intertribal Association (CITA) recently posted a plaque at the southwest corner of Scrappy Moore Field, in the proposed walkway path, commemorating the site of Camp Cherokee, an internment camp occupied by Cherokees during their forced removal in 1838. The location of this internment camp was delineated in the state archaeological site file.

In a personal communication, Mr. James Ogden, Historian with the National Park Service at Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park, noted that Civil War soldiers had evidently been interred in the project corridor during 1863-65, and that while these remains had nominally been relocated to Citizens' Cemetery in 1867, unmarked graves or remnant body parts may still be present on site. With these two factors in mind, some particular attention has been focused on these two historical periods.
Figure 1. Recorded archaeological sites in the vicinity of the proposed Battery Place Extension, Tennessee Riverpark. Chattanooga Quadrangle 105-SE, 7.5 minute topographic map, USGS/TVA, 1969 edition, photorevised 1976.
Prehistory

A detailed account of prehistoric occupation in the project area is beyond the scope of this document, and the reader is referred to the following sources: Evans and Karhu 1985; Honerkamp et al. 1989; Honerkamp 1990; Council 1989b; Hatch 1976.

One interesting event that occurred in the protohistoric period deserves some brief discussion. University of Georgia scholar Charles Hudson has examined the period of initial direct or indirect contact between Spanish explorers and Native American populations in the southeastern United States - the protohistoric period - using contemporary Spanish chronicles and integrating this information with regional archaeological research. His reconstruction of one particular Spanish expedition is of interest.

In 1559-60, Spanish explorer Tristan de Luna y Arellano made a foray into the interior of the southeastern United States from a base near Pensacola, Florida. Establishing contact with the powerful northwestern Georgia Indian chiefdom called "Coosa," Luna joined a punitive expedition against a rebellious subordinate chiefdom called "Napochie." Briefly stated, it is Hudson's assertion that the Napochies constituted a protohistoric aboriginal polity in the Chattanooga region, and that the allied Spanish-Coosa expedition visited the Audubon Acres Site (40HA64) and the Citico Site (40HA65) during the punitive raid.

As the Napochie inhabitants of Audubon Acres and then those of Citico fled the approaching raid, it is believed that they crossed the Tennessee River over the shallows that existed above the head of Maclellan Island, formerly known as Chattanooga Island. Hudson's summary of the Spanish account follows:

The Coosas knew a place where the river became very wide and shallow and could be forded; here, the people of the first village of Napochies had crossed, as well as those who lived in a second village - probably at the Citico archaeological site (40HA65) - on the bank of the river. As the Spaniards were approaching this village, they spied two Indians standing upon a watchtower (atalaya) in the village. The [Spanish] horsemen spurred their horses, and the two Indians fled, scampering down the steep bank to the river, so that the Spaniards were not able to catch them.

The Napochies stood on the other side of an arm of the river ridiculing and shouting at the people of Coosa. But the Coosas and their Spanish allies began crossing the river,
with the water coming up to the chests of the men on foot and to the saddles of those on horseback. When they reached the middle of the river, one of the Spaniards fired a shotgun (*escopeta*) loaded with two balls. He killed a Napochie who was standing on the other side. This weapon that could kill at such a distance greatly astonished the Napochies.

All the Napochies fled, and, as the Coosas pursued them, the Napochies gathered on the far side of another arm of the river. This ford was probably at the head of Chattanooga Island, a part of the river known in the nineteenth century as Ross's First Shoal. At this point the river was about a half-mile wide. At low water the river at Ross's First Shoal was not more than about fifteen inches deep (excerpted from Hudson 1988: 620-21).

In the face of European firepower, the Napochies soon submitted to the Coosas and their Spanish allies, and, after resting at one of the Napochie villages, the expedition returned south to the main town of the Coosas in 1560.

The south landing of the ford across the Tennessee River at which this very early Spanish-Native American interaction took place in 1560 would have been between Scrappy Moore Field and the pumping station tract.

In the wake of the Spanish entradas of Tristan de Luna and Hernando de Soto, the Mississippian polities or chiefdoms collapsed due to introduced diseases and famine. The sixteenth century aboriginal inhabitants of the Chattanooga region all but disappeared. In the eighteenth century, the Cherokee filled the population void in the Chattanooga region, themselves being driven from ancestral homelands in the Appalachian summit by the encroachment of British-American settlement.

A Cherokee town was present in the Citico Creek vicinity in the late eighteenth century, and the historic Donelson expedition camped at the mouth of Citico Creek in 1780 on its way downriver to the interior of middle Tennessee. In the early 19th century, the Cherokee known as Water Lizard lived near the mouth of Citico Creek and maintained a peach orchard on high ground near that location (Wilson 1980: 24).

By 1819, Euro-American acquisition and settlement had occurred on the north bank of the Tennessee opposite the project area, and the ferry at Ross’s Landing was a meeting point between the two nations. Due to incessant pressure exerted against them by the Euro-Americans, the
Cherokee were forced in piecemeal fashion to surrender their lands in a series of treaties. By 1835, only one Cherokee enclave remained, politically centered in north Georgia but extending into Tennessee, Alabama, and North Carolina.

