

EXHIBIT A-13

DR. SEAN A. KINGSLEY

PART 13

ANNEXES 21 TO 22

ANNEX 21

TO

EXHIBIT A

Spanish naval regiment buttons: Deagan, K. *Artifacts of the Spanish Colonies of Florida and the Caribbean, 1500-1800. Volume 2: Portable Personal Possessions* (Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, 2002), 168-70.

DR. SEAN A. KINGSLEY

Artifacts of the Spanish Colonies
of Florida and the Caribbean

1500–1800

Volume 2: Portable Personal Possessions

Kathleen Deagan

Smithsonian Institution Press

Washington and London

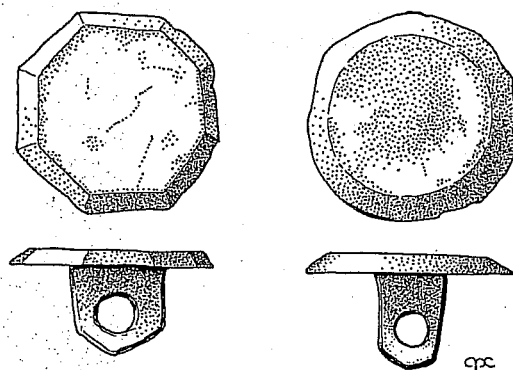


Figure 8.13. Eighteenth-century buttons, probably used on uniforms. Brass, single-piece construction with beveled edge and drilled shank, ca. 1700–50. Diameter of hexagonal button 1.8 cm; diameter of round button 1.9 cm. St. Augustine (SA-7-4-161). FLMNH/CSA Collections. Drawing: Merald Clark.

Another temporal trend in the simple-construction brass buttons from St. Augustine is the change from drilled integral shanks to attached wire eyes. After about 1760, drilled shanks cast as part of the button are rare, and attached brass or copper wire eyes are instead the rule.

Military Buttons

The most commonly occurring metal buttons found in St. Augustine contexts dating to

about 1700 to 1740 are solid-cast flat disks or octagons, with cast and drilled shanks. The outer edge of the crowns on these buttons are usually beveled, and many examples retain traces of gilding (Fig. 8.13). Buttons of this kind are not reported in the major eighteenth-century French or English collections from Fort Michilimackinack (Stone 1974) or Brunswick Town (South 1964), probably because these buttons are associated with Spanish military uniforms (Fig. 8.14; see Powell 1994a, 1994b, 1996, see also www.artifacts.org). They may be, in fact, one of the few categories of eighteenth-century buttons identifiable as Spanish.

Both the round and the octagonal forms of these buttons occur in two diameter sizes, 1.5 cm for sleeves or trousers and 2.0 cm for coats. Examples of the octagonal, beveled-edge buttons were also recovered from the 1733 Florida plate fleet excavations (Skowronek 1982:116).

Another type of brass button thought to be associated with Spanish naval uniforms (see Powell www.artifacts.org) is shown in Figure 8.15. These are one-piece, slightly domed, cast buttons with drilled shanks soldered to the back of the button. The upper surface of the crown is decorated with three concentric circles. They also occur in two sizes, 1.6 and

