



(Leesylvania) VIRGINIA on this site.  
**HISTORIC LANDMARKS COMMISSION**  
**VIRGINIANA FILE** SURVEY FORM  
*PWC - Historical Sites*

File no. 76-264  
 Negative no(s) -

Historic name Confederate Gun Mounts at Common name  
 County/Town/City Freestone Point  
 Street address or route number Prince William County  
 Free Stone Point, Leesylvania Tract  
 GS Quad Indian Head Date or period 1861  
 Original owner Architect/builder/craftsmen  
 Original use  
 Present owner Daniel K. Ludwig/Am.-Hawaiian Source of name  
 Present owner address Steamship Co.  
 c/o George Hartzog, Atty Source of date Historical Record  
 900 17th St., N.W. Stories -  
 Wash., D.C. Foundation and wall const'n -  
 Present use Not in use In process of sale & Dev. as a state park)  
 Creation Included in Roof type -  
 Leesylvania, c500 ac.

Prince William Public Library  
 Manassas, Va.

*Weems-Batts Museum  
 Collection*

Present condition of structure and environs Site is overgrown, but earthworks still visible.  
 Present potential threats to structure  
 Note any archaeological interest This is a historical archeological site.

Should be investigated for possible register potential? yes  no

Architectural description (Note significant features of plan, structural system and interior and exterior decoration, making care to point out aspects not visible or clear from photographs. Explain nature and period of all alterations and additions. List any outbuildings and their approximate ages, cemeteries, etc.)

Four deep cuts in the cliff above Freestone Point are all that remain of the gun placements constructed here. The cuts are about 3' deep, the largest being c25' long by c15' wide; they are spaced several feet apart and all line up in a row facing the Potomac River channel to the east. Trees, some fairly large, are growing out of the earthworks. No one knows what happened to the guns, or whether they were removed after the battery was abandoned. If the guns were spiked and pushed into the river, they may still be lying under about 6 feet of water at the river's edge. There were also platforms for ordnance on the north side of Freestone Point facing Occoquan Bay.

Interior inspected?  
 Historical significance (Chain of title; individuals, families, events, etc., associated with the property.)

The earthworks at Freestone Point are the remains of the northernmost gun positions of the Confederate Blockade of the Potomac during 1861 and 1862. The batteries were constructed on prominent points along a 6-mile section of the west side of the Potomac under the supervision of Gen. Isaac R. Trimble, at the request of Gen. Robert E. Lee. The establishment of land batteries on strategic points along the Potomac enabled pro-Southern forces to effectively blockade the Potomac River from October 1861 to March 1862, thus preventing the Federal government from transporting goods and transmitting communications up its principal route to Washington, D.C., the center of the North's war preparations. The guns were manned by Brigadier Gen. W.H.C. Whiting's Brigade, consisting of about 12,500 infantry who were camped in and around Dumfries.

terior inspected?

historical significance (Chain of title; individuals, families, events, etc., associated with the property.)

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The four guns at Freestone Point, coastal heavy artillery taken from the Navy Yard at Norfolk, were installed to distract U.S. Naval Flotilla which patrolled the Potomac, while batteries were being constructed at Evansport, a point several miles down the river which is today part of the Quantico Marine Base. The guns placed at Freestone Point were not capable of reaching the channel, and the battery was abandoned when the several other positions became operative.