Cherokee Removal, 1835-1838

Detailed accounts of the period of Removal are ably described in a number of works, including: Mooney 1900, 1975; Foreman 1953; Royce 1975; Ehle 1988; Browder 1973; and Brown 1938. Removal events at Chattanooga are summarized in Govan and Livingood (1977), Livingood (1981) and Wilson (1980). The summary below is not a comprehensive treatment of the topic.

Representives of the U. S. Government concluded a treaty in December, 1835, with a small faction of Cherokees lead by John Ridge, Major Ridge and Elias Boudinot, and its terms were quickly ratified by the U.S. Congress. The Treaty of New Echota, executed by a small minority of Cherokees, took effect against an entire nation of people. The elected chief of the Cherokee nation, John Ross, began negotiations to anull the treaty, but the government resisted all efforts to refute the document. The majority of Cherokees awaited the outcome of Ross's negotiations rather than adopting the acquiescent policy of the "treaty party."

The Treaty of New Echota dictated the removal of all Cherokee inhabitants of the states of North Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee and Alabama to reservations in Arkansas. The first period of the Cherokee Removal, as the event is generally known, involved the voluntary immigration of the Cherokees prior to the spring of 1838. By May, 1838, only two thousand Cherokees had removed to the west voluntarily. The remainder of the Cherokee Nation, under John Ross, optimistically determined to remain on their lands as negotiations continued with the government. As the deadline for complete removal approached, General Winfield Scott, in command of the military forces charged with the removal, issued a final ultimatum and began forcibly evicting the remaining fifteen thousand Cherokees from their homesteads and concentrated them at key points in the region. In the summer of that year, forcible removal took place, culminating in the final overland march west known as the Trail of Tears.

Regular army contingents, state militia and volunteer soldiers were enlisted by the U. S. Government both to enforce the removal and to protect the Cherokee from increasing white incursions in the still-occupied
Indian lands. A series of encampments, some including the construction of actual fortifications, i.e. forts, were placed throughout the four states at key sites. The Cherokees were collected at three main embarkation points during the final phase of removal, one of these stations being Ross's Landing [Chattanooga]. Archaeological manifestations of the Removal would consist of forts or stockades occupied by government troops and the associated Cherokee internment camps. The effort to accurately pinpoint the location of these forts and camps is incomplete.

In the vicinity of Ross's Landing there were several military campsites occupied by Removal troops. Livingood (1981:80) discusses an early camp at Lookout Creek, but notes the main camp was on Citico Creek, near Riverside High School, (now the Chattanooga School for Arts and Sciences). Moreover,

Later a large camp grew up about Indian Springs at the foot of Missionary Ridge (fairly close to the Brainerd Tunnel).
At Citico, a fort designed to house about one hundred troops sprang up in the woods.

Other sources confirm that the various military contingents were bivouaced throughout the Chattanooga area.

The military post at Ross's Landing was established in 1836, and was first occupied by four companies of Tennessee militia. Wiltse (n.d. 1: 29) notes:

I learned that Moses Wells, a townsman whom I well knew, was also in that service. He enlisted in 1836 and was a sergeant in Captain Joel Hembree's company. They first camped, he said, out at Citico and later removed to Indian Spring.

Mr. Wells said the Indians who agreed to go to the west "of their own accord" were encamped in the Citico neighborhood, and went by themselves in wagons.

English traveller and writer George W. Featherstonhaugh passed through Ross's Landing in the summer of 1836 and attempted to obtain horse and carriage in order to continue his journey into the heart of northern Georgia. His account notes:

There was no such thing as a wheeled vehicle in the place, nor any probability of their being one; and I found it equally impossible to engage horses. In this serious dilemma, I determined to go to Camp Wool, in the neighbourhood, to state my case to a Colonel Ramsay, who acted as commissary and store-keeper to the Tennessee mounted
volunteers stationed there (Featherstonhaugh 1847 2: 211-212).

The name of the camp and or fortification on Citico Creek is subject to interpretation. Camp Wool was named for General John E. Wool, the army officer then in command of the removal. "Camp Wool" has been frequently confused with "Fort Wood," a Civil War fortification, and has also been misspelled "Camp Wood" in other documents (Evans and Karhu 1985: 77). Moreover, another Removal-period bivouac named "Camp Wool" has also been noted in Athens, Tennessee (Wiltse n.d. 1: 33,34).

Another source suggests the fort near Ross's Landing, or a bivouac near that location, was name Fort Payne. The 1836 diary of militia soldier A. H. Smith recalls:

Received out arms the 26th, and started to Ross's Landing. Got to the landing the 28th. I was taken sick on the 13th of August. Not able to do duty until the first of October. Left Camp Payne the 10th of September. Got to Red Clay the 11th. Indian Council commenced the 15th. Ended the 25th. Near 3000 Indians there, - - - about 2000 warriors, the rest women and children. The 29th, Captain McClelan and thirty of the men started to Camp Scott to take some Creek prisoners to Gunter's Landing for emigration. Left Red Clay the 7th of October returned to Camp Payne the 8th. Encamped on an eminence in full view of the river, one mile from Ross's Landing, on the Citico battle ground. A cave near there full of human bones (cited in Wiltse n.d. 1: 35).