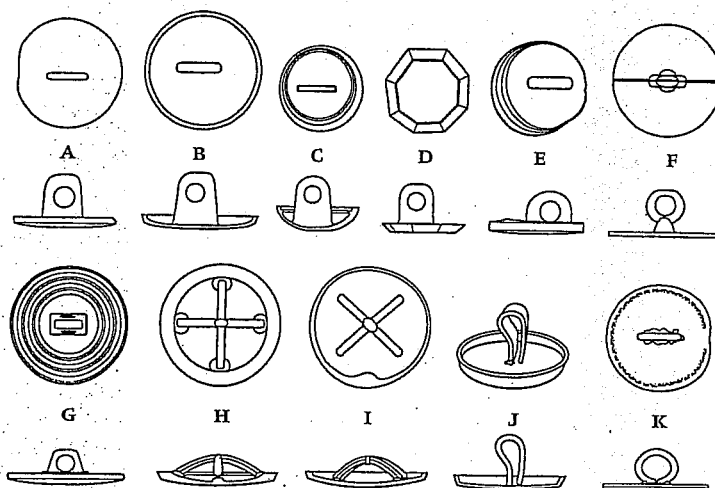


Figure 8.14. Spanish colonial military button forms. A–F. Cast brass Spanish buttons with drilled wedge shanks as worn by Spanish regular and provincial troops until marked buttons appeared after ca. 1795. Cast brass buttons continued in use, however, by the local urban militias until the end of the colonial era. G. Late eighteenth century. H–I. “Cross-wire” types contemporary with A–E; J–K. Post-ca. 1780. Reproduced from Powell (1996:16). Courtesy of John Powell.

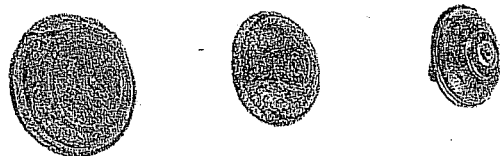


Figure 8.15. Eighteenth-century buttons, probably used on uniforms, ca. 1700–50. Brass with drilled soldered shank, 1733 (8MO101). Large button diameter 2.0 cm; small buttons' diameters 1.6 cm. FBAR Lab #L2501. Courtesy of the Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research. Photo: James Quine.

2.0 cm in diameter. They have been recovered from the 1733 plate fleet wrecks (Skowronek 1982:114) and in eighteenth-century St. Augustine contexts dating to the First Spanish Period (1700–63).

Insignia appeared on military buttons between about 1770 and 1785 (Emilio 1911; Olsen 1963:552; Powell 1994a, 1994b). Figures 8.16 and 8.17 show buttons bearing the regimental insignia of Florida- and Caribbean-based troops. Representations of Spanish uniforms in the Museo del Ejército of Madrid show large, undecorated, somewhat dome-shaped round buttons on eighteenth-century uniforms, similar to those known for French uniforms of about 1730 to 1760 (Stone 1974:49; Fig. 48-I). At Fort

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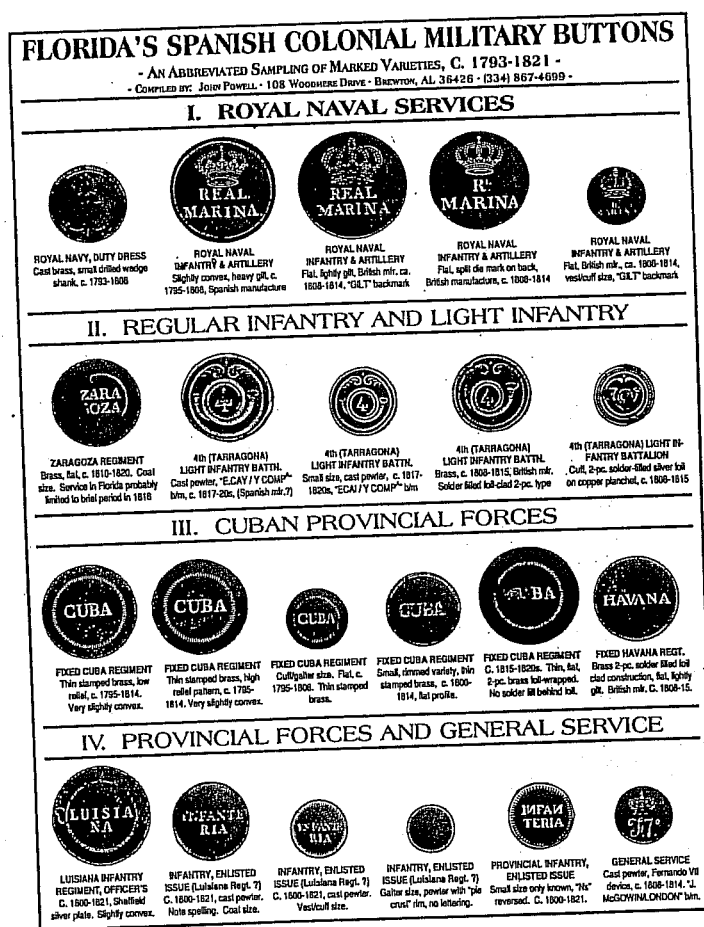


Figure 8.16. Insignia on Florida's Spanish colonial military buttons. By John Powell. Courtesy of John Powell.



