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Title of Proposal: Shedding New Light on a Familiar Story: Recent Discoveries from Archaeological Site 31CR314, *La Concorde/Queen Anne's Revenge*

Abstract: Mentions of Blackbeard the Pirate and his famed flagship Queen Anne's Revenge inspire romantic visions of the Golden Age of Piracy and life at sea in the early 18th century. Blackbeard's transformation into legend often overshadows the truth of that experience, making it all the more significant that finds from the shipwreck are contextualized appropriately. Pirate ships were not merely a terrorizing display of force but were often looted or stolen vessels with a far different previous purpose. Artifacts from this site attest to not only piracy, but to the ship's time as the French slave ship *La Concorde*, with growing evidence of this history coming to light. Recent discoveries from the wreck site are telling the subtler stories of those who encountered Blackbeard and whose lives were irrevocably altered by piracy.