Thus the name of the removal fort and/or camp on Citico Creek is somewhat murky. Following military custom, the structure or site may have been named after the officer then commanding the detachment, and as such, may have frequently changed through time.

The account by Featherstonhaugh did not describe the nature of Camp Wool in the summer of 1836, and it may actually have been an unfortified bivouac or summer camp at this date. However, a stockade fort was built in the vicinity to house troops during the winter of 1836-37. The fort was on or near the homestead of an early Euro-American squatter family, the Gardenhires, who had claimed acreage around Citico Creek.

Descriptions of this fort have been cited frequently, but the source of the description is apparently from the manuscript history of Chattanooga by Henry M. Wiltse (Wiltse n.d.). Citing the recollections of soldier William H. Jones, Wiltse describes this unnamed fortification:
Captain Hembree's company was then stationed on the stream then called Gardenhire's Creek, about two miles north east of Chattanooga. There, after clearing the land they built a fort made of split trees, sharpened and set into the ground, picket fashion. At about the space of every third picket was a port-hole, from which a gun could be projected and given wide sweep. Gates were prepared for the use of men and horses, and inside log cabins were constructed for the men, set back a few feet from the pickets, and between pickets and cabins were the stables. The cabins were double, and each compartment was equipped with accommodations for six men. There was room for about a hundred within the enclosure. The gates were carefully guarded every night . . .

The fort was about one hundred and forty feet in size, and was located, as Mr. Jones estimated, about one hundred and fifty yards from the old George W. Gardenhire home. In this structure the Hembree company remained the entire winter of 1836-1837 . . . (Wiltse n.d. 2: 29-30)

It should be clear that this structure was intended only to house soldiers and not Cherokee internees.

Elsewhere in the Wiltse manuscript, the location of the military fort is narrowed down somewhat in discussion with the grandson of George W. Gardenhire.

Frank M. Gardenhire was then living in the old Gardenhire home, north side of Harrison Avenue just west of the Southern Railway line.

From this point he showed me where his grandfather's house had stood, on ground then covered by the small wooden office of the Citico Furnace Company. We were convinced . . . that the fort had stood on the exact ground then covered by Citico Furnace.

Mr. Gardenhire recalled, after having visited the locality with inquiring mind, that locust trees were standing at the furnace site so late as 1858, and that he had been told of an old Indian fort which stood there once (Wiltse n.d. 1: 35).

Harrison Avenue is now Third Street, and the site of Citico Furnace (1884-1913) is on the west bank of Citico Creek on industrial tracts subsequently occupied by the Cumberland Corporation (Wilson 1980: 225, 338). These data suggest the location of the stockade fort as being perhaps a quarter mile up Citico Creek and well south and east of the project corridor.
The location of Cherokee internment camps in the immediate vicinity of Ross's Landing is also subject to interpretation. Local Native Americans recently erected a commemorative plaque on the site of Scrappy Moore Field naming it the site of Camp Cherokee. Evans and Karhu (1985: 77) provide a description of the fort (cited above) occupied by regular and militia troops during the removal, but also state: "The Cherokees awaiting removal were quartered in a similar stockade called Camp Cherokee located about half a mile east of landing on the south side of the river opposite MacClellan Island."

The indication the Cherokee internees were housed in a stockade structure is apparently derived from Govan and Livingood (1963) who note of Cherokee internees in 1838:

Approximately 2,500 of them spent the summer at Camp Cherokee near Ross's Landing (96).

At the stockade called Camp Cherokee, about a half mile east of the landing itself, the Indians were encamped under the guard of Federal soldiers and state militia, waiting for better weather for the long journey to the west (99).

For this report, no unambiguous documentation has been found for the presence of a second stockade designed to house Cherokee internees. However, as noted above, research into the location of the internment camps has not been exhaustive. It is also possible that the Cherokees were camped in the open near the fort, under close guard, and not confined within the walls of a palisade.

The log-picket stockade fort described in Wiltse, and frequently repeated elsewhere, was intended to house a company of soldiers (about one hundred in number, with supplies and horses) guarding the Cherokee internees. This fortification was intended to house only soldiers and were to serve as defensive strong points in the event hostilities broke out with the Cherokees. Accounts of other Removal forts in the region, however, suggest internment inside a stockade. Evans (1977: 258), in discussing Fort Marr in Bradley County, wrote:

Upon arrival at the concentration camps the Cherokees were driven inside the sixteen-foot high walls. They found no shelter within the walls, but were forced to sleep on the bare ground under the open sky. No privacy was possible; according to the missionaries present, the Cherokees were hearded like pigs in a sty. There were no provisions for sanitation, and the water supply was inadequate and questionable. The prisoners received a daily ration of flour and salt pork, but few had cooking utensils. Eating the salt
pork raw, or poorly cooked, made the shortage of water all the more apparent.

Evans (1977: 258) presents an artist's reconstruction of the appearance of Fort Marr, and notes that its four blockhouses and picket walls surrounded an area 200 by 500 feet in size, a substantially larger enclosure than indicated as having been built at Ross's Landing (140 feet by 100 feet).

