

Historical Society Finds Munitions in Artifact Collection

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Jackson County, Alabama Members of the Jackson County Historical and Genealogy Society got a little more than they bargained for as they sorted through more than 100 boxes of artifacts and historical items retrieved from the Old Spanish Fort Museum following Hurricane Katrina. To the shock and fear of the members, they unpacked a cannonball coated with a suspicious looking black powder.

The local Sheriff's Department was called in and the group escaped to safety. A bomb detection dog was brought in to examine what turned out to be the first of several cannonballs coated with a residue of old creosote that was used to glue the steel shot in place. The cannonballs were deemed inert and will likely be preserved and displayed at the new museum once it opens.