Figure 8.17. Regimental buttons of Cuban militia in Florida. All copper alloy, from St. Augustine. *Left: Regimiento de Cuba. Enlisted man (1789-1821). Diameter 1.8 cm. (SA-23-188). Center: Regimiento de Cuba. Enlisted man (1789-1821). Diameter 2.6 cm. (SA-12-26-3.018). Right: Dragones de América de la Habana (ca. 1788-1821), 2.4 cm. FLMNH/CSA Collections. Photo: James Quine.*

Michilimackinack, these occur in two sizes, 1.70 to 1.95 cm and 2.35 to 2.45 cm. Such buttons have also been found in St. Augustine; however, they occur in contexts dating to the period of about 1785 to 1800.

Two-piece Metal Buttons

Convex brass-alloy button tops (used with a filler and bone or wood back to form a composite button) are not found in the St. Augustine assemblage until after the middle of the eighteenth century (Fig. 8.18), and none were reported from either Santa Rosa Pensacola (abandoned in 1752) or the Florida plate fleet wrecks (1715, 1733). They are, however, present in large quantities on the *Matanceros* shipwreck (1741) and thus were probably present in the Spanish colonies by the second third of the eighteenth century.

The earliest of these two-piece buttons are plain, disk-shaped crowns with no embossed decorations, and the single intact example from the First Spanish Period has a backing of shell rather than of bone. The early (ca. 1750) undecorated button crowns in the St. Augustine collection were also somewhat smaller than the later (ca. 1780) examples. The former measure approximately 1.6 cm in diameter, while the later examples from St. Augustine range from 2.0 to 2.5 cm in diameter and are usually decorated (Fig. 8.18).

Decorated button crowns bear an embossed

design and are crimped around the edge to fasten to a backing. Examples from both the 1741 *Matanceros* and eighteenth-century St. Augustine are flat or slightly convex.

Hundreds of these button tops—both decorated and undecorated—were recovered from *El Matanceros*. They are decorated with a variety of floral, pinwheel, diamond, scroll, geometric, and curvilinear motifs, and their diameters ranged from about 20 to 25 mm. Large numbers of single-hole bone button backs and smaller numbers of metal button backs with attached wire eyes were recovered in association with these crowns.

The *Matanceros* assemblage also featured a large quantity of contraband French and English goods, including cloth seals from merchants in London and Nimes. Blair (1960) notes that much of the material recovered archaeologically from the site was not registered on the manifest and was undoubtedly illegal (particularly since Spain and England were at war in 1741). That the buttons from *El Matanceros* were in many cases identical to those from contemporary contexts at Fort Michilimackinack (see Stone 1974:62-64) and Brunswick Town (South 1964:Fig. 8.1) supports the suggestion that these buttons were not of Spanish origin.

Noel-Hume (1980:89) notes that hollow-cast, two-piece metal buttons with attached wire eyes are the most frequently encountered button type on English colonial sites of the first half of the eighteenth century. Only a few hollow-cast, two-piece buttons have been reported from Spanish colonial sites, and all of these date to the first half of the eighteenth century. Single examples have come from the site of Fort San Francisco de Pupo in Florida (8-Cl-10), occupied from about 1670 to 1730 (Goggin 1951), and from Santa Rosa Pensacola. The Pensacola button was cast with a basket-weave design on the surface of the crown (Smith 1965:72), and the Fort Pupo example is undecorated (Fig. 8.12). Both buttons, however, differ from those described for English sites in that