Other accounts by early white settlers in the area indicate that Cherokee camps were widespread. Mrs. Mary A. Frist (nee Baldwin) played with Cherokee children prior to the Removal in the vicinity of the modern Post Office and Miller Park, and suggested that they were camped under guard in the vicinity of Orchard Knob (Wiltse n.d. 1: 11):

Other valued playmates of hers were Indian children, and Stone Fort Hill was a favorite playground. This was at the time called Bald Hill. It was in the present Custom House locality.

Sometime after the death of Mrs. Frist's father, the family moved out to the section then known as Haflay Spring, which was later more commonly called Ruoh's Spring. It is not far from Orchard Knob. In this neighborhood was the Straw Tavern . . . While living in the Knob neighborhood, Mrs. Frist was a good many Indians, and United States soldiers sent here to force them from their beloved homes.

Straw Tavern, a notorious Removal-period establishment, was placed by Livingood (1981: 113) in the vicinity of Third Street and Willow.

The recollections of Alexander Milliken contain the following observation (Wiltse n.d. 1: 14):

Mr. Milliken saw a big ball game between Indians in 1835 or 1836. It was played about halfway between Main Street and Missionary Avenue where the old Ruoh's Cotton Mill used to stand, East side of East End Avenue.

The elder Milliken was a commissary agent in the Indian department, and issued rations for the Cherokee collected here for removal. The rations were issued at the Gardenhire farm, north of Harrison Avenue, on both sides of the Southern Railway, and also out of Indian Spring, which had previously been known both as Gardenhire and as Van Epps Spring.

East End Avenue is now Central Avenue, and Harrison is Third Street. In regards to this note of a ball game, it should be recalled as having occurred in the period of voluntary or self-conducted immigration. No such
traditional Cherokee sports were noted during the later period of forced removal.

Wiltse (n.d. 1: 19) also recites the recollection by A. A. Williams:

"I can remember," said Mr. Williams, "when the Indians' tents were thicker than trees, from Orchard Knob to Indian Spring."

"My first remembrance was the Indian tents; from the Indian Spring to Stone Fort, which was where the Citico Furnace now stands, there were four white families then living in this valley."

The name Stone Fort was typically used to describe a limestone hill, now truncated, in the vicinity of the federal courthouse and Miller Park, but in the quote above the geographical referent of "Stone Fort" is placed near Citico Furnace on Citico Creek. In this regard, it is also recorded: "A. A. Williams informed me that Mr. Ryman tore down the old Cherokee removal fort at Citico, and hauled the stones to town, where they were used in construction of the first ice-house ever built here."(Wiltse n.d. 2: 81). This is interpreted here to mean that the military stockade fort on Citico Creek had internal structures (cabins, powder magazine) that employed limestone foundations or chimneys that were later removed for construction uses.

Finally, Wiltse (n.d. 1: 48) records that a monument to the Cherokee Removal had been placed sometime prior to World War I overlooking Citico Creek, and had been torn down about 1918 during the construction of Riverside Drive.

In summary, documentary evidence suggests that the stockade fort built on Citico Creek during the Removal was on high ground on or near the existing railroad grade in an area northeast of the Erlanger hospital complex. Cherokee internment camps were spread throughout the high ground areas east of Ross's Landing, but internment camps may have been present on the riverbank within the project area. Particularly in the last period of the Removal, when the Cherokee internees were herded together for immigration under close guard, the river may have been used as a natural barricade on one side of an internment camp. The low lands now occupied by Manker Patten Tennis Center, Scrappy Moore Field and the Williams tract may have served as an internment camp. Without more thorough documentary research, the presence of a second stockade to house internees is moot.
Revolving around the issue of the exact location of the Cherokee internment camps is the probability of human remains in the affected areas. Monthly sick reports filed by camp commanders during the forced removal in the summer of 1838 indicate a significant number of deaths occurred among the internees, perhaps at a higher rate of mortality than experienced by the Cherokee on the notorious Trail of Tears. An excerpt of one of these reports cited in Ehle (1988: 346) indicates that between July 17 and August 17, 1838, from a group of about 600 Cherokees interned at "Camp Ross," sixteen had died. The location of Camp Ross is not clear; in reports it is distinguished from Ross's Landing. In July, 1838, an estimated 2300 Cherokee were encamped at Ross's Landing, presumably also suffering losses due to sickness and malnutrition.

The Civil War, 1861-65

As Federal armies made inroads into the interior of west and middle Tennessee in early 1863, the strategic importance of the riverport and railhead at Chattanooga came to be recognized by both Union and Rebel commanders. Chattanooga was occupied by Confederate troops and key points around its perimeter were fortified with cannon emplacements to guard the approaches to the town. One of these fortifications, Battery Smartt, was on the top of the bluff now occupied by the Hunter Museum complex (Armstrong 1993 2: 16-17). Several hospitals in Chattanooga received Confederate soldiers wounded in the Battle of Murfreesborough on December 31, 1862 (Cumming 1959).

Outflanked by troops movements to their rear, rebel forces under Braxton Bragg abandoned Chattanooga on September 9, 1863. Federal armies under General William S. Rosecrans nominally occupied the town but actively pursued the rebel forces south toward Dalton with widely separated columns, a fact that permitted a Confederate challenge to the advance.

Following their defeat at the Battle of Chickamauga on September 19-20, Rosecrans' command fell back to Chattanooga and took up defensive positions within the town, running a line of fortifications from the vicinity of Citico Creek south then west to a point on the river near the mouth of Chattanooga Creek. The Federal defensive efforts encompassed and extended the earlier Confederate fortifications. High points in the city were fortified with artillery and designated "forts." Between these strong points were run lines of rifle pits. While nominally in control of the north or right bank of the Tennessee River, the Federals sited many of the
batteries of cannons to command the river and north shoreline. Two of these batteries were situated in or near the Tennessee Riverpark corridor.

Figure 2 shows a portion of a map of Chattanooga surveyed in the fall of 1863. This map is the earliest topographic or contour map of the Chattanooga area. In 1863, the project area now occupied by the western end of the Manker Patten complex housed a saw mill complex and defensive trenchworks. The sawmill on the riverbank was photographed during the war (see Hoobler 1986: 204, Plate 293 and Heiner 1961: 46, top). Scrappy Moore Field in 1863 is drawn as low-lying swampy terrain, but at least one rifle pit was present near the site of the WDXB radio tower (since removed) on the Williams tract. This rifle pit was on the riverbank directly below (north of) Battery McAloon, discussed below. From this location east to the banks of Citico Creek there were no improvements shown on the 1863 map.

Following the Battles of Chattanooga in November, 1863, the forts, redoubts and batteries were named to honor Federal officers killed in action. As cited in Livingood (1981: 482-484), two of these forts are described below:

Battery Bushnell - Battery of Fort Sherman north of East Fourth Street and West of Lindsay Street, now called Battery Place. Named in honor of Major Douglass Bushnell, Thirteenth Illinois Infantry, killed 25 November 1863 at Chattanooga.

Battery McAloon - Battery in front of Battery Bushnell on rise overlooking lowlands near mouth of Citico Creek. Named for Lieutenant Colonel P. A. McAloon, Twenty-Seventh Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers, killed in battle of Chattanooga, 25 November 1863.

A recently constructed section of the Riverpark passes through the immediate vicinity of Battery Bushnell, (east of the south landing of Veterans Bridge), and Battery McAloon is on a ridge on the south side of Riverfront Parkway west of the Tennessee American Water Company storage tank facility and in the immediate vicinity of a power substation. Battery McAloon may be the gun emplacement shown in Hoobler (1986: 130, Plate 147).
Figure 2. Portion of the F. W. Dorr (1863) map of Chattanooga, showing Civil War fortifications and topography during and prior to the Battles of Chattanooga, November, 1863.
Earlier known as Fort Creighton, Fort Wood was one of the major forts in the eastern defensive line, occupying the site of a hilltop neighborhood still called by that name. A newspaper reporter visited the area during the war and provides this description (Taylor 1888:31).

A half-mile from the eastern border of Chattanooga is a long swell of land sparsely sprinkled with houses, flecked thickly with tents, and checkered with two or three graveyards. On its summit stand the red earthworks of Fort Wood, with its great guns frowning from the angles.

As noted above, Confederate wounded from Murfreesborough had been hospitalized in Chattanooga, and those who died of their wounds had been buried at various locations around the city. At least one of these military cemeteries was near, but not in, Citizens Cemetery, the first publicly-chartered cemetery in the city and dating to the mid-1850s.

In 1867, the bodies of Confederate dead were relocated from a temporary cemetery near the river to the section of Citizens Cemetery now known as the Confederate Cemetery. The number of reinterments was placed at 887 (Armstrong 1993 1: 493-94). The first 141 of the bodies had been buried prior to February 1, 1863, in low ground very close to the river, and high water had obliterated the names on the wooden grave markers. Armstrong 1993 1: 255) recited: "These were doubtless of men who died in January, 1863, and were buried in the section of the original cemetery which was nearest the Tennessee River and more frequently washed by it during "high water."

The flood of March, 1867 was the greatest recorded flood in the Chattanooga region and was evidently the "high water" event that instigated the reinterment of the Confederate dead to higher ground. This flood reached a high-water mark at an estimated absolute elevation of 679.0 feet ASL (TVA 1959: 18). At this elevation, all of the project area (described in the introduction) of the Riverpark-Battery Place extension would have been inundated, including Scrappy Moore Field, the tract bound by Douglas, Mabel, Battery Place and E. First Street, and the entrance to the Manker Patten Tennis Center (TVA 1959: plate 10). These areas are the nearest tracts to Citizens Cemetery that would have been inundated in 1867. Thus, Confederate war dead possibly may have been buried in areas to be impacted by Riverpark construction.

As is typical of battlefield reinterment events, human remains may have been incompletely recovered during the 1867 reburial effort. Disarticulated elements from individual burials may have been left behind
during disinterrment. Moreover, entire burials or groups of burials may have been overlooked, particularly if floods removed or obscured grave markers. Such a Civil War cemetery, containing 22 interments, was encountered in 1905 at the southwest corner of Oak Street and Central Avenue (Wiltse n.d. 2: 119; CHCBL Clipping File "Chattanooga - History - 1860-1865" Folder 1).

The late 1800s

The incorporated area of early Chattanooga extended on the east as far as Georgia Avenue, leaving most of the project area on the rural fringes of the town until after the Civil War. Sawmills and brickyards occupied the high river bluffs along the project corridor in the late 1870s and 1880s, siting themselves on high knolls to avoid the effects of frequent river floods. In diminishing magnitude from the 1867 event, the floods of 1875 and 1886 inundated contours below 674.9' and 673.3' ASL, respectively. Ironically, it was high river stages that funneled into Chattanooga the raw material for one of its largest industries in the 19th century: sawmilling.

Chattanooga was a major regional lumber manufacturing center well into the 20th century, and was furnished with raw materials by extensive timbering operations on the upper Tennessee River tributaries, principally the Clinch and the Powell rivers. Massive log rafts were floated downriver the Chattanooga during periods of high river stages and anchored to the riverbank until needed. Saw mills employed inclined ramps with steam hoists to haul logs up the riverbank to the plant sites where the timber was debarked, cut and stacked to cure (see Council 1989a: 51-52).

Figure 3 shows an aerial view of Chattanooga drawn in 1886 by Norris, Wellge and Company, and the view illustrates the succession of saw mills occupying the high ground along the river from the bluffs down toward Citico Creek. Brick manufacturers also occupied the high knolls along the river, and mined the low lying, heavily alluviated floodplain for brick clays. Tenants of the riverbank in the late 1880s, as gleaned from an 1889 fire insurance map (Sanborn-Perris Map Co. 1889), included: Snodgrass anf Field [sawmill] at the northeast corner of Battery Place and Lindsay; H. A. Johnson [saw and planing mill] on the bluff north of Battery Place between Mabel and Houston (extended); Blair Lumber Company [sawmill] on the block bounded by Mabel and Douglas, Battery Place and E. First Street; Chattanooga Wood Split Pulley Co. and Chattanooga Lumber Co.with plants north and east of Battery Place and Douglas; D. J. Chandler [brickyard] and J. F. Wright [brickyard] on tracts overlooking
Scrappy Moore Field and the Williams Tract (as defined in the introduction, above).

The Chattanooga Belt Railway was a network of railroad spur lines that encircled the city, linking industries with the main hub railroads that intersected in the town. Industrial spurs were present in the project area as late as 1917, being slowly withdrawn as the use of the riverbank shifted from industrial to residential uses.

Chattanooga experienced a real estate boom in the late 1880s, and its expansion was to the east, incorporating improved farmland and unimproved bottoms along the river up to and including Citico Creek. Residential redevelopment gradually moved east along the high riverbank from the vicinity of Hunter Museum, displacing the former industrial tenants. By 1917, sawmills and brickyards had abandoned the high ground north and west of the tracts now occupied by the Chattanooga School of Arts and Sciences, leaving only the industrial railroad spurs that had formerly served those industries. In 1917, the block bounded by Mabel, Douglas, Battery Place and E. First Street was vacant, as was the ground to the north and east.

In 1887, the City Water Company moved its pumping and purification facilities from downtown Chattanooga to the west bank of Citico Creek near its mouth (Council 1989b: 57). This facility was supported by a railroad spur connecting with the main line of the former ETVA and GA RR. The J. W. Wells Brick Company was a neighbor of the water company, with its plant site being sited well away from the river but with access to the rich bottomland clays being provided by a narrow guage industrial railway spur. This brick company actively mined the river terrace west of Citico Creek into the first decades of this century. Industrial plants thus held their ground on the west bank of Citico Creek.

Construction of Riverside Drive beginning in 1915 opened a new route of communication with northeastern Chattanooga and its downtown area. During its construction, the Citico Mound on the east bank of Citico Creek was demolished, removing a major archaeological site of the region's aboriginal past and a cherished local landmark. Riverside Drive in part absorbed the former right-of-way of the Belt Railroad.
Figure 3. Portion of the Norris, Welge and Company (1886) bird's eye view of Chattanooga, showing industrial development along the riverfront in the late nineteenth century. A remnant earthwork of Battery Bushnell is shown at extreme right, east of Georgia Avenue.
The Manker Patten Tennis Center is the progeny of the Chattanooga Tennis Club, organized in 1931 and built on property owned by Mrs. J. A. Patten. The club opened in 1932 with six clay courts and a wooden clubhouse. In 1956-7, the facility was completely rebuilt and expanded, and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga purchased adjoining ground along the riverbank to the east and created the football practice area known as Scrappy Moore Field, dedicated in 1958. Additional courts were added to the tennis center in the early 1960s. The eastern portion of the Tennis Center and all of Scrappy Moore Field was apparently built on fill displaced during construction of the gymnasium on the UTC campus (Guerry 1964). In the 1960s, the tennis facility was still subject to occasional flooding, if not from the rising river, then from bursting sewer mains (CHCBL Clipping File "Chattanooga-Sports-Tennis").

The major impact to archaeological resources in the vicinity of the Battery Place Riverpark Extension was the expansion of Riverside Drive into Riverfront Parkway in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Demolition along the route began late in 1969, and the four lane expressway from Broad Street to Citico Creek was completed in 1973 (CHCBL Clipping Files, "Chattanooga - Roads -Amnicola -Riverside Dr. Ext").

Archaeological Survey

A pedestrian survey of the proposed route of the Battery Place Extension of the Tennessee Riverpark revealed few areas in which archaeological testing would be feasible due to highly-modified ground contours. On the pumping station and Williams parcels, early 20th-century clay mining operations have lowered ground contours and created seasonal ponds. Along the edge of the river, however, runs a narrow strip of high bank. It is not clear if this is a remnant of pre-20th century ground contours or the residual of land grading operations associated with construction of Riverfront Parkway.

Along the north and west sides of Scrappy Moore field is an obvious artificial berm several feet above the level of the playing field. As noted earlier, the playing field was graded with fill generated during the construction of Maclellan Gymnasium, and as such the original topography is obscured. The remaining area of the proposed walkway, south and west of Scrappy Moore Field, is on or adjacent to existing street rights of way, in an urban context. These contexts are typically marked by a high degree of disturbance associated with road grading, sidewalk construction and utilities emplacement.
Sub-surface Testing

In the interest of economy, sub-surface testing in this survey consisted of hand-excavated 50cm square test units placed opportunistically along the project route. Fills were screened through 1/2" mesh hardware cloth to standardize artifact recovery. In undifferentiated soils, the tests revealed the presence or absence of cultural material. Where distinct soil strata were discernible, excavation proceeded by natural soil zones. These tests were intended to provide some initial data concerning the nature of deposits along the walkway corridor.

Test Pit #1 was situated on the high riverbank approximately 91m or 300' west of the mouth of the drainage slough on the Williams tract. This test unit was situated only two meters from the trunk of a 24-inch diameter locust tree, suggesting that the adjacent ground had not been disturbed for at least a decade. The dark brown silt loam soil was not obviously disturbed, but at the depth of 60cm (2 feet) below ground surface, modern container glass and wire nails were present in the fill, indicating that the overburden was most likely redeposited fill (Table 1). The container glass is attributable to a single food storage jar, embossed "Ball's Perfect Mason." This vessel is of early 20th century manufacture. This unit was closed at 96cm below surface, and did not contain any aboriginal material.

Test Pit #2 was excavated on the high riverbank 29m or 95' west of TP1 and some 40m or 130 feet from the east end of scrappy Moore field. This unit contained one small fragment of slag representing historic cultural material, but several possible fragments of clay daub were noted, as were fragments of fire-cracked rock (Table 2). One fragment of flint debitage was present, as was a piece of historic-period slag. While not culturally diagnostic as to period affiliation, the flint, daub and fire-cracked rock are indications of aboriginal activity on the riverbank. There was no differentiation of distinct cultural strata or soil zones noted in the excavation, and it was not possible to determine if the aboriginal material was in an undisturbed context or not.

Test Pit #3 was situated near the driveway entrance to the Manker Patten Tennis Center on a bench of land due west of the condominium parcel. The unit was excavated to a depth of 67cm (2.2'), and the soil was determined to be disturbed, redeposited demolition fill. Contained in the fill were fragments of coal and coke, wire nails, iron pipe, limestone gravel, and brick debris (Table 3). Observed, but not collected, were large fragments of glazed stoneware brick, common brick, curbed common
brick and curbed limestone stones. Due to the depth and density of rubble, deeper penetration by hand excavation was not possible.

Test Pit #4 was situated at the northwest corner of Battery Place and Douglas, but this 50cm test unit could not be completed by hand excavation techniques due to the high degree of soil compaction, evidently the result of grading by heavy machinery. This corner of the block bounded by Battery Place, Mabel, E. First Street and Douglas has evidently been graded and leveled, with some fill being deposited to the north and west of the tested corner.

Test Pit #5 was situated along the north side of Battery Place 35m or 115' east of Mabel Street. This area of the lot had been occupied by a residential structure built in the middle half of this century and still extant in as of 1966. Excavation of this unit revealed four distinct strata and excavation proceeded by these natural soil zones. The four strata included a modern topsoil horizon, Zone A (Table 4), and a layer of reposited sterile orange clay fill, Zone B. Demolition rubble comprised Zone C (Table 5), and at the base of the profile was Zone D (Table 6), consisting of tan-brown sandy clay and limestone rubble.

Zone C is clearly a demolition rubble zone generated during the removal of the structure or structures on the north side of Battery Place at some time after 1966. Chattanooga Flood Control sheet 6-4 illustrates two houses on this portion of the block (TVA 1966). Zone D may represent a nineteenth century soil horizon, and the scant artifact inventory from that stratum is consistent with this view. Excavation of this test ceased at 50cm or 1.6' due to the density of stone rubble in the clay fill.
Table 1. Field Specimen #1, Test Pit #1; Artifact Inventory

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Weight (Grams)</th>
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<tr>
<td>coal fragments</td>
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<tr>
<td>pale green container glass*</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>234.7g</td>
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<td>yellow-ware fragment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.2g</td>
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<tr>
<td>wire nail fragments</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10.1g</td>
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<tr>
<td>barbed wire fragment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.5g</td>
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* one vessel; "Ball's Perfect Mason"

Table 2. Field Specimen #2, Test Pit #2; Artifact Inventory

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<tr>
<td>slag fragment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.8g</td>
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<tr>
<td>fire-cracked rock</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>55.2g</td>
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<tr>
<td>flint debitage</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.5g</td>
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<tr>
<td>clay daub (?) fragment</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6.2g</td>
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Table 3. Field Specimen #3, Test Pit #3; Artifact Inventory

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<td>17</td>
<td>32.3g</td>
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<td>asphalt fragment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.7g</td>
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<td>plastic fragment, cream colored</td>
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<td>plastic fragment, pale yellow colored</td>
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<td>0.1g</td>
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<tr>
<td>shale fragments</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2.6g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>slag fragments</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9.5g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>common brick fragments</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8.6g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>undecorated whiteware/ironstone</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6.3g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>earthenware soil pipe fragments, unglazed</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>114.9g</td>
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<tr>
<td>clear container glass fragments 9</td>
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<td>23.3g</td>
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<tr>
<td>pale green container glass</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3.1g</td>
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<tr>
<td>clear embossed container glass</td>
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<tr>
<td>clear glass tumbler fragment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5.2g</td>
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<tr>
<td>wire nail fragments</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>91.2g</td>
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<td>ferrous sheet scrap, unidentified form</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>30.8g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unidentified bone fragments</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2.6g</td>
</tr>
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Table 4. Field Specimen #4, Test Pit #5, Zone A; Artifact Inventory

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<td>cellophane label</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>styrofoam fragments</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.1g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plastic screw cap, white</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.0g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brown container glass</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8.4g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clear container glass</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7.0g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brass weight (?)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17.9g</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5. Field Specimen #6, Test Pit #5, Zone C; Artifact Inventory

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<th>Description</th>
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<td>5.4g</td>
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<td>shale fragments</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9.8g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>slag fragments</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>95.4g</td>
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<tr>
<td>common brick fragments</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>53.7g</td>
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<td>glazed earthenware soil pipe fragments</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>120.0g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unglazed earthenware soil pipe</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>23.0g</td>
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<tr>
<td>ceramic flue tile fragment</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>60.2g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amber-brown container glass</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>20.3g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clear container glass</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>30.4g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clear glass tumbler fragment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.6g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>clear plate glass fragment</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>25.0g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>albany-glazed stoneware fragments</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10.0g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>undecorated whiteware/ironstone</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.8g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ceramic marble</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.8g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wire nail fragments</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>18.5g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unidentified ferrous conglomerates</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>28.9g</td>
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<tr>
<td>brass three-piece leaf hinge</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>41.3g</td>
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<tr>
<td>unidentified bone</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9.2g</td>
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Table 6. Field Specimen #7, Test Pit #5, Zone D; Artifact Inventory

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>wrought-iron spike</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24.4g</td>
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<tr>
<td>unidentified ferrous conglomerates</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>37.4g</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>brown container glass</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.3g</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Discussion and Recommendations

The limited documentary research undertaken for this archaeological survey has suggested that the proposed route of the Tennessee Riverpark Battery Place Extension will pass through or near several areas where significant historical events have occurred. The potential for significant archaeological remains reflecting these events is indeterminate.

A pedestrian survey of the route indicated significant alteration of the prehistoric landscape. The Williams tract and Scrappy Moore Field were evidently low-lying areas that would have frequently flooded in the past. Modern industrial uses of the Williams tract, in particular, have included clay mining that has likely truncated or disturbed aboriginal cultural deposits to an unknown depth. Those portions of the proposed walkway adjacent to streets are also highly modified by urban utility construction.

In most cases, the 50cm-square hand-excavated test units provided an inconclusive picture of cultural deposits to be intercepted by the proposed walkway, particularly in the western portion of the project area where highly compacted soils and the high density of modern demolition rubble retarded effective testing. While test units on the Williams tract were able to penetrate to one meter or three feet in depth, the tests yielded mixed results and encountered no features.

Two courses of action are possible at this point. A more intensive round of archaeological testing in advance of construction is possible, employing light-duty machinery under close supervision to strip large areas within the proposed right-of-way. This technique could be used to test the proposed walkway route from Mabel and Battery Place to Scrappy Moore Field, the areas where hand-excavated test pits could not be carried to sterile due to soil compaction.

Alternatively, it may be advisable to conduct archaeological monitoring of the initial clearing and grading operations associated with walkway construction and to deal with any significant features as required. The level of effort expended in archaeological monitoring is open-ended.

Due to the possibility of encountering articulated or disarticulated burials from either the Cherokee Removal or the Civil War, it is recommended that a qualified archaeologist be on call during any significant grading and or clearing along the project route. Grading
contractors should be informed of Tennessee state statutes protecting unmarked interments.

The major events or themes that might be explored in interpretive signage along the Battery Place extension of the Tennessee Riverpark include: contact between the combined Spanish-Coosa expedition and the Napochies in 1560; the Cherokee Removal, 1835-1838; The Civil War, 1861-1865, fortifications, cemeteries, sawmills; Chattanooga Industry, late 19th century, sawmilling and brick-making; Chattanooga Utilities, principally the Chattanooga Water Works and its successors. Sufficient appropriate graphics are available for most if not all of these themes.
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